

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR UNHCR FUNDED PROJECTS FOR 2023

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is inviting interested non-governmental organizations to submit Concept Notes for projects supporting asylum-seekers, refugees, displaced persons and stateless persons in the Russian Federation. Selection of the partners with consecutive entering in the Project Partnership Agreements will be based on review of Concept Notes and required supporting documentation as described below in line with the criteria established in this Call for Expression of Interest.

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST No. 1/2022	
Project title and Identification:	Project Location:
Legal, psycho-social and targeted medical counselling of asylum-seekers, refugees, displaced persons and stateless persons in the Russian Federation	Russian Federation
Brief Background of the Project:	
<p>The Office of the United National High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Russian Federation is providing support to asylum-seekers, refugees, displaced persons and stateless persons (collectively referred to as persons of concern or PoCs). Currently, the work of the Agency has three long-term objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that all PoCs have access to the national asylum system and long-term solutions 2. Secure opportunities for social integration, self-reliance and durable solutions, including through strengthened comprehensive approaches 3. Ensure that PoCs enjoy increased tolerance resulting from improved awareness of the refugee cause in the country and globally <p>As of 30 September 2022, around 2.8 million refugees and displaced persons have arrived from Ukraine in the Russian Federation. According to the statistics from the Ministry of Interior, as of 01 July 2022, 27 Ukrainians have refugee status and 68,868 have Temporary Asylum. Additionally, there are 273 recognized refugees and 1,883 persons holding Temporary Asylum from other countries.</p> <p>Under this Call for Expression of Interest, UNHCR is inviting competent non-governmental organizations to submit Concept Notes for projects that would address the first two objectives and support UNHCR PoCs through the asylum procedure (legal support) and integration pathways (legal, psycho-social and targeted medical support).</p>	
Expected Outcome or Output and Main Activities:	
<p>Priority will be given to the projects that address the following components.</p> <p>Legal Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality legal counselling (face-to-face and online), including assistance with preparation of legal documents for the PoCs to go through the national asylum procedure and accompanying PoCs to the relevant administrative bodies 	



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- Assessment of individual refugee claims to determine the best course of action to ensure access to rights and legal remedies
- Representation of cases in courts and administrative bodies at national and international levels
- Rendering of legal assistance to PoCs in detention, readmission centres, shelters and the like
- Assistance in accessing a legal status in Russia, including RF citizenship and temporary/permanent residence permits
- Legal assistance to cases at risk of refoulement

Psycho-social and targeted medical support

- Counselling on social issues and support with access to socio-economic rights, including, but not limited to access to allowances and benefits, access to education, job-placement and professional (re)training
- Work with persons at risk of/survivors of gender-based violence, including search for alternative accommodation/placement in shelters
- Identification, referral and follow-up of cases of persons with specific needs (including, but not limited to children, women and elderly persons at risk)
- Support to children, including with enrolment in kindergartens and schools, follow-up on cases of unaccompanied minors (UAM), Best Interest Determination/Best Interest Assessment processes; assessment of the educational needs and recommendations on the ways of addressing them
- Home visits to the PoCs when required
- Participatory assessments to identify the needs of PoCs and define ways of addressing them
- Psychological and psycho-social counselling
- Counselling on access to the state obligatory medical insurance (SOMI) for eligible PoCs and provision of basic medical support to PoCs who have no access to the SOMI; vaccination to children without access to the state vaccination programmes, hospitalization in special cases not covered by the SOMI (up to 10 cases in one year); health certification to facilitate school enrolment (up to 40 children in one year)
- Capacity-building of PoCs communities to develop their professional and leadership skills design community-based projects, etc
- Management of small-scale vulnerability assistance programme
- Provision of food/non-food assistance to the PoCs stranded in the transit zones of the airports in Moscow, placed in shelter, hospitals, detention centres, etc.
- Management of the Russian language classes to improve knowledge of the local language among PoCs children and adults
- Networking and coordination with other partners to support PoCs in the most efficient way that avoids duplication of efforts

Projects may address all or some of the components listed above

Intended Population Coverage:

Asylum-seekers, Refugees, Displaced Persons and Stateless Persons

Partnership Period [estimated start and end dates of project]:

