1.3.1 (3.1)	**Conflict and Gender Sensitivity** - How will you ensure the project is **conflict sensitive**?	**Pages: 1**	**Points: 75**

Value Add: Established – Ready - Low Risk. Providing the Authority with a programme that benefits from our existing platform, broad connectivity, proven subject matter expertise and intimate familiarity with the operating environment in Lebanon and the Palestinian Refugee Camps (PRCs) enables us to quickly orientate ourselves to the ground. Furthermore, we add *significant benefit* through the selection of team members who bring proven expertise to ensure conflict sensitivity starts and remains at the heart of our project design and implementation. Our Programme Lead, **Alicia Kearns**, is a recognised expert in designing conflict sensitive programmes and will lead our Peace and Conflict Analysis and ongoing conflict monitoring work, while our In-country Lead, **Jasmine El-Gamal**, will focus on ensuring meaningful community consultation and inclusion in delivery. This ensures that Conflict Sensitivity is a continuous project consideration underpinning understanding and decision making.

Proven Track Record. Torchlight has embedded conflict sensitivity into our wider project and programme portfolio, delivering for HMG programmes in Lebanon, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tunisia and Nigeria. Within our team **Alicia** was previously the Cross-Government lead for Syria and Iraq Communications, and Senior Advisor for Counter Daesh Communications at the FCO. She provided advice on local conflict dynamics across the region to inform Prime Minister-approved communications strategies to defeat Daesh and support Syria; **Jasmine** has over 12 years' experience of handling crisis and conflict as Special Assistant to three consecutive US Under-Secretaries of Defense where she advised on national security issues, including local and international conflict and sectarian dynamics across the Middle East.

Our proven approach to conflict sensitivity allows us to understand and manage the relationship between the conflict context and the project activities. **Alicia** will use our *Peace and Conflict Analysis (PCA) methodology* to embed the understanding of the conflict context into the project. The wider team will then identify the changing dynamics, react to them and manage them in real time, thereby realising the ambition of **iterative** and **adaptive** programming. Addressing inequality and disparity is of particular importance in the PRCs in Lebanon, so Torchlight's approach will be about **understanding** and then **managing**, the positive and negative, intended and unintended, impacts of the project on the conflict context and vice versa (impacts of the conflict context on the programme). In sensitive projects in challenging environments, identifying these relationships and then managing them can be problematic, so we will be continually updating our understanding of the conflict context and monitoring and then responding to the dynamic relationship between the conflict and the project. This approach is built on two key pillars:

▶ **Conflict Analysis.** We utilise a practical process of examining and understanding the reality of the conflict from a range of perspectives. This continuous data collection and analysis will allow us to ensure our understanding of the conflict context is up to date. We seek to understand both open conflict dynamics and underlying conflict key drivers such as corruption, community grievances, perceptions of the state and its security sector, and socio-economic trends, to ensure the project is designed, refined and implemented in a manner that does not unintentionally exacerbate conflict or its underlying drivers. The analysis will be structured around four lines of enquiry: Profile, Causes/Drivers, Actors and Dynamics, and will be shaped around a two-step process:

1. Conduct an overall Peace and Conflict Analysis that identifies all relevant visible and hidden conflict drivers in Lebanon;
2. Consider what those identified conflict drivers mean for the project context and which ones need to be taken into account during project design, implementation and monitoring.

▶ **Monitoring and Risk Management.** We will monitor and manage conflict sensitivity by: integrating key drivers of conflict into our overarching project monitoring system (PMS) to ensure we identify in a timely fashion any significant changes in the context; ensuring our PMS integrates key indicators to understand the dynamics of the relationship between the project and the conflict context to see if the intended impacts match with our theory of change; and ensuring reporting of any unintended consequences are identified, understood and managed in a timely way for the duration of the project.

Mitigating the risk of being unable to work in certain camps at points during the project. As detailed in Section 1.2.1, we will prioritise camps based on the assessed urgency of required intervention. We will continually review the security situation to determine the safety of our proposed operations. Our local partners regularly operate within the refugee camps, with many having access to community centres which we would seek to utilise for the workshops. Where this is not possible, we may be required to operate in existing facilities run by our local implementing partners outside of the camps themselves, including in Beirut.

Robust approach to M&E and risk register that addresses conflict sensitivity. Torchlight's methodical and calibrated M&E systems include the use of **conflict-sensitive** techniques/methodologies to support data collection efforts without undermining trust/stakeholder relationships. As detailed in Section 1.6.1, we will work with the Authority to identify appropriate indicators and data sources as part of a wider data collection and M&E plan. This will allow for monitoring of results, identification of unintended consequences, gender and conflict sensitivity assessments and impact contributions. The risk register is then updated to include specific considerations addressing conflict sensitivity, as set out in Section 1.5.1.

Comprehensive understanding of the broader political and security context. The protracted crisis in Palestine will require our teams to stay fully briefed on the current situation and its impact on the Target Audience and Palestinians who influence them. The ebbs and flows of the crisis will require us to work flexibly and be alert to changing sensitivities, and the many Palestinian experts in our team, and partners working in the camps, will be key to our remaining abreast of this. We also use highly credible risk management sources, including *Control Risks, Northcott Global Solutions, FCO travel advisory services, and our own analysts for in-country security monitoring*. Leveraging our existing strong relationships, we will also liaise closely with the *LAF Intelligence Branch, embassy security teams, and contacts within international NGOs, including UNIFIL and field security officers at UNRWA.*