



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Project title: Leaving no one Behind- Safeguarding human rights and protecting vulnerable groups

Location: National wide/ Libya

Application Deadline: 25 February 2021

Type of Contract: Low-Value Grant Agreement

Grant amount: 25,000 USD

Languages Required: English

Starting Date: 1 March 2021

Expected Duration of the Contract: 2 Months

Background and overview of the assignment:

The COVID-19 crisis continues to expose challenges related to governance and service delivery capacities at central and local levels, while presenting significant risks on the human rights and social cohesion/peace dimensions. At the same time, the crisis presents an opportunity to “build back better” and UNDP’s COVID-19 response in this area will be a critical line of support both during the immediate response and recovery phases.

The global Coronavirus pandemic has been recognized by the Secretary-General as not only a critical public health danger, but also a human, economic and social emergency that is ‘fast becoming a human rights crisis’ in the UN report COVID-19 and Human Rights: We are all in this together, April 2020. The crisis can provide a pretext to adopt repressive measures for purposes unrelated to the pandemic. We also know that the instability and fear that the pandemic engenders is exacerbating existing human rights concerns and the impacts of the pandemic are being felt disproportionately across populations, shining a light on inequalities in societies which must be structurally addressed to ‘recover back better.

The Human Rights situation needs to be closely monitored during a pandemic like Covid-19. However, there is a need to consider the impacts on rights holders and the obligations of duty bearers during the coming phased re-opening with continued restrictions on various groups and activities. Within this context it is particularly important to assess how a human rights-based lens can better inform public policy.

Social stigma in the context of health is the negative association between a person or group of people who share certain characteristics and a specific disease. In an outbreak, this may mean people are labelled, stereotyped, discriminated against, treated separately, and/or experience loss of status because of a perceived link with a disease. Such treatment can negatively affect those with the disease, as well as their caregivers, family, friends and communities. People who don’t have the disease but share other characteristics with this group may also suffer from stigma. The current COVID-19 outbreak has provoked



social stigma and discriminatory behaviors against people of certain ethnic backgrounds as well as anyone perceived to have been in contact with the virus.

Before the arrival of the pandemic, Libyan women already faced the challenge of domestic violence and insecurity, a severe problem in Libyan society but a hidden and underreported one as domestic violence is a “taboo issue” which brings social stigma and the threat of familial rejection to women who reported it. Fuel shortages place many women in a uniquely vulnerable position in a COVID-19 outbreak since even services, including maternal and childbirth services have been largely disrupted and unavailable in many communities. A recent survey by UN Women highlights the fact that women are concerned about domestic violence as well as loss of access to public facilities and reduction in services, including maternal healthcare (a concern of about 70% of women surveyed). Women surveyed have also highlighted the particular vulnerability of disabled people in their households.

This aspect of UNDP’s support recognizes the strain that COVID-19 places on governance, rule of law, human rights, social cohesion and resilience in Libya in the short and medium term, and takes a preventive approach to ensuring that these issues are reflected in the overall crisis management for COVID-19 in Libya, at both national and local levels

UNDP’s Proposed Intervention under this call for proposal falls within United Nations Socio-Economic Framework for the Response to COVID-19 (UNSEF) in Libya and in particular pillar 5 Social Cohesion and Community Resilience. It contributes to creating an environment that reduces stigmatization, discrimination, and exclusion in the COVID-19 response through: (a. sensitizing local and central government on the issue, (b. strengthening capacities of CSOs and human rights defenders through training, and (c. undertaking direct outreach and providing direct support to vulnerable populations. All of these activities have the overall objective of incorporating human rights into response to COVID-19 and other similar public health crisis as among the negative impacts of Covid-19 are discrimination and social stigmatization against vulnerable groups, especially internally displaced persons, migrants, women, people with disabilities, and people who have been infected with Covid-19, which affected their human rights especially the right to access to health services and public services in Libya.

