

**UNHCR and Lawyers for Human Rights (“LHR”) Digital Innovation Consultation
Identifying digital solutions to legal needs for increased Access to Justice in South
Africa**

Job Description – Consultant

1. Introduction

In 2023, UNHCR and LHR successfully applied for funding from the UNHCR Digital Innovation Fund. This funding proposal was a culmination of conversations between UNHCR, LHR and other legal actors about the *increasingly challenging protection context and the need to improve access to justice for forcibly displaced and stateless persons*.

This proposal sought funding to conduct a needs assessment of:

- a) The legal needs of **forcibly displaced and stateless people** in South Africa and how they consider those needs can best be met; and
- b) The needs of the **community of legal actors** across South African in terms of how they can meet their clients’ expressed needs but also, how they can best network, coordinate, jointly advocate, and deliver services across South Africa

It is anticipated that, especially noting the geographical spread and the multi-lingual context of the forcibly displaced and stateless population in South Africa, that amongst the needs identified, and the recommended solutions, that some kind of digital solution will be identified.

UNHCR and LHR are now collaborating in 2024 to run the initial needs assessment. The consultant will be employed by LHR.

2. Project overview and consultations

To conduct the needs assessment, LHR will hire a consultant to assess the needs of both forcibly displaced and stateless persons as well as the legal service providers to ensure the digital solution proposed is sustainable, accessible and effective. The consultations will be conducted through surveys, focus group discussions, interviews and consultations with relevant community representatives (which of these options we pursue will be informed by advice from the Advisory Group).

The consultant will be expected to run a number of in-person interviews and discussion groups across South Africa with both the legal community and the forcibly displaced and stateless community.

It is expected that this role will commence in mid March and run until mid July. The contract may be extended on the consent of both parties.

3. Duties and deliverables

- Design consultation questionnaires for in-person consultations with the legal community and the forcibly displaced and stateless community;
- Work with UNHCR/LHR to design online surveys for both the legal community and the forcibly displaced and stateless community to supplement in-person interviews;
- Run in-person workshops and interviews in select locations across South Africa;
- Conduct a mapping exercise of legal services for forcibly displaced and stateless people across South Africa;
- Conduct a mapping exercise of existing technology-based solutions to increased access to justice;
- Draft a report, summarising findings from the surveys and in-person consultations.

Organise focus group discussions as part of consultation with communities based on the questionnaires

4. Competencies and Required skills

- Undergraduate university degree or equivalent
- Demonstrated experience in conducting refugee rights / legal sector related needs assessment;
- Proven record of implementing information gathering /data collection activities;
- Excellent communication skills;
- In-depth knowledge of the South African legal sector and the needs of the forcibly displaced and stateless community;
- Strong track record of research and writing skills
- An ability to work independently

We strongly encourage those with lived experience of displacement and/or statelessness to apply.

5. Time frame and remuneration

This is expected to be a full time role for a period of three months. The role will be fairly remunerated, depending on the expertise of the candidate. All flights, accommodation and daily allowance will be covered.

6. Closing date

Please apply by COB 29th of March 2024. Please send a CV (with two contactable references), covering letter explaining why you are suitable for the role. In your cover letter, please set out how you fulfil the required skills and competencies. A portfolio of relevant work would be an added advantage.

Please send to Ramokwapeng Molebatsi with the subject line "Consultant – Digital Needs Assessment" ramokwapeng@lhr.org.za

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.