[redacted] [redacted]

Re: Sub-IPC on Tech/Atrocity Prevention/Key Events

kibrown@usaid.gov Kimberly Brown Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 1:06:06 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: gwillis@usaid.gov Garth Willis
Cc: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem

Thanks Garth!

Kimberly Brown
Foreign Service Officer
Justice, Rights and Security Team
Center for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance
USAID U.S. Agency for International Development
Email: kibrown@usaid.gov
[redacted]

On Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 10:37 AM Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov> wrote:
> Status of Asia bureau review of countries
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Michael Chelius** <mchelius@usaid.gov>
> Date: Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 9:29 AM
> Subject: Re: Sub-IPC on Tech/Atrocity Prevention/Key Events
> To: Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov>
>
> Let me follow up with missions and in Bureau and. Just saw a response from Burma that they are looking at it. Key Bangladesh staff was out of country until this week.
>
> On Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 8:04 AM Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > Good morning Michael,
> >
> > Curious the reaction and if there is any movement on clearances I can share with the NSC.
> >
> > I am Out of Office today as I will be at the White House and Capitol Building all day (OK - full disclosure, taking my daughter on a visitor tour) - but will check email on occasion.
> >
> > All the best,
> >
> > Garth
> >
> > On Fri, Jan 27, 2023 at 10:25 AM Michael Chelius <mchelius@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > Thank you, was out yesterday afternoon at medical appointment. I had shared earlier in week with desks and office directors to share with missions and this will ask our director to put this on agend for a the weekly Asia Bureau front office meeting. I think it will take until middle of next week for confirmation.
> > >
> > > On Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 1:24 PM Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > > Michael,
> > > >
> > > > I hope all is well, we had a sub-IPC on this today with the NSC and they are looking to move forward with these two countries as soon as we haved clearance from USAID. The link to the Draft Concept Note re Implementation of Framework Tech, Key Events, Atrocity Prevention is here which lays out the basic concept.
> > > >
> > > > Garth
> > > >
> > > > On Tue, Jan 24, 2023 at 10:18 AM Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > > > Great - no specific deadline yet, though we are meeting this afternoon to discuss that question as well as to clean up the draft to get it ready for clearances.
> > > > >
> > > > > There are two tracks to the clearances, one track to get the framework cleared, and a second track to get clearances on Burma and Bangladesh. First framework, which may happen this week, and then most likely we will be asking for a fast and perhaps reasonable quick turnaround from your side on the country selection, which is why I wanted to bring you in as soon as possible.

[redacted] [redacted]

I will keep you updated and please let me know how we can be of any assistance. Also adding Kim Brown, the co-POC on this for USAID.

Garth

On Tue, Jan 24, 2023 at 10:12 AM Michael Chelius <mchelius@usaid.gov> wrote:
> Thanks Garth, No problem. I'll pull in desk officers and others to get started. Any timelines or deadlines?
>
> On Tue, Jan 24, 2023 at 9:34 AM Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > Michael,
> >
> > Apologies for a follow up email after one day, but I did want to make sure you saw this and are the correct person for me to reach out to in the Asia Bureau to start a clearance process.
> >
> > Thank you,
> >
> > Garth
> >
> > On Mon, Jan 23, 2023 at 10:18 AM Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > Michael,
> > >
> > > I am finally able to circle back to you on this now that we have a version of the Atrocity Prevention / Tech company engagement framework that while not final, is ready to be shared.
> > >
> > > After many conversations with State and the NSC we were able to pare down the NSC vision to have a much longer list of countries for the pilot phase to 2-4 countries. In discussions with State it was mutually agreed that two countries that would work well for the pilot phase are Burma and Bangladesh. This of course is contingent on Regional Bureau/Mission concurrence.
> > >
> > > Would you be able to share this with your team? We would be open for a further discussion with any questions you may have. Also as an FYI NSC is hoping that we can have a workshop with tech companies in the coming weeks/months where we will discuss the framework broadly, this workshop will be led by State with support from USAID.
> > >
> > > Short term asks would be to get concurrence that Burma and Bangladesh are appropriate for inclusion, that there is Bureau/Mission buy-in, and a POC for engagement moving forward. As you mentioned earlier, this can be seen as a good opportunity to get the attention of Tech companies that are active in the two countries, and to use the inter-agency to bring our perspectives to their approach to monitoring and responding to events on the ground.
> > >
> > > Garth
> > >
> > >
> > >
> > > mchelius@usaid.gov>
> > > Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 10:58 AM
> > > Subject: Fwd: Sub-IPC on Tech/Atrocity Prevention/Key Events
> > > To: Garth Willis <gwillis@usaid.gov>
> > >
> > >
> > > FYI
> > >
> > > ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> > > From: **Michael Chelius** <mchelius@usaid.gov>
> > > Date: Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 10:39 AM
> > > Subject: Re: Sub-IPC on Tech/Atrocity Prevention/Key Events
> > > To: Diane Ray <dray@usaid.gov>
> > > CC: Brian Vogt <bvogt@usaid.gov>, Jason Gilpin <jgilpin@usaid.gov>, Kimberley Lucas <klucas@usaid.gov>, Mackenzie Keller <mkeller@usaid.gov>, Maria Covalenco-Tietz <mcovalencotietz@usaid.gov>, Peter Young <pyoung@usaid.gov>, Sara Borodin <SBorodin@usaid.gov>, Scott Kearin <skearin@usaid.gov>, Thomas E. White <thwhite@usaid.gov>, Tiana Hill <tihill@usaid.gov>

[redacted] [redacted]

Hi everyone,

I had a talk with Garth who works with Vera, the Agency MDM lead and is coordinating the response to this NSC request.

