

Specific Call for Expression of Interest, COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

The purpose of this Specific Call for Expression of Interest is to identify eligible national Civil Society Organisations for prospective partnerships supporting UNICEF in COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement Initiatives. Eligible Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) are invited to submit proposals for partnership highlighting their relevant capacities, expertise, skills and ability to support the delivery of sought results outlined below.

Organizations that wish to participate in this Specific Call for Expression of Interest are requested to send their submission (signed and stamped by the authorized officer) clearly marked "CSO Specific Call for Expression of Interest – COVID-19 RCCE" at the following address:

chisinau@unicef.org

or deliver in a sealed envelope at
UNICEF Moldova
131, "31 August 1989" Str.,
Chisinau, MD 2012, Republic of Moldova

Any requests for additional information should be addressed in writing to Corina Garabajiu cgarabajiu@unicef.org

Applications will be assessed by an evaluation committee to identify CSOs that have the mandate, capacities and comparative advantage to support achievement of results for children using criteria outlined in section 3 below. It should be noted that participation in this Specific Call for Expression of Interest does not guarantee the CSO will be ultimately selected for partnership with UNICEF. Selected NGOs will be invited to review and finalise partnership agreements in accordance with criteria outlined in section 3.4 below and applicable policy and procedures on partnership with CSOs.

Applicant CSOs will be informed of the outcome of their submissions by communication sent out to the email/ postal address that is indicated in the CSO submission.

Section 1: Background

<p>1.1 UNICEF mandate</p>	<p>UNICEF is the agency of the United Nations mandated to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.</p> <p>UNICEF's response is aligned with the 2020 UNICEF COVID-19 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal, and in accordance with UN Moldova preparedness plan.</p>
<p>1.2 UNICEF Programme of Cooperation and Humanitarian Response Plan in Moldova</p>	<p>COVID-19 is more than a health crisis; it is also an information and socio-economic crisis. The pandemic has prompted the deepest global recession in nearly a century, pushing millions of people into extreme poverty. The potential losses that may accrue in learning for today's young generation, and for the development of their human potential, are hard to fathom. Schools for more than 168 million children globally have been completely closed for almost an entire year due to COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020. At least 463 million children worldwide were unable to access remote learning during COVID-19 school closures in 2020. Due to COVID-19 measures, approximately 80 million children under the age of 1 in at least 68 countries may miss out on receiving life-saving vaccines against preventable diseases.</p>

	<p>People's behaviors and their willingness to vaccinate, follow public health, social distancing and other measures remain some of the most important weapons to stop the spread of the virus. Consequently, there is an unprecedented need to elevate the role risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) play in breaking the chains of transmission and mitigating the impact of the pandemic.</p>
1.3 Specific results	<p>Within this framework, prospective CSO partners are invited to demonstrate their ability and motivation to support the successful delivery of the following results for children:</p> <p>Result Area: COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective coordination mechanisms for RCCE are established/strengthened as an integral part of the national response • Tailored messages on COVID-19 prevention and on what to do in case of infection are disseminated to the wider public using appropriate mass media. • Targeted affected/ vulnerable groups in high-risk communities are reached with tailored messages addressing relevant socio-cultural barriers, mis/disinformation about COVID19, and related stigma; targeted groups can access effective feedback mechanisms to obtain accurate information • Outreach targeting high-risk communities/groups, including staff in education facilities, is conducted through context appropriate interpersonal and community-level channels to help reinforce COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures and minimize its impacts. • Capacity building of the media on fact checking while reporting on COVID-19 immunization, including of children. <p>Applicant can submit only one full application supported by one comprehensive program proposal outlining clearly the capacities and skills to deliver programs for one or more of the above mentioned result area.</p>

Section 2: Application requirements and timelines		
2.1 Documentation required for the submission	<p>The expression of interest shall include the following documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of CSO registration in the country of origin • Copy of CSO registration in Moldova • Attachment I – CSO Partner Declaration, Profile and Due Diligence Verification Form • Attachment II - Programme Proposal and/or Programme document(s). <p>A maximum of 1 proposal may be submitted by the same CSO</p>	
2.1 Indicative timelines	Call for Expression of Interest issue date	15 December 2021
	Deadline for submissions of CSO proposals	06 february 2022
	Deadline for requests of additional information/ clarifications	15 January 2022
	Review of CSO submissions	15 February 2022
	Notification of results communicated to CSO	28 February 2022

