

Call for Expression of Interest

Organization or Agency:	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Position Title:	Consultant – Strategic Communications
Organizational Unit:	Peacebuilding and Stabilization Division
Duty Station:	Erbil, Iraq
Type of Contract:	International Consultant
Grade:	N/A
Duration of Appointment:	6 Months With Possibility of Extension
Closing Date:	31 st December 2024
Reference Code:	EOI2024/IRQ/274

IOM is committed to a diverse and inclusive environment. Applications from qualified female candidates are especially encouraged, as well as internal and external candidates are eligible to apply to this vacancy. For the purpose of the vacancy, internal candidates are considered first-tier candidates.

Context and Core Functions / Responsibilities

IOM Iraq's Peacebuilding and Stabilization Division (PSD) aims to address the drivers of conflict and displacement through contextualized, community-driven social cohesion, livelihoods, protection/mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), community infrastructure, and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) programming. PSD seeks to support IDPs and returnees to regain a sense of safety and dignity, while developing tools to deal with the past and restore hope and agency. IOM recognizes that restoring economic opportunities is not a panacea to prevent future violence, and that broader bottom-up efforts should continue to strengthen relations between citizens and the state. PSD is working to ensure alignment with its donor requirements on public information, communication and visibility about ongoing projects, while developing materials and tools to support fundraising and advocacy efforts.

Through this consultancy, IOM Iraq seeks to align its strategic communications with the overarching goals of supporting safe, dignified, and sustainable returns, with a particular focus on the communication needs identified in the December 2023 report on "Communications Gaps and Opportunities in Returns from North-East Syria." The incumbent will provide strategic and technical guidance to PSD's communications staff, as well as PSD's implementing partners (local government and civil society) on strategic communications. IOM is therefore seeking candidates with experience in communications for organizations, as well as knowledge on strategic communications efforts in the context of PVE or peacebuilding contexts, as well as experience in capacity building and planning in support of a variety of government, UN and civil society stakeholders

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission in Iraq, the general technical supervision of the Head of the Peacebuilding and Stabilization Division and the direct supervision of the Project Development, Reporting and Grants Management Officer of PSD and in close coordination with the IOM Iraq's Public Information Unit (PIU) the successful candidate will be responsible for contributing to the formulation and implementation of the PSD's strategic communications plan, working closely with the various programme teams to coordinate and plan both stand-alone activities and those integrated into broader programme activities. The successful candidate will also coordinate their work closely with the IOM Technical Working Group Co-Chair, to ensure alignment and support to IOM's contributions to strategic communications efforts in support of the return of Iraqi nationals from northeast Syria.

Further, the candidate will also focus specifically on the outcomes framed under the USAID-funded project “Facilitating Sustainable Return to Ninewa” and the targets attributed to the Marla Ruzicka Fund supporting victims of war and survivors. They will guide PSD’s communication teams as it relates to all internal and external communication strategies to promote the USAID programme and all partner’s strategic communication activities designed to promote stabilization in Iraq, as well as coordinate and communicate with USAID.

Tasks to be performed under this contract

- 1. Develop and Implement a Strategic Communications Framework:** Formulate a comprehensive strategic communications plan for PSD that aligns with IOM/UN strategic communications efforts on northeast Syria returns (aligned with the Technical Working Group efforts and focus areas), that supports long-term goals around transparency and positive narratives on returns, reintegration, peacebuilding and stabilization; establish key messages and engagement strategies for diverse stakeholders, including but not limited to returnees, host communities, (local) government representatives, civil society organizations, volunteer networks and local influencers.
- 2. Design and Deliver Training for IOM and Partners:** Build strategic communications capacity within PSD, local implementing partners, and government entities through targeted training on ethical storytelling, media engagement, trauma-informed reporting, audience targeting, risk management (for civil society organisations specifically), and multimedia platforms for enhanced message impact.
- 3. Oversee the weekly, monthly and quarterly communications requirements for USAID-funded project:** Develop a project-specific communications plan for the USAID-funded project “Supporting the return of displaced population in Ninewa Plains and West Ninewa” and the “Marla Ruzicka Iraqi War Victims Fund” and ensure that all donor requirements are prepared and met in a timely manner. Encourage the appropriate promotion of programme successes attributed to USAID and other funded projects among Iraqi government, private sector and civil society audiences.
- 4. Strategic Communications oversight and guidance:** Provide technical oversight for the programmatic implementation and monitoring of strategic communication and media activities in coordination with service providers, programme staff, and in coordination with PIU and the relevant PSD project officers.
- 5. Contribute to IOM Iraq’s reporting requirements:** In coordination with the PSD Programme Support team and the mission’s Programme Support Unit, contribute to the preparation of donor reports and visibility annexes to ensure compliance with donor deadlines and guidelines.
- 6. Contribute to IOM’s coordination of strategic communications efforts:** In coordination with the Technical Working Group Co-Chair, support coordination efforts with UN agencies, partners and other stakeholders delivering projects that link strategic communications with reintegration efforts for displaced populations in Iraq.
- 7. Collect information and materials in project locations:** Conduct regular travel to project sites to collect new materials for upcoming stories and other visibility materials, assess the impact of strategic communications work

Performance indicators for the evaluation of results/Outputs

- Timely delivery of requested communication and visibility materials
- Strong coordination with colleagues internal and external to the Peacebuilding and Stabilization Division
- Timely preparation of project reports, visibility plans and project overview documents

Education, Experience and/or skills required

- Masters Degree in International Relations, Political Science, Communications, Journalism or a related field from an accredited academic institution with two years of relevant professional experience; or
- Bachelor’s Degree in the above fields with four years of relevant professional experience
- English is a requirement for this position, Arabic is a strong advantage

Travel required (Yes/No)

- Yes, in KRI and Federal Iraq

Languages:

- Fluency in English language is required.
- Fluency in Arabic language is advantage.

Competencies

Values

- Inclusion and respect for diversity:** respects and promotes individual and cultural differences; encourages diversity and inclusion wherever possible.
- Integrity and transparency:** maintains high ethical standards and acts in a manner consistent with organizational principles/rules and standards of conduct.
- Professionalism:** demonstrates ability to work in a composed, competent and committed manner and exercises careful judgment in meeting day-to-day challenges.

Core Competencies – behavioural indicators

- Teamwork:** develops and promotes effective collaboration within and across units to achieve shared goals and optimize results.
- Delivering results:** produces and delivers quality results in a service-oriented and timely manner; is action-oriented and committed to achieving agreed outcomes.
- Managing and sharing knowledge:** continuously seeks to learn, share knowledge and innovate.
- Accountability:** takes ownership for achieving the Organization's priorities and assumes responsibility for own action and delegated work.
- Communication:** encourages and contributes to clear and open communication; explains complex matters in an informative, inspiring and motivational way.

IOM IN/234 - Policy and Procedures for Preventing and Responding to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

IOM has a policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by IOM staff members and the employees or any other persons engaged and controlled by IOM Contractors. The staff members and all contract type holders shall protect against and prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

How to apply:

Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications via this link:

<https://iraqdatacenter.iom.int/Vacancy/Apply/EOI2024IRQ274>

In order for an application to be considered valid, IOM only accepts online profiles duly completed. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Posting period:

From: 11.12.2024 to 31.12.2024