

UNHCR Representation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

SELECTION OF PARTNERS FOR THE YEAR 2022

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CEI/UNHCR/BIH/No. 02/2021	
Project title and Identification:	Project Location:
Provision of psychosocial support and individual protection assistance to recognized refugees and asylum-seekers in BiH	<i>Country-wide</i>
Brief Background of the Project:	
<p>Since January 2018, BiH has experienced continued pressure from the mixed movement of refugees and migrants transiting through the country as part of the Western Balkan route into the EU and Western Europe. The mixed movement is characterized by a mix of those from refugee producing countries who may need international protection and economic migrants, although the vast majority, regardless of potential protection needs, do not seek to remain in BiH.</p> <p>The closure of borders along the Balkan Route has shifted the migratory flow through BiH and created a bottleneck (particularly in Una-Sana Canton), where between 3,000 -4,000 are concentrated as they attempt to access the EU via Croatia.</p> <p>The reception capacity for persons with specific needs, including unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) survivors, single women, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex (LGBTI) persons is currently insufficient, as vulnerable persons are most often accommodated in mixed centres with the general population. Social assistance for BiH citizens does not always target the most vulnerable, putting UNHCR's persons of concern as well as others, at risk of being left behind. Women, youth, LGBTI, disabled individuals, survivors of GBV and the elderly may be at heightened risk for social exclusion. There is generally an insufficient response to violence against women, as well as low participation of women in decision-making.</p> <p>UNHCR and its partners will use a participatory approach to involve persons of concern and ensure their feedback in programming decisions. This will involve persons of different age, gender, and diversity (AGD) as part of UNHCR's adherence to accountability to affected populations (AAP). Participatory assessments continue to be used as a tool for participation and programming to ensure that the priorities and capacities of women, men, girls, and boys are considered in protection, assistance and solutions activities.</p> <p>It is important to continue analysing and monitoring disaggregated data by age, sex and other criteria such as county of origin, sexual orientation and/or gender identity and disability both to inform the planning about groups which require specific attention. This will enable UNHCR and selected partner to provide targeted assistance or referrals in accordance with medical, psycho-social, legal protection and other needs identified.</p> <p>The project expects to directly assist asylum-seekers, refugees, and persons granted subsidiary protection status, those accommodated in the reception facilities and private accommodation. All activities will aim to promote improvement of the reception conditions, including provision of various</p>	

individual and family support services, as well as to reduce risk of SGB violence and improve quality of related response.

Assistance will include, but will not be limited to, provision of psychosocial support and counseling, referral to other service providers, protection-sensitive accommodation, countrywide distribution of humanitarian parcels to the most vulnerable persons of concern, cultural mediation and interpretation, recreational activities, language courses, mental health assessment followed by women/reproductive health trainings, school-children educational support activities as well presentation and distribution of vocational training materials.

The project will support education of asylum seeker children and children under international protection living in the reception centers or other formal accommodation facilities and those living in private accommodation, as a response to their specific needs to overcome the psychosocial problems caused by displacement. These activities should complement similar activities provided by other actors and avoid duplication; therefore, close coordination will be maintained with other actors present in given locations. The activities may include tutoring for pre-school and school-attending children and literacy classes as needed, where they are not provided by the local educational institutions. Additionally, the activities will provide preparatory courses for those persons under international protection who wish to undertake exams for primary school, in cases where they cannot legally attend the officially provided education in BiH. The project will provide support to asylum-seekers, refugees, and those under subsidiary protection to undertake B/C/S language classes.

Goal/Objective, Expected Outcome and Main Activities:

Impact Statement: By the end of 2022 persons who wish to seek international protection in BIH have improved access to fair and efficient asylum procedures.

OUTCOME STATEMENT 1.1: Persons who wish to seek international protection are identified, registered, and referred to the asylum procedure by BIH authorities to relevant institutions and service providers, following established harmonized procedures, and supported along the process.

Output 1.1.4: Protection-sensitive accommodation provided to persons of concern in Reception Centers and in private accommodation.

- Provision of safe shelter for vulnerable persons of concern, including survivors of SGBV and domestic violence. Persons of concern will get counselling and intermediation services (psychological support, thematic workshops, etc.) and direct links with local administration, education institutions and social welfare and health systems.
- A variety of activities will be implemented for safe shelter residents to engage them in constructive recreational activities and improve their overall well-being, including repairing/making clothes, painting, sports activities, maintenance of interior and exterior spaces, meal preparation, and marking international days.
- Protection of especially vulnerable individuals and families will be done through regular presence in reception centers, psychosocial and mental health support, and development of preventive and responsive SGBV and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) mechanisms in communities.

Output 1.1.5: Individual/group assistance including psychosocial and SGBV-related support provided to persons of concern.

