



## BASELINE STUDY OF THE PROJECT: "SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AMID CRISIS IN LEBANON"

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### INTRODUCTION

These Terms of Reference (ToR) specify the details for the Baseline Study of the "Safeguarding Human Rights Amid Crisis in Lebanon" Project implemented by the Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) and funded by the United Nation Democracy Fund (UNDEF).

The study will serve as the foundation for monitoring and evaluating the Project's progress towards its objectives. The purpose of this TOR is to outline the consultant's responsibilities, deliverables, and timelines.

### BACKGROUND

The Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) is a local non-profit, non-partisan Lebanese human rights organization based in Beirut. CLDH was created in 2006 by the Franco-Lebanese Movement SOLIDA (Support for Lebanese Detained Arbitrarily), which has been active since 1996 in the struggle against arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance and the impunity of those perpetrating gross human rights violations. CLDH's programs include research and advocacy on human rights topics, rehabilitation for victims of Human Rights violations including torture and enforced disappearances, legal assistance for vulnerable groups, and knowledge sharing and capacity strengthening of human rights actors.

In 2007, CLDH opened "**Nassim Center**", a rehabilitation center for the victims of torture and families of the forcibly disappeared, which provides multi-disciplinary support and case management for victims of torture or families that is based on the Istanbul Protocol. Services include psychotherapy, physiotherapy, legal, social, and financial assistance to over 100 victims of torture every year.

In 2009, CLDH launched its **legal assistance program** by which, currently, a team of 16 lawyers provides legal assistance and consultations to vulnerable groups; the team handles walk-in and in-prison cases all over 35 detention centers in Lebanon daily.



In February 2019, CLDH established an **office in Baalbek** where CLDH social workers conduct weekly visits to Syrian refugees in ITSs to identify legal needs and refer them to lawyers for in-house legal consultations.

Since 2019, CLDH and the **Tripoli Bar Association (TBA)** have been implementing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that formalizes the previous informal partnership the two entities had. This coordination agreement aims to foster pro bono legal aid amongst junior lawyers where CLDH provides financial and technical support to TBA's Legal Aid Center and Human Rights Institute respectively. In return, lawyers are assigned by the Legal Aid Center to defend poor and vulnerable detainees unable to hire and pay for a private legal counsel.

In 2022, CLDH opened a new branch of Nassim Center **in Tripoli** providing vulnerable communities with rehabilitation and legal services. CLDH also extended its services **in the South**, where a social worker and lawyers provide legal awareness sessions and legal aid to vulnerable communities.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Project "Safeguarding Human Rights Amid Crisis in Lebanon" implemented by CLDH and funded by UNDEF started on May 1, 2023, and will end on April 30, 2025.

It aims to enable Human Rights to become of public interest and to influence the future political system. The Lebanese Center for Human Rights will reach its overall goal through monitoring, documenting, and reporting to a wide external audience, cases of Human Rights violations in the Lebanese, and through providing support to access justice and rehabilitation services to Victims of Human Rights violations and to finally prepare the future through promoting a culture of Human Rights amongst the next generation, including Lebanese activists, political parties, and students.

The Project will be implemented nationwide, with beneficiaries having access to CLDH's 4 offices in Bekaa, Maten and Tripoli. The Project Objective is to "promote human rights culture in Lebanon and enable victims of human rights violations to become actively engaged in policy reform and public awareness raising" will specifically contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 16.3 of United Nations (UN) to "promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all". This will be achieved through three main Outcomes:

1. Monitoring, documentation, and reporting of cases of Human Rights violations in the Lebanese crisis has increased to reach a wider external audience;
2. Support to victims of human rights violations has increased to enable them to become human rights advocates;
3. A culture of human rights amongst young political parties' members, students and community leaders is increasingly developing.



## THE BASELINE STUDY

The Baseline Study will cover the Project's three main Outcomes and measure:

- % and level of knowledge of the community on how to process and deal with Human Rights Violations;
- % engagement with stakeholders on Human rights violations occurring in Lebanon;
- % of survivors of Human Rights violations provided with legal assistance by CLDH and the bar association that feels empowered to become human rights advocates;
- % of knowledge of law students in Human rights topics and their readiness to participate in Advocacy and Awareness Raising;
- % of knowledge among students and interns on community services including legal aid to poor and vulnerable communities;
- % of the public and students with access to Human Rights' sensitization learning material.

## METHODOLOGY

A mixed method approach should be applied including the consultant being responsible for:

- Conducting a desk review of relevant literature and documents related to the Project and the target population;
- Developing a methodology for the Baseline Study that is appropriate to the Project's objectives and outcomes;
- Collecting and analyzing Baseline Data on the Project's target population, including demographic information, socio-economic status, knowledge level and other relevant indicators;
- Developing a report that summarizes the findings of the Baseline Study, including a description of the methodology, data analysis, recommendations and conclusions;
- Presenting the report to the Project team and stakeholders.

At least 4 weeks of fieldwork is required to collect adequate data.

In addition, the Baseline Study consultant will have access to CLDH qualitative and quantitative collected information and Data.

## DELIVERABLES

- An **inception report** that includes a context analysis and detailed methodology and data collection tools that will be used in the Baseline Study as well as the timeframe.
- A **final report** of the Baseline Study. Baseline Study should be written in English, and consist of 20-30 pages consisting of introduction, methodology, results, and conclusions
- A **presentation** that summarizes the findings of the Baseline Study.



The final report on the Baseline Study mentioned above might take multiple revision rounds, depending on the comments to be addressed.

The final report of the Baseline Study should be submitted electronically in an offline and online Word document. The consultant is responsible for English editing and formatting of the final report.

All printed and electronic transcripts of interviews and surveys taken during the assessment and any equipment received from CLDH for the purpose of the study should be submitted back to CLDH. Furthermore, all information generated during the Baseline Study will be the sole property of CLDH and is subject to submission to CLDH prior to the end of the contract.

In addition, the consultant should ensure that the baseline report and data can adequately be used to benchmark against in the final evaluation study to be conducted at the end of the Project.

## TIMELINE

The Baseline Study Consultant will be expected to complete the study within two months after the start of the contract.

## REQUIREMENTS

The baseline study consultant should possess the following qualifications:

- A master's degree in a relevant field, such as social sciences, international development, or statistics;
- At least 5 years of experience in conducting baseline studies and/or other types of research;
- Demonstrated expertise in quantitative and/or qualitative data collection and analysis methods;
- Experience working in similar contexts and political understanding of youth political groups;
- Excellent English writing, communication, and presentation skills;
- Ability to work independently and to meet deadlines.
- **LOCATION:** This consultancy is remote based with meetings at CLDH's main office in Zalka, when required.

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested individuals or firms should submit by April 30, 2023 to [recruitment@cldh-lebanon.org](mailto:recruitment@cldh-lebanon.org) indicating in the subject line "**Baseline Study**" a one PDF document that includes the following:

- A letter of interest outlining qualifications and experience;
- A detailed CV or resume;
- A technical proposal outlining the preliminary methodology to conduct the baseline study;
- A financial proposal outlining their fees and expenses;



The interview process will be ongoing, and might end upon receiving a qualified candidate for the position.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Applicants who have a personal relationship/association with a CLDH staff member are required to declare it in their email application.