So the aim of this initiative is to raise awareness and strengthen the capacities of national and local authorities (municipalities) , Human Rights Defenders and NGOs related to integrate human rights approach in the epidemic response policies to ensure that COVID-19 responses address stigma, discrimination, gender, GBV and human rights concerns which lead to reducing the risk to vulnerable populations, including migrants, IDPs, women, refugees, prisoners and detainees.

In the framework of addressing the challenges of COVID-19 when it comes to human rights, the proposed intervention will contribute to achieving the following:

- Providing policy and technical support to national (relevant line ministries) and local (municipalities) governments on the human rights dimensions of public health related laws, policies and practices adopted to prevent, control and treat incidents of COVID-19. This will include provision of policy and legal advisory services to address stigma, discrimination, gender and human rights concerns in COVID-19 responses, as well as to ensure inclusive and rights-based approach to basic services and livelihoods.



- Reducing the risk to vulnerable populations, including women, migrants, IDPs, refugees, prisoners, detainees and corrections officials by providing training material on health emergency preparedness and support to contingency planning and management; required to address health emergencies as well as building capacity to provide healthcare to populations who normally face barriers to accessing healthcare;
- Strengthening human rights-based approaches to COVID19 response by working with National Human Rights Defenders and NGOs especially those targeting discrimination or supporting marginalized and excluded populations, especially women, migrants, IDPs and refugees.

The project will consist of allocation of 3 low-value grants (**worth of 25,000 USD each**) to beneficiaries located in the three different regions of Libya (West, East, and South). The aim is to cover as many municipalities as practical within each region taking into consideration the diversity

Project outcome:

The overall objective of this initiative is to raise awareness and strengthen the capacities of national (relevant line ministries), local authorities (municipalities) , Human Rights Defenders and NGOs concerning integrating and adopting human rights approach in the epidemic response policies to ensure that COVID-19 responses address stigma, discrimination, gender, GBV and human rights concerns which lead to reducing the risk to vulnerable populations, including migrants, IDPs, women, refugees, prisoners and detainees.

Expected Outputs:

Output 1: Implementing training programmes that provide policy and technical support, training (via video conferencing), and production of training materials **to national (relevant line ministries i.e., Ministries of Health, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Planning, Local Governance, Justice, Interior, and Transportation) and local (select municipalities in western, eastern and southern regions)** on human rights dimensions of public health-related laws, policies and practices adopted to prevent, control and treat incidents of COVID-19;

- Produce training materials on human rights dimensions of existing public health related laws, policies and practices
- Deliver training to relevant national and local authorities in incorporating human rights dimensions in the response to COVID-19

Output 2: Strengthening capacity of, Human Rights Defenders and NGOs on policy and legal issues related to protection/safety measures for **vulnerable populations, including women, migrants, IDPs, refugees, prisoners, detainees from stigma, discrimination , GBV and human rights concerns in COVID-19 responses by ad-hoc training, workshops (via video conferencing).**

- Provide training to NGOs and human rights defenders on the guidelines for developing plan to tackle protection/safety measures for vulnerable groups from stigma, discrimination, GBV and human rights concerns



- work with NGOs and human rights defenders to develop simple plans based on context in each municipality aimed at ensuring protection/safety measures for vulnerable groups from stigma, discrimination, GBV and human rights concerns

Output 3:, Undertake community outreach targeting vulnerable populations with the support of government and nongovernment stakeholders, providing awareness raising and creating links with government and nongovernment stakeholders at local level

- Produce Anti stigmatization/discrimination communication materials in support to human rights response to COVID-19 .
- Provide limited material in the form of protective equipment such as gloves, sanitizers and masks that protect against COVID-19 to targeted vulnerable population in coordination with relevant central and local authorities and based on needs

The activities within these three outputs of the call for proposal contribute to addressing recommendation VI of UNSEF. It also contributes to recommendation IV under Pillar 5 which relates to risk communication across all pillars of the UNSEF.