Section 3: Process and timelines

<p>3.1 Review & evaluation of CSO submissions</p>	<p>CSO submissions are assessed by the Partnership Review Committee in consultation with technical specialists, using the criteria outlined in section 3.2 and 3.3 below. Only CSO submissions which comply with the requirements of the eligibility and exclusion criteria will be eligible for further evaluation. Results from the review will be used for purposes of mapping and selection of CSOs in relation to the specific results outlined in section 1.3 above. It should be noted that participation to this Call for Expression of Interest however does not guarantee CSOs will be ultimately selected for a partnership agreement with UNICEF. UNICEF reserves the right to invite selected partners to review and finalise proposals for partnerships in line with criteria outlined in section 3.4 below and in accordance with applicable policy and procedures on partnership with CSOs.</p>							
<p>3.2 Eligibility & exclusion criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligibility criteria: CSO must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) be registered in the Republic of Moldova, or local branches of International NGOs. b) not be an entity named on any of the UN Security Council targeted sanction lists. • Exclusion criteria CSO submission which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) do not include all required documents duly completed and signed or do not comply with specifications set in this Call for Expression of Interest; b) are not submitted in English; will be excluded from the selection process. 							
<p>3.3 Selection criteria</p>	<p>UNICEF office will review evidence provided by the CSO submission and assess applications based on the following criteria:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="407 1045 1427 1629"> <tr> <td data-bbox="407 1045 678 1220"> <p>Proposal relevance, quality and coherence (60%)</p> </td> <td data-bbox="678 1045 1427 1220"> <p>Includes review of the proposed programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of the proposal to achieving expected results; • Clarity of activities and expected results; • Innovative approach; • Sustainability of intervention; </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="407 1220 678 1457"> <p>Institutional capacity and sustainability (30%)</p> </td> <td data-bbox="678 1220 1427 1457"> <p>Includes a review of the CSO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise and experience in the sector/result area; • Local experience, presence and community relations; • Management ability; • Experience working with UN/UNICEF • Experience in working with government at central and local level </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="407 1457 678 1629"> <p>Other [<i>as defined by Office</i>] (10%).</p> </td> <td data-bbox="678 1457 1427 1629"> <p>Includes a review of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven record of delivering programs for children and adolescents, including building capacities • Replicability/scalability of proposed approach; • Access/security considerations; </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Proposal relevance, quality and coherence (60%)</p>	<p>Includes review of the proposed programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of the proposal to achieving expected results; • Clarity of activities and expected results; • Innovative approach; • Sustainability of intervention; 	<p>Institutional capacity and sustainability (30%)</p>	<p>Includes a review of the CSO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise and experience in the sector/result area; • Local experience, presence and community relations; • Management ability; • Experience working with UN/UNICEF • Experience in working with government at central and local level 	<p>Other [<i>as defined by Office</i>] (10%).</p>	<p>Includes a review of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven record of delivering programs for children and adolescents, including building capacities • Replicability/scalability of proposed approach; • Access/security considerations;
<p>Proposal relevance, quality and coherence (60%)</p>	<p>Includes review of the proposed programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of the proposal to achieving expected results; • Clarity of activities and expected results; • Innovative approach; • Sustainability of intervention; 							
<p>Institutional capacity and sustainability (30%)</p>	<p>Includes a review of the CSO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise and experience in the sector/result area; • Local experience, presence and community relations; • Management ability; • Experience working with UN/UNICEF • Experience in working with government at central and local level 							
<p>Other [<i>as defined by Office</i>] (10%).</p>	<p>Includes a review of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven record of delivering programs for children and adolescents, including building capacities • Replicability/scalability of proposed approach; • Access/security considerations; 							
<p>3.4 Prospective partnership agreement</p>	<p>All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their submissions by communication sent out to the email/ postal address that is indicated in the CSO submission.</p> <p>Applicants whose proposals are assessed as having a specific comparative advantage to achieve results for children outlined in 1.3 above may be invited to jointly review and finalise the partnership agreement based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritisation of proposed intervention in line with the work plan; • Availability of funding to support proposed intervention; 							

- Complementarity or proposed action with ongoing interventions;

Upon finalisation at technical level, the proposal for partnership will be submitted to the Representative for review and approval. It should be noted however that the Representative has the final authority to approve or reject any proposed partnership agreement on behalf of UNICEF.

