

## IGA Funding Call

### ‘Yemeni Voices’

#### (Internal Call - LSE applicants only)

The Institute of Global Affairs (IGA) project ‘Yemeni Voices’ represents a unique opportunity for LSE research and researchers to impact on real-time conflict-resolution. The project, led by IGA Visiting Professor in Practice Mark Muller and supported by the United Nations, will design and implement an independent mechanism for civil society consultation in the Yemeni conflict resolution process based on state-of-the-art research methodologies. It commences with an LSE-wide scoping exercise, the objectives of which are to:

- (a) generate research and new ideas within peace and conflict studies;
- (b) seek academic input on important features of ‘Yemeni Voices’;
- (c) build a credible monitoring project for the entire initiative.

We now invite colleagues from across the LSE community to submit short proposals to the project’s **‘Research, Innovative Solutions, Evaluation Fund’**. Meaningful proposals will receive a small seed grant of up to £5k and some applicants may be asked to develop their submissions further for additional funding. The call is intended to encourage the widest possible participation and generate interesting ideas and proposals in the following areas:

- **Innovative solutions:** The project will require wide academic engagement to identify the main challenges in delivering the project and to address those challenges through innovative solutions. Challenges include but are not limited to: polling methodologies, data mining, ethics and risk management. We welcome proposals addressing these and other relevant considerations not listed here, and if deemed interesting and relevant we will consider funding the implementation of proposals in full.
- **Long-term research:** The project seeks to identify ideas for longer-term research projects with funding available to develop project ideas further. Selection will be based on standard academic criteria. Projects identified by the selection committee as worthy of further funding will be asked to develop full project proposals. The total budget available for long-term research is not known yet, but it is anticipated that projects of up to £100k could be funded in a first round. Possible areas could be but are not limited to:
  - Economic development in post-conflict fragile states (institutions, state/private sector balance, regulations, dismantling war economy etc.);
  - Identifying strategies/approaches for building legitimate state and governance (at the state and sub-state level) and their appraisal;
  - Identifying effective policy interventions for sustainable development;
  - Developing inclusive peace-making strategies (stakeholder identification, engagement of minorities; gender issues etc.);
  - Assessing negotiation and peace-making strategies on post-conflict situations;

- Promotion of justice and trust in post-conflict societies;
  - Identifying lessons/experiences from other conflicts that are relevant for the project;
  - The role of the arts and creative practice in supporting peace-making (opening space for dialogue, building social capital, engaging with difficult issues, etc.)
- **Creative communication:** The project aims to utilize digital and social media channels to amplify findings, generate broad dialogue including the digital-savvy young, and overall maximize policy impact. The project is presently seeking additional funding for a dynamic website. We welcome proposals as to how to maximize digital technology for broad-based engagement and inclusion, and how to develop the optimal structure and format of the website and other social media channels, and the identification of the primary associated considerations and challenges.
  - **Monitoring and evaluation:** The project requires careful monitoring and evaluation using state-of-the-art data collection, measurement and evaluation techniques. We invite outline proposals as to how to effectively monitor and evaluate the project on an on-going basis.

#### **Call Specification**

- Up to **£70k** is available in total for this call. The final distribution of these funds across the areas listed above will be contingent upon applications received.
- **Format:** Applications should not exceed 5 pages, but could be shorter. For research and monitoring/evaluation projects an approximate budget and timeline should be provided. Applications should be submitted to Keith Tritton at [iga@lse.ac.uk](mailto:iga@lse.ac.uk) by c.o.b. **31<sup>st</sup> March 2019**.
- **Assessment:** Research proposals will be evaluated by selection committee with representatives from across several departments. The School's ethics policy and financial regulations should be adhered to.
- We strongly encourage proposals which include local stakeholder engagement and/or perspectives.