Invitation for Proposals (to be issued by UNFPA)

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| UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund, an international development agency, invites qualified organizations to submit proposals for mentorship supports in midwifery education and services and addressing impact of climate change on sexual and reproductive health of the population, including supporting health systems in delivering climate change resilient sexual and reproductive health services. The purpose of the Invitation for Proposals is to identify eligible non-governmental organizations for prospective partnership with UNFPA Bangladesh to support achievement of results outlined in the 2022-2026 or section 1.3 below.  Organizations that wish to participate in this Invitation for Proposals are requested to send their submission through email or mail clearly marked “NGO Invitation for Proposals” at the following address:  UNFPA Bangladesh  IDB Bhaban (15th Floor), E-8/A Begum Rokeya Sharani  Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka – 1207,  Bangladesh    By 5.00 PM on 13 November 2022  Proposals received after the date and time may not be accepted for consideration.  Applications must be submitted in English.  Any requests for additional information must be addressed in writing by 06 November 2022 at the latest to **cfei-ifp-bgd@unfpa.org**. UNFPA will post responses to queries or clarification requests by any NGO applicants before the deadline for submission of applications.  UNFPA shall notify applying organizations whether it is considered for further action.  Please see [Working with UNFPA: Key information for UNFPA Implementing Partners on completing the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Assessment](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/admin-resource/Working_with_UNFPA_Key_information_for_IP_on_PSEA_Assessment_Nov2020.pdf). |

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| **Section 1: Background** | |
| 1.1 UNFPA mandate | UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. |
| 1.2 UNFPA Programme of Assistance in [Country/Regional Office or Division/Branch Unit] | In UNFPA Bangladesh, UNFPA works with the government and other partners to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girls and woman is treated with dignity and respect.  Further information on the 10th Country Programme can be found on <http://unfpa.org/>Bangladesh |
| 1.3 Specific results | Within this framework and as set out in 2022-2026 working with government and other partners, UNFPA will contribute to achieve the following results:  The 10th Country Programme (10 CP) of UNFPA has focus on strengthening comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care through professional midwives. UNFPA will be implementing this initiative in partnership with other UN and INGOs agencies.  Gaps in access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive healthcare for the poorest and most marginalized girls and women are ubiquitous and lead to death, disability, and widespread rights violations. One effective global strategy is to introduce a professional cadre of midwives, who is an expert on SRHR, and understands the importance of ensuring women their right to life and health. Bangladesh made a decision to introduce professional midwives in 2010, since then both education, and deployment have scaled up quickly in a context where there are gaps in understanding and capacity in the area of sexual and reproductive health and in understanding the role of a midwife.  In response to these gaps UNFPA has been supporting the government to strengthen the educational system for midwives as well as improve the quality of SRHR services, particularly in clinical sites for midwifery students. This has included strengthening the faculty as well as strengthening the teaching systems within the educational sites such as in labs and libraries. The number of educational programs has slowly expanded since their introduction in 2012, currently there are 41 educational programs and another 19 are recently introduced. Midwifery faculty generally consists of masters prepared nurses who may or may not have had some additional education and training on midwifery. In addition, midwives enter clinical sites with many other cadres and may not be prioritized for SRHR experience as well as may be exposed to practices that do not meet WHO quality for maternity care.  The role of this NGO will be to oversee all educational programs centrally and make onsite visits to support the peer faculty to mentor the faculty, clinical staff, and managers with the goal of strengthening the quality of midwifery education.  In light of the above, UNFPA is seeking a partnership with an experienced NGO/INGO/academic institution who can implement the following;   1. Support Midwifery Faculty to teach classroom and simulation classes in line with the new revised curriculum  * Onsite in the educational programs support the faculty to identify the classes in the curriculum and prepare and deliver the teaching following updated teaching pedagogy as delineated in the lesson plans * Support the faculty to run regular OSCE as found in the curriculum. Introduce OSCE as different than role play. * Support the faculty peer mentors to perform their duties * Support access to all labs and libraries * Track progress using an established dashboard.  1. Support faculty and hospital staff to ensure that midwifery students have ample quality clinical experience in all areas of comprehensive SRHR  * Support faculty to liaise with hospital staff both nursing and medical * Support a system for rostering students, and a clinical log book so adequate clinical experience is tracked. * Support/mentor the facility/staff to provide comprehensive quality care in all aspects of SRHR including routine and emergency respectful evidence based maternity care. * Twin facilities as needed to share models of quality respectful care. * Support standard clinical teaching modalities including patients assignment and assessment, and plan individually.  1. Support students to receive clinical experience in model Upazila Midwifery led Care clinical sites.  * Support faculty to maintain a system of transport and accommodation for the students * Support a roster that allows for all students to have adequate time at the clinical sites * Ensure that hospital staff and faculty use standard clinical teaching pedagogy and promote patient assignment, history, PE, assessment and plan.  1. Support to SRH resilience to climate change  * Improved capacity of health workforce, including midwives to understand the linkage between climate change and SRHR health outcomes so that the community they serve and health facilities they work in are better prepared. * Health workers, including midwives and the health facilities are offering climate resilient sexual and reproductive services, both in the routine settings and disaster events. * Improved awareness in the community about the linkages between climate change and sexual and reproductive health outcomes. |

