United Nations Development Programme জাতিসংঘ উন্নয়ন কর্মসূচী



SMALL GRANTS SUPPORT FOR THE CSOs and CSOs COALITION

Request for Applications (RFA)

Human Rights Programme (HRP)

Atlas project ID : 00097336

RFA number : HRP-2018-002

Project duration : 15 months (August 2019 to December 2020)

Call for application : 7th March 2019

Submission Deadline: 28th March 2019 (by 12:00 pm)

Expected starting date: 1st July 2019

A. Description of Challenge Fund

1. General Information:

The Challenge Fund support call to CSOs and CSO coalition¹ is an initiative of Human Rights Programme (HRP), UNDP to foster small scale innovative² human rights actions in addressing Human Rights problems/issues of the people/communities at local and national level of Bangladesh. The Challenge Fund (CF) support will encourage innovative ideas, actions and approaches for solution of Human Rights problems/issues through connecting specific group of people and communities under the thematic rights issues. The implementation areas should be connected HRP's 2019 priority districts (please see the section-5) and ultimately linked at national level of Bangladesh. The CF call 2019 contains two categories or LOTs of application (LOT-1 up to USD 10,000; and LOT up to USD 20,000). It is to be noted here that only one CSO and/or CSOs coalition will be eligible to apply for one thematic rights issue under one category/LOT. The CF call, 2019 will give special preference to coalition-based application of the CSOs on specific thematic rights issue.

2. Background:

Human Rights Programme (HRP) is a rights-based initiative UNDP supported by a consortium of donors. The programme has a specific focus on "strengthening capacity of civil society organizations/community-based civil organizations to engage in human rights advocacy and awareness raising in Bangladesh". The Programme includes most vulnerable and marginalized groups, including women and children and youth, ethnic and religious minorities, Dalits and gender-diverse communities (third-gender). With this focus, HRP-UNDP has taken initiatives to provide small grants support to CSOs and CSOs coalition to address specific Human Rights problems/issues in Bangladesh. It is noted here that HRP-UNDP has provided small grants

¹ CSO coalitions: the CSO coalition is a coalition of CSOs, working on thematic rights issues, have presence in priority areas and full of commitment to work together on thematic rights issues. The maximum numbers of CSOs in a coalition will be highly encouraged.

² Innovation for Human Rights is about identifying more effective solutions of Human Rights problems/issues that add value for the people affected by Human Rights challenges – people, communities and institutions and other stakeholders at local and national level.

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support to 5 CSOs in 2016, 18 CSOs in 2017, and 21 CSOs and/or CSOs coalition in 2018 aiming to enhance their institutional capacity and better engagement in addressing Human Rights problems/issues at local and national context of Bangladesh.



HRP-UNDP seeks to expand on human rights advocacy, awareness raising, human rights monitoring and reporting and collaborative actions of the CSOs through connecting people/communities/institutions and multi-stakeholders' groups/actors in addressing human rights problems/issues in Bangladesh.

The Human Rights Programme (HRP) has five components:

1) **Component-1:** NHRC-B

Strengthened capacity of the National Human Rights Commission to deliver on its mandate

Indicators:

- ➤ Number of dialogues/ consultations held by NHRC with government authorities and CSOs for preparation of reports to international Human Rights mechanisms
- > % of trained human rights defenders, who have reported a human rights situation or violation to NHRC.
- Number of Human rights situation reports produced from CSO/CBO/HRDs data and information.

2) **Component-2:** CSOs/CBOs

Enhanced capacity of CSOs/CBOs to engage in human rights advocacy and awareness raising

Indicators:

- % trained CSOs reporting on international obligations of Bangladesh under selected treaties
- ➤ Number of HR victims benefiting from legal aid services or referrals to other services including psychosocial support services
- Number of human rights defenders' active on new online forum
- > % of small grants that have met respective target and goals and consulted with women or minority groups in their design
- ➤ Number of rights forums jointly undertaken by NHRC thematic committees and CSOs to discuss contemporary human right issues
- ➤ % of students with increased awareness of human rights as a result of school campaigns with CSO/CBOs.

