

Section III: Schedule of Requirements

Background and justification:

United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) is an initiative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which responds to a broad consensus across nations, cultures and religions that all societies are interdependent, bound together in their development and security, and in their environmental, economic and financial well-being. The Alliance seeks to forge collective political will and to mobilize concerted action at the institutional and civil society levels to overcome the prejudice, misperceptions and polarization that militate against such a consensus. UNAOC hopes to contribute to a coalescing global movement which, reflecting the will of the vast majority of people, rejects extremism in any society. The complex, demanding dialogue of civilizations, cultures, and religions is necessary, possible, and fruitful. It is a critical tool against isolation, mistrust, and confrontation and it is also the most powerful incentive for understanding, and tolerance. History has shown that dialogue is not a simple process, but that if we fail to teach and cultivate it, the situation can give way to a monologue or to mutism, which is conducive to conflict and violent extremism.

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations was created to serve as a soft-power political tool of the United Nations Secretary-General for conflict prevention and conflict resolution. It is a coalition against extremist forces; a movement to advance mutual respect for cultures, traditions and religious beliefs, and a platform to bridge divides and overcome prejudice, misconceptions, misperceptions, and polarization. The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations was intended to promote collective action in society as a means of addressing the threats that emerge from the hostile perceptions that foment violence, overcoming cultural and social barriers, reducing tensions and improving relations between societies and communities with diverse cultural and religious backgrounds, and combatting violent extremism.

During its more than fourteen years of existence, UNAOC has pioneered a range of approaches and activities across its four priority areas namely, Youth, Education, Media and Migration. The impact of many of its projects on the ground has been significant and measurable particularly those implemented with civil society organizations (CSOs) and youth-led organizations. Nonetheless, the context of the current global challenges is more complex than ever before. The multidimensional nature of the scope of today's conflicts requires a new approach to conflict resolution and conflict prevention. Around the world, there has been a rising wave of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, growing intolerance, hate speech, xenophobia and discrimination, posing a threat to international peace and security. These new approaches are reflected in the UNAOC Action Plan 2019-2023. It builds on and develops existing UNAOC programming activities and suggests new focus areas that strengthen the Alliance' ability to fulfil its mandate in a more effective and measurable way. The Plan further suggests new approaches for institutional development and political advocacy that should provide a viable framework for the way we respond to the current global challenges. Institutionally, the plan re-affirms the important role played by all stakeholders, including state and non-state actors, in developing and implementing national plans and regional strategies to promote intercultural and interreligious dialogue, the mainstay of the Alliance. The framework aims to expand and consolidate the global scope of UNAOC in Africa, Asia, Europe, MENA and Latin America.

Guided by the principle that youth are key actors to achieve peace and prevent violent extremism, as stated in the UN Security Council Resolutions 2250 and 2419 and the United Nations Secretary General's Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism, UNAOC develops educational programming to enhance the ability of young civil society leaders to foster mutual respect, understanding and long-term positive relationships between peoples of different cultures and religions. One of those initiatives is Young Peacebuilders which is a peace education programme that UNAOC implements in different regions of the world to offer peace competence development to young civil society leaders. Learning objectives include, among others:

- Learn about other cultures and worldviews within and beyond the group to foster intercultural cohesion and collaboration.
- Learn about negative stereotypes and how to critically analyze them to reduce their prevalence.
- Understand different perspectives in identity-based conflict and gain tools to develop solutions at local, national and regional level and transform conflicts peacefully.
- Identify push and pull factors creating conditions conducive to violent extremism.
- Develop competences to use different forms of media or expressive arts as a way to create alternative narratives, reduce polarization and promote social inclusion.

- Reflect on how to increase meaningful youth engagement in their region.
- Learn how to successfully design and run a project.

The aim is to support the growth of networks of young peacebuilders who are equipped with the tools to address stereotypes, prejudice, social exclusion and polarization (both within and between their communities and countries) in order to build more inclusive and peaceful societies in their communities and globally.