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| **Section 2: Application requirements and timelines** | | |
| 2.1 Documentation required for the submission | The expression of interest shall include the following documentation:   * Copy of provisions of legal status of the NGO in Bangladesh [*Required to be eligible for review]* * Copy of provisions of legal status of the NGO in Bangladesh (for INGOs) * Attachment I – NGO Profile and Programme Proposal * Latest annual report and audit report as separate documents or hyperlink to the documents | |
| 2.2 Indicative timelines | Invitation for Proposal issue date | October 30, 2022 |
| Deadline for submissions of proposals | November 13, 2022 |
| Deadline for requests of additional information/ clarifications | November 06, 2022 |
| Review of NGO submissions | November 24, 2022 |
| Notification of results communicated to NGO | November 30, 2022 |

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| **Section 3: Process and timelines** | | |
| 3.1 Review & evaluation of NGO submissions | Applications will be assessed by a review panel to identify organizations that have the required knowledge, skills, and capacity to support achievement of results *using criteria outlined in section 3.2 below*.  It should be noted, however, that participation in this Invitation for Proposals does not guarantee the organization will be selected for partnership with UNFPA. Selected NGOs will be invited to enter into an implementing partner agreement and applicable UNFPA programme policy and procedures will apply. | |
| 3.2 Selection criteria | Eligible organizations will be selected in a transparent and competitive manner, based on their capacity to ensure the highest quality of service, including the ability to apply innovative strategies to meet programme priorities in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.  UNFPA Bangladesh office will review evidence provided by the NGO submission and evaluate applications based on the following criteria:  NB: Any proposal not submitted in specified working language will be excluded from consideration. | |
| Governance & Leadership | * The organization has a clearly defined mission and goals that reflect the organization’s structure and context, as well as alignment to UNFPA priority areas. * Organization does not have a history of fraud, complaints or service delivery issues. |
| Human Resource | * Organization has sufficient staff resources and technical expertise to implement the proposed activities. * Organization does not have conflicts of interest with UNFPA or its personnel that cannot be effectively mitigated. |
|  | Comparative Advantage | * The organization’s mission and/or strategic plan focuses on at least one of the UNFPA’s programme areas. * The organization has experience in the country or field and enjoys prominence in areas related to UNFPA’s mandate. * The organization has a proven track record in implementing similar activities and is seen as credible by its stakeholders and partners. * The organization has relevant community presence and ability to reach the target audience; especially vulnerable populations and hard-to-reach areas. |
|  | Monitoring | * The organization has systems and tools in place to systematically collect, analyse and use programme monitoring data |
|  | Partnerships | * The organization has established partnerships with the government and other relevant local, international and private sector entities. |
|  | Environmental Considerations | * The organization has established policies or practices to reduce the environmental impact of its activities. If no policies exist, the organization must not have a history of its activities causing negative impact to the environment. |
| 3.3 Prospective partnership agreement | UNFPA will inform all applicants of the outcome of their submissions in writing to the email/ postal address indicated in the NGO submission. | |

Attachment I: NGO Profile and Programme Proposal (To be completed by NGO submitting proposal)

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| The purpose of this proposal is to provide the following information: a) overview of the NGO, b) an outline of the activities the NGO is proposing to partner with UNFPA and c) provide UNFPA with sufficient evidence to show it meets the criteria outlined in section 3.2 of the IFP. [*If the Invitation for Proposals allows for multiple submissions, the following text may be added:* A separate form should be filled for each programme proposal submitted.]  Information provided in this form will be used to inform the review and evaluation of NGO submissions as outlined in the Invitation for Proposals. |

