

Annex B
Call For Proposals (CFP) for Responsible Parties
(For Civil Society Organizations - CSOs)

[Section 1](#)

CFP No. CFP/IRQ/2024/03

a. CFP Letter for Responsible Parties

UN Women plans to engage a Responsible Party as defined in accordance with these documents. UN Women now invites sealed proposals from qualified proponents to provide the requirements as defined in the UN Women Terms of Reference.

Proposals must be received by UN Women at the address specified not later than (time) **17:00pm Baghdad time** on (date) **Thursday 26th September 2024**.

The budget range for the proposal should be [\$50,000- \$60,000] (Min. – Max.¹)

Two CSOs will be selected for this call for proposals, with each receiving between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

This UN Women Call For Proposals consists of <u>two</u> sections:	Documents to be completed by proponents and returned as part of their proposal (mandatory)
<u>Section 1</u> a. CFP Letter for Responsible Parties b. Proposal Data Sheet for Responsible Parties c. UN Women Terms of Reference d. Acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement e. Annex B-1 Mandatory Requirements/Pre-Qualification Criteria and Contractual Aspects	Annex B-1 Mandatory Requirements/Pre-Qualification Criteria and Contractual Aspects
<u>Section 2</u> a. Instructions to Proponents, which includes the following: Annex B-2 Template for Proposal Submission Annex B-3 Format of Resume for Proposed Personnel Annex B-4 Capacity Assessment Minimum Documents Annex B-5 UN Women template Partner Agreement Annex B-6 UN Women Anti-Fraud Policy	Annex B-2 Template for Proposal Submission Annex B-3 Format of Resume for Proposed Personnel Annex B-4 Capacity Assessment Minimum Documents

Interested proponents may obtain further information by contacting this email address: iraq@unwomen.org

b. Proposal Data Sheet for Responsible Parties

Program/Project:	Requests for clarifications due:	
“Civil society contribute to advancing the implementation of Kurdistan Regional Action plan (KRAP) at governorate level through the Duhok localized plan”	Date: Thursday 12 th September 2024	Time: 5pm AST
Programme Officer’s name: Musab Othman	(Via e-mail) iraq@unwomen.org	
Email: musab.othman@unwomen.org	UN Women clarifications to proponents due: [if applicable]	
Telephone number: +9647810728034	Date: Sunday 15 th September 2024	Time: 5pm AST
	Proposal due:	
Issue date: Thursday 5 th September 2024	Date: Thursday 26 th September 2024	Time: 5pm AST
	Planned award date:	Tuesday 1 st October 2024
	Planned contract start-date/delivery date (on or before):	Sunday 6 th October 2024

¹ If the proposed budget is beyond the maximum range, the proposal will be rejected.

c. UN Women Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

UNWomen, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. UN Women Iraq focuses on four main strategic goals including women political participation, humanitarian action, economic empowerment and Women, Peace and Security (WPS).

At the Women, Peace and Security front, in 2014, Iraq was the first country in the MENA region to develop a National Action Plan (NAP) on UNSCR 1325. However, the first INAP on 1325 faced a set of challenges, such as the political, economic and insecurity conditions prevailing in Iraq and the absence of specific budget allocation, along with a clear M&E framework and coordination mechanisms in place. Taking these challenges and gaps into consideration, UN Women supported the development of the 2nd Iraqi National Action Plan (INAP II) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The INAPII was developed in a highly participatory manner which included consultations with more than 60 women-led organizations across the country, COMSEC, representatives from both the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and the Federal Government, and Sectoral Committees operating across 33 Ministries and governmental institutions. UN Women has been leading the support for the development of UNSCR 1325 national action plans in Iraq since 2014, along with sister UN Agencies and the international community. The INAP II (2021-2024) is structured across three strategic pillars: Participation, Protection and Prevention, and integrates key lessons learned from INAP I, building on the challenges and opportunities identified and outlining the mechanisms necessary for implementation.

At the KRG level, the High Council of Women and Development established the UNSCR1325 KRI board committee to effectively monitor INAPII implementation. The board committee is headed by the Ministry of Interior with membership of the High Council of Women and Development, civil society representing different organizations and geographical locations, donors and UN Women. Within the board, three working groups were created to support key components of the INAP II, namely: (i) implementation (ii) monitoring and evaluation, and (iii) communications. A **regional action plan** was also developed to effectively implement the INAPII and ensure the commitment of all stakeholders and responsible parties in the Kurdistan region. More than 35 civil society organizations and other government entities engaged in consultations leading to the formulation of the plan. The HCWD successfully engaged decision-making bodies and mobilised resources to support implementation of the plan.

Within this context, UN Women is currently implementing a project titled "Advancing the Implementation of the Second Iraq National Plan on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security". The project overall goal is to foster the implementation of Women, Peace and Security commitments through national, local and community level action. Specifically, the project bolsters the implementation capacity of NAP II (2021-2024) in Iraq to ensure that the needs and priorities of women and girls affected by conflict are met and addressed.

2. Description of required services/results

This proposal aims to support the implementation of the Kurdistan Regional Action Plan for UNSCR1325 at the governorate level by introducing a localized plan for Duhok. Developed as a pilot intervention by the High Council of Women and Development (HCWD) in close collaboration with UN Women, the UNSCR1325 board in Kurdistan, and civil society actors; the plan has received endorsement from the HCWD, the Duhok governor's office, and relevant governmental and civil society stakeholders through extensive consultations. It is designed to ensure effective implementation and monitoring of the Kurdistan Regional Action Plan (KRAP) at the governorate level.

The Duhok localised plan is a comprehensive plan which consists of a logframe highlighting activities, indicators and budgets linked to the INAPII strategic pillars (Participation, Protection and Prevention). Specifically, the Duhok plan includes but is not limited to capacity building initiatives, targeted training, research, vocational training, business management, and financial literacy programs.

