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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Project Title:	Strengthening the capacities of providers of services for women survivors of violence under the Programme “Ending Violence against Women: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds” in Turkey
Purpose:	Selection of qualified responsible party for the Programme
Duration:	November 2017 – December 2018 (tentatively)
Contract Type:	Project Cooperation Agreement
Scope:	TURKEY

Deadline for submissions: 28 September 2017

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) is inviting women civil society organisations (CSOs), and CSOs working on gender equality to submit proposals to strengthen the capacities of justice services providers for women survivors of violence under the Programme “Ending Violence against Women: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds” in Turkey.

Interested applicants are invited to attend one informative session, on the 12th of September 2017, in which additional clarifications can be provided on the application process. Kindly communicate your interest in participating in the session to Oya Otman at oya.otman@unwomen.org.

Terms of Reference

I. Background

The three-year programme *“Implementing norms, changing minds”* (February 2017-January 2020) aims at ending gender-based discrimination and violence against women, with a focus on the most disadvantaged groups of women, in the Western Balkan – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo¹, and Serbia – and Turkey. Funded by the European Commission (EC) within the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) II, the Programme is aligned with the European Union (EU) accession standards to achieve equality between women and men.

“Implementing norms, changing minds” is anchored in the normative frameworks of the Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), and is in alignment with the European Union (EU) accession standards on gender equality. In Turkey, the programme will: (i) support the development of an enabling legislative and policy environment on eliminating violence against women and all forms of discrimination; (ii) promote favorable social norms and attitudes to prevent gender discrimination and violence against women; and (iii) empower women and girls (including those from disadvantaged groups) who have experienced discrimination or violence to advocate for and use available, accessible and quality services.

This Call for Proposals is related to the third component of the programme and aims at supporting strengthening the capacities of services providers, and more particularly, the justice sector, for women survivors of violence under CEDAW, the Istanbul Convention, and national legislation and policies.

As a State Party to CEDAW, Turkey has an obligation to both prevent violence against women and provide support and redress for survivors of violence. In terms of regional mechanisms, the Istanbul Convention, to which Turkey has been a party since 2014, is the most far reaching international treaty to tackle violence against women and includes multiple obligations with regards to services for women survivors of violence. The Istanbul Convention distinguishes between general and specialist support services. General support services (Article 20) refer to “help offered by public authorities such as social services, health services and employment services, which [...] are not exclusively designed for the benefit of survivors only but serve the public at large” (paragraph 125 of the Explanatory report). Specialist support services (Article 22), on the other hand, “are specialised in providing support and assistance tailored to the [...] needs of victims of specific forms of violence against women or domestic violence and are not open to the general public” (paragraph 125 of the Explanatory report). Furthermore, the Explanatory report clarifies that, “while [specialist support services] may be services run or funded by government authorities, the large majority of specialist services are offered by NGOs”

¹ All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this document shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

(paragraph 125). It also requires that adequate and timely information on available support services should be available to survivors in a language they understand (Article 19).

Following the signature of the Istanbul Convention, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies drafted the Law No. 6284 “Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence Against Women”, broadening the scope of the previous law to better align national legislation with the Istanbul Convention. In further efforts to align national policies with international normative frameworks, in 2016 Turkey released the “National Action Plan on Combating Violence Against Women 2016-2020”. Also, the current “Gender Equality National Action Plan” will be implemented through 2018.

II. Objective of the Call

Within this context, UN Women is issuing a Call for Proposals (CfP) to select a responsible party to strengthen the capacities of justice services providers for women survivors of violence under the programme “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds”.

The CfP contributes to the achievement of the programme Specific Objective 3: *“To empower women and girls, including those from disadvantaged groups, who have experienced violence and discrimination to advocate for, and use available, accessible and good quality services”*.