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| **Section A. NGO Identification** | | |
| A.1 Organization information | Organization name |  |
| Address |  |
| Website |  |
| A.2 Contact information | Name |  |
| Title/Function |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Email |  |
|  | Are you registered in the [United Nations Partner Portal](http://www.unpartnerportal.org)? |  |
| A.3 Conflict of interest statement | To your knowledge, do any staff members of your organization have personal or financial relationships with any staff of UNFPA, or any other conflicts of interest with this programme or UNFPA? If so, please explain. |  |
| A.4. Fraud statement | Does your organization have fraud prevention policies and practices in place? |  |

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| Section B. Overview of the organization |

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| B.1 Annual budget | Size of annual budget (previous year, USD) |  |
| Source of funding | *Outline funding base, including local, international, and private sector donors* |
| Main funding partners/ donors |  |
| B.2 Staff capacity | *List of number and key functions of core organization staff* | |

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| B.3 NGO mandate and background | *Outline the organization’s mandate and field of work, and how it aligns to UNFPA’s mandate.* |
| B.4 Available expertise and specialists | *Outline the distinctive technical capacity of the organization to achieve results in the proposed programmatic area* |
| B.5 Experience in proposed area of work | *Outline of type/scope and key results achieved in proposed programmatic area in recent years, including any recognition received at local / global level for the work in the proposed area. Include a summary experience in Bangladesh and prior experience with any organization of the United Nations* |
| B.6 Knowledge of the local context/ Accessibility to target population | *Outline of presence and community relations in the location(s) the activities will be implemented in: include access to vulnerable populations and hard-to-reach areas, if any)* |
| B.7 Credibility | *To what extent is the NGO recognized as credible by the government, and/or other key stakeholders/partners?* |
| B.8 Monitoring | *Outline the systems in place (policies, procedures, guidelines, and other tools) that systematically collect, analyse and use programme monitoring data* |

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| Section C. Proposal overview | |
| C.1 Programme title |  |
| C.2 Results to which the programme contributes | *Refer to Section 1.3 of the Invitation for Proposal* |
| C.3 Proposed programme duration | *From January 2023 to December 2026* |
| C.4 Proposed Programme budget |  |
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| Section D. Proposed interventions and activities to achieve intended results | |
| D.1 Programme Summary | *This section should provide a brief summary of the programme.*  *It should include a problem statement, the context and the rationale for the Programme:*   * *Overview of the existing problem;* * *How the problem is linked to global/regional/national priorities and policies; and* * *The relevance of the programme in addressing problem identified* |
| D.2 Organizational background and capacity to implement | *This section should briefly explain why the proposing organization has the experience, capacity and commitment to successfully implement the workplan.* |
| D.3 Expected results | *“What” this programme will achieve - programme objectives and expected results* |
| D.4 Description of activities and budget | *This section includes a detailed description of budgeted activities to be undertaken to produce the expected results. Clear linkages between activities and results must be indicated. The applicant should include a separate excel spreadsheet with full details of activities and associated budget.* |
| D.5 Gender, Equity and Sustainability (optional) | *Explain briefly the practical measures taken in the programme to address gender, equity and sustainability considerations* |
| D.6 Environmental impact | *Outline the likely environmental impact of the programme, if any.* |
| D.7 Other partners involved | *This section outlines other partners who have a role in programme implementation, including potential sub-contractees and other organization providing technical and financial support for the programme* |
| D.8 NGO contribution | *This section briefly outlines the partner specific contribution to the programme (monetary or in-kind)* |
| D.9 Additional documentation | *Additional documentation can be mentioned here for reference* |

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| Section E. Programme Risks and Monitoring | |
| E.1 Risks | *Identify major risk factors that could result in the proposed activities not being successfully implemented and any key assumptions on which the proposed intervention is based. Include any actions the organization will undertake to address/reduce identified risk(s).* |
| E.2 Monitoring | *This section briefly outlines the monitoring activities* |

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| Section F. References | |
| Please provide 3 references to support your proposal. Include name, title, contact information and brief summary of relationship. | |
| Reference 1: |  |
| Reference 2: |  |
| Reference 3: |  |