3) **Component-3:** Law Enforcing Agencies

Enhanced capacity of law enforcement agencies, in particular police, on human rights issues

Indicators:

- > Number of cases reported against law enforcement agencies and police to NHRC.
- ➤ Number of CSOs and HRDs expressing their satisfaction on the role of coordination by the law enforcement officers
- ➤ % of police officials that have better understanding of Human Rights issues as a result of human rights advocacy and campaigns.
- > Number of times the police take part in human rights dialogues with the NHRC and CSOs.

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4) Component-4: Women

Strengthened capacity of national stakeholders to better protect and promote women's rights

Indicators:

- ➤ Number of cases that the legal aid offices / centres provided legal assistance/advise to women and children victims of violence (and other vulnerable groups).
- ➤ % of women population who understands and are aware of their rights as a human being and as women.³
- > % of school students (including teachers) that have a better understanding on women and girl's rights after campaigns.
- ➤ Number of complaints of women's rights violations submitted to the NHRC by the Committee on Violence Against Women and Children (NNPC) and CSOs/CBOs.

5) Component-5: Ethnic Minorities

Strengthened capacity of national stakeholders to better protect and promote the rights of ethnic minorities

Indicators:

- ➤ % of ethnic minority population aware of their human rights and as "indigenous People" as per international human rights instruments.⁴
- Number of international instruments/national laws/acts/policies on the rights of ethnic minority and other vulnerable groups adopted and implemented by government.
- > % collaborations between the NHRC (including regional offices) and CSOs that have resulted in at least one policy initiative or campaign on ethnic minority rights.
- Number of published reports from fact-finding missions conducted in collaboration with the Parliamentary Caucus and NHRC.
- ➤ Number of community radio stations broadcasting minority language programming and rights education programmes.
- > % of youth leaders trained have become active in transforming their leadership role to promote the rights of ethnic minorities.
- ➤ No. of ethnic minority representatives included and active in the respective UP standing committees.

It is noted here that the CF call, 2019 considers all above-mentioned components to extend rights-based actions of the CSOs/CBOs at local and national level of Bangladesh.

3. The Purpose of the RFA

The purpose of RFA 2019 is to solicit applications and establish partnerships with CSOs and/or CSOs coalition on specific thematic rights issues to *enhance the institutional capacity and better engagement of CSOs/CBOs coalitions for promotion and protection of Human Rights in specific context of Bangladesh.*

The RFA 2019 is open to **all CSOs and/or CSO coalitions**, working at HRP's 2019 priority districts (please see the section-5) in Bangladesh to make positive changes on advancing Human Rights, accessibility and human dignity (knowledge, capacity and practices) of target groups/communities.

³ Baseline survey asked: have you heard of the term human rights, follow-up survey should attempt to measure a deeper understanding of rights. Follow-up survey has still to be designed. The survey will focus on selected districts.

⁴ Baseline survey asked: have you heard of the term human rights, follow-up survey should attempt to measure a deeper understanding of rights. Follow-up survey has still to be designed. The survey will be conducted in selected districts (linked with OP 4)

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4. Size of the Grants

The RFA call 2019 contains with two specific categories/LOTs. These are:

LOT-1: Maximum 10,000 USD LOT-2: Maximum 20,000 USD



5. HRP's Priority districts:

As of 2018, the Challenge Fund support of HRP-UNDP focused on the following districts in Bangladesh.

CF Call	Focusing districts								
CF Call, 2016	Satkhira, Khulna, Ban	Satkhira, Khulna, Bandarban, Sirajganj and Dhaka							
CF Call, 2017	Gaibandha, Habiganj,	Gaibandha, Habiganj, Cox's Bazar, Satkhira and Sirajganj							
CF Call, 2018	Madaripur, Barishal, S	Satkhira, Khulna, Gaibandha, Dinajpur, Cox's							
	Bazar, Sirajganj, Habi	ganj, Mymensingh							
The Challenge F	und (CF) Call, 2019 w	rill focus on the following districts:							
CF Call, 2019	Focusing division an	nd districts							
	Division	District							
	Dhaka	1. Dhaka; 2. Manikganj							
	Rajshahi	3. Rajshahi							
	Rangpur	4. Dinajpur							
	Khulna	5. Khulna; 6. Jessore							
	Barishal	7. Barishal							
	Chattogram	8. Cox's Bazar							
	Mymensingh	9. Mymensingh							
	Sylhet	10. Moulvibazar							

