

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST [TO BE ISSUED BY UNHCR]

Note: The purpose of the Call for Expression of Interest (CfEol) is to solicit interest from existing or prospective partners that wish to collaborate with UNHCR to achieve common outcomes.

UNHCR Offices are required to provide context for the partnership and selection criteria. A sample template for a Call for Expression of Interest (CfEol) is below.

Please note that the following template mirrors the structure of the information required on the UNPP for the CfEol. Any supplementary information should be attached as an additional document.

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CfEol)

| Project Details | |
|--|---|
| CfEol ID | HCR/AFG/2024/005 |
| Title | Provision of Cash Assistance and CRI (Core Relief Items) to People We Serve in Afghanistan |
| Project/Programme Focal Point(s) | Mildred Watchipa, Snr Programme Officer John Melkenbeek, Snr Supply Officer |
| Project location | 20 PARRs with limited interventions in other areas subject to assessment findings. Focus will be on refugee returnees as main target population. Interventions outside the 20 PARR areas will be very limited as it will depend on the number of refugee returnees to these non-PARR areas. Please refer Annex A2 - 2025-2027 PARRs |
| Sector(s) and Area(s) of Specialization | |
| Sector(s) | Well-Being and Basic Needs |
| <u>Area(s) of Specialization</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of supplies, including basic and domestic items Cash and voucher assistance |
| Issued by | UNHCR |
| Project background: | |
| Processing of personal data ¹ (if required within the partnership) | C2P arrangement |
| Direct contact with forcibly displaced and stateless persons | YES |
| Operational Context and Objectives: | |
| <p>Afghanistan is one of the world's most complex humanitarian emergencies, driven by decades of conflict, climate change and natural disasters, socio-economic consequences of COVID-19 and financial system shocks precipitated by the change in leadership in August 2021 compounded by pre-existing dire socio-economic conditions in the country.</p> <p>These conditions have adversely impacted the overall well-being of displaced groups (refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, IDP returnees, and refugee returnees) as well as vulnerable host communities resulting in increased recourse to harmful coping mechanisms to fulfil their basic</p> | |

¹ Please see below for arrangement definitions for processing of personal data.

needs including early/child and forced marriages, child labour, irregular migration, substance abuse, resort to illegal or exploitative forms of labour among others.

In the Afghan context, in situations of conflict-induced displacement (both internal and across borders), following return from countries of asylum during the initial stages of the reintegration process, and in a consequence of widespread humanitarian needs, many community safety networks are broken down or are not accessible. Displacement and crisis, therefore, become the cause of new risks, affecting particularly the most vulnerable segments of the population. Services provided by government institutions often lack the necessary equipment, outreach capacity and resources to provide adequate support and social protection.

The cash-based interventions are part of strengthening the Protection Environment for the people we serve including refugees and asylum-seekers, refugee returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), IDP returnees and vulnerable members of host communities which is implemented either by UNHCR contracted Money Service Providers (MSPs) or implementing partners. Additionally, UNHCR delivers Non-Food Items (NFIs) through implementing partners to the most vulnerable population during emergencies.

The selected partner will be responsible to conduct:

- Distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs)
- Transport and distribution arrangement of NFIs.
- Manage and organize Cash-Based Interventions (CBIs) distribution at UNHCR Encashment Centres and other distribution points across the selected provinces in the 20 Priority Areas of Return (PARRs).
- Direct delivery of cash to PSN and Legal Assistance (limited cases)

Expected results:

Outcome Area 8: Well-Being and Basic Needs

Outcome Statement: More IDPs, asylum-seekers, refugees and returnees have access to services that meet their basic needs.

Output Statement: Returnees (Refugees and IDP) are provided with basic support.

Output Statement: IDPs are provided with basic support.

Output Statement: Refugees and asylum seekers are provided with basic support.

UNHCR Afghanistan is dedicated to delivering a range of targeted cash interventions to address the diverse needs of refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, IDP returnees, and refugee returnees and vulnerable host communities, with a primary focus on providing cash assistance and CRI. These assistances aim to promote the self-reliance, dignity, and sustainable reintegration of beneficiaries, enabling them to meet their basic needs and build resilience in the face of displacement.

Through various cash assistance and in-kind programs, UNHCR aims to achieve improved socio-economic and protection outcomes for beneficiaries, enhancing their resilience and contributing to durable solutions to displacement. The outputs encompass a wide range of interventions, including support for small and medium enterprises, facilitation of job placements, implementation of cash-for-work programs, provision of assistance for higher education, and support for shelter-related needs.

Additionally, UNHCR will provide multipurpose cash assistance to facilitate the reintegration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugee returnees, support which contributes to sustainable voluntary repatriation return and reintegration efforts, and address the specific needs of forcibly Afghan returnees, IDPs and returnee individuals. These interventions will be

implemented across various regions of Afghanistan, targeting vulnerable populations including women, children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and marginalized groups.

Through these efforts, UNHCR seeks to provide comprehensive support to refugees, asylum seekers, IDPs, IDP returnees, and refugee returnees) and vulnerable host communities in Afghanistan, empowering them to rebuild their lives and pursue sustainable futures.

