**SOCIAL CHANGE INITIATIVE PROPOSAL FORM**

A successful completion of the fellowship requires that all Certificate fellows propose and execute a relevant Social Change Initiative (SCI) spanning a maximum of 9 months within their fellowship year. This initiative stands as a pivotal requirement for fulfilling the awarded peace fellowship.

To kickstart your SCI, you'll need to fill in this form to communicate your proposed budget, objectives, and timeline. Upon submission of your proposal, your Center Director will electronically confirm their approval, forwarding it to the Program Officer at Rotary International for further endorsement.

It's crucial to note that failure to complete an approved SCI without prior consent from The Rotary Foundation and the Peace Center may result in termination of the fellowship.

**Approved Social Change Initiatives**

Throughout your SCI period, the Peace Center is committed to providing dedicated supervision facilitated by a faculty or experienced professional advisor (mentor). You are strongly encouraged to maintain regular consultations with your advisor, updating them on the progress, challenges, and milestones achieved while executing your SCI. Embracing this collaborative approach ensures continuous guidance and robust support throughout the initiative period.

Your SCI should encompass an applied community initiative, integrating various activities tailored to align with your professional interests and experience. The SCI should focus on actively involving your community in a peace building and development project, encouraging innovative approaches and a new viewpoint within your ongoing work. Furthermore, this duration provides an opportunity for contemplation and deliberate planning regarding your potential involvement in peacebuilding practice post-fellowship, should you wish to pursue that.

**Fund Amount**

The Rotary Foundation will grant up to $1,000 USD to each peace fellow whose SCIs receive approval. The specific amount awarded will differ among fellows and will be determined based on the budget submitted with each proposal.

It is your responsibility to anticipate and meticulously calculate all anticipated expenses during the implementation phase. These expenses encompass implementation and project costs, as well as any associated expenditures.

The awarded sum is intended as a seed fund to defray some or all of the SCI-related expenses. No adjustments will be considered once your proposal has been approved and the allocated fund has been disbursed. You are encouraged to seek additional funding from sources beyond The Foundation for your SCI, including Rotary clubs or other external sources. You are encouraged to report additional raised funds to The Foundation, and that will not impact the sum received from The Foundation.

**SCI Proposal Template**

You may utilize the Social Change Initiative proposal template and accompanying log frame found on pages 24 and 25 of your handbook to outline and detail your proposed SCI, including its associated activities.

**Proposal Template**

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| **Category** | **Guidance to Response** | **Response** (complete to the best of your knowledge) |
| **Title of SCI** |  | The Reclaim Project |
| **Objective of the SCI** | Project expected result | When communities do not communicate, they will not understand each other and where there is not understanding, conflict is bound to happen.  Storytelling is a unique way to build understanding and connection between Egba and Ologba communities who have been in conflict for more than 10 years.  The goal of the Reclaim project is to;   * Use the power of storytelling for mediation, understanding and restoration of peace in Egba and Ologba. * To facilitate the creation of community mediation committees in the communities. A structure for reporting, monitoring, resolving conflict and mediation within the communities. * To train community mediators skilled in resolving conflict within the communities. * Train community storytellers who can tell community stories for mediation and reshaping of communal narratives. |
| **Location** | Country, District, state, city, etc. | Nigeria, (Ologba and Egba community in Agatu) Apa and Agatu Constituency of Benue State Nigeria |
| **Urban/Peri-Urban/Rural** | Select one option | Rural |
| **Target Population group** | Youths/Children/Women/PWDs/Refugees/IDPs/Elderly | Youths, Community leaders, religious leader |
| **Direct Beneficiary** | Specify by number, gender, and age ranges | 10 (male and female) trained community storytelling facilitators.  40 Trained community mediators who will be part of the community mediation committee in the two communities. |
| **Implementation Method** | Tools or techniques used: mediation, conflict analysis, awareness campaign, etc.) | * Mediation (Storytelling as a tool for mediation) * Conflict analysis (deepening our understanding of conflict in the community) * Community storytelling and conversations. |
| **Positive Peace Pillar Alignment** | Primary and secondary PP pillars overlap | **Primary Pillars**   * **Good Relations with Neighbors**: The goal of the project is to facilitate harmonious relationship between Egba and Ologba communities. * **High Levels of Human Capital**: The project will work with communities to build their understanding for them to leverage familiar tools like storytelling and community conversations as a tool for peace building.   The conflict has also led to teachers not being posted to the affected communities which has created a huge gap in the training of young people in these communities.     * **Acceptance of the Rights of Others:** The conflict has led to the killing and denial of the rights of other people. * **Equitable Distribution of Resources:** The conflict started as a result of one party taking possession of a fish pond that was collectively owned. Addressing the distribution of these resources may lead to peaceful coexistence. * **Sound Business Environment**: Businesses are no longer investing in the communities due to the conflict. Addressing this conflict will improve the business environment in the communities.   **Secondary Pillars**   * **Well-Functioning Government**: Government activities have considerably reduced in these communities. Most government activities have been reduced to rehabilitations and peace talks. Addressing this issue will enable the government to focus on other areas of governance. * **Free Flow of Information**: When communities are in conflict, it hinders the flow of information. Addressing this conflict will result in free flow of information the communities. |
| **Rotary International Area of Focus Alignment** | Primary RI Area of Focus overlap | * **Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention:** The project will be using storytelling as a mediation tool to build peace while creating community mediation committees to prevent further conflicts. * **Community Economic Development**: Addressing this conflict will bring about investments and economic development in these s=communities. * **Basic Education and Literacy:** We will be providing basic media literacy, peace education to people in the community. |
| **Results/Impact’s sustainability** | How/if the project expected to sustain the achieved results | Community Mediation Committees will be created in the two communities that will continue to foster community conversations and mediation processes. |

