



EOI/SEC/09/2021

**PUBLIC CALL FOR IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS TO DEVELOP AND DELIVER A
CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS
AND FEMALE PEACEBUILDERS IN CENTRAL ASIA, EASTERN EUROPE AND
SOUTH CAUCASUS**

Date of issuing: 17th May 2021

Date of closure: 4th June 2021 – (12:00 CET – Vienna Time)

Ref#: OSCE ExB Project n. 1102109 “*WIN for Women and Men - Strengthening Comprehensive Security through Innovating and Networking for Gender Equality*”

In the efforts to advance the objectives of the Project “*WIN for Women and Men - Strengthening Comprehensive Security through Innovating and Networking for Gender Equality*”, the OSCE seeks to hire as Implementing Partner (IP), one experienced and internationally active organization engaged in researching and capacity building for civil society organizations and female peacebuilders on the WPS agenda. The main objective of the IP is to contribute to achieve the following project objectives:

- Increased understanding of women and men in relevant government agencies (security sector institutions and elected officials supervising these institutions) and civil society organizations to develop and implement normative frameworks which address gender inequality;
- Increased participation of women in peace development processes in their countries, regions and internationally.

These objectives shall be achieved through (1) **building and strengthening networks and supporting joint regional advocacy led by local and national women peacebuilders**; (2) **creating opportunities for women peacebuilders and mediators to exchange experiences, develop joint advocacy strategies, and present their messages to key national, regional and international actors**; and (3) **technical support to sustained regional advocacy for women’s meaningful participation in peace and development processes**.

The OSCE reserves the right to reject any or all applications received in response to this Public Call and to negotiate with any of the applicants in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of the OSCE.

1) Background information

The OSCE's extra-budgetary project "*WIN for Women and Men - Strengthening Comprehensive Security through Innovating and Networking for Gender Equality*" emerges from the recognition that gender equality is necessary to achieve and maintain stable, prosperous and peaceful societies. The project will contribute to catalyzing a chain of results that support gender equality and contribute to more stable and peaceful societies. It has three results covering the full spectrum of comprehensive security concerns, including violence against women, economic empowerment and environmental issues, and women, peace and security:

- WIN Result 1: *Stakeholders, men and women, from government agencies and civil society are able to formulate, implement and monitor gender responsive normative frameworks.*
 - WIN Result 2: *Increased capacity and participation of women in conflict prevention, mediation and other fora and processes relevant to comprehensive security at local, national and regional levels.*
 - WIN Result 3: *Strengthened networks of women changemakers working in comprehensive security.*
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The project capitalizes on the OSCE's comparative advantages to provide innovative solutions to advance tailored awareness raising and capacity building activities to accelerate the implementation of the OSCE 2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality and the WPS agenda in participating States. In seeking the ultimate, long-term impact for women and girls to live free of discrimination and violence, there is a need for a shift in social norms and individual attitudes and behaviours. If individuals have better awareness and knowledge of social and structural barriers for women, then they can change discriminatory laws and practices, institutions, communities. This will indirectly benefit comprehensive security of participating States.

The WIN Project works across the three OSCE dimensions and in 2021/22 will focus on the following themes:

- Women, Peace and Security
- Gender perspectives in economic and environmental activities
- Preventing and combating violence against women and girls

The WIN Project will contribute to the strengthening of individual awareness, knowledge and skills, which in turn would lead to changes in institutions, communities, normative frameworks and society in supporting gender equality, eventually leading to more stable and peaceful societies. Therefore, the IP should be an internationally (beyond the OSCE area) active and

well linked civil society organization, which grants it is familiar with the most recent developments in related policy fields and institutions. Having a civil society organization as the IP shall grant for enhanced peer-to-peer learning among the beneficiaries of this project.

The overall timeline for this call for proposals is **up to 3 years** from the time of signing the Implementing Partner Agreement (IPA) with OSCE and up to 350,000 EUR for this entire timeframe.