The selected partner will perform the following activities:

- Facilitate the CBI distribution in UNHCR 5 encashment centres.
- Arrange/manage the venue and facilitate the Cash-Based and CRIs distributions in PARRs and out of PARRs areas.
- Conduct On-site monitoring of CBI and CRI distributions.
- Coordinating distribution of CBIs and CRIs with local authorities, communities and beneficiaries
- Effectively maintain coordination with UNHCR contracted financial service provider and other partners for the distribution of CBIs and CRIs.
- Coordination with UNHCR contracted 3rd party monitoring partner for the conduct of Post-Distribution Monitoring and other monitoring activities.

To ensure the adequate protection of forcibly displaced and stateless persons, UNHCR requires partners to adhere to applicable sector standards outlined within [UNHCR's areas of specialization](#).

Indicative budget (optional):

N/A

Processing of personal data (if required within the partnership):

The partner will process and use some of the data for persons we serve through the Controller-to-processor (C2P). Hence, the partner will require to conduct Partner Data Protection and Information Security Self-Assessment using this link "[Partner Data Protection and Information Security Self-Assessment](#)" and should be completed at the country level and submitted with the concept note."

Controller-to-processor (C2P) is a relationship between UNHCR and a partner for processing the data of forcibly displaced and stateless persons. UNHCR is the data controller, defining the purposes and essential means of the personal data processing. The Partner processes the personal data on behalf of UNHCR and under UNHCR's instructions. UNHCR is accountable for the personal data processing including the responsibility for addressing requests by data subjects relating to their data subject rights. See also Controller-to-Controller (C2C).

Other information (optional):

Concept note.

The concept note should be concise and contain clear information on proposed activities specifying Outcome area, outcome statement and specific activities that Partner is able to implement, indicating location of implementation. Concept notes should not exceed six pages and should not be a fully developed project proposal, should make clear reference to guidelines and other similar approved interagency tools and must be submitted in a Template attached to this call for EoI as **Annex A1**. Budget should be included in the concept note as a table or submitted separately as an attachment.

Important Notes: All applicant NGOs in Afghanistan are required to register the organization, if not yet done, on the UN Partner Portal- <https://unpartnerportal.org>; upload all required

documents, including Concept Notes, budget and other supporting documents in response to this call for Expression of Interest by **24 October 2024 midnight Afghanistan time**.

UNHCR is committed in undertaking adequate due diligence and conduct the process of selection of partners in an objective, consistent, transparent and timely manner. All applicant organizations will receive written notification on the outcome of the selection process.

| CfEol timeline | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Request for clarification deadline: 23 rd October 2024 | Application deadline: 24 th October 2024 | Notification of results: 15 th November 2024 | Estimated start date: 1 st January 2025 | Estimated end date: 31 st December 2025 |

| Selection Criteria | | |
|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| | Criteria Description | Assigned Weighting |
| | <p>Sector expertise and experience: the required specific skills, sector specialists, performance, knowledge, material and human resources. Knowledge of relevant protection, humanitarian principles and the approach to Age, Gender, Diversity (AGDM). Approach to the participation of forcibly displaced and stateless persons in the Programme Cycle. Partner's PSEA capacity self-assessment and data protection and information security self-assessment have been completed and submitted (where relevant to the partnership).</p> <p>Mainstreaming measures to integrate environmental sustainability within proposed activities. Environmental considerations are aligned to the objectives of UNHCR's Strategic Framework for Climate Action.</p> | 35 |
| | <p>Project management: ability to effectively deliver project objectives with robust management systems/processes, and meet the expectations of all stakeholders, as well as provide accountability mechanisms and sound financial management, taking into account the audit results of the previous UNHCR-funded projects, past performance and the external audit of partners' financial statements and pending open audit recommendations (accounts receivables and internal control related recommendations) where applicable. Clear segregation of duties policy, as well as the integration of risk management; adequate control over procurement, of assets and inventory (if applicable).</p> | 25 |
| | <p>Local experience and presence: ongoing programme in the area of operation; local knowledge; participation in inter-agency coordination fora, engaging forcibly displaced and stateless persons in the programme cycle; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; feedback and complaint mechanisms for affected communities; self-organized groups of forcibly displaced and stateless persons; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the affected communities and that would reduce administrative difficulties.</p> | 20 |

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| | <p>Cost effective: Evidence of a methodology for allocation of shared costs to project activities. Evidence of procedures/systems that ensure maximum resources are directed to project outcomes while also ensuring that resources are also directed to activities that ensure project risks are being appropriately managed.</p> | 10 |
| | <p>Access/ Security Considerations: ability to operate in security conditions of the Project site(s) or country as well as existence and functionality of partner's organizational policies, procedures and practices related to security risk management.</p> | 10 |

Issuing UNHCR Office UNHCR Kabul, Afghanistan

Contact Address ICON Compound, Kabul, Afghanistan

Signature, Head of Office 

Full name and title, Head of Office PP. Arafat Jamal, Representative

Name of UNHCR Office UNHCR Kabul, Afghanistan.

Date 26th September 2024