

**PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE-Kintha (PDI-KINTHA)
Vacancy Announcement (Urgently Required)**

Position Title	:	Project Assistant
Number of Post	:	1 posts
Type	:	Full Time (May 15, 2019 to December 31, 2019)
Report to	:	Project Officer
Duty Station	:	Sittwe, Rakhine State
Application Deadline	:	May 9, 2019, 17:30 pm
Start date	:	As soon as possible

About PDI/Kintha

The Peace and Development Initiative – Kintha (PDI-KINTHA) was founded in 2013 by Kyaw Hsan Hlaing – a political activist, former political prisoner, and civic educator from Rakhine State. The organization was created following the outbreak of violent conflict in 2012 with a view to counter deepening religious and ethnic divisions throughout Arakan.

Our programs focus on social integration through sport and art activities and raising awareness through civic education training. Since its founding, PDI-KINTHA has steadily grown into one of the foremost progressive community institutions in Rakhine state having engaged over 3500 individuals from diverse communities.

We have, through our work over the years, built and nurtured strong relationships across a broad range of groups and individuals living and operating in Rakhine state. PDI-KINTHA is strategically positioned to positively contribute towards strengthening cooperation and building peaceful relationships between communities in conflict in Rakhine State.

About Storytelling Project

Over six years since inter-communal violence affected Rakhine State, relations between predominantly Buddhist majorities and mostly Rohingya Muslim communities remain tense, characterised by mistrust and generally low levels of interactions. The situation in 2018 has been heavily influenced by the government of Myanmar's policy of segregation between communities, and a perception amongst many communities that the government is not listening to or acting on their concerns. The large-scale violence in northern Rakhine State in 2016 and 2017 has strained relations further while killing in the region is going on. Throughout project implementation of our pilot in 2018 the situation in Rakhine frequently deteriorated. In December 2018 several attacks by Arakan Army were committed and a violent backlash by government forces is still going on (January/February 2019). As described in our previous conflict analysis, the conflict for Rakhine independence and the Buddhist - Muslim animosities are entwined. A focus on communal cohesion is thus ever more important.

Historical animosities, segregation, a system of apartheid, hatred, fear of the other, state propaganda and hate speech have contributed to deeply engraved narratives of aggression and the constant reframing of conflict supporting narratives in Rakhine State. As our predecessor project has shown, young people in the Rohingya communities severely suffer from the isolation by segregation and very much welcome the engagement with young people from the Rakhine

communities. These can become messengers of dialogue. The project will add value by helping to slowly transform such mind-sets and the resulting modes of thinking and behaviour, by raising awareness towards alternative perspectives and by strengthening constructive conflict resolution skills in the region. More concretely the project will help to build stable networks between young people across the divide. Thus, it will help to increase understanding and empathy towards the other community. It will therefore help to increase resilience to violence and to the exploitation by violence prone actors in the region and will contribute to reconciliation in a mid-term perspective.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist in the implementation of PDI-KINTHA policies and procedures
- Maintain records and databases of activities
- Undertake regular field visits to project sites
- Reimburse for in camp transportation for field staff
- Support in delivery of office supplies, equipment and materials into project site
- Compile and submit weekly and monthly activity data and case data to project officer and coordinator
- Communicate regularly with Project Officers and Coordinators to ensure that the program's operational needs are met in an organized and timely fashion
- Collaborate with Project Officer and Coordinator to streamline procedures and develop ways to improve program efficiency
- Support for keeping documentation in as systematic manner as per M&E plan
- Cooperate closely with finance departments regarding cash advance request and clearing voucher
- Ensure that good communications are maintained between all relevant stakeholders
- Implement field level activities in line with work plan and so that output targets are met
- Implement field level project activities, utilizing a thorough understanding of community mobilization best practices to ensure project outputs are documented and met
- Other duties as assigned

Skills and competencies requirements

The candidate should have the following skills and competencies.

- Bachelor degree or equivalence work experiences are required. (Community school diploma or degree is also acceptable.)
- Working experience in an office environment, logistics or operations.
- An understanding of basic facilitation and an interest in reducing social cohesion in the community.
- Computer literacy, including use of Microsoft Word and Excel.
- Able to communicate clearly and effectively with colleagues and external partners
- Strong interpersonal communication skills and proven problem-solving and negotiation skills.
- Willingness and ability to travel to project sites
- Ability and willingness to perform assigned tasks and duties under time pressure.
- Good communication in English language skills
- Respect the culture and life styles of the target groups.
- Strong passion and commitment for the values, vision and mission of PDI-KINTHA

- Able to work with diverse ethnic and religious groups
- Willingness to work overtime as the situation demands

(Salary will be attractive and negotiable.)

How to apply

Applicants should send their CV/resume, a ONE PAGE cover letter explaining their interest in the position and why they are qualified. Applicant must also provide the contact information of TWO professional references. The deadline for submitting application and related documents (Microsoft Word or pdf Version) is by Thursday, May 9, 2019 to kyawhtayoo.cei.pdi@gmail.com and kinthakh@gmail.com.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified for a personal interview.