01 January – 31 December 2023

Submission Deadline:	Date Decision Results to be Communicated to Applicants:
21 October 2022	15 November 2022
Selection Criteria and Description	
<p>Sector expertise and experience: proven availability of the required skills, material and human resources, past successful performance of similar projects. Knowledge of relevant protection and humanitarian principles, including, but not limited to Protection of Personal Data; Age and Gender, Diversity (AGDM); Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA); participatory assessment and community-based principles.</p>	
<p>Project management: demonstrated understanding of the programme management cycle; proven ability to effectively deliver project objectives with robust management systems/processes, and meet the expectations of all stakeholders, as well as provide accountability mechanisms and sound financial management, taking into account the audit results of the previous UNHCR-funded projects, past performance and the external audit of partners' financial statements and pending open audit recommendations (accounts receivables and internal control related recommendations) where applicable. Clear segregation of duties policy, as well as the integration of risk management; adequate control over assets and inventory (if applicable).</p>	
<p>Local experience, presence and community relations: ongoing programmes in the area of operation; local knowledge; participation in inter-agency coordination for a; demonstrated experience in engaging PoCs in the programme cycle; trust from local communities; feedback and complaint mechanisms for PoC; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the PoC and that would reduce administrative difficulties.</p>	
<p>Contribution of resources and Sustainability: evidenced and documented contribution of resources to the Project in cash or in-kind (e.g. human resources, supplies and/or equipment) by the partner that are presently available (or potentially mobilized by the partner) in order to supplement UNHCR resources; active resultative fund-raising efforts leading to sustainability of the project after UNHCR's phase-out.</p>	
<p>Security considerations: ability to operate in the country of the Project implementation as well as existence and functionality of partner's organizational policies, procedures and practices related to security risk management.</p>	
<p>Cost effectiveness: Evidence of a methodology for allocation of shared costs to project activities. Evidence of procedures/systems that ensure maximum resources are directed to project outcomes while also ensuring that resources are also directed to activities that ensure project risks are being appropriately managed.</p>	
<p>Experience working with UNHCR: 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. Partners that have three consecutive modified audit opinions (qualified, adverse or disclaimer) for UNHCR-funded projects may not be considered.</p>	
<p>Environmental Sustainability: measures to integrate environmental sustainability within proposed activities. Environmental considerations are aligned to the objectives of UNHCR's Strategic Framework for Climate Action.</p>	



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Procurement capacity: availability of standard organizational SOPs for procurement and readiness to undergo the Procurement Pre-qualification process with UNHCR HQ (for projects with procurement value above USD 100,000) or readiness to adhere to UNHCR Procurement Procedures (for projects with the procurement value of less than USD 100,000); capacity and capability for undertaking procurement for the planned project.

Other information

To be eligible, the applicants should

1. Be registered at the UN Portal at <https://www.unpartnerportal.org> or have updated information if there is past experience of working with UNHCR
2. Submit (via the UN Partner Portal) the Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) self-assessment, ahead of a Concept note submission, unless already assessed by a UN entity.
3. Submit Concept Note in the format established in Annex A
4. Submit a budget estimate for the Project (Annex B)
5. For the new partners, complete the Partner Declaration Form (Annex C). Can be submitted via the UN Partner Portal at registration or electronically to UNHCR as part of the Concept Note package

All Concept Notes and supporting documents should be submitted to Tatyana Anisimova, Programme Officer/Secretary of the IP Management Committee at anisimov@unhcr.org latest by 23.59 on 21 October 2022 with the Subject "2023 Concept Note: Name of the Partner Organization".

Late applications will not be considered.

Language of Submission: English

UNHCR can be consulted with any questions related to this Call for Expression of Interest. To ensure consistency of information provided to the existing and potential partners, UNHCR will hold an open Question-and-Answer session on 17 October 2022. To register for the Q&A session, please liaise with Elena Drozdova, Snr Programme Associate at drozdova@unhcr.org.

Issuing UNHCR Office

UNHCR in the Russian Federation

Contact Address

anisimov@unhcr.org

Signature, Head of Office

Full name and title, Head of Office

Karim Atassi, UNHCR Representative

Date

30 September 2022