

INTERREGIONAL

A. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION		
1.	PROJECT TITLE	STRENGTHENING FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA: EVALUATING THE VALUES, PRACTICES AND ATTITUDES OF NEWS EDITORS WITH REGARD TO JOURNALISM SAFETY AND IMPUNITY IN MEXICO, PAKISTAN, BULGARIA, TURKEY, INDIA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO.
2.	NUMBER	IPDC/59 INT/01
3.	MEDIA DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS' CATEGORY	Category 4: In particular relating to 'knowledge building' to enable the design of location specific and bespoke approaches to the kind of measure required to combat the threat to journalists, to increase safety, to enable the systematic reporting of attacks on journalists and the use of impunity.
4.	IPDC PRIORITY AREA	Promotion of freedom of expression and press freedom (including the safety of journalists), pluralism and independence
5.	SCOPE (NATIONAL, REGIONAL, INTERREGIONAL)	INTERREGIONAL
6.	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE REQUESTED	Bespoke funding for research assistance
7.	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	\$ 27089.62
8.	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM IPDC	\$ 20.000
9.	BENEFICIARY BODY	Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM) Journalism Studies University of Sheffield 9 Mappin Street S1 4DT UK
10.	IMPLEMENTING OFFICE	UNESCO, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development

11.	PROJECT LOCATION	MEXICO, PAKISTAN, BULGARIA, TURKEY, INDIA AND DRC.
12.	PROJECT PREPARED BY	Professor Jackie Harrison, Chair Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM)

B. PRESENTATION

1. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION:

The killings of journalists and the level of impunity for such crimes is a persistent problem. Between 2006-2013 593 journalists were killed and the current level of impunity, based on states' responses to UNESCO, is 93.3% (UNESCO's DG's report to IPDC, November 2014). This problem is widely recognised amongst IGOs, NGOs and the media community and has become a priority agenda item for the UN. The UN has developed a 'Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity' in 2012 in an attempt to combat, crimes against journalists and impunity and ultimately to ensure greater freedom of expression and media freedom. However, such action plans can only be successful if news organisations (and the public) are aware of them, engage with the safety of their own journalists and issues of impunity and are willing to take measures in line with action plans specific to the countries they operate in.

In this project CFOM will interview news editors/senior journalists of news organisations (see C Additional Information below) in six countries where press freedom is constrained and where editors could therefore be expected to have a greater interest in combating threats to journalists and ensuring safe reporting than in countries where the press is relatively free and journalists generally operate in a safe environment. These countries are Pakistan, Mexico, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Turkey, India and Bulgaria. The interviews will focus on editors/senior journalists' news values and practices and their attitudes and opinions with regard to the kind of measures that are required to combat the threat to journalists, increase their safety, enable the systematic reporting of attacks on journalists and to report about the problem of impunity. CFOM will analyse these findings to identify barriers to the editors' engagement with journalism safety and impunity and to outline the potential for the development of bespoke country-specific approaches with regard to the kind of assistance in terms of, journalism training, stimulating policy debate and initiatives and information campaigns that will be of direct benefit to aiding the development of the news media in each country, with the long-term aim of increasing media freedom.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE TARGET GROUP:

Interviews will be conducted in the following countries and news organisations (where suitable editors and senior journalists concerned with the issue of impunity and safety of journalists have already been identified):

Pakistan is classed 158th on the Press Freedom Index 2014. According to the Freedom House, journalists in Pakistan face high levels of violence and threats from a range of sources, including the military, intelligence services, and militant groups³⁵. CFOM will conduct interviews with editors/senior

³⁵ https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/pakistan#.VK_1vkqvwl

journalists at the following news organisations: Daily Aaj, Daily Mashriq, Daily Surkhab, Daily Subah (regional) and The News International, Daily Dawn, Daily Express, Daily Jang (national).

According to Reporters without Borders, **Mexico** is one of the world's most dangerous countries for journalists. They are threatened and murdered by organized crime or corrupt officials with impunity. The resulting climate of fear leads to self-censorship and undermines freedom of information.³⁶ Freedom House states that 76 journalists were killed between 2000 and 2013 and that another 16 have disappeared since 2003.³⁷ Mexico currently ranks 152nd on the Press Freedom Index 2014. CFOM will conduct interviews with editors/senior journalists at the following news organisations: La Jornada, Reforma, El Universal, Proceso (national) and Río Doce, Lado Be, Zeta, El Siglo de Torreón (regional).

Democratic Republic of Congo: According to Freedom House journalists and media outlets face censorship and harassment from multiple sources, including national and local government officials, members of the security forces, and non-state actors.³⁸ DRC ranks 151st on the Press Freedom Index Ranking 2014. At this stage CFOM has not yet decided which news organisations to approach. It is, however, currently collaborating with Fondation Hironnelle³⁹ which has offered CFOM the possibility to use their University and news organisation contacts. As such, access to the DRC's news organisation is ensured.

