



Request for Proposal

Description of the Activity: Development of Public Sensitization Awareness for GBV survivors and women at risk.

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-306085-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 endure. IRC reaches over a million children annually with education and child protection programs in 25 countries around the world.



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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 Women Protection and Empowerment (WPE) Program in Lebanon

In July 2012, IRC conducted an emergency GBV assessment in Lebanon that revealed increased risks of violence among women and girls due to the Syrian conflict. Since November 2012, the IRC Women's Protection and Empowerment (WPE) program established five Women and Girls Community Centers and seven mobile teams in the North Lebanon and Bekaa. The WPE Program aims at increasing access of women and girls from all nationalities to psychosocial and case management services and at enabling communities to identify and mitigate safety and security risks faced by women and girls. All programming is implemented using survivor-centred approaches that prioritize confidentiality, dignity, safety, and respect.

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 compounded underlying issues of gender equality and discrimination, resulting in heightened risk of GBV. Therefore, the IRC initiated its emergency response to ensure the provision of lifesaving and life-affirming services through its Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS) in the areas that were heavily impacted by the Beirut Port Explosion. The WPE team conducted outreach activities, non-focused PSS, focused PSS, GBV risk assessment and response, Psychological First Aid (PFA) sessions, awareness sessions, and GBV case management. The need for GBV mitigation, prevention, and response services are still highly needed.

Objectives of the Request for Proposal (RFP)

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

To develop a Public Sensitization Awareness for GBV survivors and women at risk, the partnership aims to achieve the following outcomes:

1. Sub-grantee to check the emerging GBV risks through consulting the five GBV shelters (one large and four small shelters) and the team leading on the implementation of the new GBV case management SoPs, reported through quarterly narrative reports and monthly progress reports.
2. Sub-grantee to develop a detailed public sensitization plan to reach vulnerable women and girls (including target group, method, tools, messages to be disseminated), reported through quarterly narrative reports and monthly progress reports.
3. Sub-grantee to conduct post awareness survey with sensitized beneficiaries, reported through quarterly narrative reports and monthly progress reports.



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4. Sub-grantee is covering the public sensitization awareness campaign costs, reported through financial reports (frequency to be determined).

Target: 1 public sensitization awareness for GBV survivors and women and girls at risk of GBV.

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-October 2022. The project duration may extend for 11.5 months until 31 October 2023.

Project Cost

IRC anticipates providing one sub-grant with a maximum amount of USD 10,000 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 PPCR (Partner's Project Capacity Review) 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.



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- Checklist of supporting documents the actor is willing to provide for each type of payment

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](#).

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.



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Questions

Intertest actors and expected to share their questions through lbwbirc.rfp@rescue.org. IRC will share the answers within a maximum of two-day 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 "Public Sensitization Awareness for GBV – WB RFA". You do not need to submit hard copies. **Please submit your application by Wednesday, August 24th, 2022.**

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

Main Scoring Criteria

- ***Experience in implementing and monitoring GBV prevention, mitigation, and response activities, including awareness and sensitization campaigns.***
- ***Proven ability to mobilize local communities***
- ***Team capacity with relevant experience and qualifications in protection and GBV.***
- ***Efficient and effective use of resources.***

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.