The call for an IP, which shall culminate in an Implementing Partner Agreement (IPA), is developed to receive support for the following activities:

- **Activity 1:** Map existing regional networks and exchange opportunities for women peacebuilders and mediators to advance their advocacy for WPS resolutions' implementation and women's meaningful participation in peace processes at the regional level.
- **Activity 2:** Virtual capacity-building and strategy workshops for women peacebuilders and mediators for women from three sub-regions starting in 2021 with South Caucasus and Eastern Europe (Eastern Europe, South Caucasus, Central Asia).
- **Activity 3:** Develop a Regional Civil Society Advocacy Strategy for the OSCE area. At the end of the implementation phase, an in-person meeting in Vienna shall convene women peacebuilders and mediators to discuss and finalize the Regional Civil Society Advocacy Strategy.
- **Activity 4:** Develop advocacy tools to strengthen joint regional advocacy.
- **Activity 5:** Organize a two-day regional conference in Vienna for women peacebuilders and mediators trained during the capacity-building and strategy workshops, as well as for national, regional and international policy- and decision-makers.

The applicant should provide an indicative timeline of activities from mid-2021 to mid-2024, including progress reports to the OSCE:

	Q3 21	Q4 21	Q1 22	Q2 22	Q3 22	Q4 22	Q1 23	Q2 23	Q3 23	Q4 23	Q1 24	Q2 24
Activity 1 (Mapping)												
Activity 2 (Capacity- building workshops)												
Activity 3 (Advocacy strategy development)												
Activity 4 (Advocacy tools development)												
Activity 5 (Regional conference)												

Monitoring and evaluation						Mid-term report						Final report
Payment	Ad- vance 40%					40%						20%

2) Specific tasks of the implementing partners shall include :

In line with the OSCE ExB project: “*WIN for Women and Men - Strengthening Comprehensive Security through Innovating and Networking for Gender Equality*”, the Implementing Partner shall implement the following activities under the overall supervision of the Gender Issues Programme:

Activity 1. Mapping of existing regional networks and exchange opportunities:

Conduct remote (online or phone) interviews, a multi-lingual survey, virtual focus group discussions as well as a literature review to map existing regional networks, resources and opportunities for women peacebuilders and mediators to advance their advocacy for WPS resolutions’ implementation and women’s meaningful participation in peace processes at the regional level.

Activity 2. Virtual sub-regional capacity-building and strategy workshops for women peacebuilders and mediators

The workshops will bring together women from three sub-regions:

- Eastern Europe
- South Caucasus
- Central Asia

A series of virtual strategic workshops in each sub-region shall be convened. The workshops shall take place virtually in 2021 (in Eastern Europe and South Caucasus) and 2022 (in Central Asia). In each sub-region, around 20-25 women will be identified and invited to participate in the workshop. The women shall represent diverse groups, including young women, internally displaced persons and women from other marginalized groups.

Activity 3. Development of a Regional Civil Society Advocacy Strategy for the OSCE area

Based on the discussions and key advocacy messages and opportunities identified by the women peacebuilders and mediators during Activity 2, the IP will work with representatives

of each sub-region to develop a regional civil society advocacy strategy on WPS and women's meaningful participation in peace processes in the OSCE region.

An in-person meeting of 20-25 women peacebuilders and mediators in Vienna shall take place. The participants shall discuss and finalize the drafting of the Regional Civil Society Advocacy Strategy.

The content of the civil society advocacy strategy will depend on the priorities identified during the sub-regional meetings. However, it shall include concrete desired advocacy outcomes, along with specific opportunities and advocacy actions necessary to accomplish them.

Activity 4. Development of advocacy tools to strengthen joint regional advocacy

Based on the good practices identified through activities 1-3, an advocacy package shall be developed to sustain the enhancement of capacities for women peacebuilders and mediators in the OSCE area and to solicit greater accountability from partner countries for the implementation of the WPS agenda.

Activity 5. Regional conferences for women peacebuilders and mediators in the OSCE area

Following the sub-regional workshops and strategy meetings, a two-day conference in Vienna shall be organized to convene women peacebuilders and mediators trained during Activity 1, as well as national, regional and international policy- and decision-makers.