Turkey: According to Freedom House 'Turkey's government is improperly using its leverage over media to limit public debate about government actions and punish journalists and media owners who dispute government claims'⁴⁰. It currently ranks 154th on the Press Freedom Index 2014. CFOM will conduct interviews with editors/senior journalists at the following news organisations: NTV and CNN Türk (national news channels), Habertürk and Milliyet (national newspapers); Sakarya, Olay, Dücze Damla (regional newspapers) and IHA (news agency).

India currently ranks 140th on the Press Freedom Index 2014. Its media freedom is constrained by 'interference by media owners in editorial content in the run-up to the 2014 national elections, and an expansion of censorship and surveillance of digital platforms'. Journalists face violence and are often subject of legal actions⁴¹. CFOM will conduct interviews with editors/senior journalists at the following national TV news channels: Times Now, Aaj Tak, NDTV, Headlines Today and the regional newspapers Hindustan Times and Anand Bazaar Patrika as well as the TV news channels Sahara and Mahua TV.

Bulgaria, member of the EU, ranks 100th on the Press Freedom Index 2014. Journalists in Bulgaria face police violence and arrests, are threatened and experience physical violence and attacks. Government an corporate pressure on Bulgaria's media leads journalists to exercise self-censorship.⁴² CFOM will conduct interviews with editors/senior journalists at the following news organisations: Dnevnik, Capital, Sega, 24 Chasa (National newspapers) and Brjag, Zov, Borba, Dobrudjanska Tribuna (regional newspapers).

³⁶ <http://en.rsf.org/report-mexico.184.html>

³⁷ https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/mexico#.VK_8UEvqvwl

³⁸ https://www.freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/congo-democratic-republic-kinshasa#.VK_5F0vqvwl

³⁹ Fondation Hironnelle is a Swiss non-governmental organization of journalists and humanitarian aid professionals. (<http://www.hironnelle.org/index.php/en/who-we-are>).

⁴⁰ <https://freedomhouse.org/report/special-reports/democracy-crisis-corruption-media-and-power-turkey#.VLE2CEvqvwl>

⁴¹ <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/india#.VLE22kvqvwl>

⁴² <https://www.freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/bulgaria#.VLE4MEvqvwl>

3. DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE:

The long-term development objective is to contribute to greater media freedom in the targeted countries. This objective obviously depends on a number of different factors. CFOM hopes to make a contribution to this long-term goal by providing a greater understanding of the news editors/senior journalists values, attitudes and practices regarding journalism safety, issues of impunity and the reporting of attacks on journalists by identifying barriers to the engagement with these issues and to outline potential ways to address these barriers through bespoke assistance.

4. IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE:

The immediate objective is to provide an in-depth analysis of the news editors/senior journalists' values, attitudes and practices regarding journalism safety and issues of impunity in the above countries. It is vital to understand these as they provide the basis for an evaluation of what assistance NGOs, IGOs as well as governments can provide to these countries.

5. PROJECT OUTPUTS:

- 1) A report on the news editors/senior journalists' values, attitudes and practices regarding journalism safety, issues of impunity and the reporting of attacks on journalists and recommendations for bespoke assistance. This report will be made available to NGOs, the media community, IGOs and the public on the CFOM website and be disseminated through the CFOM network.
- 2) In-depth profiles of the countries' engagement with journalism safety and issues of impunity as well as barriers to such an engagement. These profiles can be used as templates for the assessment of news editors' (non-)engagement with these issues in countries similar to those examined in this project and as a roadmap for possible forms of assistance to encourage engagement - again this will contain recommendations for bespoke assistance.

6. ACTIVITIES:

- To generate the data: 6 research assistants will conduct 48 structured 1hr interviews in total with news editors/senior journalists (8 interviews per country – 4 with the national media and 4 with the regional media). Each interview will be professionally transcribed and translated.
- To generate the project outputs: the University of Sheffield and CFOM staff will analyse the data, write the report and develop the country profile templates.

7. PROJECT INPUTS:

- 2 Academic members of staff (CFOM, University of Sheffield) will prepare the interview questionnaires, undertake the analysis of the interview data and produce the report and the templates.
- 6 Academic research assistants (one per country – CFOM has identified all of these except for the DRC where the FH will make the contact) to contact the news editors/senior journalists, set up and conduct the interviews, identify a professional and reliable transcription and translation service for the interview data. These six assistants are nationals of the countries CFOM targets and are therefore familiar with the media environment. They have agreed to act as research assistants. All of the assistants are native speakers and have academic research experience in the area of media freedom in their specific country.

- Funds for translation and transcription costs of questionnaires and interview data

8. WORK PLAN:

ACTIVITIES / MONTHS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Preparation of interview questionnaires and setting up of interviews	X	X										
Interviews in each country			X	X	X							
Transcription and translation of interview data						X						
Analysis and Writing Up of Outputs							X	X	X	X	X	X

9. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK:

CFOM was established in 2008 as an interdisciplinary research and advocacy centre based at the Department of Journalism Studies at the University of Sheffield. CFOM's mission is to illuminate where freedom of expression is undermined or abused and where journalism and the safety of journalists come under attack. CFOM's management structure: It is chaired by Professor Jackie Harrison, Joint Head of Department and Director of Research in the Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield, UK. CFOM has an International Director, two co-Directors, nine academic staff members, two research assistants and part-time support from Finance, Communication and Administrative Officers. The University of Sheffield's statutes and governance procedure govern CFOM. The University of Sheffield is a member of the Russell Group of leading UK research universities. It is also in the top ten UK research-intensive universities. CFOM has received funding from the University of Sheffield, the Open Society Foundations, the Swedish and UK National Commission for UNESCO, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Including the investment of curriculum development and research excellence funds, staff time and other associated costs by the University of Sheffield (£165,000) CFOM's annual income is circa £185,000. CFOM has worked successfully with The Division for Freedom of Expression and Media Development, within the Communication and Information Sector of UNESCO since 2012 on research and advocacy initiatives relating to journalism safety and the issue of impunity.

10. SUSTAINABILITY:

This project is a continuation of work undertaken by CFOM (see section C Additional Information). CFOM is currently envisaging grant applications with major funding bodies such as the ESCR, Leverhulme and the Open Society Foundations in order to continue and broaden the scope of CFOM's work in this area. The report of this project will be made available to NGOs, IGOs and media organisations and as such, the sustainability of this project could be ensured through policy impact. Finally, the templates CFOM will develop can be used for CFOM's own future research, but will also provide a research tool for other researchers engaging in similar work.

11. FRAMEWORK OF MONITORING AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY:

The project outcomes will be CFOM publications which go through the University of Sheffield's established publication protocols and benefit from its marketing strategies and outlets.

12. EVALUATIONS CARRIED OUT:

CFOM has carried out a range of research projects in the area of journalism safety and has already undertaken and analysed interviews with editors and senior journalists on this topic in the UK. The research assistants used with have already completed the required research methods training in the course of their doctoral studies.

13. FRAMEWORK OF BENEFICIARY AGENCY'S REPORTING:

CFOM undertakes to report on project progress on a four-month basis to the relevant Field Office and to submit a comprehensive final report describing the extent to which the immediate objective of the project was achieved. Professor Jackie Harrison will prepare and submit the reports.

C. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CFOM conducted two pilot studies. The first was a series of interviews with 11 leading UK journalists, editors and Heads of High Risk⁴³ in 2013 in order ascertain the editors' attitudes towards the safety of journalists, issues of impunity and the reporting of violence against journalists. Two of the findings are important for the IDPC project: (A) UK editors are aware of the UN action plan. However, they generally consider it as unhelpful, as producing little result and as interference rather than assistance. It might be the case that news organisations in the UK can be less routinely concerned about the broader issues of safety as journalism training is well developed, they have extensive networks in dangerous places that they can use to protect their journalists and usually operate in a national environment where the media are considered free. In this project CFOM focuses on countries that do not benefit from similar arrangements to those the UK has in order to examine whether values, attitudes and practices differ. (B) With the exception of high profile cases, news editors/senior journalists do not routinely cover stories on attacks on journalists as they tend to think that the public is not interested in many of these stories. Taking (B) as a starting point for further research CFOM conducted a series of focus groups in London and Sheffield in order to examine public awareness and perceptions of the deaths of journalists and issues of impunity in 2014. One of the main findings was that the public was initially unaware of journalists being intentionally targeted and of the issue of impunity. However, once they were informed and discussed some journalists' deaths the participants expressed vivid interest in the reporting of these stories claiming a 'right to know' about journalists being attacked while serving the public.

⁴³ Sunday Times: Managing Editor; Independent: Editor; The Guardian: Reader's Editor, former Managing Editor, and board member INSI; Telegraph: Foreign Editor; BBC: Producer; Head of High Risk; Deputy Head of Newsgathering; ITN: Managing Editor; Head of Security; City University: UK Director, INSI.

D. BUDGET

BREAKDOWN OF IPDC CONTRIBUTION (in US dollars)

6 Research assistants (Grade 7, PhD) £16.19 + holiday pay and employers NI = £18.14 @ 20hrs each	£2176.80 (\$3306.75)
Travel and accommodation for 6 RAs when undertaking interviews	£1800 (\$2734.36)
6 x Transcription and translation costs of interview data	£6000 (\$9114.54)
Staff costs for 2 academic members of staff to analyse the data and to produce the project outputs. Remainder of costs after UoS contribution. Total cost = £7789 (\$11832.19)	£3188.98 (\$4844.35)
Total IPDC	20.000US\$

BREAKDOWN OF THE BENEFICIARY AGENCY'S CONTRIBUTION (in US dollars)

Staff costs for 2 academic members of staff to analyse the data and to produce the project outputs, 3 weeks over 6 months (120hrs) based on these dates 1/10/15- 31/3/16. Dr Stefanie Pukallus (Salary + Superannuation + NI= £1457) Professor Jackie Harrison (Salary + Superannuation + NI= £3110) Total = £4567 + £680 Estates & £15 Infrastructure & £2527 Indirect costs = £7789 (\$11832.19)	£4600.02 (\$6987.84)
Marketing, publicity and website costs (3hrs) based on these dates 1/4/15 – 31/03/16. Pete Green (Salary + Superannuation + NI = £67.00)	£67.00 (\$101.78)
Total	7089.62 US\$