



Request for Proposal

Description of the Activity: Assisting with the provision of education for children accompanying women in existing shelters.

Organization: One Local Non-Governmental Organization (LNGO) Partner

Component 1.1: Enhanced Support for Survivors and those at-risk of GBV in Beirut

Procurement plan reference: LB-IRC-324809-NC-RFQ

Introduction

This Request for Proposal falls under the project entitled ‘Supporting Beirut’s Immediate Social Recovery Services’ funded by the World Bank. All activities carried out by the IRC partners under this project are fully funded by the Bank.

The August 4, 2020, Port of Beirut explosion (POB) compounded Lebanon’s existing economic and social challenges and disproportionately affected Beirut’s vulnerable populations. Since the explosion the efforts of civil society have been crucial for recovery and rehabilitation efforts. Several obstacles remain that challenge the effectiveness, inclusivity and sustainability of the broader recovery and rehabilitation process, which include coordination challenges between ongoing efforts and the ad hoc or temporary nature of interventions. The situation of Beirut’s population remains precarious and the need for support to recovery and reconstruction efforts urgent.

Several assessments conducted after the POB explosion highlight the priority areas for recovery and reconstruction, as well as the main weaknesses in the social safety net system in Lebanon. Consultations carried out by the World Bank with local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and NGOs in December 2020 revealed heightened vulnerabilities amongst the following three population groups affected by the blast in Beirut: (i) survivors and those at risk of Gender-Based Violence (GBV); (ii) individuals suffering from deteriorated psycho-social wellbeing; and (iii) the elderly and persons with disabilities. The WB granted a funding opportunity to implement the project entitled ‘Supporting Beirut’s Immediate Social Recovery Services’ that focuses on reducing vulnerabilities prevalent amongst these three groups affected by the blast in Beirut.

The World Bank (WB) has selected the IRC to act as the Implementing Agency (IA) to implement the Supporting Beirut’s Immediate Social Recovery Services project.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) helps people whose lives and livelihoods are shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover, and gain control of their future. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC works with people forced to flee from war, conflict and disaster and the host communities that support them, as well as with those who remain within their homes and communities. At-work today in over 40 countries and 22 U.S. cities, we restore safety, dignity and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to



Request for Proposal

endure. IRC reaches over a million children annually with education and child protection programs in 25 countries around the world.

In response to the influx of Syrian refugees to Lebanon in mid-2012, IRC opened a country office and launched humanitarian assistance programming. IRC operates throughout Lebanon, with the main office in Beirut and field offices in Qobayat, Zahle, Tripoli, and Mount Lebanon. IRC's programs assist Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese in host communities across multiple sectors: Education, early childhood development, livelihoods, protection, women's protection and empowerment, child protection, and health in close coordination with the Lebanese Government and broader Humanitarian Community.

The IRC's Child Protection (CP) Program in Lebanon

IRC has been implementing specialized Child Protection Programming both through direct implementation of Child Labour programming in Tripoli, Akkar, and Bekaa, as well as capacity strengthening initiatives on core technical areas, including Child Protection Case management and Access to Justice for children. Capacity Strengthening Initiatives include a Nationwide Child Protection Interagency Coaching Program strengthening skills of case workers, case managers, and community volunteers in core competencies of child protection; in addition to other capacity strengthening initiatives, which strengthen core skills key national stakeholders such as lawyers, nurses, mayors, schools, and Municipalities. IRC plays an active role in various coordination forums, including co-leading the National Case Management Task Force, and consistently participating in the National Child Protection working group, in addition to other local coordination forums.

The main objective of the CP program is the localization to ensure the sustainability. The CP program is partnering with five CP local partners with the aim of increasing vulnerable and at-risk children's access to quality, specialized individual, and group-level protection assistance. It is done through the provision of life saving services such as case management, legal assistance, focused psycho-social support, and risk mitigation activities for children survivors or at risk of abuse, exploitation, and neglect including out of school, working children, and children in contact with the law (at high risk, in conflict with the law or witnesses). Their caregivers are also targeted with parenting and awareness sessions.