3) Qualifications of the IP (mandatory requirements):

Applicants that will not provide the below mandatory requirements will not be evaluated.

Each applicant organization:

1. Shall be registered in one of the 57 OSCE participating States;
2. Minimum four years of capacity building experience on the WPS agenda in different countries;
3. Minimum of four years of experience in researching WPS aspects in different countries and on different topics;
4. Shall provide records (e.g. reference materials, contracts, etc.) of involvement in other capacity-building projects on the WPS agenda;
5. Experience working with women peacebuilders and civil society groups in the target OSCE-sub-regions (Central Asia, Eastern Europe and South Caucasus);
6. Shall ensure a proficient use of the English language, including technical language related to the topic; proficiency in Russian would be an asset;

7. Shall ensure professionalism, transparency and accountability in managing funds provided by external entities.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Experience in drafting and issuing advocacy materials on the WPS agenda
– 10 out of 100 points
2. Proven knowledge of the three sub-regional contexts and previous experience in the region and existing links to relevant local CSOs
- 25 out to 100 points
4. Proven experience in capacity building projects on the WPS agenda
- 25 out of 100 points
5. Experience in working with other international organizations and donor agencies
- 10 out of 100 points
6. Quality of submitted proposal including the description and cost-effectiveness of the budget to complete tasks of the present Call
- 30 out of 100 points

Applicants scoring below 80 will not be considered as eligible.

4) The proposal should provide:

Technical Proposal (no prices should be included to the Technical Proposal):

- a) Supporting documentation, as requested under no. 6) below.
- b) A response to the call of proposal detailing the proposed activities and outlining products and publications as well as how the change in skills, attitudes and practices will be measured.
- c) An indicative timeline based on the above template.

As the OSCE is always interested in delivering products of the highest quality, the applicants are welcomed to present any suggestions or comments on how to improve the delivering of the requested services.

Financial Proposal:

- a) The Financial Proposal (*kindly use the attached budget template – Annex B*) shall cover all direct project expenses to be incurred for performing the services as specified including, but not limited to the cost of the remuneration of the Bidder's personnel and all other

compensations, insurance and social charges technical assistance, supervision costs, and any other costs incurred by the contractor's personnel for the purpose of performing the services; and shall show a detailed cost breakdown per price categories. The OSCE recognises only direct project costs eligible for reimbursement to the IPs (FAI 15, Section 10),

b) progress payment(s) based on the specific tasks described under no. 2) above and in particular: 40% upon signature of the contract; 40% upon approval of the mid-term narrative and financial report and 20% after the approval of the final narrative and financial report.

5) Entities eligible to apply:

- Civil society organizations/institutions active at international level, engaged in researching and capacity building for civil society organizations and female peacebuilders on the WPS agenda;

6) Supporting documentation:

Applicants shall provide information on their operational capacities:

- Registration certificate (accreditation)
- Statute (in English)
- Documentation proving experience in capacity building on the WPS agenda in English;
- A list of key personnel who will be involved in the project with CVs
- Bank account details
- Completed and duly signed Vendor Registration Form (<http://www.osce.org/procurement/74772>)

7) How to apply and the procedures to follow:

The Public Call documents include:

- This document
- Acknowledgement Form (Annex A) – to be returned not later than 24th May 2021, COB, CET Vienna, Austria
- IP Budget Template (Annex B)

Applicants must apply in English via e-mail on or before 4th June 2021, 12:00 CET (local time). Any application submitted after the deadline at 12:00 CET on 4th June 2021 will be automatically rejected.

Applications (Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal must be delivered in separate PDF files) must be sent the below specified email address clearly marked as follows:

OSCE

Attn: Laurence Roche, Procurement Officer

Deadline: 4th June 2021, 12:00 (local time)

E-mail: Procurement-AT@osce.org

Ref. EOI/SEC/09/2021

Please address all your queries or questions in writing at Procurement-AT@osce.org,
to the attention of Laurence Roche, Procurement Officer, up to 5 days before the
submission deadline and kindly refrain from any telephone calls or personal visits.