Coordination with the HCWD, government entities and the governor office on the details of the activities that will be implemented is essential to ensure effective implementation. Continuous advocacy and resource mobilisation is required to support in raising awareness on the importance of this plan.

Note: Please note that your proposal should not exceed the maximum budget of 60,000 USD. You have the flexibility to choose which activities from the Duhok localized plan below you would like to implement and need to ensure that your interventions are designed to provide the essential technical and financial support to achieve the specified outcomes and indicators.

Pillar (1): Participation

❖ **Objective (1): Promoting women participation in leadership and decision-making which enforces maintaining security and peace building.**

Outcome (1): Women possess effective skills and abilities in negotiations and peace building.

- Activity 1.1.1.1²: Building the capacities of women in government and political party sectors on leadership, negotiation skills, conflict resolution and crisis management.
Target: 5 trainings to target 100 women and girls aged between 16-55 yrs old

Outcome (2): A political and social environment that supports the participation of women in building and sustaining peace.

- Activity 1.1.2.1: Building the capacities of local women from the grassroots level to become community leaders and have skills in negotiations and conflict resolutions.
Target: 150 girls aged between 16-55 yrs old.

Outcome (3): Women are represented and influential in leadership positions within the security sectors and justice systems.

- NAP Activity 1.1.3.1: Conduct training on WPS1325, effective leadership for female judges and those leadership positions that women hold in the security sector
Target: 100 women and girls.

❖ **Objective (2): Integrating women in relief efforts and reconstruction stages in Duhok Governorate**

Outcome (1): Women are willing to work in the field of relief and reconstruction.

- Activity 1.2.1.1: Organizing professional training courses for women to qualify them to join the relief and reconstruction projects.
Target: 5 training to target 100 women and girls aged between 16-55 yrs old.

Outcome (2): Women have specific projects in reconstruction programs.

- Activity 1.2.2.1: Providing training to women in leading businesses. WPS advocacy team in Duhok to coordinate with the government, CSOs and NGOs who are working on reconstruction to ensure better involvement and women's participation.
Target: 50 Women

Pillar (2): Protection

For this pillar, the selected partner is required to coordinate with other actors including UNFPA and UNCHR specifically with regards to shelters and protection centres.

❖ **Objective (1): Ensuring the protection of women and girls, especially in the camps, sites of displacement, and areas of return.**

Outcome (1): Clear and effective formal mechanisms and procedures for the protection of women and girls

- Activity 2.1.1.1: Continuation of women's safe spaces inside IDP camps to help women and girls with many legal, psychosocial support.
Target: 100 women and girls for mental health, 50 for legal support and 100 for psychosocial support
- Activity 2.1.1.2: Comprehensive research on Gender Based Violence and its consequence in Duhok governorate.
Target: Number of qualitative and quantitative data collected.

Outcome (2): Improving the response to gender-based violence in different sectors.

- Activity 2.1.2.1: Media involvement into the efforts of eliminating GBV.
Target: Creating three videos and publishing on TVs and social media accounts.
- Activity 2.1.2.2: Community awareness of hotlines to encourage women to use them. this activity to be done by WPS Network of women in the grassroots level.
Target: 3,000 individuals within the different communities.

Outcome (3): Strengthening the capacities of judicial and investigative bodies with specific skills and knowledge to address sexual violence.

- Activity 2.1.3.1: Providing health care services to all survivors of violence, including rape.
Target: 750 survivors from different communities for transportation

² The Activities below are categorized as follows (i.e. NAP activity 1.2.3.4 represents Pillar.Objective.Outcome.Activity).

- Activity 2.1.3.2: Establishing and expanding safe spaces for women and their children in the local communities.
Target: Benefiting over 1000 women with services such as safety, MHPSS.

Outcome (4): Developing legal and institutional frameworks for accountability and justice.

- Activity 2.1.4.1: The WPS advocacy team to coordinate closely with government and legal entities and have biannual meetings to ensure that accountability and justices are prevailed in GBV issues.
Target: Meetings conducted.

❖ **Objective (2): Protection of women and girls affected by conflict from sexual violence as one of the tools of war and their reintegration into society.**

Outcome (1): The reintegration of survivors of sexual violence and children born as a result of it into their communities.

- Activity 2.2.1.1: Supporting available centres that provide support services for victims and survivors in and out of IDP and refugee camps. These are centres that provide MHPSS, legal and social support.
Target: Number of centres who have been supported.

Pillar (3): Prevention

❖ **Objective (1): Create a safe environment for women and girls and a supportive society based on coexistence and the rejection of violence.**

Outcome (1): Establishing a religious and societal discourse that adopts the principles of tolerance, respect for women's rights, diversity, and coexistence.

- Activity 3.1.1.1: Capacity development for 50 religious' leaders on WPS and media agencies in Duhok.
Target: Courses and workshops targeting teachers on peace and community coexistence.
- Activity 3.1.1.2: An awareness campaign on GBV targeting schools and universities.

Outcome (2): Rehabilitation of fighters after end of battles in order to protect the society.

- Activity 3.1.2.1: An awareness campaign on GBV targeting Zirka Prison
Target: 200 prisoners to be involved.
- Activity 3.1.2.2: Organizing awareness and educational campaigns to combat extremist ideology with community-based women leaders at the local level, with the participation of other relevant leaders.
Target: Awareness and educational campaigns conducted.

Outcome (3): Inclusion of gender in early warning systems to prevent conflict-related violence in societies.

- Activity 3.1.3.1: Organizing training workshops to build the capacity of cadres working in the early warning sector on gender to prevent conflict-related violence.
Target: 100 Prs targeted.
- Activity 3.1.3.2: Training WPS Network of women in available early warning systems
Target: 50 women are targeted.

Outcome (4): Establishing preventive measures in all entities to prevent gender-based violence in conflict settings.