1. We both think it is a good opportunity to engage tech companies in addressing MDM ahead of elections/critical events.

1. The term ‘atrocity prevention’ can sound shocking but the framework is similar to other conflict/violence prevention frameworks including USAID’s election security and election assessment frameworks. Similar to the term anti-corruption, care has to be used when discussing the issue and using the term with local partners.

1. Garth and his State department counterpart will put forward five countries including Bangladesh and Burma for consideration to NSC with the caveat that additional consultation/approval is needed with missions/embassies and regional bureaus. They will also recommend that NSC chooses one country to focus on as a test case/proof of concept while watching the other four for possible engangement. Other countries are Zimbabwe, El Salvador, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

1. If missions agree, I think we should advocate for an Asia country to get selected, perhaps Burma given the recent request from AA Schiffer regarding Burma elections.

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On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 12:48 PM Diane Ray <dray@usaid.gov> wrote:
> Scratch that. Garth just found out that Pakistan is no longer on the list, so he canceled tomorrow's meeting with me and Masha.
>
> On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 12:10 PM Diane Ray <dray@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > Sounds like Masha is meeting him at 10 tomorrow, so maybe we can all descend on him at once.
> >
> > On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 12:00 PM Michael Chelius <mchelius@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > Good
> > >
> > > On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 11:57 AM Diane Ray <dray@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > > I have reached out to Garth and asked to meet with him tomorrow during his 10-12 time slot. Others are welcome to join me, if you wish.
> > > >
> > > > On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 11:48 AM Michael Chelius <mchelius@usaid.gov> wrote:
> > > > > Hi,
> > > > >
> > > > > I don’t have additional information but can reach on this effort but can reach out to Garth.
> > > > >
> > > > > I recommend a quick scan through this background document on what is met by mass atrocity:
> > > > >
> > > > > https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/Field_Guide_Mass_Atrocities.pdf

[redacted] [redacted]

On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 10:33 AM Kimberley Lucas <klucas@usaid.gov> wrote:

I noted this in Sr staff today and it sounds like Michael Chelius has more information. Also. the Burma mission had been looped in over weekend and has provided feedback high side as to whether Burma is appropriate for this *or not*. (I am guessing not given point two below? but leaving that discussion to high side) An excerpt from their email this morning flagging this meeting noted:

DDI/DRG Center and CPS (I think) are leading out on USAID's contribution to a Sub-IPC on Engagement of Tech Companies and Atrocity Prevention. They have identified 8 countries (Burma, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Mali and El Salvador) that will be narrowed down to five. The criteria is to identify countries with the best fits to engage with tech companies to prevent and mitigate mass atrocities where 1) there are upcoming Key Events that could create a risk of violence or mass atrocities, and 2) where tech platform engagement could have a mitigating impact on those risks.

Kimberley Lucas
USAID/Asia/EAP Burma Desk (& Acting Asia/EAP Director Dec 2-12)
USAID Asia Bureau/Office of East Asian & Pacific Affairs (EAP)
phone: [redacted]
email: KLucas@usaid.gov www.usaid.gov/Burma/

On Mon, Dec 12, 2022 at 10:23 AM Mackenzie Keller <mkeller@usaid.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Jason!

+ DG colleagues -- did you receive any additional background on this?

Best,

Mackenzie

On Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 5:48 PM Jason Gilpin <jgilpin@usaid.gov> wrote:

Adding Peter, Tiana and Mackenzie to check on Monday.

On Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 5:39 PM Diane Ray <dray@usaid.gov> wrote:

Sara,
This honestly does not make any sense to me but I can offer to meet him on Tuesday. Looping in Kim and Jason since Burma and Bangladesh are also on the list.
Diane

On Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 3:10 PM Sara Borodin <sborodin@usaid.gov> wrote:

Did you get this too? Can I defer this to you? It would be good to understand why Pakistan made the list? What criteria did they use?

