

Request for Expression of interest

UN Women Afghanistan Country Office invites interested companies/consultants to apply on the following:

Description of Requirements:

In partnership with the government of Afghanistan – through Kabul Municipality, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN) UN Women, ILO and WFP have jointly initiated a programme on Safe Markets for women in Afghanistan. The programme aims at providing a safe market space for women and girls free from harassment and violence. The initiative is initially going to be piloted in Kabul, and based on the lessons learned, it will be adopted and replicated throughout the country, thereby accelerating efforts towards women's access to public spaces and supporting their empowerment. The Safe Markets Programme is based on UN Women's Global Safe Cities' and Safe Public Spaces Campaign. This initiative was based on an extensive scoping study, which recommended the development of enabling environments for women's market participation, such as conducting awareness raising campaigns, ensuring gender-responsive infrastructure and design of public spaces and supporting women market vendors to organize and empower themselves; the improvement of target facilities (e.g. transportation, sanitation etc); the establishment of gender-responsive policy and legal frameworks, such as a gender-sensitive national social policy and enhance market-relevant data collection; and ensure better market safety and reporting of harassment and sexual violence in market spaces.

In order to commence the first phase of this programme UN WOMEN would like to undertake an extensive analysis of public infrastructures and existing services to inform the structural planning of the market (in selected/approved potential sites for the markets). With this overview, UN Women wishes to announce this Expression of Interest (EOI), inviting interest/applications from qualified institutions for conducting the analysis of public infrastructure in Kabul city and women's capacities, demands for services and business development opportunities. This Analysis will inform the design of gender responsive public spaces in Kabul city and help to paint a clearer picture of women's business/entrepreneurship capacities, needs and demands in Kabul. The firm selected to conduct the analysis will share the findings in a comprehensive report, that will be used to inform the structural design of market spaces for women in Kabul city.

The Contractor shall provide the following goods/services:

- By April 27th, the selected contractor will submit a written analysis report detailing the findings and recommendations, covering the following three main components:
 - The demand for and availability of existing business development services for women (or accessible by women)
 - A detailed mapping of available utilities/services such as: water sources, public transportation systems, sanitation facilities and electricity sources in the specified market location
 - The demand by women of additional services (e.g. creche, daycare, library, financial services etc.)

Outputs:

- Establish a reliable evidence based report and gender sensitive analysis of the skills, capacities and needs of women, as well as the enabling environment, in terms of existing services to promote women entrepreneurship in the business sector and outline the current standard requirements for public infrastructure, highlighting the limitations for women to participate in public spaces.
- To utilize the research findings as inputs to accelerate women and girls access and participation in public spaces free from harassment and sexual violence in Afghanistan and support their participation in income generating activities.



Eligibility criteria

List of attributes	Benchmark
Relevant experience of working similar UN agencies	A registered legal entity
At least 7 years of experience in the similar field of research, especially field based research	Conduct data collection for validation if needed
Track record of quality research publications women's rights related issues.	Audit reports and certificates of successful completion of research projects;
	Track record of monitoring system for data collection from the field and reporting.

UN Women will examine the outcome of this request for EOI and will consider those companies that have expressed their interest providing the required information as to their ability to fulfill UN Women's Request for Proposal (RFP) requirement. The RFP will only be disseminated to those companies that will have fully met the EOIs requirements.

Submission details

- **What** to submit: Profile of Institution/Agency, CVs of researchers, Project log frame, Registration certificate with Ministry of Economy or AISA or other institution as applicable, List of projects under implementation, list of relevant research projects completed,

Interested Companies/Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochure, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc...). Companies/Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

- **How** to submit: The proposal should be sent under the subject of "**Expression of Interests**" by March 22 2018 through either of the below mentioned methods:

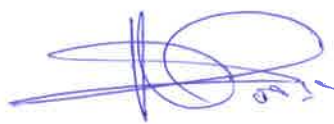
1. A sealed envelope to the address: UN-Women office, UNOCA compound, Jalalabad Road, Kabul Afghanistan; The EOI and accompanying documents must be received in a sealed envelope no later than 22 March 2018 clearly labeled "Description of Work, services, goods". or,
2. Via e-mail to: technical.af@unwomen.org

- **When** to submit: Expression of interest and statements of qualification must be delivered to the address above by 22 March 2018. EOI received after the above deadline will not be considered.

Companies/Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedure set out in the UN Women Procurement Guidelines and UN Women Financial Regulations and Regulations.

EOI from suppliers failing to provide the request information will be disregarded. Invitations to bid and any subsequent purchase order will be issued in accordance with the rule and procedures of UN-Women.

This EOI does not entail any commitment on the part of UN Women, either financial or otherwise. UN Women reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI without incurring any obligation to inform the affected applicant/s of the grounds.


Peterson Magooles
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