- Activity 3.1.4.1: Capacity building and awareness of legal frameworks such as international humanitarian law) for law enforcement agencies to provide greater protection for women, especially in camps within Duhok governorate
Target: 100 individuals are trained.
- Activity 3.1.4.2: Preparing a gender-responsive budget that is presented annually to relevant stakeholder in Duhok this includes CSOs and government entities.
Target: Adoption of a gender responsive budget.
- Activity 3.1.4.3: Community awareness on Cyber abuse through social media and WPS Network of women from grassroots level
Target: 5,000 individuals.
- Activity 3.1.4.4: Advocacy with legal entities to put better protection measures for survivors and victims and accountability.

Target: Meetings and positive decisions made.

❖ **Objective (2): Increasing the resilience of women affected by conflict through livelihood opportunities and access to services in their communities.**

Outcome (1): Facilitating the economic participation of women in areas that witnessed conflict and creating a suitable work environment for them.

- Activity 3.2.1.1: Business management training and mentoring
Target: 100 Women with 50 micro grants for women and girl survivors.
- Activity 3.2.1.2: Providing vocational training and linking it to suitable job opportunities for women in conflict areas with the public and private sectors to secure jobs.
Target: 250 women and girls to be involved.

Outcome (2): Expanding economic empowerment and livelihood program

- Activity 3.2.2.1: Job placement for women and girls within available private sector companies
Target: 50 women and girls
- Activity 3.2.2.2: Develop training programs and workshops to build skills necessary for these livelihood opportunities
Target: 100 Women and girls
- Activity 3.2.2.3: Provide financial literacy training to women who already own business or are willing to establish.
Target: 250 women and girls
- Activity 3.2.2.4: Financial grants for women who already run businesses for expansion and improvement that can facilitate the process of employment.
Target: 25 grants
- Activity 3.2.2.5: Advocate with governorate office & banks to develop mechanisms for providing grants or low-interest loans to startup businesses.
Target: Mechanisms developed.

Reporting:

The selected partners will work closely with UNWomen during project implementation and will provide quality narrative and financial reports in line with UNWomen guidelines and requirements, as well as regular updates.

Visibility:

The selected partners will be responsible for providing quality communications material (interviews, articles, photos, videos etc.) and efforts to promote donor visibility in close consultation with UNWomen.

The proposed activities need to be adaptable to the evolving context, movement restrictions and available access. Please specify strategies for reaching beneficiaries during potential lock-down situations and describe the organization's capacity to implement these strategies. Selected partners need to include proposed activities for relevant international days including International Women's Day (IWD), UNSCR1325 anniversary and 16 Days of Activism.

Logos:

It is essential that the UNWomen and Sweden Logo are added for any communication material. Relevant hashtags need to be included as well.

Monitoring:

Partner proposed monitoring activities need to consider challenges to accessing programme sites due to security issues, disease outbreaks such as COVID-19 and other challenges in accessing communities in conflict- or crisis-affected contexts. In case in-person monitoring would not be an option, online data collection of data will be used at all stages of programme implementation. All monitoring activities should be conducted in close collaboration with UNWomen.

Note: Organizations are allowed to apply in a consortium, and sub-grant to other organisation and should identify who is the lead and who partners are. Any additional innovative suggestions or activities that fall under the scope of each output will be considered as optional but are welcomed.

3. Timeframe: Expected start date and end date for completion of required services/results

October 2024—December 2024 (3 months)

The partnership will commence upon signature of the partnership agreement with the selected organization and will end by December 2024 with **no possibility of NO-COST extension.**

4. Competencies:

a. Technical/functional competencies required

In the selection of partners, the following competencies will be considered:

- Soundness of technical competency described in the approach to the project as described in the Terms of Reference for the Call for Proposals, to be demonstrated by a track record of successful programmatic interventions
- Capacity to deliver expected results: governance and management competency, and financial and administrative competency, demonstrated by previous partnerships with UN Women or other donor organisations.
- Relevance of the mandate and the role of the organization to implement expected results and to contribute to the sustainability of said results, demonstrated by expertise in gender-related work and community outreach

b. Other competencies, which while not required, can be an asset for the performance of services

d. Acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement

- Proponents must include an acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement or their reservation or objections thereto.
- Submission of any such reservations or objections does not mean that UN Women will automatically accept them should the proponent be selected as a Responsible Party.
- UN Women will evaluate any reservation or objection during its evaluation of the proposal and may accept or reject any such reservation or objection.

Annex B-1
Mandatory Requirements/Pre-Qualification Criteria and Contractual Aspects
[To be completed by proponents and returned with their proposal]

Call For Proposals
Description of Services
CFP No. CFP/IRQ/2024/03

Proponents are requested to complete this form and return it as part of their submission. Proponents will receive a **pass/fail rating** on this section. To be considered, proponents must meet all the mandatory criteria described below. All questions should be answered on this form or an exact duplicate thereof. UN Women reserves the right to verify any information contained in a proponent’s response or to request additional information after the proposal is received. **Incomplete or inadequate responses, lack of response or misrepresentation in responding to any questions will result in disqualification.**