The planned interventions will focus on increasing the capacities of service providers in the justice sector to address some of the challenges that have been identified by various international and national sources in relation to provision of services for women who are survivors of violence in Turkey. The absence, or lack of quality, of such services is one of the main reasons for the persistence of systemic and widespread gender-based violence against women in Turkey. The CEDAW Committee, for example, in its latest Concluding Observations to Turkey (2016) expressed concerns regarding the limited use of protection orders, lack of trust in law enforcement authorities, legal illiteracy, and economic dependence as contributing factors to systemic gender-based violence. Furthermore, the committee stressed the need for Turkey to improve and ensure the security of women refugees’ access to services and are fully informed on the availability of services and justice mechanisms for survivors of gender-based violence.

The UN Women and Council of Europe Study on the Accessibility and Availability of Support Services for Women and Girls Subjected to Gender-Based Violence in Turkey (2015-2016) points out the lack of gendered understanding of violence against women in non-specialised institutions such as the police and the judiciary, which are important stakeholders in multi-sectoral, coordinated response to violence against women. All service providers must support their staff working specifically with VAW cases through continuous trainings and additional staff support activities.

III. Propose Intervention(s) and Expected Results

The Istanbul Convention calls for capacity development of relevant professionals in the many causes, manifestations and consequences of all forms of violence. Training not only allows raising awareness among professionals, but contributes to changing the outlooks

and the conduct of these professionals about the survivors. Furthermore, it significantly improves the nature and quality of the support provided to survivors.

In this context, UN Women is issuing a Call for Proposals to select a Responsible Party to strengthen the capacities of the service providers among the justice sector to comply with the international and national standards for women survivors of violence, particularly the Istanbul Convention.

The project contributes to achieving Result 3.1 of the programme, *“Providers of general and specialist support services for victims of all forms of violence have the capacity to implement the standards enshrined in CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention”*.

IV. Deliverables

To achieve this result, the Responsible Party is expected to:

- Design and implement capacity development programme based on capacity needs/gaps of the providers and in contribution to existing referral mechanisms;
- Identify geographical areas for the intervention, focusing particularly in those areas where there is weak presence of capacity support and high refugee population;
- Develop and implement capacity-building activities that should be tailored to the role and responsibility of identified service providers. These activities should focus on the implementation of the recommendations of the forthcoming GREVIO Report for Turkey, and CEDAW Concluding Observations to Turkey (2016);
- Provide capacity building through tools and techniques that involve inter alia mentoring, coaching, peer to peer support, and training of trainees.

V. Guiding Principles in Designing the Project

The design and implementation of the project for both components should be guided by the following principles:

- Human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches that place priority on promoting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of women as well as strengthening institutional capacities of service providers at the local level to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women;
- Focus on disadvantaged groups, with an emphasis on refugee women. The capacity-building activities need to bring to the attention of service providers the barriers that refugee women face in accessing the services and the relevant measures that need to be taken to remove or mitigate these barriers;
- Focus on all forms of violence against women, as foreseen in the Istanbul Convention (physical, psychological, economic, sexual violence, rape and sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, forced marriages, forced abortion and sterilization, female genital mutilation, crimes in the name of “honour”, and human trafficking).

- Holistic responses that address women and girls' inter-related rights and needs, including safety, access to health, education and economic security;
- Evidence-based programming, building on lessons learned and recommended practices, to ensure optimal results and use of resources;
- Coordination and multi-sectorial partnerships, including among government organizations, nongovernmental organizations, women's and other civil society groups;
- Commitment to knowledge sharing, by documenting, evaluating and disseminating results, and working with UN Women staff in the process;
- Priority placed on sustainability of results;
- Communication and visibility in line with the programme communication strategy, which will be defined at the stage of project proposal finalization.

VI. Duration of project

From November 2017-December 2018 (tentatively)

VII. Budget Request

The proposed intervention size and budget request must fall between a minimum indicative amount of EUR 50.000 and a maximum amount of EUR 55.000. Budget proposals should be submitted in Euros. All currency exchanges will be calculated using the UN Operational Exchange Rate as per the deadline of submission.

Only one grant will be awarded per organization. A single CSO cannot receive more than one grant during the lifetime of the programme "Implementing Minds, Changing Norms", meaning that if a CSO applies separately for both components it can only be selected for implementing one of them.

VIII. Institutional Arrangement

The selected organisation(s) will sign a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with UN Women. A competitive selection process will take place to identify the potential Responsible Party. The CSO/CSO network will be selected only if it has proven capacity to deliver the proposed activity. The CSO's/CSO network's capacity will be assessed by UN Women as per UN Women's policies, rules and regulations.

IX. Reporting

The selected partner will be the principal responsible party, but will work closely with UN Women during programme implementation. The partner will provide regular narrative and financial reports in line with UN Women guidelines and requirements.

All knowledge products and communications materials that would be produced under this agreement must acknowledge the support and seek approval of UN Women. Furthermore, they should be in line with the EU Communication and Visibility tools and the EU-UN joint visibility guidelines.

Interested applicants are invited to attend one informative session, on the 12th of September, 2017, in which additional clarifications can be provided on the application process. Kindly communicate your interest in participating in the session to Oya Otman at oya.otman@unwomen.org.

Annex I. Guidelines for the Submission of Proposals

I. Eligible Applicants

- **Women's CSOs and women's CSOs networks and platforms** that have specialised knowledge, expertise, and track record of working in women's human rights and ending violence against women
- **Women's CSOs and women's networks and platforms** with track record in increasing capacities of providers of services for women survivors of violence, in accordance with international human rights treaties and conventions, and more specifically the CEDAW and Istanbul Convention
- **Civil society organisations and associations** working on gender equality and women's empowerment with track record of working on ending discrimination and violence against women

Important notes:

- Each application can only be submitted by a single organisation.
- The applicant must be legally registered in Turkey as a non-profit organization/association.
- Proposals from more than one organisation or entity must clearly indicate which organisation will take lead responsibility for project management and contractual obligations.
- Transfer of funds by the Applicant Organisation to UN Agencies, private sector entities, International NGOs and International Organisations will not be allowed.
- UN Women will sign contracts with and disburse funds to the applicant organisation only.
- Eligible organisations currently partnering with UN Women may apply under this Call for Proposal.

Non-eligible applicant organisations

The following are **NOT eligible** to apply to this call for proposal:

- Government agencies or institutions
- UN agencies

- Bilateral or multilateral organisations, financial institutions, development agencies
- Private sector entities
- Private individuals
- CSOs not focused on gender equality and women’s empowerment
- CSOs with lack of gender balance in their staff, board membership and leadership positions

II. Documents to be Submitted

Eligible applicants are expected to submit the following in English:



1. General Information including contact person and contact details (use Application Cover Sheet in Annex II)

2. Project proposal (see Annex III. Project Proposal Template)

A narrative proposal consisting of:



- Context and problem analysis, providing a summary of existing gaps and challenges related to capacities of service providers (justice) to ensure generalist or support services in accordance with relevant international standards, including those provided in the CEDAW and Istanbul Convention;
- Explanation of how your organisation is expected to address the barriers that refugee women, face to access general and specialist support services;
- Explanation of how your organisation is expected to identify government and non-government service providers that need capacity support in areas outside the capital;
- Explanation of how your organisation is expected to follow-up on the issue after the project;
- Explanation of what makes your organisation the most qualified to implement this project, including relevant expertise and experience of your organisation;
- Workplan;
- Partnerships: a description of the partners needed to successfully implement the project and their roles, including information on how your organisation will work with other non-state partners (including formal/informal networks and community-based organisations) to implement activities; information on your partner(s) such as their specialised areas and experience with the international and national standards of service provision and information on the relationship between your organisation and your partner(s);
- An output-based budget, i.e. budget showing how much is required for each activity to achieve each output. The administrative/indirect cost should not exceed 7% of the total budget. Maximum budget of any budget proposal should not exceed amount of EUR 55.000 (**see Annex IV. Workplan and Budget**). All currency exchanges will be calculated using the UN Operational Exchange Rate as per the deadline of submission of proposal.

