

GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS ON CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM (DHAKA TIME) ON 1st March 2019

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1. PURPOSE OF THIS CALL

The purpose of this Call for Expressions of Interest (the Call) is to announce the availability of funding from GCERF in BANGLADESH and to solicit Expressions of Interest from potential recipients. Specific details concerning the purpose and amount of funding available, and guidance on the eligibility requirements of applicants are contained in the Call package.

2. WHAT IS GCERF?

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) is a unique global effort to support local, community-level initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience against violent extremist agendas. As a public-private partnership operating at the nexus of security and development, GCERF works with governments, civil society, the private sector, and the international community in beneficiary countries to support national strategies and action plans to address the local drivers of violent extremism. The relevance of GCERF has been reinforced by the 2016 United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. Please find further information on GCERF in the attached Factsheets.

3. WHAT IS A GCERF CONSORTIUM?

A GCERF Consortium is a group of entities that agree voluntarily to work together to accomplish defined objectives in the areas of community engagement, resilience, and preventing radicalisation and violent extremism. Each Consortium is structured around and led by a Principal Recipient (see note 4) and made up of a number of Sub-Recipients (see note 9).

4. CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF PRINCIPAL RECIPIENT

A Principal Recipient is the lead agency for a Consortium of Sub-Recipients, and the primary recipient of funding from GCERF. A Principal Recipient may be any local or national non-governmental or non-profit organisation including: independent political foundations; community-based organisations; and private sector non-profit organisations. It must have a valid legal status in the country of operation and be able to enter into grant agreements with a foreign organisation.

Once selected, a potential Principal Recipient is expected to form a Consortium of potential Sub-Recipients that meets the expectations of both a GCERF Consortium and of GCERF's definition of Sub-Recipients (see note 9). A Principal Recipient is responsible for coordinating the development of a Consortium Proposal. A Principal Recipient is expected to secure letters of support from each potential Sub-Recipient confirming its willingness to be part of a Consortium prior to the submission of a Consortium Proposal.

A Principal Recipient is expected to enter into a contractual agreement with GCERF as lead agency and administrator on behalf of the Consortium and all of its Sub-Recipients. As a condition of this contractual agreement, Principal Recipients will be expected to sign sub-contracting or contribution agreements with all Sub-Recipients who will receive financial or non-financial

support under the terms of the Grant Agreement. Costs associated with leading and administering a Consortium will be reimbursed to the Principal Recipient.

A Principal Recipient is expected to lead and coordinate the implementation of a GCERF Grant Agreement's approved programme of work. Once a Grant Agreement between GCERF and a Principal Recipient has been signed, GCERF will begin the disbursement of funds to a Principal Recipient. Note that for this specific call, funding will be distributed on a rolling basis based on its availability. A Principal Recipient may be responsible for the implementation of some programmatic activities itself and will also be responsible for the disbursements to Sub-Recipients of funds for pre-defined programme activities. A Principal Recipient will be responsible for assessing and developing its' own capacities and those of its Sub-Recipients.

A Principal Recipient is responsible for the financial accountability and management of grant funds received by all members of the Consortium. This includes managing the grant budget, disbursing funds, overseeing the use of those funds in accordance with the applicable standards defined in the Grant Agreement, ensuring timely and accurate reporting on the use of funds, facilitating financial reviews and audits, and preventing and combatting the misuse of funds. A Principal Recipient may make financial resources available to Sub-Recipients in a variety of ways such as cash transfers or the provision of materials or services.

Principal Recipients are expected to monitor and evaluate the progress of Sub-Recipients. In addition to routine oversight of Sub-Recipients, a Principal Recipient is required to provide quarterly programmatic updates and financial reports to GCERF. GCERF financial management requirements are rigorous. A Principal Recipient is expected to ensure the financial accountability and management of all grant funds managed by them, including those it disburses to Sub-Recipients. The expenses reported by a Principal Recipient on behalf of a Consortium will be audited regularly.

5. WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS FOR PRINCIPAL RECIPIENTS?

PREREQUISITES

- Appropriate legal registration (see note 4).
- Willingness to accept and fulfil the role of a Principal Recipient (see note 4).

REQUIRED CAPABILITIES

- Established relationships and credibility with the communities and population groups in the geographical areas identified in the Call.
- Experience and capacity in programme design and management, and project cycle management.
- Experience and capacity in financial management and in the management of and accounting for international donor grant funding.
- Experience and capacity in working within a Consortium and/or managing sub-recipients.