Mandatory requirements/pre-qualification criteria	Proponent’s response
1. Are the services being requested part of the key services that the proponent has been performing as an organization? This must be supported by a list of at least two customer references for which similar service has currently or has been provided by the proponent.	Reference #1: Reference #2:
2. Is the proponent duly registered or does it have the legal basis/mandate as an organization? [Please attach a copy of the official registration here].	Yes/No
3. Has the proponent as an organization been in operation for at least five (5) years ³ ?	Yes/No
4. Does the proponent have a permanent office within the location area?	Yes/No
5. Can UN Women conduct a site visit at a customer location in the location or area with a similar scope of work as the one described in this CFP?	Yes/No
6. Fraud or other wrongdoing: i. Has the proponent, its employees, personnel, sub-contractor or sub-contractor’s sub-contractor or sub-partner or sub-partner’s partner been the subject of a finding of fraud or any other wrongdoing following an investigation conducted by UN Women, another United Nations entity or otherwise? OR ii. Is the proponent, its employees, personnel, sub-contractor or sub-contractor’s sub-contractor or sub-partner or sub-partner’s partner currently under investigation for fraud or any other wrongdoing by UN Women, another UN entity or otherwise?	Yes/No
7. Sexual exploitation and abuse: i. Has the proponent, its employees, personnel, sub-contractor or sub-contractor’s sub-contractor or sub-partner or sub-partner’s partner been the subject of any investigations and/or been charged for any misconduct related to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) ⁴ ? OR ii. Is the proponent, its employees, personnel, sub-contractor or sub-contractor’s sub-contractor or sub-partner or sub-partner’s partner currently under investigation for SEA by UN Women, another UN entity or otherwise?	Yes/No
8. Has the proponent or any of its employees or personnel been placed on any relevant sanctions list including as a minimum the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List(s), United Nations Global Market Place Vendor ineligibility and any other donor sanction list that may be available for use, as applicable?	Yes/No
9. Has the proponent read and accepted the standards set out in section 3 of ST/SGB/2003/13 “Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse”?	Yes/No

³ In exceptional circumstances, three (3) years of history registration may be accepted and it must be fully justified.

⁴ [Secretary General’s Bulletin, 9 October 2003 on “Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse” \(ST/SGB/2003/13\)](#), and United Nations Protocol on Allegations of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse involving Implementing Partners.

10. Does the proponent acknowledge that SEA is strictly prohibited, and that UN Women will apply a policy of “zero tolerance” in respect to SEA of anyone including the proponent’s employees, agents, sub-partners and sub-contractors or any other persons engaged by the proponent to perform any services?	Yes/No
11. Has the proponent reviewed and taken note of UN Women Anti-Fraud Policy (Annex B-6)?	Yes/No

Please provide the following information:

1 Is the highest executive (e.g., Director, CEO, etc.) in the proponent organization a female?	Yes/No
2 What is the female to male ratio in the proponent’s board?	

Acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement.

- Proponents must include an acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement or their reservations or objections thereto.
- Submission of any such reservations or objections does not mean that UN Women will automatically accept them should the proponent be selected as a Responsible Party.
- UN Women will evaluate any reservation or objection during its evaluation of the proposal and may accept or reject any such reservation or objection.

Requirements	Proponent’s response
Acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement.	Yes/No
Indicate any reservations or objections to the terms and conditions outlined in the template Partner Agreement.	

Section 2

CFP No. CFP/IRQ/2024/03

a. Instructions to Proponents

1. Introduction

- 1.1 UN Women invite qualified parties to submit Technical and Financial Proposals to provide services associated with the UN Women requirements for a Responsible Party.
- 1.2 UN Women is soliciting proposals from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). **Women's organizations or entities are highly encouraged to apply.**
- 1.3 A description of the services required is described in CFP **Section 1 – c) "UN Women Terms of Reference"**.
- 1.4 UN Women may, at its discretion, cancel the services in part or in whole.
- 1.5 Proponents may withdraw the proposal after submission, provided that written notice of withdrawal is received by UN Women prior to the deadline prescribed for the submission of proposals. No proposal may be modified subsequent to the deadline for the submission of proposals. No proposal may be withdrawn in the interval between the deadline for submission of proposals and the expiration of the period of proposal validity.
- 1.6 All proposals shall remain valid and open for acceptance for a period of 90 calendar days after the date specified for receipt of proposals. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected. In exceptional circumstances, UN Women may solicit the proponent's consent to an extension of the period of validity. The request and the responses thereto shall be made in writing.
- 1.7 Effective with the release of this CFP, all communications must be directed only to UN Women, by email at iraq@unwomen.org. Proponents must not communicate with any other personnel of UNWomen regarding this CFP.

2. Cost of Proposal

- 2.1 The cost of preparing a proposal, attendance at any pre-proposal conference, meetings or oral presentations shall be borne by the proponent, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the CFP process. Proposals must offer the services for the total requirement. Proposals offering only part of the services will be rejected.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1 Proponents must meet all mandatory requirements/pre-qualification criteria as set out in **Annex B-1**. See point 4 below for further explanation. Proponents will receive a pass/fail rating on this section. UN Women reserves the right to verify any information contained in proponent's response or to request additional information after the proposal is received. Incomplete or inadequate responses, lack of response or misrepresentation in responding to any questions will result in disqualification.

4. Mandatory/Pre-Qualification Criteria

- 4.1 The evaluation of technical and financial proposals by UN Women is conducted in two phases (see section 11 below) and the mandatory requirements/pre-qualification criteria have been designed to ensure that, to the degree possible in the initial stages of the CFP selection process, only those proponents with sufficient experience, financial strength and stability, demonstrable technical knowledge, evident capacity to satisfy UN Women requirements and superior customer references for supplying the services envisioned in this CFP will qualify for further consideration. UN Women reserves the right to verify any information contained in proponent's response or to request additional information after the proposal is received. Incomplete or inadequate responses, lack of response or misrepresentation in responding to any questions will result in disqualification.
- 4.2 Proponents will receive a pass/fail rating in the mandatory requirements/pre-qualification criteria section. In order to be considered for Phase I, proponents must meet all the mandatory requirements/pre-qualification criteria described in this CFP.

5. Clarification of CFP Documents

- 5.1 A prospective proponent requiring any clarification of the CFP documents may notify UN Women in writing at UN Women email address indicated in the CFP by the specified date and time. UN Women will respond in writing to any request for clarification of the CFP documents that it receives by the due date for requests for clarification as outlined in **Section 1b of this annex (on page 1)**.
- 5.2 Written copies of UN Women's responses to such inquiries (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) will be posted using the same method as the original posting of this (CFP) document.
- 5.3 If the CFP has been advertised publicly, the results of any clarification exercise (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) will be posted on the advertised source.

