Follow-Up Surveys

After the validation workshops, there were a few follow-up questions of interest to PeaceTech Lab. Most of these questions were related to previously unidentified terms that were brought up during some of the workshops. Follow-up surveys were sent to pre-identified participants by DT staff to solicit further clarification of these terms and phrases and to gather any additional feedback these individuals might have. Five surveys were returned with additional clarification.

The original plan for this phase of the project—to hold one-on-one key informant interviews (KIIs) after the focus groups—had to be scrapped due to the outbreak of active fighting in the Tripoli area and the security impact on local partners.

Expert Advisors

Finally, the project team tasked six Libya experts from diverse backgrounds with reviewing and providing feedback on the lexicon draft developed out of the information gathered from the validation workshops. This panel of experts included Libyan civil society activists and academic professionals. Efforts were also taken to ensure that the panel was diverse in terms of gender, community of origin, and professional background. These experts contributed additional analysis and insights regarding local social and political context in Libya.

Annex B: Issues and Risks

Length and Complexity of Online Surveys

Some of the respondents to the online survey indicated that they felt the survey was too lengthy and/or complicated. This appeared to have some impact on the number of people who completed the survey, as several commented that they began the survey, but gave up after determining that it was too complicated or time intensive. In future lexicon development projects, it would likely be beneficial to further refine the format and language of the survey, particularly when launching the survey in languages not previously utilized.

Concerns Regarding Motives of Project

Some of the responses to the survey posted on social media raised questions regarding the motives of the project and the organizations (PeaceTech Lab and its local partners) implementing it. Some of the commenters were skeptical that the local partners actually represented local interests and others expressed concerns that the project was pushing a foreign agenda. This was an issue when PeaceTech Lab, a US-based organization, was prominently named as a partner with those groups distributing the surveys. Most local partners chose not to explicitly name PeaceTech Lab when distributing the surveys, but in the case when this issue arises, it is important for project staff to be able to fully explain the purpose of the project and the many measures in place to avoid bias—such as the inclusion of a diverse representation of local participants and the public availability of PeaceTech Lab's methodology and findings.

In addition, a small number of individuals responding to the online surveys expressed the opinion that hate speech was not a problem in Libya or that there were more pressing issues and this project should therefore not be a priority. While there are certainly many issues related