

Call for Expression of Interest

MARLA RUZICKA IRAQI WAR VICTIM FUNDS

IOM Iraq

- **CEOI REF No: 22542**
- **Eligible organizations:** Locally Registered Civil Society Organizations in Iraq
- **Locations:** Sinjar or Duhok
- **Budget:** 65,500,000 IQD (equivalent to 50,000 USD as per [UN Exchange Rate](#)). **Budget must be prepared in IQD.**
- **Implementation Period:** 1 Jan 2025 to 31 July 2025 - 7 months
- **Deadline for submission of questions:** November 25, 2024
- **Deadline for submission of applications:** December 9, 2024

Requests for clarification or additional information must be submitted in writing to nelkobrousli@iom.int; aalatroshi@iom.int; kkassis@iom.int before **November 25, 2024**. IOM will compile all questions and respond to all organizations shortly after. To ensure transparency, IOM will not engage in bilateral discussions with organizations during the application period.

Completed applications must be submitted by email to nelkobrousli@iom.int; aalatroshi@iom.int; copying kkassis@iom.int with subject line **"NAME OF CEI – Proposal - *Name of Organization*"** before **December 9, 2024**. Applications must be completed in English. A completed application must include:

1. Annex A – Narrative Proposal
2. Annex B – Financial Proposal
3. Annex C – Declaration of Conformity (Signed and Stamped)
4. Annex D – Completed questionnaire (signed and stamped) on organizational capacity
5. Copy of organizational registration

PLEASE NOTE THAT SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUNDING

Project Background

Iraq is at a critical juncture, emerging from conflict with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and a long history of internecine conflict which have set back the country's economic, social, cultural, educational and security development substantially. Iraq grapples with many of the features of the so-called "conflict trap", in which the cumulative effects of Iraq's conflicts on development leave the country vulnerable to the recurrence of conflict. As the country transitions from a humanitarian-oriented context to a growing focus on development, the role of civil society actors is becoming increasingly important.

Paragraph on the problem/issue that this CEI is expecting to address with references to internal reports/research/DTM as much as possible

This Partnership focuses on addressing the protection challenges faced by displaced populations in IDPs camps (Dohuk) or in areas of return in Ninawa- particularly Sinjar. Both locations present significant protection risks, especially for survivors of war, who face heightened vulnerability. Findings from protection monitoring shows that returns to areas of origin often means inadequate shelter, strained access to services, and increased vulnerability to exploitation, and gender-based violence (GBV). The CEI aims to mitigate these protection risks by implementing specialized protection services and bolstering community-based protection interventions facilitating better response and strengthening coordination with local authorities to ensure a safer, more sustainable transition for displaced individuals.

Program Description

IOM plans to collaborate with a civil society organization (CSO) to deliver specialized protection services with a focus on community-based protection. This initiative aims to support survivors of mass atrocities in IDP camps within the Dohuk governorate and in Areas of Return in Sinjar, Ninewa governorate. The selected CSO will receive IQD 65,500,000 to design and implement tailored interventions aimed at addressing the specific protection needs of vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities, and those at heightened risk of exploitation and gender-based violence (GBV).

While we will define key outcomes—such as improved access to psychosocial support, strengthened community-based protection mechanisms, and enhanced GBV prevention and response services— the CSO will have the flexibility to develop innovative and contextually appropriate interventions to achieve these goals. Through this partnership, IOM aims to enhance protection services in camps and areas of return, ensuring a safer and more supportive environment for displaced individuals during this transitional period.

1. Provide Specialized Protection Case Management

A. General Protection and GBV Case Management

The Civil Society Organization (CSO) will deliver specialized case management services for individuals at risk of or survivors of violence, exploitation, and abuse. This includes both General Protection and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) case management, in line with international protection principles and standards. Case management will provide holistic, survivor-centered support through comprehensive needs assessments, safety planning, and referrals to medical, legal, and psychosocial services. Special attention will be given to vulnerable groups such as women, children, and persons with disabilities to ensure they receive timely, appropriate care and assistance.

