

## CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

**Project Title:** Education and livelihoods support to refugees and asylum-seekers in Israel

**Project Duration:** 01/01/22 - 31/12/22

### Background Information:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is a humanitarian and non-political organization mandated by the United Nations to protect refugees and stateless persons and help them find lasting solutions to their problems. UNHCR's activities are based on a framework of international refugee law and standards that includes the *1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees* and its *1967 Protocol*, as well as an array of international and regional treaties on human rights and humanitarian law. UNHCR works with States, civil society organizations, the legal community, the media and other actors to ensure effective protection and promote long-term solutions through a mix of capacity-building, refugee law promotion, advocacy and public awareness activities.

In Israel, UNHCR's work presently focuses on the following broad areas:

- (i) Monitoring and promoting respect for refugee rights and the quality of treatment of asylum-seekers in accordance with established international standards;
- (ii) Advocacy for access to essential services including health, education, child protection and welfare, with particular focus on persons with specific needs;
- (iii) Multi-stakeholder engagement for the prevention of and response to gender-based violence, and support for victims of trafficking, torture or other degrading treatment;
- (iv) Advocacy and support for child protection and care, including access to mainstream education at all levels;
- (v) Promoting economic inclusion and participation through support for skills development, community outreach, awareness-raising activities and partnerships.

In carrying out the above functions, UNHCR cooperates closely with the Government of Israel as its key partner in its mission to ensure the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers in accordance with international standards. UNHCR has also forged useful links with a number of local NGOs and other members of the civil society, including some with which it has had funding-based partnership arrangements.

## Objective of the Call for Expression of Interest

The present Call of Expression of Interest is meant to identify additional partners from the NGO sector, community-based organizations, municipalities, learning institutions and other relevant actors to supplement the existing programmes carried out by UNHCR's implementing partners. The five main areas of concern for the supplementary projects UNHCR Israel would consider providing funding contribution are 1) after-school and developmental activities for refugee and asylum-seeking children; 2) vocational education and training; 3) women empowerment projects; 4) youth mentoring and coaching programmes; and 5) special projects designed for elderly asylum-seekers, persons of concern with disabilities.

## Expected Outcomes

**Outcome 1:** Access to and quality of non-formal education for asylum seekers' children increased;

**Outcome 2:** Access to life-skills/vocational training and learning opportunities for adults enhanced;

**Outcome 3:** Community mobilization strengthened and expanded with a special emphasis on women inclusion and empowerment;

**Outcome 4:** Youth have better access to quality mentoring and coaching programmes;

**Outcome 5:** Needs of persons of concern with disabilities and elderly asylum-seekers are addressed.

## Who Can Apply under the Call?

The Call for Expression of Interest is open to public and private groups involved in refugee work and which are interested in receiving financial contributions from UNHCR for the implementation of project activities in any of the five areas set out above under "Objective of the Call of Expression of Interest." Collaboration between multiple organizations is encouraged for this opportunity.

The maximum funding to be provided by UNHCR for any one project under this Call is 50,000 ILS. UNHCR will only match contributions toward eligible expenses on a one-to-one (1:1) basis.

## Selection Process

The selection of projects under this Call shall be made on a comparative basis taking into account UNHCR's policies, rules, procedures, strategic objectives and the funding available to the Organization from time to time, together with considerations of the urgency and importance of the proposed action and its impact, numbers of project participants aggregated by gender and age and extent of beneficiary participation in the design and implementation of the project. UNHCR is committed to a fair and transparent

process to evaluate and select projects that best fit the goals and aims of the Organization.

<b>Selection Criteria</b>		
<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Criteria Description</i>	<i>Assigned Weighting</i>
1	<b>Sector expertise and experience:</b> the required specific skills, sector specialists, knowledge and human resources.	25%
2	<b>Project management:</b> ability to deliver project objectives, accountability mechanisms and sound financial management.	25%
3	<b>Local experience and presence:</b> ongoing programme in the area of operation; local knowledge; engaging refugees and other persons of concern; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; complaint mechanisms for persons of concern; self-organized groups of persons of concern; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the persons of concern and that would reduce administrative difficulties.	20%
4	<b>Cost effectiveness:</b> level of direct costs and administrative costs imposed on the Project in relation to project deliverables.	20%
5	<b>Experience working with UNHCR:</b> global and/or local partnerships including knowledge of UNHCR policies, practices and programmes, including an understanding of and ability to work within UNHCR's funding limitations and associated inherent risks.	10%

### **Procedure for Submission of Expression of Interest**

#### **How to submit:**

Interested applicants should express their interest by duly completing and submitting the template attached hereto. All submissions should be prepared in English and sent to the following email address no later than the deadline: [tersteeg@unhcr.org](mailto:tersteeg@unhcr.org).

This Call is an invitation for an Expression of Interest only. It is not an offer and the submission of an Expression of Interest does not create a contract or agreement of any kind between UNHCR and the Proponent.

**Deadline for submission:** 26 August 2021

**Contact:** In case of any questions relating to this Call for Expression of Interest, you may write to Milou ter Steege at [tersteeg@unhcr.org](mailto:tersteeg@unhcr.org).

UNHCR Israel

25 July 2021