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| **I. Position Information** | |
| **Title:** | **Call for proposal to strengthen key government officials’ capacities**  **to integrate efforts to combat VAWG into the development plans** |
| **Contract Type:** | **Grant to CSOs** |
| **Target Locations:** | **Grand Cape Mount, Montserrado, Lofa, Grand Gedeh and Nimba**  **Counties** |
| **Duration of Contract:** | **3 Months (July 1, 2022-September 30, 2022)** |
| **Budget Ceiling** | **This grant will support budgets of no more than $75,000.** |
| **Submission Deadline** | **May 30, 2022**  **Proposals may be submitted on or before Monday, 30 May 2022 at 11:59 PM Liberia local time and via (choose appropriate box)**  ☑**E-mail:** [**bids.lr@undp.org**](mailto:bids.lr@undp.org)  ☑**courier mail to the following address.**  **Address: United Nations Development Programme Registry 7th Floor, Pan African Plaza Building Opposite the Monrovia City Hall, Monrovia, Liberia Attn: The Deputy Resident Representative Programme UNDP, Liberia**  **And marked: Call for Proposals/ UNDP Spotlight/ 2022/001** |
| **Contact for Inquiries (inquiries only. PLEASE DO NOT SEND PROPOSALS TO THIS ADDRESS)** | **Contact for Inquiries (inquiries only:** [**info.lr.procurement@undp.org**](mailto:info.lr.procurement@undp.org)  **PLEASE DO NOT SEND PROPOSALS TO THIS ADDRESS** |

The European Union and the United Nations 2018, launched the Global Flagship Spotlight Initiative program which aims at addressing all forms of violence against women and girls and eliminate harmful practices through a transformative and evidence-based approach, addressing unequal power relations between men and women, and focusing on gender equality and women’s empowerment. This is in response to the need for strengthening the Government of Liberia’s (GoL) capacity to eradicate cases of SGBV, harmful traditional practices (HTPs), and build better institutional frameworks for enhanced protection capacities and services to survivors.

The EU/UN Spotlight Initiative is premised on the formal UN/Government of Liberia (GOL) Joint Programme on SGBV and HTPs. Organized under 6 pillars, it aims to: (i) Strengthen policies, legislation,

**II. Background/ Context**

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and regulatory frameworks; (ii) Enhance integrated multi-sectoral capacities of national institutions, organizations, and partners in preparedness, prevention, and response; (iii) Improve social norms and practices, through inclusive participation and awareness-raising of communities on the negative impacts of deep-rooted socio-cultural gender norms and HP; (iv) Integrate multi-sectoral response services to all survivors ensuring effectiveness and efficiency; (v) Develop a multi-sectoral Information Management System (IMS) to support evidence-based planning and monitoring of results; (vi) Develop and operationalize a coherent and inclusive framework engaging the different actors including CSOs, the private sector, and women’s movement groups to eliminate violence against women and girls in Liberia.

Violence against women and girls is considered one of the most pervasive, widespread, and devastating human rights violations in the world today. It is a major obstacle to the fulfillment of women and girls’ human rights and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It occurs worldwide, cutting across all generations, nationalities, communities, and spheres of our societies— irrespective of age, ethnicity, disability, or other backgrounds.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) is prevalent in Liberian society and has been accepted as an integral part of gender relations according to a UN/GoL report (2014). During the long years of the devastating civil conflict, SGBV increased as rape was used as a weapon of war-driven. For many Liberian women and girls, the appalling violence they experienced during the civil war is still evident as physical and mental scars. Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) reported a general acceptance of the most common types of sexual and gender-based violence, identified by communities as rape, child marriage, offensive touching, wife-beating, denial of resources, acid attacks as well as the subtler and hidden forms of violence and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). (MoGCSP, 2016)

In response to the need for strengthening the Government of Liberia’s (GoL) capacity to respond to and eradicate cases of SGBV, harmful traditional practices (HTPs), and building better institutional frameworks for enhanced protection capacities and services to survivors, the European Union and the United Nations have launched the Spotlight Initiative aimed at addressing all forms of violence against women and girls, and eliminating harmful practices, through a transformative and evidence-based approach, addressing unequal power relations between men and women and focusing on gender equality and women’s empowerment. In line with the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Initiative will follow a human rights-based approach and take into consideration the specific needs of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and uphold the principle of “Leaving No One Behind”.

Implemented in the context of the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development of the GoL, the EU/UN Spotlight Programme aims to support the Government of Liberia in its efforts to build a society where vulnerable women and girls and marginalized groups can enjoy their full rights and achieve their potential in a secure and safe environment. Its goal is to significantly reduce the prevalence of SGBV, HPs, and their inter-linkages with sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

The implementing agencies are UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, OHCHR, UNHCR, and IOM. The

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Programme coverage is nationwide with a progressive approach to the 15 Liberia counties. In addition, the project initially targets five hotspot counties including Nimba, Grand Gedeh, Lofa, Grand Cape Mount, and Montserrado which is due to the high prevalence of SGBV/HPs and less SRHR.

In view of the above, EU/UN Spotlight Initiatives through UNDP seek proposals from strong national CSOs aimed at strengthening the capacities of key government officials1 to integrate efforts to combat VAWG into the development plans. This activity will be implemented in strong coordination with the Ministry of Gender for enhancing its county-level staff capacities to effectively implement programs and policies that promote basic human rights, especially the rights of women and girls in Liberia.