6. Thematic issues:

The RFA 2019 will predominantly focus on the following thematic rights issues and context of Bangladesh:

SL	Thematic rights issue	Priority context	Applicable to
1.	Civil and Political Rights	National	CSOs and/or CSOs
			coalition
2.	Rights of the Minorities	HRP's 2019 Priority	CSOs coalition ⁵
	(Ethnic/Religious/Dalits/Gender	district	
	diverse communities		
3.	Women Rights	HRP's 2019 Priority	CSOs coalition
		district	
4.	Child Rights	HRP's 2019 Priority	CSOs coalition
		district	

6.1 Details on Thematic Issue-1: Civil and Political Rights

The Constitution of Bangladesh responses a number of civil and political rights as part fundamental rights in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Article 31 of the Constitution guarantees the right to life and

⁵ CSO coalitions: CSOs coalition is a coalition or platform of rights-based CSOs, who have presence in priority areas and full of commitment to work together on thematic rights issues. The maximum numbers of CSOs in a coalition will be highly encouraged.

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personal liberty whereas 'no person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty save in accordance with law refers in the Article 32. The constitution also recognizes all citizens as equal before the law and entitled to equal protection of law⁷." Despite that the civil and political rights of people in Bangladesh are now in a serious challenge due to increasing



allegations of extra judicial killing, torture and abduction (against law enforcing agencies), in security of the writers/bloggers/journalists/Human Rights activists and the lengthy procedures of investigations and delivery of justice. In such a situation, rights to life and enjoyment of people's rights to live with dignity emerged as a serious concern. There are rare initiatives taken by the state authorities to take responsive actions against these allegations. It creates mis-trust, negative perception and helpless position of people to secure their rights and protection under the law. Regarding this, sensible state authorities and responsible civil society (including media and CSOs) can play the key role to raise the concerns of civil and political rights of the people in Bangladesh.

Considering that the call focuses on <u>civil and political rights</u> to take initiatives for sensitizing the state authorities and making the civil society (including media, CSOs) more responsive to advance people's rights to life and dignity. The actions should consider the local and national context of Bangladesh with special focus on:

- > Strengthening capacity of the state authorities/state institutions on civil and political rights to make them more sensible in protection of people's rights and dignity;
- Media, monitoring and fact-finding on civil and political rights issues/concerns at local and national level;
- Monitoring and follow up of the cases related to civil and political rights;
- Policy Dialogues with national stakeholders in addressing concerns of the civil and political rights;
- nationwide awareness and advocacy initiatives on civil and political rights through engaging civil society, media and national stakeholders;
- ➤ Produce a situation report on civil and political rights in context of Bangladesh.

This is an opportunity to **CSOs and/or CSOs coalition**, working on civil and political rights issues at local and national level of Bangladesh to work and deliver the meaningful results in advancing civil and political rights.

6.2 Details on Thematic Issue-3: Rights of the Minorities (Ethnic/Religious/Dalits/Gender diverse communities -Third gender)

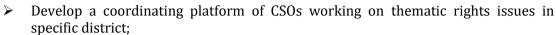
Bangladesh is well defined as multi-culture and multi-ethnic country. It contains total 167 million population⁸, whereas only 9.5% population belong to minority groups and it is in declining trend⁹. A large section of minority population belongs to religious minority groups (i.e. Hindu, Buddha and Christian) and a small section (approximate 2%) to ethnic minority groups in Bangladesh. It is noted here that a section of religious minorities (around 6.5 million) are defined as Dalits, who belongs to diverse communities and facing wider discriminations to lead dignified lives in Bangladesh. There is also 300,000 non-Bengali Urdu or mix-language speaking people, who are currently living in different camps in urban settings of Bangladesh.