6. Amendments to CFP Documents

- 6.1 At any time prior to the deadline for submission of proposals, UN Women may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective proponent, modify the CFP documents by amendment. All prospective proponents that have received the CFP documents will be notified in writing of all

amendments to the CFP documents. For open competitions, all amendments will also be posted on the advertised source.

- 6.2 In order to afford prospective proponents reasonable time in which to take the amendment into account in preparing their proposals, UN Women may, at its discretion, extend the deadline for the submission of proposal.

7. Language of Proposals

- 7.1 The proposal prepared by the proponent and all correspondence and documents relating to the proposal exchanged between the proponent and UN Women, shall be written in English.
- 7.2 Supporting documents and printed literature furnished by the proponent may be in another language provided they are accompanied by an appropriate translation of all relevant passages in English. In any such case, for interpretation of the proposal, the English translation shall prevail. The sole responsibility for translation and the accuracy thereof shall rest with the proponent.

8. Submission of Proposals

- 8.1 Technical and financial proposals should be submitted as part of the template for proposal submission (**Annex B2**) in one email with the CFP reference and the clear description of the proposal by the date and time stipulated in this document. If the emails and email attachments are not marked as instructed, UN Women will assume no responsibility for the misplacement or premature opening of the proposals submitted. The email text body should indicate the name and address of the proponent. **All proposals should be sent by email to the following secure email address: iraq@unwomen.org**
- 8.2 Proposals should be received by the date, time and means of submission stipulated in this CFP. Proponents are responsible for ensuring that UN Women receives their proposal by the due date and time. Proposals received by UN Women after the due date and time will be rejected.
- 8.3 When receiving proposals by email (as is required for the CFP), the receipt time stamp shall be the date and time when the submission has been received in the dedicated UN Women inbox. UN Women shall not be responsible for any delays caused by network problems, etc. It is the sole responsibility of proponents to ensure that their proposal is received by UN Women in the dedicated inbox on or before the prescribed CFP deadline.
- 8.4 **Late proposals:** Any proposals received by UN Women after the deadline for submission of proposals prescribed in this document, will be rejected.

9. Clarification of Proposals

- 9.1 To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of proposals, UN Women may, at its discretion, ask the proponent for a clarification of its proposal. The request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in the price or substance of the proposal shall be sought, offered or permitted. UN Women will review minor informalities, errors, clerical mistakes, apparent errors in price and missing documents.

10. Proposal Currencies

- 10.1 All prices shall be quoted in **USD**.
- 10.2 UN Women reserves the right to reject any proposals submitted in a currency other than the mandatory currency for the proposal stated above. UN Women may accept proposals submitted in another currency than stated above if the proponent confirms during clarification of proposals, see item (9) above in writing, that it will accept a contract issued in the mandatory proposal currency and that for the purposes of conversion, the official United Nations operational rate of exchange of the day of CFP deadline (as stated in the CFP letter) shall apply.
- 10.3 Regardless of the currency stated in proposals received, the contract will always be issued and subsequent payments will be made in the mandatory currency for the proposal (as stated above).

11. Evaluation of Technical and Financial Proposals

11.1 PHASE I – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (70 points)

Only proponents meeting the mandatory criteria will advance to the technical evaluation in which a maximum possible 70 points may be determined. Technical evaluators who are members of an Evaluation Committee appointed by UN Women will carry out the technical evaluation applying the evaluation criteria and point ratings as listed below. In order to advance beyond Phase I of the detailed evaluation process to Phase II (financial evaluation) a proposal must have achieved a minimum cumulative technical score of 50 points.

Table for evaluating technical proposal.

1	The proposal is compliant with the CFP requirements and interventions are designed to provide the essential technical and financial support to achieve the specified outcomes and indicators.	10 points
2	The organization's mandate aligns with UN Women's goals in Iraq, particularly in advancing the Women, Peace, and Security agenda. The organization's mission, experience, and core programs demonstrate a commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment. The organization has relevant experience in implementing projects that support the objectives of UNSCR1325, and has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to do so.	10 points

3	The proposal demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the objectives of the Kurdistan Regional Action Plan for UNSCR1325 and the importance of implementing it at the governorate level. The organization outlines clear strategies and methodologies to address identified challenges, and provides a detailed plan of action, including timelines, key activities, expected outcomes, and a monitoring and evaluation framework. The proposal includes a risk management plan and demonstrates the organization's capacity to successfully implement the proposed activities, such as capacity building, advocacy, and vocational training.	20 points
4	The proposal outlines a clear strategy for engaging with local stakeholders, including government entities, civil society organizations, and community leaders in Duhok. It highlights past experience in successfully collaborating with these stakeholders and presents a plan for continuous engagement throughout the project. The organization demonstrates the ability to mobilize resources and build partnerships to ensure the successful implementation of the localized plan.	20 points
5	The proposal includes innovative approaches and activities that are adaptable to the evolving context in Duhok. The organization demonstrates flexibility in reaching beneficiaries during potential movement restrictions or lockdowns and provides examples of past success in adapting to challenging circumstances. The proposal also suggests additional innovative activities that could enhance the impact of the project.	10 points
TOTAL		70 points

11.2 PHASE II - FINANCIAL PROPOSAL (30 points)

Financial proposals will be evaluated (using **component 6**) following completion of the technical evaluation. The proponent with the lowest evaluated cost will be awarded 30 points. Other financial proposals will receive pro-rated points based on the relationship of the proponents' prices to that of the lowest evaluated cost.

Formula for computing points: Points = (A/B) Financial Points

Example: Proponent A's price is the lowest at \$10.00. Proponent A receives 30 points. Proponent B's price is \$20.00. Proponent B receives $(\$10.00/\$20.00) \times 30$ points = 15 points.