The selected organization will further enhance the capacities of MGCSP’s County Coordinators for improved communication and data entry capacity.

The grant focuses on pillar 2 of the EU Spotlight Initiatives Country Programme Document of which the specific outputs seek to ensure:

* **Outcome 2:** National Institutions, Organizations, and partners have enhanced technical capacity and resources to prevent and respond to SGBV and HPs at national, sub-national, and community levels.
* **Output 2.2** Multi-stakeholder national and /or subnational coordination mechanisms established and/or strengthened to include multi-sectoral representation and representation from the most marginalized groups.
* **Activity 2.2.1:** Strengthen key government officials’ capacities to integrate efforts to combat VAWG into the development plans and to include sub-national level MGCSP’s County Coordinators for improved communication and data entry capacity.)

1. Strengthen the capacities of 100 key government officials from selected national institutions2 to integrate efforts to combat VAWG into the development plans and provide oversight in compliance with international standards.
   1. Specifically train and design strategies and programs that respond to SGBV/VAWG integrated into national development plans
2. Enhance the capacities of 15 MGCSP’s County Coordinators for improved communication and data entry capacity.

Applications should be not more than 7 pages and a budget from civil society organizations in the scope of work following the below format. The proposal should include the following sections:

**III. Scope of Work**

1Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection-MoGCSP, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Education 2 ibid

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* Context and Problem Analysis
* Project Goal, Objectives, and expected outcomes
* Specific Activities
* About the organization (Organizational experience and proven track record/credibility on gender and development including relevant experience in partnerships with UNDP, other UN agencies, governments, NGOs, and other development actors)
* Partnerships and Stakeholders
* Results framework and implementation plan
* Financial proposal- detailed budget against each activity identified.

# Deliverables

The required outputs of this scope of work include but are not limited to the interventions described below:

* 1. Strengthen the capacities of 100 key government officials to integrate efforts to combat VAWG into the development plans and provide oversight in compliance with international standards.
     + Specifically train and design strategies and programs that respond to SGBV/VAWG integrated into national development plans.
  2. Enhance the capacities of 15 MGCSP’s County Coordinators for improved communication and data entry capacity.
  3. Work with the relevant government institutions, and other stakeholders for proper coordination to advocate for GEWE in response to VAWG including SGBV/HP and promote access to SRHR services for women and girls.
  4. Ensure adequate visibility of donor support (EU/UN Spotlight Initiative) in every and ALL activities being implemented.
  5. Provide weekly updates and quarterly narrative reports along with final narrative and financial reports

The efforts of UNDP are expected to strengthen both institutional and individuals capacities of various national institutions involved in prevention and response measures to address sexual and gender-based violence, harmful practices, and sexual and reproductive health and rights at all levels.

**Impact of Results**

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# Eligibility & Qualification Criteria

Grants will be awarded to organizations based on the following considerations:

* National, Women’s rights organizations or women’s led organization
* The organization’s proven administrative and financial management capacity to undertake the interventions.
* The feasibility and soundness of the proposal with sustainability strategies and related budget; and
* The legitimacy and quality of the contribution and values that the group/movement can provide for the attainment of development results and maximizing the impact of a program/project and

# Key Competencies

CSO implementation teams should possess the following key competencies:

* Capacity building
* Advocacy and communications skills
* Project Coordination.
* Development of strategies, plans and /or programs to prevent and respond to VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls’ SRHR, for women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination
* Skilled in community-based projects and programs;

CSOs who meet the requirements should submit a technical proposal no longer than seven (7) pages which should include the following:

1. Technical Proposal attached with key interventions identified in the TOR
2. Results Framework submitted
3. Project Budget per related activities
4. Proof of legal registration or status with accreditation
5. Organization profile: nature/Type of organization - a women’s rights (with evidence)

**VI. Submission Requirements**

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1. A detailed workplan
2. CVs of key staff
3. Cover letter
4. The proposal is within the maximum duration/ months of the CfP
5. The proposal is within the geographic scope of the CfP

# VII. Selection Criteria

The proposal will be selected based on technical (70%) and financial (30%) assessments. The technical assessment will review the following:

* + Technical design of proposal aligned to achieving expected results via key interventions/deliverables from the ToR, the definition of clear objectives, results, and outputs, taking account of best practices of gender-responsive approaches, and identification of relevant and appropriate monitoring and evaluation approaches based on the results framework and indicators **(20 %)**
  + Experience in partnership with UNDP, other UN agencies (government, NGOs, and other development partners) **(5 %)**
  + Local experience and presence: partnership with national institutions, promotion of national and local ownership in developing and establishing activities, and specific objectives to build the capacities of national and local players with relevant experience **(10%)**
  + Realistic activity/ work plan and implementation strategy to achieve objectives within the time frame **(10%)**
  + Institutional/ CSO capacity and relevant experience: Advocacy and Communication skills, project coordination, development of strategies, plans, programs to prevent and respond to VAWG, promoted SRHR for women facing multiple forms of discrimination **(15%)**
  + Identification of comprehensive risks and appropriate mitigation measures, including sustainability strategy (viability of the program beyond the financing period and (where applicable), how to reproduce it and improve it over time) (**10%)**
* Budget (cost-effectiveness)

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* Activity-based budget: The budget is sufficient and reasonable for the activities proposed and takes the scale of problems into account (20%)
* The budget includes indirect operational costs at the allowed level (no more than 7% of total budget) (10%)

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