1 Introduction

The Centre for Economic Empowerment is commissioning research on the economic impacts of sectarianism and racism in Northern Ireland. This document sets out the terms of reference for the research and the requirements of tenders. Submissions should be sent to eoin.rooney@nicva.org by 5pm Monday 9 February 2015.

2 Background

Sectarianism and racism are believed to have significant effects on the Northern Ireland economy, including on public expenditure (e.g. extra policing costs, duplicated public services), the labour market (e.g. chill factors and discrimination) and levels of investment and tourism.

However, these economic impacts are not systematically evidenced or measured. The last comprehensive attempt to assess the financial costs of Northern Ireland’s sectarian divide used data from 2004/05, and there has been no equivalent study of the economic implications of racism. In this context there is a clear need for an improved and more contemporary understanding of how sectarianism and racism impact on the Northern Ireland economy.

3 Terms of Reference

The contractor will produce a report which systematically examines the economic impacts of sectarianism and racism in contemporary Northern Ireland. A methodology will be suggested by the contractor but it is anticipated that the research will be primarily desk-based and will involve the following:

- Defining sectarianism and racism.
- Identifying theories as to how sectarianism and racism impact on the economy (for example on levels of FDI).
- Setting out the empirical evidence in relation to each theory/impact (from Northern Ireland and elsewhere).
- Developing a set of indicators for measuring the economic impact of sectarianism and racism in Northern Ireland.
- Applying this set of indicators (i.e. calculating the economic impact of sectarianism and racism) for an appropriate base year.

It is envisaged that this set of indicators will be updated by interested parties on an annual basis, allowing for comparisons over time.²

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² Similar to the Community Relations Council’s annual Peace Monitoring Report.
4 Steering Group

NICVA will convene a steering group for the project. The group will meet twice – first to provide comment on the Project Initiation Document and secondly to discuss the Draft Report. At least one member of the contractor/research team will attend the steering group meetings in person.

5 Format of Tenders

Submissions should include details of:

- The contractor’s **relevant** knowledge and expertise. It is expected that the contractor will have expertise in regard to sectarianism/racism in Northern Ireland and internationally. In order to ensure this, collaborative tenders are welcome.
- A methodology to deliver the terms of reference.
- Timelines for delivery and days allocated to key tasks (including two half days to meet with the steering group and half a day for the report launch).
- Costs (including daily rates).

6 Budget

A budget of up to £25,000 (inclusive of VAT and expenses) is available for this research. Payments will be made in two stages – on agreement of a Project Initiation Document (33%), and on acceptance of a final report (67%).

7 Award Criteria

The selection panel will assess the tenders on the basis of expertise (30%), methodology (30%), costs (25%), and timelines (15%).

8 Further Information

If you require any further information please contact Eoin Rooney on 028 9087 7777 or eoin.rooney@nicva.org.