3. A copy of the organisation’s **legal registration document**

4. **Supporting documents** such as your organisational brochures, previous annual reports and audit reports from the past three years. ☒

III. Evaluation Criteria ☒

Proposals passing the eligibility criteria (see above) will be scored against the following:

1. Relevance of the proposal **(20 points)**: quality of the context analysis and assessment;
2. Implementation strategies **(30 points)**: Soundness of strategy, proposed activities, and expected results against the problem analysis in designing the project;
3. Workplan & Budget Proposal **(20 points)**
4. Applicants' institutional capacity and relevant experience **(30 points)**

Minimum score to be eligible is 70 points. ☒

Only pre-shortlisted applicants passing the minimum score will be contacted by the October 10, 2017 to proceed with shortlisting and a capacity assessment review. During the capacity assessment review, the applicant will be requested to submit documents demonstrating the organisation's technical capacity, governance and management structure, and financial and administrative management.

IV. Proposal Deadline

The deadline for submission of proposals is **September 28, 2017, 23:00 (Ankara time)**. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

V. Proposal Submission

Please send all required application documents in one email to eca.evawproject@unwomen.org indicating in the e-mail subject: **EVAW Turkey - Capacity development services providers**

UN Women will acknowledge receipt of the applications through a confirmation e-mail. Only those short listed shall be considered and further contacted.

This Call for Proposals does not entail any commitment on the part of UN-Women, financial or otherwise. UN- Women reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Call for Proposal without incurring any obligation to inform the affected applicant/s of the reasons.

Annex II. Application Cover Sheet

1. General Information

Name of Organisation	
Contact Person	
Contact Information	Address:
	Tel:
	Email:
Organisation Type	
Is your organisation legally registered? If so, where and when?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you have responded yes, please attach a copy of your registration document to the application
Institutional profile <i>MANDATORY</i>	A brief description of the organisation, including its registration details and relevant experience working on the thematic issues proposed; familiarity with international commitments on VAW, experience on women’s rights, gender equality and women’s empowerment both at the national and international levels Capacities and experiences of key staff members
Total requested budget in Euros	All currency exchanges will be calculated using the UN Operational Exchange Rate as per the deadline of submission of

	proposal available at: https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php
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Annex III. Project Proposal Template

The project proposal should cover minimum the following:

- I. **Context and Problem Analysis**
- II. **Project Description**
- III. **Project detailed activities and implementation strategies**
Describe how your proposal is planning to achieve the results mentioned above
- IV. **Project Partnerships**
 - Describe the key networks/stakeholders/groups with which you will partner/engage with for the implementation of your proposed project and explain why.
 - Describe how you anticipate working collectively with these networks/stakeholders/groups.
 - Describe how these partnerships complement or build upon previous efforts/initiatives.
- V. **Technical Expertise**

Describe why the Applicant Organisation is qualified to implement the proposed project. Include mention of the expertise and added value the implementing partners will bring.

 - What past programme experience in **handling project and initiatives of similar nature to the one in this Call for Proposals** can support the Applicant's likelihood of delivering results?

- What evidence can you provide on the Applicant’s substantive thematic expertise in ending discrimination and violence against women?
- What evidence can you provide about the networks and relations the Applicant has established with the stakeholders that is necessary to the success of the project?

VI. Detailed Budget (see Annex IV)

Please detail budget in the narrative and attach it in an excel sheet. Also, add a narrative of the budget.

VII. Monitoring

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO ATTACH THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED IN ANNEX I

Annex IV. Workplan and Budget

Workplan & Budget						
Outcome: To reduce violence against women and girls an all forms of discrimination and discrimination in Turkey						
Objective 3: To empower women and girls (including those from disadvantaged groups) who have experienced discrimination or violence to advocate for and use available, accessible and quality services.						
Output 3.1	Providers of general and specialist support services for survivors of all forms of violence have the capacity to implement the standards enshrined in CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention					
Indicator 1.a	Number of services providers who have reviewed and/or adopted standards procedures in line with Istanbul Convention for delivery of support services to victims of all form of violence					
Baseline (2017)	0					
Target (2018)						
Means of verification						
Planned Activities (List all activities to be undertaken during the year towards stated results)	Timeframe (add as many quarters as needed)				Budget	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Budget Description (means required E.g. travel, consultant, conference)	Amount

Support costs						