Considering that the call focuses on integrated actions of the CSO coalition in context of HRP priority districts in Bangladesh. The actions should consider the rights and protection of Minorities (including ethnic/religious/Dalits/gender diverse communities with specific focus on.

⁷ Article-27 of the Constitution of Bangladesh

⁸ 167 million in 2019 at http://www.worldometers.info/world-population/bangladesh-population/

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- Introduce sustainable mechanisms for CSOs platform at specific district;
- Awareness raising on Human Rights issues (including thematic rights) at community and educational institutions level:
- Sensitization of community/social leaders, law enforcing agencies, state and non-state actors at grassroots level;
- Celebration of rights issue-based days.
- ➤ Dialogues with Local Government Institutions (LGIs) for inclusion of minority representatives in different structures and committees (including LGI standing committees) of the Government.
- > Fact-finding on Human Rights violations at grassroots level, press conference/dialogues and media reporting;
- For Ground monitoring of Human Rights violations (through members of CSO coalitions) and produce a <u>Human Rights Situation Report</u> for wider dissemination, reporting and rights advocacy.

This is an opportunity to **CSOs coalition**, working on Rights of the Minorities (Ethnic/Religious/Dalits/Gender diverse communities) at district level to work and deliver meaningful results in advancing rights of the minorities in Bangladesh.

6.3 Details on Thematic Issue-4: Women Rights

Women represents half of the total population in Bangladesh. But most women are facing violence and discriminations in all spheres of their life. Women often face discriminations and persistent gender inequalities, with some women experiencing multiple discrimination and exclusion because of ethnicity, religion or caste in rural areas. Therefore, women participation and empowerment are fundamental to strengthening women's rights and enabling disadvantaged women to have control over their lives and exert influence in society. This will result in creating just and equitable society in Bangladesh.

This is an opportunity to **CSOs coalition**, working on women rights issues at district level to work and deliver meaningful results in advancing women rights in Bangladesh.

- Develop a coordinating platform of CSOs working on women rights issues in specific district;
- Introduce sustainable mechanisms for CSOs platform at specific district;
- Awareness raising on Human Rights issues (including women rights) at community and educational institutions level;
- ➤ Initiate regular coordination and exchange learning of the CSO coalition
- Sensitization of community/social leaders, law enforcing agencies, state and non-state actors on women rights and gender equality issues at grassroots level;
- Celebration of rights-based days.
- ➤ Dialogues with Local Government Institutions (LGIs) for inclusion of women representatives in different structures and committees (including LGI standing committees) of the Government.
- Fact-finding on Violence against women and girls at grassroots level, press conference/dialogues and media reporting;
- ➤ Ground monitoring of Violence against women and girls (through members of CSO coalitions) and produce a <u>Women Rights Situation Report</u> for wider dissemination, reporting and rights advocacy.
- Rights advocacy on women rights issues with relevant institutions and stakeholders at local and national levels of Bangladesh.

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This is an opportunity to **CSOs coalition**, working on women rights issues at district level to work and deliver meaningful results in advancing rights of the women and girls in Bangladesh.



6.4 Details on Thematic Issue-5: Child Rights

In Bangladesh, about 40% of total population are children¹⁰. About 73% of children lives in the rural areas and 27% in urban areas of Bangladesh. It is reported that 33 million children¹¹ in Bangladesh live in poverty while about one in four **children** is deprived of at least four basic needs. It is fact that Bangladesh has already introduced several laws and constitutional provisions in line with UNCRC and ILO conventions to uphold child rights but rarely transformed into the visible results.

Considering that the call focuses on integrated actions of the CSO coalition in context of HRP priority districts in Bangladesh. The actions should consider the rights and protection of children with specific focus on.

- Develop a coordinating platform of CSOs working on child rights and child protection issues in specific district;
- ➤ Introduce sustainable mechanisms for CSOs platform at specific district;
- Awareness raising on Human Rights issues (including child rights) at community and educational institutions level;
- Sensitization of community/social leaders, law enforcing agencies, state and non-state actors on child rights and child protection issues at grassroots level;
- Celebration of rights-based days.
- ➤ Fact-finding on Violence against children at grassroots level, press conference/dialogues and media reporting;
- Ground/media monitoring of violence against children (through members of CSO coalitions) and produce a <u>Child Rights Situation Report</u> for wider dissemination, reporting and rights advocacy.
- ➤ Rights advocacy on child rights and child protection issues with relevant institutions and stakeholders at local and national levels of Bangladesh.

This is an opportunity to **CSOs coalition**, working on child rights issues at district level to work and deliver meaningful results in advancing rights and protection of the children in Bangladesh. It is noted here that **CSO coalitions** should specify their working areas (i.e. national and local context) with specification of targeted District, Upazila and Unions).

7. Expectations

The RFA 2019 is expecting that as immediate outputs, the <u>CSOs coalition</u> working at national and/or HRP's priority district will:

- 1) Have greater opportunity to enhance institutional capacity of the rights-based coalition of CSOs:
- 2) Have an opportunity to work together on thematic rights issues at local and national level of Bangladesh;
- 3) Have an opportunity to be engaged in human rights awareness, rights advocacy, fact-fining and rights-based networking, human rights monitoring and reporting at local and national context of Bangladesh;
- 4) Establish a stronger and sustainable platform of rights-based CSOs in HRP's priority districts in Bangladesh;

¹⁰ https://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/en/about-us

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¹¹ https://www.unicef.org/media/media_51925.html

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5) Maintain effective coordination of coalition members on thematic rights issues for better promotion and protection of human rights in Bangladesh.



8. Eligibility Requirements:

Following an open advertisement, the following eligibility requirements will be adopted for selection of CSOs and/or CSOs coalition at HRP's priority districts and ultimately linked with national level of Bangladesh:

- 1. Hold a valid Govt. registration (i.e. registration from NGOAB/Dept. of Social Welfare/Joint Stock Com./Dept. of Youth Development)
- 2. Have signed MoU (as mandatory for CSOs coalition)
- 3. Have at least $\underline{5}$ years working experiences of the lead CSO¹² in the application under LOT-1 and at least $\underline{8}$ years experiences of lead CSO in the application under the LOT-2.
- 4. Have valid and authorised audit report of last FY
- 5. Have strong presence of CSOs in HRP's priority districts in Bangladesh.

9. Selection Criteria and Requirement

The selection criteria and requirement to be eligible to receive grants in accordance with UNDP's guidelines for Low Value Grants.

UNDP provides low value grants for both credit and non-credit purposes as inputs to its programme and project activities for this strategy, HRP will be using the noncredit grant modality under MCGs are generally and broadly used for:

- a. Strengthening the institutional capacity of the local NGO and CSOs coalitions;
- b. Supporting community-based self-help initiatives, which may include income-generating activities designed to alleviate poverty;
- c. Promoting advocacy activities and networking between civil society organizations (CSOs), government and donors; and
- d. Supporting NGOs and CSOs involved with local environmental protection and poverty eradication activities.

10. Evaluation Criteria

All submitted applications/proposals (including evidential attachments) will be assessed with the following technical and financial criterias:

I. Technical Evaluation:

Technical 1	Points	CSO	O coa	litio	n		
		obtainable					
1. Demone at nation		Α	В	С	Е	D	
1.1	10						
1.2	1.2 Relevance of actions in addressing specific human rights concerns/problems						
2. Strengtl							
2.1 Worki	10						
2.2 Workin institu	10						

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6. Sustainability of the proposed human rights actions.Technical Score Total =	70			
5. Innovation in the proposed activities	10 5			
4. Setting of SMART Monitoring and Evaluation plan and aligning with HRP-UNDP indicators	5			
3. Setting of <u>Desired Results</u> and <u>Result-wise activities</u> (Action Plan)	10			

II. Financial Evaluation:

Financia	l Evaluation Criteria	Points obtainable	csc) coa	lition)	
7. Cost	-effectiveness of the proposed Human Rights actions		Α	В	С	E	D
7.1	Proportion of programme cost and	10					
	management/operation cost						
7.2	Evidence of Bank Certificate /statement	5					
8. Auth	5						
9. Cost s	10						
Financi	al Score Total =	30					

10. Submission of Application:

The interested CSOs coalition are requested to submit their proposal (technical and financial proposal) with signed letter and attachment of all supporting documents in line with proposal format (Annex-1&2).