Thanks,
Sara

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Garth Willis** <gwillis@usaid.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 12:59 PM
Subject: Sub-IPC on Tech/Atrocity Prevention/Key Events
To: Tara Thwing <tthwing@usaid.gov>, Sarah Logan <slogan@usaid.gov>, Andrew Friedman <anfriedman@usaid.gov>, Karen O'Donnell <kodonnell@usaid.gov>, Carrie Gruenloh <cgruenloh@usaid.gov>, Vanita Datta <vdatta@usaid.gov>, Gary Bland <gbland@usaid.gov>, Nicholas Detsch <ndetsch@usaid.gov>, Michael Chelius <mchelius@usaid.gov>, Maria Covalenco-Tietz <mcovalencotietz@usaid.gov>, Scott Kearin <skearin@usaid.gov>, Thomas E. White <thwhite@usaid.gov>, Brian Vogt <bvogt@usaid.gov>, Linnea Beatty <lbeatty@usaid.gov>, Michael Henning <mhenning@usaid.gov>, Erin McCarthy <emccarthy@usaid.gov>, Carrie Mitchell <camitchell@usaid.gov>, Chantal Agarwal <cagarwal@usaid.gov>,

[redacted] [redacted]

Daniella Burgi-Palomino <dburgipalomino@usaid.gov>, Luis Azurduy <lazurduy@usaid.gov>, Cara Thanassi <cthanassi@usaid.gov>, Stephen Brager <sbrager@usaid.gov>, Allison Noble <anoble@usaid.gov>, April Hahn <ahahn@usaid.gov>, Najiyah Alwazir <nalwazir@usaid.gov>, Sara Borodin <sborodin@usaid.gov>, Leah Werchick <lwerchick@usaid.gov>, Austin Doehler <adoehler@usaid.gov>, Meredith Potter <mpotter@usaid.gov>, Vera Zakem <vzakem@usaid.gov>, Michael McNulty <mmcnulty@usaid.gov>, Kimberly Brown <kibrown@usaid.gov>, Kimberly Hart <kihart@usaid.gov>

Colleagues,

[redacted]

In brief, we are looking to engage with Tech companies to prevent and mitigate mass atrocities where 1) there are upcoming Key Events that could create a risk of violence or mass atrocities, and 2) where tech platform engagement could have a mitigating impact on those risks.

We (USAID and State) have been tasked by the WWhite House to separately prepare a list of up to five counties where we believe the USG can engage with tech companies to mitigate risks of mass atrocities. **We have been tasked to send this list to the White House by COB on Tuesday 12/13.** Both State and USAID pushed back that this is unreasonable, but the deadline was set for us. After both State and USAID send their respective lists there will be another Sub-IPC to crosswalk the two lists to create a final list of countries for inclusion.

As a group, the USAID representatives on the Sub-IPC came up with a short list of eight countries that we still need to narrow down to five. At this point we want to make sure all the Regional Bureaus have eyes on this and can provide their input, and ideally concurrence, prior to the Tuesday deadline.

The eight countries (in no particular order) are:

1. Burma
2. Bangladesh
3. Pakistan
4. Zimbabwe
5. Democratic Republic of Congo
6. Ethiopia
7. Mali
8. El Salvador

[redacted]

Friday 12/09: 1:00 - 3:00
Monday 12/12: 10:00 - 11:00 and 1:00 - 4:00
Tuesday 12/13: 10:00 - 12:00

My cubicle ([redacted] is right around the corner from the [redacted] cafe if you need to find me.

Thanks all for your support, and hopefully for your understanding with the unreasonable deadline,

Garth

--
Garth Willis Ph.D.

[redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

USAID Innovation, Technology & Research Hub /
Digital Development Executive Fellow
gwillis@usaid.gov
[redacted]

--
Sara Borodin (she/her/hers)
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Asia
[redacted] (cell)
sborodin@usaid.gov
USAID

--
Diane E. Ray
Director, Office of Pakistan
Office: [redacted]
Mobile: [redacted]
ClassNet: [redacted]
JWICS: [redacted]

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Mackenzie Keller *(pronouns: she, her, hers)*
Bangladesh Desk Officer
U.S. Agency for International Development
Bureau for Asia
Office: [redacted] Cell: [redacted]
mkeller@usaid.gov ClassNet: [redacted]

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Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

--
Diane E. Ray
Director, Office of Pakistan
Office: [redacted]
Mobile: [redacted]
ClassNet: [redacted]
JWICS: [redacted]

--

[redacted] [redacted]

Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

--
Diane E. Ray
Director, Office of Pakistan
Office: [redacted]
Mobile: [redacted]
ClassNet: [redacted]
JWICS: [redacted]

--
Diane E. Ray
Director, Office of Pakistan
Office: [redacted]
Mobile: [redacted]
ClassNet: [redacted]
JWICS: [redacted]

--
Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

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Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

[redacted]

--
Garth Willis Ph.D.
USAID Innovation, Technology & Research Hub /
Digital Development Executive Fellow
gwillis@usaid.gov

--
Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

--
Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

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Michael Chelius
Division Chief, Democracy/Governance and Peace/Security (DGPS) Division
USAID Asia Bureau, Office of Technical Services
mchelius@usaid.gov
SIPR: [redacted]
mobile: +1 [redacted]
office: +1 [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

--
Garth Willis Ph.D.
USAID Innovation, Technology & Research Hub /
Digital Development Executive Fellow
gwillis@usaid.gov

[redacted]