12. Preparation of Proposals

- 12.1 Proponents are expected to examine all terms and instructions included in the CFP documents. Failure to provide all requested information will be at the proponent's own risk and may result in rejection of the proponent's proposal.
- 12.2 The proponent's proposal must be organized to follow the format of this CFP. Each proponent must respond to every stated request or requirement and indicate that the proponent understands and confirms acceptance of UN Women's stated requirements. The proponent should identify any substantive assumption made in preparing its proposal. The deferral of a response to a question or issue to the contract negotiation stage is not acceptable. Any item not specifically addressed in the proponent's proposal will be deemed as accepted by the proponent. The terms "proponent" and "contractor" refer to those organizations that submit a proposal pursuant to this CFP.
- 12.3 Where the proponent is presented with a requirement or asked to use a specific approach, the proponent must not only state its acceptance, but also describe, where appropriate, how it intends to comply. Failure to provide an answer to an item will be considered an acceptance of the item. Where a descriptive response is requested, failure to provide one will be viewed as non-responsive.
- 12.4 The terms of reference in this document provides a general overview of the current operation. If the proponent wishes to propose alternatives or equivalents, the proponent must demonstrate that any such proposed change is equivalent or superior to UN Women established requirements. Acceptance of such changes is at the sole discretion of UN Women.
- 12.5 Proposals must offer services for the total requirement, unless otherwise permitted in the CFP document. Proposals offering only part of the services will be rejected unless permitted otherwise in the CFP document.
- 12.6 Proponents may use the services of sub-contractors or sub-partners to partially perform the work except if the proponent is providing grant-making work. The proponent's Technical Proposal shall indicate clearly if the proponent is intending to use sub-contractors or sub-partners and their names. If it is not possible to include the names of sub-partners and sub-contractors in the proposal, the names must be submitted to UN Women as soon as possible.
- 12.7 The proponent's proposal shall state the following and include all of the following labelled annexes:

CFP submission (on or before proposal due date):

As a minimum, proponents shall complete and return the below listed documents (annexes to this CFP) **as an integral part of their proposal**. Proponents may add additional documentation to their proposals as they deem appropriate.

Failure to complete and return the below listed documents as part of the proposal may result in proposal rejection.

Part of proposal	Annex B-1 Mandatory Requirements/Pre-Qualification Criteria and Contractual Aspects
Part of proposal	Annex B-2 Template for Proposal Submission
Part of proposal	Annex B-3 Format of Resume for Proposed Personnel

If after assessing this opportunity you have made the determination not to submit your proposal, we would appreciate it if you could return this form indicating your reasons for non-participation.

13 Format and Signing of Proposals

- 13.1 The proposal shall be typed or written in indelible ink and shall be signed by the proponent or a person or persons duly authorized to bind the proponent to the contract. The latter authorization shall be indicated by written power-of-attorney accompanying the proposal.
- 13.2 A proposal shall contain no interlineations, erasures, or overwriting except as necessary to correct errors made by the proponent, in which case such corrections shall be initialled by the person or persons signing the proposal.

14 Award

- 14.1 Award will be made to the responsible and responsive proponent with the highest evaluated proposal following negotiation of an acceptable contract. UN Women reserves the right to conduct negotiations with the proponent regarding the contents of their proposal. The award will be in effect only after acceptance by the selected proponent of the terms and conditions of the agreement and the terms of reference. **The agreement will reflect the name of the proponent whose financials were provided in response to this CFP.** Upon execution of agreement UN Women will promptly notify the unsuccessful proponents.
- 14.2 The selected proponent is expected to commence providing services as of the date and time stipulated in this CFP.
- 14.3 The award will be for an agreement with an original term of 3 months with the option to renew under the same terms and conditions for an additional period or periods as indicated by UN Women.

Annex B-2
Template for Proposal Submission

Call For Proposals
Description of Services
CFP No. CFP/IRQ/2024/03

Mandatory Requirements/Pre-Qualification Criteria
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Proponents are requested to complete this form (**Annex B-2**) and return it as part of their submission.

Proponent's Eligibility Confirmation and Information	Proponent's Response
1 What year was the organization established?	
2 In what province/state/country has the organization been established?	
3 Has the organization ever been adjudged bankrupt, or been liquidated, or been insolvent, or applied for a moratorium or stay on any payment or repayment obligations, or applied to be declared insolvent? (If YES, explain in detail the reasons why, filing date, and current status.)	Yes/No
4 Has the organization ever been terminated for non-performance on a contract? If YES, describe in detail.	Yes/No
5 Has the organization or any of its employees and personnel ever been: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. suspended or debarred by any government, a UN agency or other international organization; b. placed on any relevant sanctions list including the - https://www.un.org/sc/suborg/en/sanctions/un-sc-consolidated-list, United Nations Global Market Place Vendor ineligibility or any other Donor Sanction List; and/or c. been the subject of an adverse judgment or award? If YES, provide details, including date of reinstatement, if applicable. (If proponent is currently on any relevant sanctions list this should be disclosed in Question 8 of the Mandatory Requirements/Pre-Qualification Criteria above and is grounds for immediate rejection.)	Confirm Yes/No
6 It is UN Women policy to require that proponents and their sub-contractors and sub-partners observe the highest standard of ethics during the selection and execution of contracts. In this context, any action taken by a proponent, a sub-contractor or a sub-partner to influence the selection process or contract execution for undue advantage is improper. The proponent must confirm that it has reviewed and taken note of UN Women Anti-Fraud Policy (Annex B-6). The proponent must also confirm that the proponent and its sub-contractors and sub-partners have not engaged in any conduct contrary to that policy including in competing for this CFP.	Confirm Yes/No
7 Officials not to benefit: The proponent must confirm that no official of UN Women has received or will be offered any direct or indirect benefit arising from this CFP or any resulting contracts by the proponent or its sub-contractors or its sub-partners.	Confirm Yes/No
8 The proponent must confirm that the proponent is not engaged in any activity that would put it, if selected for this assignment, in a conflict of interest with UN Women.	Confirm Yes/No
9 The proponent must confirm that the proponent, its sub-partners or sub-contractors have not been associated, or involved in any way, directly or indirectly, with the preparation of the design, terms of references and/or other documents used as a part of this CFP.	Confirm Yes/No
10 UN Women policy restricts organizations from participating in a CFP or receiving UN Women contracts if a UN Women personnel or their immediate family are an owner, officer, partner or board member or in which the personnel or their immediate family has a financial interest in the organization. The proponent must confirm that no UN Women personnel or their immediate family are an owner, officer, partner or board member or have a financial interest in either the proponent, or its sub-partners or its sub-contractors.	Confirm Yes/No