The CSO/CBO coalition should have to submit their proposal with:

- ✓ a hard copy of proposal (including all supporting documents); and
- ✓ soft copy of proposal (including scanned version of all supporting documents with a CD no DVD is allowed).

The letter of submission should clearly indicate the subject as: "Application for Low-Value Grants Support" and submit to:

Human Rights Programme (HRP)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bangladesh,
BTMC Bhaban (8th floor)
National Human Rights Commission (8th Floor), 7-9 Karwanbazar,
Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh

The application must be legibly typed in English in 12 points, Times New Roman Font. Any incomplete application without any required documents, will not be considered.

11. Award Information

The award information will be disseminated to the <u>selected CSO</u> and <u>CSO coalitions</u> through e-mail or organizational contact information.

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Annex-1:



Project Proposal Format

For

Low-Value Grant (Non-Credit Related Activities)
UNDP-Bangladesh
Submission Date:

A. NAME AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE CSOs/Coalition members

(2 pages maximum):

(This includes: background information of the CSO coalition, mandates of coalition, working approach/strategy with other CSOs and national institutions.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- 1. Title of the project:
- 2. Thematic Issue:
- 3. Project Duration: 15 months (----- to ------)
- 4. Legal status of the CSOs/lead CSOs in the coalition (also attach the evidence as signed MOU and registration certificates)
- 5. Background Analysis on thematic rights concerns/problems (max. 2 page): please analyse human rights problem/concerns under the thematic right issues at national/local context of Bangladesh. Also justify that why the problem/issues need to address).
- 6. Results and Result-wise Activities
 (Set the desired results and key activities in addressing the specific concerns/problem. Also set the targets, working approach etc.)
- 7. Target groups and beneficiaries
 (Please specify the target groups and beneficiaries of your activities/actions and define approx. numbers of target group/beneficiaries of your action)
- 8. Project implementation area (Please specify the working areas. If it is local context, please specify the district, upazilas and name of Unions):
- 9. Common work plan:

(Please explain your activity plan with timeline)

SL	Desired	Activities	Result	Target	Respon	Timeline (15 months)				
	Results		Indicator	S	sibility	Q-1	Q-2	Q-3	Q-4	Q-5
	Result-1									
	Result-2									

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Result-3					

- 10. Project Management
- 11. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
 (Please insert SMART indicators and align with HRP-UNDP indicators)
- 12. Reporting
 (Please insert three forms of reporting, such as: progress reporting, financial reporting and M&E reporting to HRP, UNDP)
- 13. Sustainability of the proposed action
- 14. Risk Assessment & Mitigation strategy
- 15. Project Budget: Amount in BDT (please make a detailed budget breakdown and attach as Annex, format attached)
- 16. Log-frame (if possible)

Annexes: to be attached

This should be attached with the proposal application (as signed version)

- ✓ Evidence (signed MoU for coalition and GoB registration certificate for lead CSOs)
- ✓ Audit Report and Bank certificate (last year)
- ✓ Detailed and shared budget (As per attached template)

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Annex-2

Project Title: Common Budget: Duration: 15 months

Name of the CSOs Coalition:

S. N	Head of Budgeted Expenditure	Proposed Budget (in BDT)							
		Measuring Unit	Unit Cost	Total Unit	Total cost	Responsible CSO/CSO coalition			
1	Programme/Activity Cost								
	Sub Total 1					-			
2	Operational and Management cost								
2.1	Human Resources cost					-			
2.1.1		Person				-			
2.1.2		Person				-			
2.2	Prog. Monitoring cost								
2.2.1		Person							
2.2.2		Person							
2.3	Other Costs								
2.3.1									
2.3.2			-						
2.3.3	Sub-total 2					-			
3.	Contribution of CSOs and/or								
· .	coalition								
3.1									
3.2									
	Sub-total 3					-			
	Total Budget =								
	Requested Budget to UNDP								
	(Total Budget - CSOs								
	contribution)								

In word (requested budget to UNDP):

Signature: Date: