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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Project Title:	Increased access to services for woman and girl survivors of violence and implementation of prevention initiatives in Turkey, under the programme " <i>Ending Violence against Women: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds</i> "
Purpose:	Selection of qualified responsible party for the implementation of programme selected activities
Duration:	March 2019 – December 2019 (tentatively)
Contract Type:	Project Cooperation Agreement
Scope:	TURKEY

Deadline for submissions: 8 March 2019

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) is inviting civil society organizations/non-governmental organizations working on gender equality and ending violence against women from a women's rights perspective to submit proposals that aim at:

Activity 1) Implementing innovative strategies that contribute to communities' greater understanding of favourable attitudes and behaviours towards gender equality and ending violence against women

Activity 2) Promoting the right of women to receive information about general and specialist support services available for women victims of violence and discrimination, as well as their right to access these services

Upon submission, organisations should indicate for which activity they aim to apply.

Terms of Reference

I. Background

The three-year programme “Ending Discrimination and Violence against Women: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds” (February 2017-January 2020) aims at ending discrimination and violence against women with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged groups of women in the Western Balkan -Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244) 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.

As a State Party to CEDAW, based on general recommendations no. 19 and 35 of the CEDAW Committee, 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, which Turkey ratified in 2012, is the only international treaty that solely seeks to tackle violence against women. It includes multiple obligations that are linked with the establishment and provision of services for survivors of violence against women.

: The prevention of violence against women requires an increase in public awareness and a change in attitudes and beliefs that perpetuate harmful gender stereotypes Article 13 of the Istanbul Convention requires awareness-raising activities to inform the public about various forms of violence in order to enable it to act against violence against women and support survivors. Furthermore, as indicated in Article 14 of the Istanbul Convention, promoting favourable social norms through formal and informal educational facilities, for instance in schools and sport clubs, but also within other leisure activities, is of fundamental importance alongside with awareness raising in the media. Based on the conviction that each member of the society can play a role in the prevention of violence, the Istanbul Convention suggests to engage with men and boys, who can act as role models within and outside the family, advocate for gender equality, and – in case of being a perpetrator – take part in preventive interventions and treatment programmes. Lastly, according to Article 15 of the Istanbul Convention, professionals who deal with survivors and perpetrators should be trained and monitored on a regular basis.

The Istanbul Convention distinguishes between general and specialist support services. Furthermore, Article 19 of the Convention requires for adequate and timely information on available support services and legal measures to be made available and understandable for survivors. The latter can be achieved, for instance, through translations of available information into languages that survivors understand. Adequate information must clarify where survivors can receive specific types of help (in languages other than the national language(s), if necessary) and must be available in a timely manner, implying at a time when survivors need to access it.

In line with the requirements of Law No. 6284, Turkey’s support services are comprised of Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers (ŞÖNİMs), first admission stations, women’s shelters and other services. The 2018 GREVIO Baseline Report recommends that Turkey should take measures to ensure that “(1) protection and support services are based on a gendered understanding of violence and through training and other appropriate means relevant service providers are developed specialist capacities/skills to recognize the gendered dynamics, impact and consequences of

violence; (2) protective measures contribute to the empowerment of victims and (3) in addition to state-run services, alternative, low threshold specialist services, namely services provided by NGOs, are available.”¹

The GREVIO Baseline Evaluation Report called on Turkey to “promote programmes and activities for the empowerment of women and girls by countering discriminatory stereotypes, as a means of upholding their right to live a life free of violence,” while also engaging men and boys to promote women’s equality and prevent violence against women. According to the report, among many other recommendations, Turkey should develop awareness-raising programmes that involve the active contributions of women’s NGOs in the design and implementation processes, promote gender-sensitive teaching materials and closely monitor the usage of these materials, and design and implement systemic and mandatory in-service training on violence against women for professionals.

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Civil society organizations, in particular women's organizations, play a crucial role in the promotion of gender equality and women's rights. They are key advocacy stakeholders that force governments to move from commitment to implementation of international normative standards. They are also key stakeholders in the provision of services that are essential in the establishment of multi-sectoral and coordinated mechanisms to adequately respond to the needs of victims of violence. Furthermore, women's organizations are instrumental in bringing to the attention of policy makers the perspective and voices of all women and in facilitating the required behavioural and attitudinal changes for tackling the structural barriers that are in the way of achieving gender equality and ending violence against women.

II. Objective of UN Women’s support

Within the above outlined context, UN Women is issuing a Call for Proposals (CfP) to select CSOs to undertake following activities:

Activity 1: Implementing innovative strategies that contribute to communities’ greater understanding and favorable attitudes as well as behavioral changes connected with achieving gender equality and ending violence against women

Activity 2: Promoting the right of women to receive information about general and specialist support services available for women victims of violence and discrimination, as well as their right to access these services

The specific projects under Activity 1 contribute to the programme’s specific objective 2: “To promote favourable social norms and attitudes to promote gender equality and prevent discrimination of and violence against women”.

The specific projects under Activity 2 contribute to the programme’s 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”.

III. Proposed Intervention(s) and Expected Results

¹ GREVIO Baseline Evaluation Report on legislative and other measures giving effect to the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence Turkey, 2018, pp. 53-57. See, <https://rm.coe.int/eng-grevio-report-turquie/16808e5283>.

² GREVIO Baseline Evaluation Report, p. 42, para. 99 and 122.

For Activity 1:

Proposals should, inter alia:

- Provide innovative approaches to expose targeted populations throughout Turkey and during the whole duration of the programme to messages that challenge harmful gender stereotypes.
- Focus on awareness-raising activities that cover at least one form of violence against women indicated in the Istanbul Convention.
- Contribute to increasing the capacities of other civil society organizations, especially community-based organizations and organizations that will become involved in campaigns, and to the organization of awareness-raising activities that address harmful gender stereotypes.
- Explore collaboration with and involvement of key relevant local actors, including municipalities.
- Target communities that include women, girls, men, and boys.
- Explore the potential contribution of social marketing tools (e.g., audience segmentation, objective setting, message and programme development, channel and tool selection, etc.) and methodologies (i.e., combining communication approaches, behavioural change theories, and formative research, which is grounded upon a methodology that incorporates interpersonal communication, community engagement and mobilization, and policy advocacy) to the design of effective interventions that address gender stereotypes.

Proposals under this activity will utilize and contribute to the advocacy innovation facility, Gender Lab, which is established to support CSOs in Turkey and other countries in the region. Gender Lab tests new and innovative advocacy initiatives that aim to eliminate gender stereotypes.

For activity 2:

The planned interventions will focus on promoting the right of women to receive information about available general and specialist support services for survivors of violence. Furthermore, planned interventions will promote access to those services, address state and non-state service providers' capacity building needs, and develop models for the establishment of non-existing services in line with the Istanbul Convention (e.g., rape crisis centres, risk assessment and management mechanisms, etc.). Proposals should aim that:

- Provision of services is based on a gendered understanding of violence, is not dependent on the survivors' decision to press charges, and targets survivors' empowerment.
- Information provided to survivors is comprehensive, practical and tailor-made to ensure their immediate access to support and to guide them with accurate information through their decision-making process.
- Support services are offered in a wide spectrum and are in line with the Istanbul Convention's quality standards.

IV. Duration of project

From April 2019 to December 2019 (tentatively)

V. Budget Request

Proposals for each component must fall between a minimum indicative amount of USD 60,000 and a maximum amount of USD 70,000. Currency exchange into local currency will be calculated using the UN Operational Exchange Rate as per date of the submission of the proposal.

VI. Institutional Arrangement

The selected organization(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.

VII. 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's guidelines and requirements.

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