Component 1: Organizational Background and Capacity to implement activities to achieve planned results (max 1.5 pages)

This section should provide an overview (with relevant annexes) that clearly demonstrate that the proponent has the capacity and commitment to implement the proposed activities and produce results successfully. Key elements to be covered in this section include:

1. the nature of the proponent – whether it is a community-based organization, national or sub-national NGO, research or training institution, etc.;
2. the overall mission, purpose, and core programmes/services of the organization;
3. the organization’s target population groups (women, indigenous peoples, youth, etc.);
4. the organizational approach (philosophy) - how the organization delivers its projects (e.g., gender-sensitive, rights-based, etc.);
5. the organization’s length of existence and relevant experience;
6. an overview of the organization’s capacity relevant to the proposed engagement with UN Women (e.g., technical, governance and management, and financial and administrative management);
7. details of the following relating to prevention of SEA:
 - a. describe what measures are in place to prevent SEA;
 - b. describe reporting and monitoring mechanisms and procedures;
 - c. describe what capacity exists to investigate SEA allegations;
 - d. describe past allegations of SEA, if any, and how they were handled, including the outcome;
 - e. describe what SEA training the people (employees or otherwise) who will perform the services have completed; and
 - f. describe what reference and background checks have been done for employees and associated personnel.
8. details relating to grant-making work, if applicable:
 - a. describe the proponent’s institutional capacity to manage grants, including appropriate grant award management, system/framework for undertaking grant proposal evaluation, due diligence and, appropriate governance and risk management (including composition and terms of reference of the independent designated steering committee or grant selection committee);
 - b. describe relevant history in managing resources through grant awards;
 - c. describe the proponent’s grant portfolio;
 - d. describe relevant history in working with small organizations including experience in providing technical assistance;
 - e. describe the proponent’s programmatic capacity, including monitoring and evaluation capacity; and
 - f. describe the proponent’s capacity to assess and manage risks.

Component 2: Expected Results and Indicators (max 1.5 pages)

This section should articulate the proponent’s understanding of the UN Women Terms of Reference (TOR). It should contain a clear and specific statement of what the proposal will accomplish in relation to the UN Women Terms of Reference. This should include:

1. The **problem statement** or challenges to be addressed given the context described in the UN Women Terms of Reference.
2. The specific **results** expected (e.g., outputs) through engagement of the proponent. The expected results are the measurable changes which will have occurred by the end of the planned intervention. Propose specific and measurable indicators which will form the basis for monitoring and evaluation. These indicators will be refined, and will form an important part of the agreement between the proponent and UN Women.

Component 3: Description of the Technical Approach and Activities (max 2.5 pages)

This section should describe the technical approach and should be able to show the soundness and adequacy of the proposed approach, what will actually be done to produce the expected results in terms of activities. There should be a clear and direct linkage between the activities and the results at least at the output level. Specific strategies should also be described to support the achievement of results, such as building partnerships, etc.

Activity descriptions should be as specific as necessary, identifying **what** will be done, **who** will do it, **when** it will be done (beginning, duration, completion), and **where** it will be done. In describing the activities, an indication should be made regarding the organizations and individuals involved in or benefiting from the activity.

This narrative is to be complemented by a tabular presentation that will serve as Implementation Plan, as described in Component 4.

This section should also include the details of all proposed sub-contracting and sub-partnering.

Component 4: Implementation Plan (max 1.5 pages)

This section is presented in tabular form and can be attached as an annex. It should indicate the **sequence of all major activities and timeframe (duration)**. Provide as much detail as necessary. The Implementation Plan should show a logical flow of activities. Please include all required milestone reports and monitoring reviews in the Implementation Plan.

Implementation Plan

Project No:		Project Name:											
Name of proponent organization:													
Brief description of project													
Project start and end dates:													
Brief description of specific results (e.g., outputs) with corresponding indicators, baselines and targets. Repeat for each result.													
List the activities necessary to produce the results and indicate who is responsible for each activity		Duration of Activity in Months (or Quarters)											
Activity	Responsible	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.1													
1.2													
1.3													
1.4													

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (max. 1 page)

This section should contain an explanation of the plan for monitoring and evaluating the activities, both during its implementation (formative) and at completion (summative). Key elements to be included are:

- how the performance of the activities will be tracked in terms of achievement of the steps and milestones set forth in the Implementation Plan;
- how any mid-course correction and adjustment of the design and plans will be facilitated on the basis of feedback received; and
- how the participation of community members in the monitoring and evaluation processes will be achieved.

Component 5: Risks to Successful Implementation (1 page)

Identify and list any major risk factors that could result in the activities not producing the expected results. These should include both internal factors (for example, the technology involved fails to work as projected) and external factors (for example, significant currency fluctuations resulting into changes in the economics of the activity, risk of sub-contractors or sub-partners not performing). Describe how such risks are to be mitigated.

In this section also include the key **assumptions** on which the activity plan is based on. In this case, the assumptions are mostly related to external factors (for example, the assumption that the relevant government’s environmental policy will remain stable) which are anticipated in planning the activity, and on which the feasibility of the activities depend.

Please attach a risk register to capture the above risk factors and risk mitigation measures.

