



**NPA Approach to Peacebuilding and
Reconciliation
Consultancy
Terms of Reference
November 2022**

1. Background

NPA has a long history of engaging in countries in conflict situations and in peace processes, from the Spanish civil war to Colombia and Myanmar until today's work on engaging Syrian civil society in the UN led peace process.

A common denominator among many of the peace process efforts NPA have been involved in is that the involvement came as a result of being present in the country, analysis and adaption to changes in the context and of partners' engagement. When NPA is present on the ground and have established partnerships with civil society actors in a country where a peace process is taking place or a society is struggling to reconcile after a violent conflict, there is almost automatically a role to play, and NPA has often been invited to engage in the process by both donors and partners.

This way of getting involved, by necessity or invitation rather than design, may partly be a result of NPA's broader programmatic approach. The organisation may be more likely to be pulled into work with peace processes because of its explicit recognition of its political assumptions and positions. Unlike many other external actors that lay claim to hold a neutral or objective stance, NPA makes its assumptions and positions more explicit. NPA's core outlook is based on the acknowledgement of the unjust balance of power and marginalization of groups, and the need to counteract this. This approach enables NPA to partner with groups that many donors shy away from. It also puts NPA in the political crossfires of the countries it operates in, which in turn can make it more likely to be invited to participate in various stages of peacebuilding efforts.

NPA has also been involved in peace processes through our mine action work. Mine action can play different roles in processes leading up to peace depending on the unique context of each conflict. Humanitarian mine action can prepare the ground for peace (dialogue) as seen in Sri Lanka and Sudan, or it can be a strategic tool in the formal peace talks as seen with the pilot project in Colombia. Norwegian People's Aid have played all these above-mentioned roles in peace processes with varying degree of success;

Despite extensive engagement in peace processes globally, NPA has never systematically synthesized its experience from working on peace building and reconciliation and lacks a global approach and strategy for this line of work.

2. Purpose

The overall purpose of this initiative is to map and systematically document NPA's engagement in peacebuilding and reconciliation and recommend a framework and an approach for taking this work forward. The consultancy should include an identification of where and how NPA can add value to this area of work as well as what we should aim to achieve from our engagement.

Specifically, this initiative will contribute to enable NPA to better support partners engaged in peacebuilding and reconciliation, understand better the interlinkages, impact and risk

this engagement may have on other parts of our programming as well as strengthen our advocacy work in these areas.

3. Methodology

The consultant will:

- Map and systematically document learning from NPA's peace and reconciliation work over the past 10 years. The mapping should be based on a desk study of programme documents and reports, combined with interviews with current and former NPA staff and relevant stakeholders engaged in the programmes. The mapping will identify different approaches, strengths and weaknesses of the work.
- Map and document learning from NPA's humanitarian mine action involvement in peace processes, focussing on value added, potential risks and strengths and weaknesses with this type of involvement.
- Based on the mapping and understanding of NPA's strategy and partnership policy, analyze how NPA has added value to work in these areas as well as what the organisation can realistically expect to achieve from such engagement.
- Include a particular focus on the involvement and inclusion of marginalized groups such as women and youth in peace processes, and provide recommendations on how NPA can support partners in ensuring marginalized groups have real influence beyond just participation.
- Outline options for NPAs engagement to support and add value to partners' engagement in peace and reconciliation work, looking at NPAs role, scope and limitations, including the potential link to humanitarian mine action
- Assess the interlinkages between NPA's engagement in peace and reconciliation and other parts of our development and humanitarian work, and identify potential impact and risks.

The identification of relevant programmes to assess will be developed in close coordination with Management of NPA Development and Humanitarian Cooperation

3.2 Relevant documents

- Evaluation of the Norwegian People's Aid NPA's peace related work in Colombia Scan Team 2021,
- Mine Action in peace making (internal document)
- Case study Myanmar and Colombia (internal document)
- The peace piece for implementation 2020-2023
- Notes and presentations on NPA's work on peace processes from 2019
- NPA Strategy 2020-2023
- Strategies for the implementation of the UNSC 1325
- Selected programme reports and evaluations

4. Expected Output from the consultancy

All deliverables are expected to be written or presented in English. The expected deliverables are:

- An inception report
- Mapping of NPA's learning including recommendations
- The presentation of the report (Two drafts and a final report)
- Power point with presentation of the report and other documentation produced

All documentation gathered should be delivered to NPA. Informants can be anonymous. It is expected that the consultant validates findings with stakeholders involved in the data collection before presenting the final report.

5. Timeline

The consultancy will be initiated in December 2022 and have a duration of 3 months.

Inception report 20 December 2022

1st draft 15 February

2nd draft 28 February

Final report 4 March

6. Reporting

The consultant will report to the DHC management team (DHCMT), and be managed by Head of Programme Development Section, Beate Thoresen.

7. Qualifications

The consultant must be able to demonstrate solid experience and understanding of Peacebuilding and Reconciliation work, including a substantive understanding of issues related to civil society engagement in peace work and inclusion of marginalized groups.

The consultant should have proven experiences of previous international assignments with peace related analysis, conflict sensitivity and evaluations and reviews of a similar nature

In addition, the consultant must have the following:

- Relevant advanced degree in social science related discipline.
- Excellent communication skills in English required, other languages an advantage.