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| Section G. Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Capacity Assessment  Please note, the results of this assessment may be shared with other United Nations entities | |
| G.0 Preliminary Screening | Does the organization have direct contact with beneficiaries?  Yes ☐ No ☐  If your response is no, stop here and do not complete this section. However, please note if your organization begins working with beneficiaries at a later date, UNFPA will require your organization to fill out a self-assessment.  If yes, please continue. |
| Has the organization’s PSEA capacity been assessed by a UN entity in the last 5 years?  Yes  ☐    *If yes, share the assessment rating and supporting documentation with UNFPA and do not complete this section.*  No ☐  *If no, complete G.1 through G.8* |
| G.1 Policy Requirement | *Please provide supporting documentation for any fields marked “Yes”.*  Your organization has a policy document on PSEA. At a minimum, this document should include a written undertaking that the partner accepts the standards of conduct listed in section 3 of the ST/SGB/2003/13.  Yes ☐ No ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Code of Conduct (internal or interagency) * PSEA policy * Documentation of standard procedures for all personnel to receive/sign PSEA policy * Other (please specify): |
| G.2 Subcontracting | Your organization’s contracts and partnership agreements include a standard clause requiring sub-contractors to adopt policies that prohibit SEA and to take measures to prevent and respond to SEA.    Yes ☐ No ☐ \*N/A ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Contracts/partnership agreements for sub-contractors * Other (please specify):   *\* Please Note: If the partner notes that it does not have subcontractors in the self-assessment this core standard is not applicable and UNFPA will assess this core standard as N/A. However, if this situation changes and the same partner subsequently subcontracts activities to another entity, this would warrant a re-assessment.* |
| G.3 Recruitment | Your organization has a systematic vetting procedure in place for job candidates through proper screening. This must include, at minimum, reference checks for sexual misconduct and a self-declaration by the job candidate, confirming that they have never been subject to sanctions (disciplinary, administrative or criminal) arising from an investigation in relation to SEA, or left employment pending investigation and refused to cooperate in such an investigation.  Yes ☐ No ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Reference check template including check for sexual misconduct (including reference from previous employers and self-declaration) * Recruitment procedures * Other (please specify): |
| G.4 Training | Your organization holds mandatory trainings (online or in-person) for all IP employees and associated personnel[[1]](#footnote-1) (herein “personnel”) on PSEA and relevant procedures. The training should, at a minimum include:   1. a definition of SEA (that is aligned with the [UN's definition](https://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2003/13)); 2. an explanation on prohibition of SEA; and 3. actions that personnel are required to take (i.e. prompt reporting of allegations and referral of victims).   Yes ☐ No ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Training package * Attendance sheets * Training certificates * Other (please specify): |
| G.5 Reporting | Your organization has mechanisms and procedures for personnel, recipients of assistance and communities, including children, to report SEA allegations that comply with core standards for reporting (i.e. safety, confidentiality, transparency, accessibility).  Yes ☐ No ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Internal Complaints and Feedback Mechanism * Participation in joint reporting mechanisms * Communication materials * PSEA awareness-raising plan * Description of reporting mechanism * Whistle-blower policy * Other (please specify): |
| G.6 Assistance | Your organization has a system to refer SEA victims to locally available support services, based on their needs and consent. This can include actively contributing to in-country PSEA networks and/or GBV systems (where applicable) and/or referral pathways at an inter-agency level.  Yes ☐ No ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Internal or Interagency referral pathway * List of Available service providers * Description of referral or Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) * Referral form for survivors of GBV/SEA * Guidelines on victim assistance and/or training on GBV and GBV case management principles * Other (please specify): |
| G.7 Investigations | Your organization has a process for investigation of allegations of SEA and can provide evidence. This may include a referral system for investigations where in-house capacity does not exist.  Yes ☐ No ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Written process for review of SEA allegations * Dedicated resources for investigation(s) and/or commitment of partner for support * PSEA investigation policy/procedures * Contract with professional investigative service * Other (please specify): |
| G.8 Corrective Measures | Your organization has taken appropriate corrective action in response to SEA allegations, if any.  Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐  Supporting documentation may include:   * Evidence of implementation of corrective measures identified by the UN partner entity, including capacity strengthening of staff. * Specific measures to identify and reduce risks of SEA in programme delivery. * Other ((please specify): |

1. Associated personnel include sub-contractors, consultants, interns or volunteers and others associated with or working on behalf of the Partner. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)