

Call for proposals to select Implementation Partners

To contribute to the implementation of the Program “Standards and Engagement for Ending Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

As part of UN Women work towards ending violence against women and girls, the United Nations Agency for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women invites CSOs registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to submit project proposals that aim to strengthen institutional mechanisms that contribute to reducing gender-based violence focusing on establishing a comprehensive and sustainable rehabilitative work with perpetrators of domestic violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The call is opened for the registered civil society organizations or networks from Bosnia and Herzegovina

Deadline for submissions: 2 October 2016

1. Background

Violence against women and girls continues to be a widespread social problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), and a serious violation of fundamental human rights. This type of violence is still tolerated and considered socially acceptable behaviour, and is justified by traditional and patriarchal conceptions of the role and status of women in BiH society.

The entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) in August 2014 has marked an important milestone in the BiH efforts to curb violence against women and girls, in addition to new legislation on protection from family violence that was adopted in 2012 in both of BiH's entities. However, there is still a need to harmonize these laws at all levels and implement their necessary provisions to ensure legal protection, equal treatment and respecting the rights of women and children, who are recognized as the most frequent victims of gender-based violence.

"Standards and Engagement for Ending Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina", is a three-year programme developed by the UN Women Country Office in BiH and financially supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The programme aims to strengthen the institutional and social response mechanisms to violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence in BiH by contributing to the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Furthermore, the proposed activities of the programme build upon the initiatives identified in the entity strategies on combating violence against women and domestic violence. The programme presents a comprehensive, transformative approach towards gender equality and women's empowerment.

The programme builds on the previous work of UN Women and other UN agencies in BiH at the policy level as well as the support provided to improve services for survivors and to prevent violence against women and girls since 2008. The programme has two main areas that are focusing on protection of survivors and prevention of violence against women and domestic violence.

Area 1. Improvement of the availability, accessibility and quality of services to survivors of violence against women and domestic violence.

Under this component, UN Women will work for:

- a) Entity institutions to have the capacity to develop and implement policies for the provision of services, based on international standards and obligations; and
- b) Communities involved in the programme to be able to provide quality, coordinated services to survivors and perpetrators in line with international standards.

The work under this component aims to enhance availability, access and quality of services utilizing a multi-sectorial approach to address violence against women and domestic violence in BiH. This will be realised by support to state based and non-governmental institutional service provision in line with the requirements of the Istanbul Convention, as well as by deploying direct support to capacity development of relevant service providers in selected communities. The work under this component will be implemented in close collaboration with

the Agency for Gender Equality in BiH project on ending violence against women funded by USAID.

Area 2. Promotion of favorable social attitudes and behaviors towards ending violence against women and domestic violence among men, women and young people.

Under this component, UN Women will work for:

- a) Engaging men, women and young people in promoting gender equality, eliminating gender stereotypes, facilitating community-based discussion, and supporting action groups to end violence against women. This will include enlisting men's active participation in preventing violence and promoting positive role models (with a special focus on high-school and university students, young fathers, and men in media, not excluding other target groups); and
- b) Engaging media, encouraging the responsible reporting of such violence and raising awareness of the criminal nature and extent of gender-based violence, including the criminality of such violence, and promoting the responsiveness and use of services.

Under this component UN Women will have a strong focus on working with men and boys to address and understand gender roles through awareness campaigning and educational activities. In addition, key media actors and outlets will be engaged in advocacy, research and capacity building towards improving gender sensitive reporting and preventing violence against women and girls.

The project was launched in April 2016 and after a few months of inception phase activities will scale up after summer 2016.

2. Goals and expected results

UN Women Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina is seeking to engage implementing partners that will contribute to the work on standardization and expansion of availability of services addressing work with perpetrators of domestic violence at the local level.

Civil society organizations (CSOs), with expertise and proven experience in the area of protection from violence against women and domestic violence are invited to submit proposals, individually or jointly with other CSOs, to design and implement a project that will respond to the overall goal of enhancing the institutional response to violence against women through the development of comprehensive and sustainable models of work with perpetrators of domestic violence. Under this component at least two different project proposals could be supported.

In proposing the locations for the implementation of the project, CSOs should be primarily guided by the sustainability of the results and properly justify why they have chosen them. Interventions could primarily target, but should not be limited, to the following locations: Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Central Bosnia Canton and Canton 10 and in Republika Srpska: Bijeljina and East Sarajevo Region¹.

¹ Bijeljina and East Sarajevo Region are defined as geographical locations that are under the jurisdiction of Public Security Center (centar javne bezbjednosti) Bijeljina and East Sarajevo respectfully.

Submitted proposals **should incorporate the following elements (focus areas):**

- Analysis of the situation in the area of treatment programs for perpetrators of domestic violence in BiH (including but not limited to existing national and international commitments, good practices, lessons learned, gaps in the provision of treatment programs);
- Development and deployment of model(s) of treatment work with perpetrators of domestic violence in BiH at the local level (including but not limited to the definition of the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved in the treatment programs, trainings of service providers, piloting of the model);
- Advocacy activities and policy change (focused on ensuring the sustainability of the implementation of the treatment programs for perpetrators of domestic violence).

3. Guiding principles in designing the project

- Evidence-based programming, building on lessons learned in order to ensure optimal results and use of resources;
- Priority placed on development of a comprehensive intervention and sustainability of results;
- Coordination, participatory approach and multi-sectorial partnerships, including among government, nongovernmental, women's and other civil society groups;
- Transformation of inequitable gender norms and power disparities between women and men and empowerment of women and girls to thrive as equals;
- Commitment to sharing knowledge, by documenting, evaluating and disseminating results, and working with UN Women staff in the process.

4. Funding levels and duration of the project

The project implementation should last 24 months, starting from December 2016 and finishing in December 2018.

The activity implementation should be divided in three phases:

- Phase I: December 2016 - February 2017;
- Phase II: March 2017- February 2018;
- Phase III: March 2018 - December 2018.

The total value of a project under this component should not exceed **100.000 BAM**.

5. Application process

Who can apply?

The Call for Implementing Partners is opened to registered civil society organizations working in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Applications are encouraged particularly from women's and human rights organizations.

Priority will be given to organizations that:

- **Propose a comprehensive intervention (in line with the focus areas outlined in the Section 2. of this call);**
- **Organizations demonstrating coordination and endorsement of the proposed intervention by gender mechanisms and other relevant public institutions;**
- **Have a strong advocacy component;**
- **Focus on ensuring sustainability of the results.**

How, Where and When to apply?

Eligible applicants are expected to submit proposals using the attached **Application form** and **Budget template**.

Submissions should be sent by e-mail with a signed cover letter and endorsements. Please submit your proposal to the following e-mail address: unwomen.bih@unwomen.org. The subject of the e-mail should be: Call for Implementing Partners- EVAW

Proposals can be submitted in English only. The deadline for submission of proposals is **October 2nd 2016, 23:00 CET**. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

6. Appraisal and selection

All project proposals will be appraised based on the overall quality as demonstrated by the results-oriented nature of the proposal and the alignment of the proposed intervention with the goals and expected results outlined in this call.

An evaluation panel will assess the submitted proposals using the following criteria:

- a) Quality of proposal, ensuring that there is a strong link between the issues to be addressed (focused areas of the call) and the proposed activities and anticipated results;
- b) Clear project logic aligned with the stated goals and expected results of this Call;
- c) Proposed strategic partnerships necessary for project success;
- d) Sustainability of the results;
- e) Justifiable budget;
- f) Institutional capacity to implement project.