**Log Frame**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** required steps/list of tasks to carry out the SCI | **Target/Objective** the desired result | **Baseline** a reference point to evaluate performance | **Indicators** quantitative or qualitative parameters to assess progress and success | **Means of Verification** methods or tools to collect data that shows the achievement of an indicator |
| **Entry Meeting** | To meet with key stakeholders and gatekeepers to provide access to community. | The project currently lacks established community access and engagement, with minimal involvement from key stakeholders and gatekeepers. | * Stakeholder Engagement * Gatekeeper Collaboration * Access to community and community Involvement | Meeting notes and resolution.  Meeting attendance.  Access to community. |
| **Community Engagement** | Inception meeting to map and co-design the peacebuilding process with community | There are currently no structured peacebuilding process involving storytelling codesigned with the communities as a mediation tool in the communities. | * Actionable Outputs * Inclusivity * Mapping and Co-design Effectiveness | Project plan document.  Pictures and videos from the sessions.  Participants testimonials. |
| **Pre project survey** | To understand the level of trust, cohesion, shared interest, stories and understanding | Trust, cohesion, shared interests, shared stories, and understanding within the community are currently low and undefined and require assessment. | * Trust Level * Cohesion Assessment * Identification of Shared Interests * Collection of Shared community Stories | Survey report. |
| **Selection of community storytellers** | To select community storytellers from the communities | The current status involves an absence of designated community storytellers skilled in using storytelling as a tool for mediation and conflict resolution, indicating a need for the selection process | * Identification of Potential Storytellers. * Community representation. | The names and biodata of the selected community storytellers. |
| **Training of community storytellers** | To train community storytellers on multimedia storytelling | The selected community storytellers currently lack training in multimedia storytelling. | * Storytelling skill Development * Collaboration and Teamwork * Storytelling Techniques * Multimedia Proficiency | Photos and videos from training sessions.  Participants feedback. |
| **Community stories production** | To produce stories across the communities. Photography and Ogencha podcast. | Currently, there is no established process for community story production, including photography, videos, and podcast. | * Stories produced – Stories per participant. * Quality of story produced. * Ogencha podcast produced. | 500 images from each participant.  Coherent storyline and edit.  One episode of the Ogencha podcast.  Videos and pictures of participants collecting stories. |
| **Community Stories sharing and Exhibition** | To exhibit the works of the storytellers across the communities for community members to see, experience and understand themselves. | Currently, there is no established platform or event for sharing and exhibiting community stories for community members to see, experience, and understand themselves. | * Exhibition Event Organization * Community participation * Story Impact on Community Understanding | At least 50 images exhibited.  Number of community participants in the exhibition.  Feedback and testimonies from storytellers and participants.  Photos and videos from the exhibition. |
| **Community Trauma and healing workshops** | To help communities and community members heal from experienced and reflective conflict trauma. | The communities and community members do not currently have any trauma and healing services or center in the two communities. | * Workshop Implementation * Participant Attendance * Participants and storytellers’ reflection | Number of people who attended the workshop.  Pre and post workshop feedback and conversation.  Photos and video testimonials from the workshop. |
| **Formation of community mediation committees** | To create a community conflict mediation and resolution group skilled in mediation approaches | Currently, there are no established community mediation committees, and the community lacks a structured group skilled in mediation and peacebuilding approaches. | * Committee Formation. * Training Completion * Mediation Skills Proficiency | Two community mediation committees formed.  Two mediation committees trained.  Feedback from trained participants.  Images and videos from the trainings. |
| **Post project survey** | To understand the impact of shared stories in the community  To understand the impact of storytelling training.  To understand the impact of the trauma workshop.  To understand the changes in the level of trust, cohesion, shared interest, stories and understanding | Currently, there is no established framework for assessing the impact of shared stories, storytelling training, trauma workshops, and changes in trust, cohesion, shared interests, stories, and understanding within the community. | * Impact of Shared Stories * Impact of Storytelling Training * Impact of Trauma Workshop * Changes in Trust, Cohesion, Shared Interests, Stories, and Understanding | Survey report. |

Add additional rows if necessary.

**BUDGET**

You are only eligible to receive funding for the total amount proposed in your budget, up to $1,000 USD. Any requests for additional funding will be denied.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item\*** | **Amount (USD)** | **Description** |
| **Travel/transportation** |  |  |
| Ground transportation | 200 | Travel to community for both team members and facilitators. |
| Accommodations | 400 | Cost of accommodation for team members and facilitators for the project. |
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| **Direct project costs** |  |  |
| Materials/supplies | 400 | Training manuals for training community storytellers and community mediators.  T-Shirts for facilitators and community storytellers. |
| Stationary | 100 | Writing materials, flip charts and papers. |
| Equipment | 500 | 1. ALLPOWERS Portable Power Station R600, 299Wh LiFeP04 Battery with 2x 600W (1200W Surge) AC Outlets for Outdoor Camping RV Home. 2. Microphones |
| Feeding | 400 | * Food for team members, facilitator, storytellers and selected community mediators’ members during training and workshops. * Light refreshment during community exhibition. |
| **Other expenses** |  |  |
| Facilitators and trainers’ fees | 500 | Facilitators for   * Multimedia training * Mediation training * Trauma and healing workshop |
| Printing of photos for exhibition | 1,000 | Printing of 50 images for community exhibition. This includes the stand and images. |
| Photography and videography | 500 | Cost for volunteer photographer and videographer for the entire duration of the project. |
| **Total (USD)** | 4000 |  |

Add additional rows if necessary.  
\* Expense items may significantly vary based on individual proposed initiatives and planned activities. Please feel free to include additional expense lines, ensuring they are reasonably justified in the description column.

**EXPLAIN HOW YOU WILL FUND ADDITIONAL EXPENSES SHOULD YOUR BUDGET EXCEED $1,000 USD.**

* I will seek support from local organizations, friends, and family.
* I will also commit personal resources and explore personal partnerships.
* I will work with Rotary Peace Fellows and other colleagues to volunteer their time for training.
* I will use personal equipment and get support from other people to minimize equipment cost.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE**

I acknowledge that my proposal necessitates approval from both my Center Director and Rotary International Peace Centers Program Officer to obtain funding.

I am aware of my responsibility to keep abreast of the latest guidance regarding travel restrictions and quarantine policies in countries I plan to visit for my SCI. Additionally, I commit to researching entry restrictions and policies in those countries.

I agree that all funding decisions will be made by The Rotary Foundation, and that I will not receive additional funding beyond what I have included in my proposed budget.

I commit to providing updates regarding my SCI to The Rotary Foundation through my host Rotary Peace Center.

I affirm that the information presented in this proposal is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

In the event that the funds provided by The Rotary Foundation are not utilized for the specified activity outlined in this proposal, or if the proposed activity does not come to fruition, I agree to return all allocated funds to The Foundation.

***Apochi Nelson Owoicho***

**12/12/2023**

**Date & Signature of Rotary Peace Fellow**