Programme components:

- Part 1: online phase (2 months). Participants access the course through an online collaborative platform provided by UNAOC. UNAOC and other trainers facilitate the first few modules of the curriculum, giving an opportunity to participants to get to know each other prior to their first in-person meeting. They also start getting exposed to tools and concepts, engage in discussion and start reflecting on their individual and joint action.
- Part 2: face-to-face workshop (1 week). All participants travel to complete an intense in-person training, including field visits. They also work on their own action plans.
- Part 3: implementation phase (3/4 months). Participants stay connected through the online platform, improve their action plans and report on the implementation of their interventions. This part consolidates the network and follow-up mechanisms, ensuring the members of the group continue to support each other after the end of the programme.
- Part 4: final symposium (1 day). Participants are invited to participate in a symposium in a still to be determined country in the target region during which they share their experience, lessons learned, achievements and recommendations with a broader audience of practitioners, policy makers, media and the general public. They also engage with this audience on topics related to intercultural dialogue, peace and security.

After the successful third edition of Young Peacebuilders, which counts with a presence of 19 young civil society leaders from 13 countries in the MENA region and Spain, UNAOC would like to make:

- 1) 3 short advocacy videos for social media, each approximately 1 to 3 minutes in length, showcasing the power of youth in peacebuilding. Some guiding principles:
 - The videos have to be powerful messages to decision- and policymakers in order to make them aware of the innovative and effective peacebuilding work of youth so in the long-term they integrate more young people in the design and implementation of public policies related to the construction of peace.
 - The video should show the youth as active agents of change and a necessary actor in achieving sustainable peace and inclusive societies free of hate, discrimination and violent extremism, in line with UN Security Council Resolutions 2250, 2419 and 2535, and the United Nations Secretary General's Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism.
 - The video should showcase the (impact of the) work of the young civil society leaders in their respective countries, as well as their passions, dreams and aspirations about the society they want to live in.
 - The video should be aligned with UNAOC's mandate:
 - UNAOC promotes collective action in society as a means of addressing the threats that emerge from the hostile perceptions that foment violence, overcoming cultural and social barriers, reducing tensions and improving relations between societies and communities with diverse cultural and religious backgrounds, and combating violent extremism.
 - Peaceful and inclusive societies are achieved through dialogue between civilizations, cultures, and religions; as it bridges divides and overcomes prejudice, misconceptions, misperceptions, and polarization.
 - Guided by the principle that youth are key actors to achieve sustainable peace and prevent violent extremism, they are a key stakeholder in leading the dialogues.
- 2) 1 short promo video for social media, approximately 1 to 3 minutes in length, promoting the UNAOC Young Peacebuilders programme

Both types of video will have to make use of both existing video and photo material and new materials (to be obtained without traveling), such as interviews with participants, trainers and UNAOC staff, additional videos made by participants themselves, etc.

While UNAOC will provide initial materials (existing stills and footage from archives), the vendor must provide an initial concept, script, and storyboard for all aforementioned videos to UNAOC, subject to review, feedback and approval of UNAOC prior to production. The vendor is further responsible for all aspects of video production and editing within the parameters outlined in this document. Vendor shall subsequently provide up to 4 revisions for each video until final approval from UNAOC.

Subject to availability of funds, UNOPS shall have the right to amend the contract to increase the number of videos using the same technical requirements.

Estimate start date: May 3, 2021

Deliverables:

- May 17: Submit scripts for the 4 videos (3 advocacy + 1 promo)
- May 24: UNAOC's feedback integrated in 4 scripts
- June 7: Submit promo video
- June 14: UNAOC's feedback integrated in promo video
- June 28: Submit advocacy video 1
- July 5: UNAOC's feedback integrated in advocacy video 1
- July 19: Submit advocacy video 2
- July 26: UNAOC's feedback integrated in advocacy video 2
- August 9: Submit advocacy video 3
- August 16: UNAOC's feedback integrated in advocacy video 3