Integrating recreational activities within operational areas is essential. These activities will actively engage community members, offering a safe environment for vulnerable individuals to access protection services. In addition, recreational activities foster trust and strengthen community bonds, facilitating access to specialized services, such as case management, protection information services, and referrals. Overall, these efforts aim to enhance the protection environment for displaced and at-risk populations.

B. Safe and Timely Referrals

All referrals, whether internal or external, will be conducted promptly and safely. This will be facilitated by maintaining an up-to-date service mapping of available protection services, enabling case managers to make well-informed, effective referrals.

2. Protection Information Services

Provision of Protection information services to help individuals understand their rights, risks, and available services. This will be achieved through the delivery of:

- Individual information counselling, where vulnerable individuals will receive personalized advice on how to access protection services.
- Group information sessions, tailored to the needs of specific groups such as female-headed households, child-headed households, and people with disabilities. These sessions will cover key protection topics, such as human rights, and GBV prevention topics.
- Community outreach activities, CSOs will conduct outreach and mobile interventions to reach those most in need of protection services. aimed at raising awareness among displaced about their rights and services. These activities will link vulnerable individuals to essential services through referrals.
- **Community-Based Protection services**

Implementation of Community-Based Protection activities that center on empowering communities to address their own protection needs and risks. This will involve engaging community members in the design, implementation, and evaluation of protection activities, fostering resilience and shared responsibility for mitigating risks such as exploitation and violence. The CSO will support the formation of community protection committees and peer networks, working in close collaboration with local authorities to identify and address protection gaps effectively. These community-led efforts aim to create sustainable, locally owned solutions, empowering communities to take a proactive role in their own protection and prevent violence and exploitation.

Mandatory Organizational Requirements

Application organizations must meet the following requirements and qualifications:

- Registered as a local non-governmental organization in Iraq. Applications from individuals and government bodies will not be accepted.
- Currently operating in the district for which they are applying.
- Financial capacity to pre-finance 30% of the activities to ensure timely start of implementation – this will be refunded by IOM.

- Strong project management skills, as evidenced by the successful delivery of projects and grants.
- Experience of delivering community-based interventions in the fields of protection, , community resilience, advocacy, and/or awareness raising.
- Ability to work proficiently in English for project management and monitoring and evaluation purposes (with delivery to be conducted in local languages).

Evaluation Criteria

All completed applications will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria. Proposals must:

- Have clear and concrete objectives, communicated simply.
- Contribute to the objectives of the Call for Proposal.
- Be realistic and achievable, considering the budget and timeframe.

Applications will be evaluated and scored by an evaluation committee of IOM program and operational staff in line with the below selection criteria and weighting.

Evaluation Criteria	Weight	Details
Organizational Capacity	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong and relevant mission statement • Office in the district where activities will be conducted • Inclusion of female and youth in decision-making • Capacity to implement M&E activities
Relevant Experience	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track record in implementing projects that contribute to community engagement and mobilization with experience in implementing protection-focused interventions that empower community members. • Expertise and experience in developing and implementing specialized and Community-Based protection interventions.
Quality of Intervention	35%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal alignment with Call for Expression of Interest and the Protection Plan of Action for the district where activities will be conducted • Demonstrated ability to meet the beneficiary objectives listed in the Call for Expression of Interest • Demonstrated understanding of context and challenges in the district where activities will be conducted • Demonstrated existing relations with key stakeholders identified as crucial for project implementation • Realistic execution plan • Clear logic framework with outcomes, outputs, and measurement indicators Explicit inclusion of cross-cutting themes: disability inclusion, gender mainstreaming, accountability to affected populations, do-no-harm, conflict sensitivity
Innovation	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creativity and innovative activities

Budget	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed cost overview as per budget template • Realistic and competitive budgeting • Clear description of budget lines • Staff & Office percentage not exceeding 30% of total budget
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Links to the relevant documents: