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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Project Title:	Support CSOs to advocate for the introduction of the Femicide Review Investigation, an internal state investigation of the Institutions and Service Providers for Women Victims of Violence, under the Programme <i>“Ending Violence against Women: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds”</i>
Purpose:	Selection of qualified Responsible Party for the Programme
Duration:	October 2017 – October 2018 (tentatively)
Contract Type:	Project Cooperation Agreement
Reference number:	CFP 06/17 EXT
Deadline for submissions:	15 September 2017

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) is inviting women civil society organizations (CSOs) and networks to submit proposals aimed at eradicating and preventing the culmination of violence against women and domestic abuse into femicide. Violence against women is an atrocious manifestation of the systematic and widespread discrimination and inequality. Gender-related killings of women are defined as the most extreme form of violence against women. Women who become ultimate victims of femicide often experience violence in a continuum. One of the major challenges in combatting violence against women is to find efficient prevention mechanisms capable of tracking violence against women and to provide crucial information related to such violence.

Terms of Reference

I. Background

UN Women is grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. UN Women works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls, the empowerment of women and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development. Placing women's rights at the centre of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates United Nations system efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world. It provides strong and coherent leadership in supporting national priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors.

Civil society organisations, in particular women's organizations, play a crucial role in the promotion of gender equality and women's rights. They are key advocacy stakeholders for mobilizing governments from commitment to implementation of international normative standards. They are also key stakeholders in the provision of services that are essential in the establishment of multi-sectoral and coordinated mechanisms to adequately respond to the needs of victims of violence. Furthermore, women's organisations are key stakeholders in providing inputs, analysing data and developing efficient mechanisms that could be used by relevant authorities in order to eradicate and prevent gender-related killings.

The gender-related killing of women is a clear violation of women's right to life, right to freedom from torture and right to a life free from violence and discrimination. As shown in various reports on femicides in Serbia, gender-related killing is the final stage of violence after an extended continuum of violence rather than an isolated phenomenon. Although recorded number of gender-related killings in 2016 is not as high as in the previous year in Serbia, there is probable cause to believe that the number is much higher, due to lack of the data on how many women die due to long-term abuse as well as the possibility of unreported cases. Therefore, the role of women's organizations is crucial in gathering reliable and disaggregated data in order to track violence against women, advocate for the better response of relevant service providers in preventing gender-based violence and to raise awareness and galvanize actions for its prevention.

II. Objective of UN Women's support

The project will contribute to the achievement of the programme *"Ending violence against women and girls: Implementing norms, changing minds"* (February 2017- January 2020). *"Implementing Norms, Changing Minds"* aims at ending gender-based discrimination and violence against women, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged groups of women, in Western Balkans and Turkey. The programme is anchored in the normative frameworks of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), and is also in alignment with EU accession standards. The programme is funded by the European Commission within the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) II. More specifically the project will contribute to programme Result 3.2, *"Improved case management by providers of specialist support services for victims of all forms of violence, with a specific focus on women and girls from minorities and disadvantaged groups."*

III. Scope of the Project

The envisioned support to CSOs will strengthen the capacities of women's organizations, inter alia: advocacy and lobbying, research and analysis, participation in policy-making, and encouragement of activism and volunteering engagement to influence legislative and policy changes in line with CEDAW and the Istanbul convention.

This programme shall target women's organizations and help them build up capacities to provide useful guidance and recommendations to relevant stakeholders for breaking major barriers in preventing gender-related killing of women. In order to develop meaningful prevention strategies, it is critical to respond and to address the weakness of national prevention system and the lack of proper risk assessment and much needed data.

In this context, UN Women is issuing a Call for Proposals for a responsible party to contribute to the Programme Result 3.2: *"Improved case management by providers of specialist support services for victims of all forms of violence, with a specific focus on women and girls from minorities and disadvantaged groups"* to advocate the introduction of the Femicide Review Investigation, an internal state investigation of responses of institutions and service providers for women victims of violence.

IV. Deliverables

It is expected that the selected Responsible Party deliver, inter alia, the following products, for the implementation of the proposed Support to CSOs:

1. Capacity assessment of the relevant Institutions and Service Providers, including:

- Assessment of existing capacities and need, identifying strengths and weaknesses in the procedural, to strengthen performance to ensure better response and case management;
- Assessment of national prevention systems in Serbia;

2. Developed model for data collection and collecting and analysing relevant data on femicide cases in Serbia, including:

- Disaggregated data by gender, age and ethnicity of femicide victims and perpetrators;
- Data on the relationship between victims and perpetrators;
- Information concerning the prosecution and the punishment of perpetrators of previous cases of femicide;
- Analysis of the collected data and provided inputs to relevant stakeholders with regards to:
 - o Previous trends in cases of femicide
 - o Patterns of violence, including similarities in weapons that are predominately used, similarities in relationships between perpetrators and victims, and similarities in patterns of behaviour of perpetrators
- Identification of risk factors for femicide.

3. Developed manual for the Femicide Review Investigation and Operational Guidelines, including:

- Detailed risk assessment and increased recognition and management of risk factors that could lead to an improved response to violence against women;

- Capacity building of practitioners and relevant stakeholders from criminal justice system to better support victims of gender-based violence and take necessary measures to avoid the culmination of violence into femicide;
- Protocol for cases of femicide established through a consultative process with relevant stakeholders including professionals from the prosecutors' office, police officers, forensic experts, organizations that assist the victims of violence and judges.

4. Communications activity

- Communication and visibility including at least 1 public event and use of social media for dissemination of the achievements to inform and raise awareness among women, especially women from minorities and disadvantaged groups, and among communities at a large; among generalist and specialist support services; and among relevant decision makers and key stakeholders at national level;
- All knowledge products and communications materials produced under this project must acknowledge the support and seek approval of UN Women. Furthermore, they should be in line with the EU Communication and Visibility tools and the EU-UN joint visibility guidelines.

V. Duration of project

From October 2017 to October 2018 (tentatively)

VI. Further Details about the Proposal

In addition to outlining detailed activities to achieve Programme Result 3.2: *“Improved case management by providers of specialist support services for victims of all forms of violence, with a specific focus on women and girls from minorities and disadvantaged groups”* to achieve the desired deliverables, please clearly indicate an activity in the workplan with indicative budget to participate in at least one programme event at the regional level per year.

VII. Budget Request

The proposed intervention size and budget request must fall between a minimum indicative amount of USD 20.000 and a maximum amount of USD 25.000. Budget proposal should be submitted in the local currency, Republic of Serbia Diner. All currency exchanges should be calculated using the UN Operational Exchange Rate as per the date of submission of proposal available at: <https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php>

VIII. Institutional Arrangement

The selected organization(s) will sign a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with UN Women. A competitive selection process will take place to identify the potential Responsible Party. The CSO will be selected only if it has proven capacity to deliver the proposed activity. The CSO's capacity will be assessed by UN Women as per UN Women's manuals.

IX. Reporting

The selected partner will be the principal Responsible Party, but will work closely with UN Women during programme implementation. The partner will provide regular narrative and financial reports in line with UN Women guidelines and requirements.

All knowledge products and communications materials that would be produced under this agreement must acknowledge the support and seek approval of UN Women. Furthermore, they should be in line with the EU Communication and Visibility tools and the EU-UN joint visibility guidelines.

Note: Interested applicants are invited to attend the informative session, on August 11th 2017 at 11 am, at UN House in Serbia, New Belgrade, Bulevar Zorana Djindjica 64, in which additional clarifications can be provided on the application process. Kindly communicate your interest in participating at info.serbia@unwomen.org