

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- **Organisation:** Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD)
 - **Contract type:** Consultancy (20 days)
 - **Reporting to:** Manager, Young Cities
 - **Location:** Remote
 - **Preferred Start Date:** 21st September 2020
 - **Remuneration:** Competitive
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About ISD

ISD is a global counter-extremism organisation dedicated to powering solutions to extremism and polarisation. For over 10 years, we have responded to the rising challenge of extremist movements and the ideologies that underpin them, delivering cutting-edge programmes built from world-leading expertise in communications and technology, grassroots networks, knowledge and research, and policy advice.

As a non-profit organisation with teams in London, Beirut, Toronto and Washington D.C., ISD enjoys strategic partnerships with the world's leading technology companies and supports more than a dozen prominent governments and institutions in stemming the rise of violent extremism and hate.

About Young Cities

Young Cities is a joint effort by two of ISD's longest-running programmes, the Strong Cities Network (SCN) and the Youth Civil Activism Network (YouthCAN), bringing youth voices to city halls across Lebanon, Kenya, Senegal and the Western Balkans. Young Cities works in partnership with both young people and local government to enhance and support youth-led solutions to community challenges such as hate, polarisation, extremism and violence.

Young people have the insights, ability and creativity to effect change on deeply entrenched community challenges. YouthCAN and Young Cities support and amplify these efforts through local research, capacity-building, seed funding and direct support, giving young people the skills and freedom to develop programming that responds to the needs of their communities.

Simultaneously, Young Cities works with local government to support city-level youth collaboration and to develop more effective policy that champions youth as key partners in resilience building efforts. By working simultaneously with both groups – youth and local government – our youth programmes foster a shared understanding of local youth issues, facilitates new opportunities for cooperation, and ultimately enhances both groups' capacity to tackle community-level challenges of hate and polarisation.

Now in its third phase, this project funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to foster these partnerships between youth and local governments through further capacity-building opportunities and research development.

Scope of work, timeline and deliverables

ISD is seeking to contract a Wolof-speaking research consultant to deliver specific research outputs that will contribute towards the delivery of an online extremism profile to assess the nature and extent of extremist and hateful COVID-related online narratives in Senegal.

Working in close cooperation with ISD, the successful contractor will need to produce, in priority order, the below key deliverables across a 2-month project timeframe, completed by November 2020. It is anticipated that the consultant will be able to produce all of the deliverables outlined below within no more than 20 days' work over the period September to November 2020.

The consultant will report into the Young Cities Manager and will be required to work directly with the HQ-based team in London through remote meetings.

1. Compile a list of relevant Facebook public pages and groups. Other easily scrapable sources such international, regional, national, and local online portals, and social media pages should also be identified .	September-October 2020 <i>Approximately 4 days</i>
2. Identify key search terms and translation of data in languages relevant for the thematic and geographic scope. These terms would mainly, but not entirely, be in Wolof.	September-October 2020 <i>Approximately 4 days</i>
3. Filter and classify data using bespoke software and other off-the-shelf products (CrowdTangle for Facebook specifically) to carry out the research.	October 2020 <i>Approximately 6 days</i>
4. Analyse data and produce a findings report in partnership with ISD researchers.	October-November 2020 <i>Approximately 6 days</i>

Consultant specification

We seek an experienced, proactive and dedicated consultant to work with the Young Cities team to ensure our ambitious plans are achieved. The successful candidate will be a collaborative and solutions-focused professional with the ability to work to tight deadlines and produce outputs to a high quality. We welcome applications from consultants who meet the following criteria:

	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge, training and qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluent written and spoken knowledge of Wolof • In-depth knowledge of prominent social media platforms and news websites. • In-depth knowledge of regional online extremist-related discourses. 	
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting analytical online research on conflict-related issues in the region. • Working with teams with diverse backgrounds working in multiple locations. • Working across a range of counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism related policy and research. 	
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent oral and written French and/or English 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working knowledge of social media insight tool Crowdtangle for Facebook is highly desirable

- Excellent knowledge of digital research methods (both quantitative and qualitative), tools and ethics.
- Excellent working knowledge of Facebook scraping and analysis, social listening technology, natural language processing, open source intelligence and machine learning techniques and tools. Examples of said level of skill will have to be given during the interview process.
- Excellent command of data visualisation techniques and software.

How to submit applications

All applications must be submitted via email to vacancies@isdglobal.org by **17:00 UK time on Friday 11th September 2020**.

All applications should include:

- Expression of interest covering the themes, geographic and linguistic focus and main online sources that the applicant suggests the research project to focus on, as well as the rationale behind those choices.
- CV
- Expected daily rate
- Names and contact details for two referees

ISD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted and to request additional information from all applicants as necessary to evaluate applications. Please note that applications will be considered on a rolling basis and ISD reserves the right to appoint before the end of the advertisement.