The Beirut Port explosion, combined with the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to the severe economic and financial crisis in Lebanon, have deepened the pre-existing vulnerabilities and resulted in heightened risks for CP. Therefore, the IRC initiated its emergency response to ensure the provision of lifesaving and life-affirming services in the areas that were heavily impacted by the Beirut Port Explosion. The CP team conducted outreach activities, non-focused psycho-social support (PSS), focused PSS, case management, Psychological First Aid (PFA) sessions, and awareness sessions. The need for CP mitigation, prevention, and response services are still highly needed.



Request for Proposal

Objectives of the Request for Proposal (RFP)

The IRC aims to establish one partnership with a LNGO through an open competitive selection process in Beirut and Mount Lebanon areas.

If formal schooling for the Syrian refugees is not possible due to institutional barriers or the boys' and girls' academic background, they will receive literacy and numeracy activities. These numeracy and literacy activities will not be the same as the Ministry of Education (MEHE). Lebanese boys and girls can have access to formal education if that will be possible and if the security situation of the shelter can allow this.

The partnership aims to achieve the following outcomes:

A- Through supporting the costs of the education services, the potential partner should deliver the below:

- a. Sub-grantee is conducting an assessment for boys and girls less than 18 years old inside the GBV shelters to determine their academic level, reported through quarterly narrative reports and monthly progress reports, and pre and posttests (To be determined by the selected partner on the frequency of the tests).
- b. The sub-grantee is providing the education services based on the boys' and girls' capacity and nationality, reported through quarterly narrative and monthly progress reports, satisfaction surveys, and pre and post-tests (To be determined by the selected partner on the frequency of the surveys and tests).
- c. The sub-grantee to identify proper educational services and support needed by children in shelter. Education services will vary between Formal Education (FE) and/or Non-Formal Education based on the child's education status. For children aged between 8 and 14 who have been out-of-school (OOS) or out-of-learning (OOL) can be joining the Basic Literacy and Numeracy program for a total of 256 sessions using the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) national curriculum (80 sessions Arabic, 80 sessions Math, 80 sessions of foreign language, and 16 sessions of life skills), delivered by qualified and trained teachers. To qualify for the transition into FE, children must complete all three BLN levels after which they can be referred to Formal Education pathway. For those children who are enrolled in FE (public schools) and who are forced to skip school for safety issues, the partner can provide homework support groups/ retention support, run by a group of facilitators from the refugee community to cover lessons they are missing out on or subject matters they need support with (these can be identified based on school grades or feedback from caregivers). Both programs will be monitored by partner staff and relevant pre and post tests will be conducted to assess children's improvement.
- d. Sub-grantee is covering educational services' costs inside the GBV shelters, reported through financial reports (frequency to be determined).
- e. Sub-grantee is referring children to formal schools if that can be possible based on the shelter's security and situation and following the judge's approval,



Request for Proposal

reported through quarterly narrative reports and monthly progress reports and/or referral tracking database (To be determined by the selected partner on the frequency of their database).

Target: 120 Children, boys, and girls less than 18 years old, will be targeted during the implementation of the project. Their exact age, segregation and distribution among the shelters will be determined based on the assessment that will be conducted upon the start of this project.

Project Locations

Under this RFP, IRC will support projects implemented in: Beirut and Mount Lebanon. In this RFP, the interested actor should submit only one application to cover the outcomes listed above.

Project Duration

IRC anticipates that the sub-grant issued under this invitation may have a start date of mid-December 2022. The project duration may extend for 10.5 months until 31 October 2023.

Project Cost

IRC anticipates providing one sub-grant with a maximum amount of USD 125,000 under this opportunity and the budget should not exceed this threshold.

The budget could include rental costs of the centres, running cost, staff, and activities cost; all costs should be added as direct costs only. The evaluation criteria of the submitted budget will take into consideration the best use of resources.

Project Payments Provisions and Reporting Deliverables

The payments provisions and mechanisms and frequency of the narrative and financial reports will be determined jointly between IRC and the selected partner following the Partner Project Capacity Review (PPCR) scoring.