The project proposals should focus on the following areas or related to:

- Providing policy and technical support to national (relevant line ministries) and local (municipalities) governments on the human rights dimensions of public health related laws, policies and practices adopted to prevent, control and treat incidents of COVID-19.
- Reducing the risk to vulnerable populations, including migrants, IDPs, refugees, prisoners, detainees and corrections officials
- Strengthening human rights-based approaches to COVID19 response by working with National Human Rights Defenders and NGOs especially those targeting discrimination or supporting marginalized and excluded populations, especially women, migrants, IDPs and refugees.

Beneficiaries/target groups

- National (relevant line ministries) and local (municipalities) governments.
- key focal points in relevant national and local government bodies.
- Vulnerable populations that are experiencing the highest degree of socio-economic marginalization and require specific attention, including women, migrants, IDPs, refugees, prisoners, detainees.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The project proposals are expected to cover the following deliverables:

- Organize activities focusing on:
 - Providing policy and technical support to national (relevant line ministries) and local (municipalities) governments on the human rights dimensions of public health related laws, policies and practices adopted to prevent, control and treat incidents of COVID-19.



- Reducing the risk to vulnerable populations, including migrants, IDPs, refugees, prisoners, detainees and corrections officials
- Strengthening human rights-based approaches to COVID19 response by working with National Human Rights Defenders and NGOs especially those targeting discrimination or supporting marginalized and excluded populations, especially women, migrants, IDPs and refugees.
- The CSOs are fully responsible for implementing and organizing the training, including provision of any materials, software, and online training facilities.
- In the event that professional trainers and facilitators will be employed, CVs and candidates selected to be discussed with UNDP.
- All implemented activities to be held inside Libya.
- Propose an evaluation mechanism to measure the impact of the project activities and suggest future needs for substantial follow-up.
- Recommendations to be submitted at the end of the project for future follow up.

Required Skills and Experience:

The CSOs are expected to have the following qualifications and experience:

- The organization should be a Libyan civil society organization, holding a valid legal registration in Libya.
- The organization has extensive knowledge of the proposed area of intervention.
- At least 3 years' experience in social development and civic engagement in Libya.
- At least 3 years' experience in implementing outreach, media, promote human rights, gender, Rule of law, Providing policy and technical support on the human rights projects in Libya.
- Members of the CSO have good capacity in designing, implementing and monitoring institutional development programs.
- The project documents (a proposal, reports) must be submitted in English
- Respect for diversity, organizations should also aim to promote gender equality within the management of their own organization, ensuring that women are employed and engaged at all levels.

The following documents must be submitted in order for the submission to be considered:

1. Applications (project proposals) in the form of the template attached (**Annex I – Capacity Assessment Checklist for NGO/CSO**), including organizational profile with the following details:
 - Proof of registration as a non-governmental/non-commercial organization including copies of the registration certificate;
 - A clearly defined management structure of the organization;
 - Proven track record of experience in the implementation of similar/related type of activities;
 - Experience in the management of grant programs;
 - Experience in project implementation or execution of contracts for the provision of professional services in the area of grant programs management;
 - Audited financial statements for the past two years.
 - A work plan with the proposed work schedule indicating the persons responsible for each



area of activity;

2. Description of the management methodology and implementation of the small grants program, which should include the following:
 - Communication strategy and plan for dissemination of information about the contest, including cooperation with the media and NGOs, placement of information via online resources and social networks;
 - Description of organization of all stages of the project proposals evaluation process with proposed criteria for evaluating business plans and evaluation procedures;
 - Procedure for monitoring and evaluation of the business projects, including the admission procedures and inspection reports description, quality control methods;
 - Description of communication tools available for interaction with applicants and grantees, which should include but not limited to a telephone hotline;
 - Personal CVs of Project Team, including information about past experience in similar projects/assignments and clear definition of roles and responsibilities for this assignment;
 - Organizational Libyan Bank account

3. The Financial Proposal with a detailed cost breakdown, **Annex II**.

Timeframe: The project will be taking place over a period of 3 months. A detailed work plan, including all activities and budget, shall be submitted to UNDP.

Project proposals to be sent to:

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