- Experience and capacity in community-level initiatives that address the local drivers of violent extremism and strengthen resilience against violent extremist agendas. GCERF has two prerequisites and five required capabilities for the role of Principal Recipient:

6. HOW ARE POTENTIAL PRINCIPAL RECIPIENTS SELECTED?

The grant application process begins with an open, public call for expressions of interest from potential Principal Recipients. All organisations that submit a duly completed Expression of Interest will be considered. The selection of a potential Principal Recipient is a joint decision made by the GCERF Country Support Mechanism (CSM) and GCERF Secretariat. It is based on an assessment of each Expression of Interest followed by a rigorous due diligence process for the shortlisted applicants. Both the assessment and the due diligence will inform the final decision of the selection of potential Principal Recipients. All applicants will be notified as to whether or not they have been selected as potential Principal Recipients. **Note that organisations with proven successful PVE experience will be given priority.**

7. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER POTENTIAL PRINCIPAL RECIPIENTS ARE SELECTED?

Once selected, a potential Principal Recipient is invited to develop and submit a Consortium Proposal (see note 8). The Secretariat will provide potential Principal Recipients with guidance and technical support in the development of its Consortium Proposal. All potential Principal Recipients that submit a duly completed Consortium Proposal will be considered by the GCERF Country Support Mechanism (CSM) (see Appendix 1 PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM: THE ROLE OF GCERF) for inclusion in its National Application for funding. Proposals within the National Application are expected to contribute to the relevant national strategy to prevent and counter violent extremism where they exist, and fall into the priorities outlined in the call for expression of interest and any additional guidance. A country's National Application is submitted to GCERF's international Independent Review Panel for review and a funding recommendation before submission to GCERF's Governing Board for a funding decision. All potential Principal Recipients are then notified as to whether or not their Consortium Proposal has been successful.

8. WHAT IS A CONSORTIUM PROPOSAL?

A Consortium Proposal is a joint funding proposal from a Consortium for a clearly defined programme of work. The development of a Consortium Proposal is led by a potential Principal Recipient once it has been selected based on the assessment process. A Principal Recipient is responsible for engaging potential Sub-Recipients (see note 9) in the development of and implementation of successful applications. GCERF will provide detailed guidance on the format and content of a Consortium Proposal.

9. CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF SUB-RECIPIENT

A Sub-Recipient is any member of a GCERF Consortium other than the Principal Recipients that receives resources under the terms of a Grant Agreement with GCERF. Sub-Recipients may be non-governmental non-profit organisations and independent political foundations; community-based organisations (which may have informal organisational structures); private sector non-profit agencies; institutions and organisations; and networks thereof; sub-national public sector

entities; non-profit agencies; and/or institutions and organisations and networks at the local and national level. There is no prescribed limit on to the number of Sub-Recipients in a GCERF Consortium.

A Sub-Recipient is expected to be closely linked to its local community and have credibility with its intended audience/beneficiaries/participants. When engaged by a potential Principal Recipient, a Sub-Recipient is expected to sign a written agreement with the potential Principal Recipient confirming its participation as detailed in its Consortium Proposal. If a Consortium Proposal is approved for funding, a Sub-Recipient is expected to enter into a sub-contracting or contribution agreement with the Principal Recipient. A Sub-Recipient is responsible for implementing a part or parts of a GCERF Grant Agreement's approved programme of work under the terms and conditions of such an agreement.

10. COMMUNICATION DURING AND AFTER THIS CALL

Should you require clarification of specific aspects of this Call you may contact call.bangladesh@gcerf.org.

11. SUBMISSION

Please submit your completed Expression of Interest form to call.bangladesh@gcerf.org by **5:00PM (DHAKA TIME) ON 1st March 2019**. The email should imperatively have 'EOI-BANGLADESH' in the subject line.

Receipt of your organisation's Expression of Interest Form will be acknowledged within two working days of submission.

12. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

GCERF and its national CSMs do not charge applicants any fee at any stage in the application process. At the same time, GCERF and its national CSMs do not accept any responsibility for any financial costs associated with an applicant's preparation of this Expression of Interest.

GCERF reserves the right to cancel or amend the Call for Expressions of Interest from Principal Recipients at any time throughout the process. This includes, but is not limited to the amendment of the terms, deadlines, and eligibility criteria of the Call.

GCERF is not obligated, and makes no commitment, to fund eligible organisations or selected potential Principal Recipients invited to submit a Consortium Proposal.