- Support the empowerment of women and other vulnerable categories (children, unaccompanied children, single mothers, LGBTI population, etc.) through an integrated system of support that includes education and other various activities, raising awareness about trafficking, SGBV, drug abuse, and other forms of violence and existing response mechanisms in line with the gender law.
- Prevention and response to SGBV will be ensured via SGBV case management, providing support in the identification of violence, risk analysis, identification of gaps and challenges and action aimed at mitigating the risk of SGBV. This will be done in coordination with other partners, through focus group discussions (FGD) and psychosocial sessions among different gender/age groups residing in the centers and by providing required assistance to the survivors, including through the existing referral mechanisms. representation.
- Psychosocial support and education will be provided through individual counselling with a special emphasis on the specific challenges they face.
- Support the education process of asylum seeker children and children under international protection living in the reception centers or other formal accommodation facilities and those living in private accommodation, as a response to their specific needs to overcome the psychosocial problems caused by displacement.
- Tutoring for pre-school and school-attending children and literacy classes as needed, where they are not provided by the local educational institutions.
- Preparatory courses for those persons under international protection who wish to undertake exams for primary school, in cases where they cannot legally attend the officially provided education in BiH.
- Provision of language B/C/S language classes to AS and persons under international protection.

Intended Population of Concern:

Asylum-seekers, refugees, persons granted subsidiary protection, stateless and persons at risk of statelessness

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

From 1 January 2022 until 31st December 2022. Extension for an additional year is possible, subject to availability of resources and changes in the Operational context.

Submission Deadline:

20 of October 2021

Date Decision Results to be Communicated to Applicants:

Approximately by 3rd November 2021

Selection Criteria

<i>Choose relevant criteria</i>	Criteria Description	Assigned Weighting (optional)
	Sector expertise and experience: the required specific skills, sector specialists, knowledge and human resources.	30
	Project management: ability to deliver project objectives, 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, where applicable.	20
	Local experience and presence: 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-	15

	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.	
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	<p>Contribution of resources: 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.</p>	5						
	<p>Cost effectiveness: level of direct costs and administrative costs imposed on the Project in relation to project deliverables.</p>	10						
	<p>Partner’s capacity to undertake procurement: ability to undertake large scale procurement, prior procurement experiences and value of procurement. Functioning procurement unit in the country of operation. Established effective internal-controls and PQP status (when procurement is US\$100K and above).</p>	10						
	<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 qualified audit opinions for UNHCR-funded projects may not be considered.</p>	10						
	<p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When describing Sector expertise and experience in the Concept Note, the applying Agency should indicate its possible membership in relevant regional networks, as this would be an asset in this case. - When describing Partner’s capacity to undertake procurement in the Concept Note, the applying Agency should bear in mind that all procurement under the Agreement with UNHCR needs to be in accordance with UNHCR Policy “Procurement by Partners with UNHCR funds” (available on UNHCR Partner Portal). For procurement exceeding USD 100,000, all UNHCR Partners should have a valid Pre-qualified for Procurement (PQP) status, which represent an asset in case of this Call; in case an Agency which does not have the PQP status responds to this Call and gets selected, by signing the Agreement with UNHCR it will commit to adjust its procurement procedures in line with UNHCR’s standards and apply for this status within six months after signing of the Agreement. - When describing its Cost Effectiveness in the Concept Note, applying Agency should provide the following overview of expected administrative costs, expressed as percentage of direct costs: <table border="1" data-bbox="360 1809 1222 1966"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="360 1809 791 1861">(A)</th> <th data-bbox="791 1809 1222 1861">(B)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 1861 791 1935">Direct project costs</td> <td data-bbox="791 1861 1222 1935">Administrative costs as % of direct project costs (A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 1935 791 1966">BAM 0 - BAM 50,000</td> <td data-bbox="791 1935 1222 1966">x %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	(A)	(B)	Direct project costs	Administrative costs as % of direct project costs (A)	BAM 0 - BAM 50,000	x %	
(A)	(B)							
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	BAM 50,001- BAM 100,000	x %	
	BAM 100,001 - BAM 200,000	x %	
	BAM 200,001 - BAM 300,000	x %	
	BAM 300,001 - BAM 400,000	x %	
	BAM 400,001 - BAM 500,000	x %	
	> BAM 500,001	x %	

Other information (optional)

Please fill in the **PSEA Self-Assessment form** you will find attached to the Call for Expression to Interest and submit it together with the Concept Note (either through UN Partner Portal or printed version in an envelope).

The Agencies responding to this Call need to demonstrate their capability to implement all listed activities **as a single package**. Partial applications for individual activities will not be considered. However, since UNHCR BiH budget for 2022 will be confirmed only in the coming months, UNHCR retains the right to adjust/cancel some of the planned activities at that time. Selected Partner needs to be ready to develop the detailed budget in two weeks upon receiving the notification from UNHCR.

Issuing UNHCR Office

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Date

23rd, September 2021