

Gender and Conflict Resolution Research

Invitation to tender for Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium gender research project.

1. Instructions for tendering

This brief invites researchers to tender for a contract to carry out a research project for Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium on the significance of gender in grassroots peace building and conflict transformation at interfaces.

Contractors should submit their tenders by email or hard copy to the address below demonstrating how they would meet the requirements.

BCRC Gender Research Tender
c/o Falls Community Council
275 – 277 Falls Road
Belfast
BT12 6FD
Claire.hackett@bcrc.eu

The submission deadline for this tender is Monday 15th November at 5.00pm.

Questions regarding particular aspects of the tender should be directed to:
Claire Hackett Email: Claire.hackett@bcrc.eu Tel. 90202030

After the appointment of the successful contractor, the contract will start on 22nd November 2010. The contract duration will cover the delivery of the research including analysis and reports.

BCRC reserves the right to clarify with any or all contractors any aspects arising from this Invitation to Tender after the tender submissions have been received.

2. Project purpose

The purpose of this research is to analyse the significance of gender in conflict resolution work in interface areas of Belfast. The research will examine if gender matters and in what way it is important. If the findings are relevant to BCRC's future work the research should make recommendations for a gender strategy for the organisation. It is envisaged that the research will involve in depth interviews with BCRC personnel and networks, other relevant community activists, political representatives and statutory representatives.

The objectives of the research are:

- To analyse the gendered dimensions of interface conflict resolution work.
- To assess the strengths and limitations of current conflict resolution work from a gender perspective taking a number of projects including BCRC as case studies.
- To examine the opportunities for BCRC to be more effective by taking account of gender in its work.
- To make recommendations for a gender strategy for the organisation if the findings support the need for this.

3. Context

The Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium was set up in April 2007 to create a citywide approach to resolving conflict at interfaces. It is grounded in the experience of grassroots republican and loyalist practitioners, who, for many years, have been working at the interfaces to prevent, control and manage violent outbreaks. BCRC aims to create networks to develop good practice and builds alliances around shared problems to develop a joint strategy to tackle social and economic issues for residents at interfaces.

With Falls Community Council as the lead partner BCRC has successfully applied for Peace 3 funding to deliver a peacebuilding programme until December 2011. The other partners are Epic, Charter and Intercomm. The partner organisations along with the constituent groups are represented in a steering group that provides strategic direction to BCRC.

Although the work of BCRC addresses the needs of interface communities as a whole, the BCRC structures themselves are mostly male as the constituencies that they represent are mostly male in make up. This has been acknowledged by the BCRC steering group and is recognised as an area for investigation and engagement. The issue of female representation has also been raised with BCRC through a series of community events organised by BCRC in 2008. (see workshop report on website www.bcrc.eu). BCRC wish to engage with the whole issue of gender in conflict resolution work rather than just female representation although this is likely to be part of the research.

4. Methodology

The methodology for the research will be mostly qualitative consisting of focus groups and one to one interviews with key persons. BCRC will contribute suggestions focus groups and interviews and will suggest people from community, statutory and political spheres for interview. Contractors may also make suggestions for interviews. It is expected that between 20 and 30 interviews will be carried out. The research could have a quantitative aspect through review of patterns of gender participation in BCRC's work activity on database.

Contractors are invited to propose other research methodologies that could contribute to the research project.

5. Timescale

A presentation of emerging findings is to be made on or before Monday 31st January

The research is to be completed by 31st March 2011.

Contractors are asked to submit a project schedule with key stages identified.

6. Budget

The budget for this research is £8000.

A payment of £4000 will be paid at the first presentation of emerging findings and the remaining £4000 will be paid on completion and submission of the final report.

7. Project management

There will be a steering group for the project which will meet three times with the appointed researcher to provide context, make suggestions for avenues of enquiry and give feedback on emerging findings.

Day to day management will be provided through BCRC staff and in particular Joe Marley (manager) Claire Hackett (development worker) and Jessica Blomkvist (administrator).

8. Tender response/submission

The tender document should contain the following information:

- How the researcher would approach this job (all tasks including proposed timescale and methodology with justifications.)
- Project schedule with key stages identified.
- Details on personnel working on the project with each team members experience on CV and the time they would assign to each element of the work including their daily rate.
- Budget indicating the cost of each component of the project. Please state whether costs include VAT.
- Examples of similar or previous work.
- Submissions may propose any additional areas considered as important to the success of the project that we have not considered but in the researchers experience would enhance the final product.

9. How the tender will be evaluated

Each submission will be scored by a panel and awarded a mark based on the following criteria:

	<i>Weighting</i>
<i>Financial</i>	
Contract price and value for money	25%
<i>Technical</i>	
Understanding of the requirements detailed in the specification	15%
Proposed methodology and approach to data gathering	20%
Previous relevant projects	15%
<i>Organisational</i>	
Professional competence and expertise of personnel working on the research project.	20%
Clarity of tender submission	5%

BCRC is not bound to select the lowest scoring submission.

BCRC is not bound to select any submission.

10. Data and output ownership

Copyright for the research findings will rest with Belfast Conflict Resolution Consortium.