

**TORs for
Briefing Paper- The Status of Right to Information in Pakistan**

Project/Funding	Support by FNF Pakistan
Assignment:	Briefing Paper on Status of Right to Information in Pakistan
Last date to apply:	7 May 2023
Submission to:	hr@cpdi-pakistan.org

About CPDI

Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) is an independent, non-partisan and a not-for-profit civil society organization working on issues of peace and development in Pakistan. It is registered under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (XLVII of 1984). It was established in September 2003 by a group of concerned citizens who realized that there was a need to approach the issue of peace and development in an integrated manner. CPDI seeks to inform and influence public policies and civil society initiatives through research – based advocacy and capacity building in order to promote citizenship, build peace and achieve inclusive and sustainable development. Areas of special sectoral focus include promotion of peace and tolerance, rule of law, local governance, transparency and access to information, budget watch, media development, electoral reforms, legislative strengthening and democratic development.

Introduction to the Assignment

CPDI aims to develop a briefing paper on the subject of right to information legislation and implementation in Pakistan. The objective of the study is to assess the effectiveness of RTI laws in promoting transparency and accountability in Pakistan while identifying the gaps and challenges in the implementation and also recommend measures to address them. Briefing paper will be presented to the Parliamentarians and policy makers at multiple forums to apprise them about lacunas in the RTI system and the potential role of legislators in Pakistan. The report will be produced with the support of Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) Pakistan and shall encapsulate the following aspects:

Outline Briefing Paper-The Status of Right to Information in Pakistan

I. Introduction

- Explanation of the Right to Information
- Importance of the Right to Information in a democratic society
- Overview of the purpose and contents of the paper

II. Historical Background of Right to Information Legislation

- Historical context of the Right to Information globally
- Brief history of Right to Information legislation in Pakistan
- Right to information and role of political parties
- Overview of key international conventions and declarations related to the Right to Information

III. Legal Framework for Right to Information in Pakistan

- Overview of federal and provincial laws, rules and regulations related to the Right to Information in Pakistan
- Constitutionality of right to information and its impact on federal and provincial legislation
- Analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the current legal framework
- Comparison with international best practices and standards

IV. Implementation of the Right to Information in Pakistan

- Overview of the implementation of the Right to Information in Pakistan
- Analysis of the effectiveness of the implementation mechanisms
- Evaluation of the challenges faced in implementation

V. Role of Information Commissions

- Explanation of the role and functions of Information Commissions in Pakistan
- Evaluation of the performance of Information Commissions in Pakistan
- Analysis of the impact of Orders of Information Commissions on the implementation of the Right to Information

VI. Right to Information and Role of Superior Judiciary

- Overview of the role of the judiciary in promoting the Right to Information in Pakistan
- Overview of orders of the information commissions petitioned against in High Courts
- Analyze the role of Information Commissions and the judiciary in promoting the Right to Information in Pakistan and evaluate their performance.

VII. Use of RTI for Investigative Reporting

- Explanation of investigative reporting
- Overview of the importance of the Right to Information in investigative reporting
- Comparison of traditional investigative reporting methods with RTI-based investigative reporting
- Overview of selected case studies on the use of the Right to Information for investigative reporting
- Analysis of the impact of the Right to Information on investigative reporting in these cases
- Comparison with international case studies

VIII. Importance of the Right to Information for citizens to attain basic rights

- Explanation of basic rights and their importance for citizens
- Overview of the need for the Right to Information for citizens to attain basic rights
- Discussion of the advantages of the Right to Information in obtaining basic rights
- Case Studies on the Use of the Right to Information for Attaining Basic Rights

IX. The Civil Society Use of the Right to Information for the Attainment of their Objectives

- Importance of the Right to Information for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- The role of CSOs in promoting transparency and accountability
- Challenges and opportunities for CSOs in using the Right to Information for their objectives
- Case Studies of CSOs using the Right to Information for their Objectives

X. Conclusion and Recommendations

- Summary of the key findings and recommendations of the paper

Deliverables:

- a) Work plan and timeline
- b) Methodology to conduct the study
- c) Table of Contents
- d) First draft of Report
- e) Second Draft of Report leading to the final draft after approval of CPDI Team
- f) Presentation on report to be delivered to CPDI team

Qualification

1. At least master degree and 10-15 years of experience of working on RTI related issues
2. Established author of research reports
3. Excellent understanding of RTI
4. Excellent writing and presentation skills
5. Capability of in-depth Situational analysis

Timeline for Completion of the Assignment

1. Maximum 30 days from the signing of the contract.

How to Apply: Interested Individuals can send their CVs/Profile highlighting the relevant experience with cover letter indicating name of assignment at: hr@cpdi-pakistan.org. The cover letter must include per day rate/fee in PKR (inclusive of all costs as mentioned in aforementioned note) to perform the assignment.