Proposal Package:

The IRC expects to receive the following documents under this Request for application:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget, Budget Notes, and spending plan
- Official Registration document Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Finance Documents if applicable.
- Organizational organogram, including departments if available and technical capacities of key staff working on the project
- Internal Audit report if applicable
- External Audit report if applicable
- CP policy, Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy and Code of Conduct.
- Checklist of supporting documents the actor is willing to provide for each type of payment



Request for Proposal

Formats for the Proposal Narrative, Budget, and Budget Notes are included with this package. Please comply with those formats and complete all sections of each document. The application must be in English.

Compliance requirements:

IRC is hereby notifying its possible partner about compliance requirements they should be willing to abide by. The IRC expects the sub-grant to abide by the [WB Anti-Corruption Guidelines \(Annex 1\)](#) and the [IRC safeguarding policies \(Annex 2\)](#) referenced to this RFP.

In addition, possible partners are expected to abide by the conflict-of-interest requirements as listed below:

- Neither the Subgrantee nor any individual employed or contracted by the Subgrantee shall engage in any personal, business, or professional activity which conflicts or could conflict with any of their obligations in relation to the project.
- The Subgrantee undertakes to disclose to IRC any situation of actual potential conflict of interest that impacts their capacity to serve the best interest of IRC and/or the World Bank; and they understand that any misstatement or misrepresentation described herein may lead to their disqualification or dismissal by IRC, and/or sanctions by the World Bank. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 34¹ on Confidentiality, IRC shall be allowed to inform the Bank of the disclosed actual or potential conflict of interest mentioned above.

Environmental and Social Framework (ESF)

- The Sub-grantee shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the [World Bank Environmental and Social Framework \(ESF\)](#) and the applicable Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs), in a manner acceptable to the Bank and agrees to adhere to the cleared and disclosed [Environmental and Social Commitment Plan](#).

Questions

Interested actors are expected to share their questions through lbwbirc.rfp@rescue.org. IRC will share the answers within a maximum of two-days duration.

Submission

Once you consider applying for this opportunity, you are requested to send us an email confirming your interest at lbwbirc.rfp@rescue.org. Please submit your application electronically to **IRC's Partnerships Unit: lbwbirc.rfp@rescue.org** with the subject line

¹ The Subgrantee and its employees and agents understand that the IRC may disclose, and such parties will hold in confidence and not disclose, distribute, sell, copy, share or otherwise use, IRC's "Confidential Information," which includes but is not limited to (a) files, Bank or beneficiary information, records, drawings, specifications, equipment, and similar items relating to operations of IRC, and (b) any information that is (i) clearly and conspicuously marked as "confidential" or with a similar designation; (ii) identified by IRC as confidential and/or proprietary before, during, or promptly after presentation or communication; or (iii) disclosed to the Subgrantee in a manner in which IRC reasonably communicated, or the Subgrantee should reasonably have understood under the circumstances, that the disclosure should be treated as confidential, whether or not the specific designation "confidential" or any similar designation is used. Upon completion of its performance under or termination of a Sub-grant Agreement, the Subgrantee will return to IRC all Confidential Information, and any copies thereof.



Request for Proposal

“Education for Children – WB RFP”. You do not need to submit hard copies. **Please submit your application by Thursday, November 24th, 2022.**

IRC feedback – Once the deadline for the Request for Proposal (RFP) has passed, the IRC will evaluate the application. Main Scoring Criteria

- ***The potential partner should have minimum CP standards and policies in place, including but not limited to child safeguarding, PSEA, etc.***
- ***The potential partners should be able to conduct assessments for children inside the four GBV shelters to determine their academic level.***
- ***The Potential partner should have experience in Education with both Lebanese and Syrians.***
- ***The potential partners should be able to differentiate between the Lebanese and the Syrian refugees to support all the children with the needed education.***
- ***The potential partner should be able to support boys and girls of all ages up to 18 years old and of all nationalities.***

What happens next?

Your application will be considered by a review panel with a minimum of three people and a maximum of five people, including technical and financial experts, all staff from IRC.

- IRC will then negotiate the project activities and the budget to finalize the proposal. This will be followed by a thorough partner and project capacity assessment. Finally, the partner will sign a Partnership Agreement with the IRC, enabling them to receive funding for project activities in accordance with the final proposal and budget. Funding is not guaranteed until the Partnership Agreement is signed. The IRC reserves the right to provide or restrain fund for the submitted application.