**Invitation for Expression of Interest: Gender and Peacebuilding for Syria**

UN-Women is in the process of identifying potential Responsible Parties for the implementation of the programme “*Supporting Syrian women’s engagement in the Syrian political process: Building a Constituency for Peace*”. (Office to attach TOR(s) for the scope of work intended results) (UN-Women recommended Summary format is outlined below)

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| 1. **Introduction**

Background/Context for required services/resultsUN Women, 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.As the international community continues to support a Syrian-led, Syrian-owned process to end the conflict under the framework of Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), it recognizes the importance of fully inclusive political dialogues to ensure that the views of all segments of Syrian society including women, are incorporated. This is evident in efforts towards shaping a political settlement, consistent with the Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012 and Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2122 (2013). In support of Syria’s political process, UN Women has been supporting Syrian women’s leadership in peacemaking since 2013. This has included providing gender advisory services to the Office of the Special Envoy (OSE) for Syria, supporting the Syrian Women’s Advisory Board (WAB), supporting women’s civil society working on dialogue and peacebuilding, coordinating international stakeholders working on gender equality and women’s rights, and undertaking research to improve understanding of the gender dimensions of Syria’s conflict. These efforts are implemented in close collaboration with the Office of the Special Envoy for Syria, the broader Department of Political and Peacekeeping Affairs (DPPA) with the generous support from the Governments of Finland, Norway, and the Netherlands. Building and leveraging the influence of women as peace actors inside and outside Syria is critical in working for a just future for Syria. Key to this is supporting local women’s rights organizations working on peacebuilding within the Syrian context. General Overview of services required/resultsUN Women is exploring potential partnerships with the women’s civil society working on gender and peacebuilding for Syria. This includes supporting women’s groups to build alliances on women’s rights, to facilitate long-term dialogues, to undertake trust-building activities, to build support for the political process, and to implement initiatives that link local civil society to the political process.  |
| 1. **Description of required services/results**

UN Women is working on broadening its support to women’s civil society working on Syria and peacebuilding. The objective of the support is to work with local organizations that use peacebuilding frameworks in implementing initiatives related to:* + Increasing trust and cooperation across different constituencies at the community-level on issues of gender equality; and
	+ Connecting local women’s civil society to the ongoing political process, including the articulation of common priorities and issues related to women’s rights and gender equality.

UN Women is seeking organizations that draw on peacebuilding frameworks and approaches in implementing initiatives related to the areas outlined above. No prescribed methodology for how this work is to be undertaken is given. Instead applicants are encouraged to set out the methodology they think fits to achieving the following results: increased tolerance, collaboration and alliances on key gender equality issues across women’s rights actors, women’s leaders and women’s organizations at the local level. |
| 1. **Timeframe**

UN Women is seeking partners to implement projects of up to two years between January 2021 and December 2023. |
| 1. **Competencies:**

Technical/functional competencies required;* + Demonstrated focus on women’s rights and gender equality and Syria;
	+ Track record in holding dialogues across diverse communities;
	+ Experience in implementing programming that draws on peacebuilding frameworks and use of conflict sensitive approaches;
	+ Capacity to deliver expected results: governance and management competency, and financial and administrative competency; and
	+ Relevance of the mandate and the role of the organization to implement expected results and to contribute to the sustainability of said results.

Other competencies, which while not required, can be an asset for the performance of services* + National organizations based within the Middle East, youth organizations, and disability person organizations (DPOs) are strongly encouraged to apply.
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Those interested in participating in the process should forward their expression of interest to UN-WOMEN (roas.cfp@unwomen.org) by 01 December 2020 enclosing the information listed below.

* Full legal name and address of applying institution
* Copy of valid legal registration in the country
* Mandate or mission statement of organization
* Statement of organization’s expertise in the relevant area
* Description of the organization’s existing operations in the subject matter area, including how long the operations have been carried out.

Upon receipt of the above information from prospective Responsible Parties, UN-Women will review applicants for placement on a short-list of potential Responsible Parties.

Those short-listed candidates may be invited to submit formal proposals using the standard UN-Women Call for Proposal template to become a Responsible Party. The Call for Proposal will provide a more detailed description of the scope of work.

Note:

Due to the high volume of communications, UN-Women is not in a position to confirm receipt of the expression of interests.