Component 6: Results-Based Budget (max. 1.5 pages)

The development and management of a realistic budget is an important part of developing and implementing successful activities. Careful attention to issues of financial management and integrity will enhance the effectiveness and impact of activities. The following important principles should be kept in mind in preparing a project budget:

- Include costs which relate to efficiently carrying out the activities and producing the results which are set forth in the proposal. Other associated costs should be funded from other sources.
- The budget should be realistic. Find out what planned activities will actually cost, and do not assume that they would cost less.
- The budget should include all costs associated with managing and administering the activity or results, particularly the cost of monitoring and evaluation.
- The budget could include “support costs”, being those indirect costs that are incurred to operate the Responsible Party as a whole or a segment thereof and that cannot be easily connected or traced to implementation of the work, i.e., operating expenses, over-head costs and general costs connected to the normal functioning of an organization/business (such as cost for support staff, office space and equipment that are not direct costs).
- “Support cost rate” means the flat rate at which the Responsible Party will be reimbursed by UN Women for its support costs, as set forth in the Partner Project Document and not exceeding a rate of 8% or the rate set forth in the Donor Specific Conditions, if that is lower. The flat rate is calculated on the eligible direct costs.
- The budget line items are general categories intended to assist in thinking through where money will be spent. If a planned expenditure does not appear to fit in any of the standard line-item categories, list the item under other costs, and state what the money is to be used for.
- The figures contained in the budget sheet should agree with those on the proposal header and text.
- Depending on the results to be delivered, following suggestive thresholds could be followed for costs:
 - maximum for personnel related costs on a proposal - 20% of programming costs;
 - between 3-5% for audits (to be retained by UN Women for Responsible Party audits) (may change as per the annual audit cost);
 - 3% for monitoring and evaluation; and
 - up to 8% (or as per relevant donor agreement) – support costs including (utilities, rent etc.).

Result 1 (e.g., Output) Repeat this table for each result ⁵ .					
Expenditure Category	Year 1 [Local currency]	Year 2 (Local currency), If applicable	Total [local currency]	Total (US\$)	Percentage Total
1. Personnel					
2. Equipment/Materials					
3. Training/Seminars/Travel Workshops					
4. Contracts					
5. Other costs ⁶					
6. Incidentals					
7. Other support requested					
8. Support costs (not to exceed 8% or the relevant donor percentage)					
Total Cost for Result 1					

I, (Name) _____ certify that I am (Position) _____ of (Name of Organization) _____; that by signing this proposal for and on behalf of (Name of Organization) _____, I am certifying that all information contained herein is accurate and truthful and that the signing of this proposal is within the scope of my powers.

I, by signing this proposal, commit to be bound by this proposal for carrying out the range of services as specified in the CFP package and respecting the terms and conditions stated in the UN Women template Partner Agreement.

(Signature)

(Seal)

⁵ If the budget is for grant-making activities, add a field for grants. For grant-making, (i) only up to 50% of the Partner proposal amount may be used to fund grants, (ii) not more than 25% of the Partner Agreement value can be issued per individual grant.

⁶ “Other costs” refers to any other costs that is not listed in the results-based budget. Please specify what they are in the footnote.

(Printed Name and Title)
(Date)

Annex B-3
Format of Resume for Proposed Personnel

Call For Proposals
Description of Services
CFP No. CFP/IRQ/2024/03

Name of personnel: _____

Title: _____

Years with CSO: _____ Nationality: _____

Education/Qualifications:

Summarize college/university and other specialized education of personnel member, giving names of schools, dates attended, and degrees-professional qualifications obtained.

Employment Record/Experience

Starting with present position, list in reverse order, every employment held:

- *For all positions held by personnel member since graduation: List each position and provide dates, names of employing organization, title of position held and location of employment.*
- *For experience in last five years: Detail the type of activities performed, degree of responsibilities, location of assignments and any other information or professional experience considered pertinent for this assignment.*

References

Provide names and addresses for two (2) references.

Annex B-4

Capacity Assessment Minimum Documents

[To be submitted by proponents and assessed by the reviewer]

Call For Proposals
Description of Services
CFP No. CFP/IRQ/2024/03

Document	Mandatory / Optional
Governance, Management and Technical	
Organization's legal registration documentation	Mandatory
Rules of governance of the organization	Mandatory
Organigram of the organization	Mandatory
List of key management at organization	Mandatory
CVs of key personnel of organization who are proposed for the engagement with UN Women	Mandatory
Details of organization's anti-fraud policy framework (which shall be consistent with UN Women's anti-fraud policy)	Mandatory
Details of organization's PSEA policy framework	Optional
Documentation evidencing training offered by organization to its employees and associated personnel on prevention and response to SEA.	Mandatory
Organization's policy and procedure documents in respect to grant-making (if grant-making activities are included in the UN Women Terms of Reference of the CFP)	Mandatory
Organization's policy and procedure for selecting partners (if sub-partner/s are going to be used)	Mandatory
Administration and Finance	
Administrative and financial rules of the organization	Mandatory
Details of the organization's internal control framework	Mandatory
Audited statements of the organization during last 3 years	Mandatory
List of banks with which organizational bank accounts are held	Mandatory
Name of external auditors of organization	Optional
Procurement	
Organization's procurement policy/manual	Mandatory
Templates of the solicitation documents for procurement of goods/services (e.g., request for quotation (FRQ), request for proposal (RFP) etc.) used by organization	Mandatory
List of main suppliers/vendors of organization and copies of their contract(s) including evidence of their selection processes	Mandatory
Client Relationship	
List of main clients/donors of organization	Mandatory
Two references for organization	Mandatory
Past reports to clients/donors of organization for last 3 years	Mandatory

Annex B-5
UN Women template Partner Agreement



Partner Agreement
English.pdf

Annex B-6
UN Women Anti-Fraud Policy



Anti-Fraud
Policy.docx