Attachment I – CSO Partner Declaration, Profile and Due Diligence Verification Form

The purpose of this declaration is to determine whether a prospective partner is committed to UNICEF values and principles.

Information provided in this form will be used to inform the review and evaluation of CSO submissions as outlined in the Call for Expression of Interest under section 3.

Name of organization:			
Acronym:			
Type of organization (select only one)	<input type="checkbox"/> National NGO (an NGO that is established in only one country) <input type="checkbox"/> Community-based organization (grassroots association) <input type="checkbox"/> Academic institution (a degree conferring institution) <input type="checkbox"/> International NGO (an NGO that has offices in more than one country)		
Head of organization:			
Deputy head of organization:			
Declarations	Yes	No	
1. By answering yes, the organization confirms that it is committed to the core values of the UN, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD): http://www.unicef.org/crc/ http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CEDAW.aspx http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/convention/convoptprot-e.pdf			
2. By answering yes, the organization confirms that it is a non-profit entity. <i>Attach the statute or constitutional document establishing the entity as a non-profit organization.</i>			
3. By answering yes, the organization confirms that it is legally registered in the country of implementation. <i>Attach official registration in the country of implementation. If the response is no, provide explanation:</i>			
4. By answering yes, the organization confirms that it is committed to prohibiting and combatting fraud and corruption ¹ , sexual exploitation and abuse ² , and child safeguarding violations. Furthermore, the organization confirms that it is committed to promoting the protection and safeguarding of children ³ .			
5. By answering yes, the organization confirms that neither the organization nor any of its members is mentioned on the United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions			

¹ In line with provisions of [CF/EXD/2013-008](#) "Policy Prohibiting and Combatting Fraud and Corruption"

² In line with provisions of [ST/SGB/2003/13](#) entitled "Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse"

³ in line with provisions of [CF/EXD/2016-006](#) "Policy on Conduct Promoting the Protection and Safeguarding of Children"

<p>List, and that the organization has not supported and does not support, directly or indirectly, individuals and entities sanctioned by the Committee or any person involved in any other manner that is prohibited by a resolution of the United Nations Security Council adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.</p> <p><i>Attach the list of the organization board members, if applicable.</i></p>		
<p>6. By answering yes, the organization confirms that it is committed to transparency and accountability.</p> <p><i>FOR INGOs only: Provide link to publicly available annual reports and/or certified financial statements</i></p>		

I declare, as an official representative of the above-named organization, that the information provided in this declaration and attached documentation is complete and accurate, and I understand that it is subject to UNICEF verification.

Name of partner _____

Name and title of the duly authorized partner representative _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Section 1. CSO information		
1.1 Contact details	Address	
	Telephone	
	Email	
	Website	

Section 2. CSO expertise and experience in the sector area	
2.1 CSO mandate, sector area and geographic coverage	Outline the organization's mandate, field of work and geographic coverage
2.2 Available expertise and specialists	
2.3 Key results achieved over the past 5 years	Outline of key results achieved in sector area in recent years, including any recognition received at local / global level for the work in the sector area

Section 3. Local experience, presence and community relations

3.1 Ongoing programmes in sector area	Outline of type / scope of ongoing programmes in the sector area
3.2 Knowledge of the local context	Outline of presence and community relations in the proposed programme location(s)
3.3 Existing networks	Outline of ongoing collaborations with national institutions and local communities in the sector area

Section 4. Management ability	
4.1 Annual budget	Size of annual budget (previous year, USD)
	Source of core funds or income
	Main funding partners/ donors
4.2 Core staff	Outline of number and key functions of core organization staff
4.3 Any other information demonstrating financial capacity	E.g. results of previous capacity assessments if available (such as the micro assessment)

Section 5. Experience working with UN / UNICEF				
Programme/project title	Total budget (USD)	Funding UN agency	Year end	Key results achieved
1.				
2.				
3.				

Attachment II – Programme Proposal (to be completed by CSO Applicant)

The purpose of this proposal is to provide an outline of the proposed intervention for which the CSO is proposing to partner with UNICEF. A separate form should be filled for each programme proposal submitted.

Information provided in this form will be used to inform the review and evaluation of CSO submissions as outlined in the Call for Expression of Interest under section 3.

Section 1. Proposal overview			
1.1 Programme title			
1.2 Results to which the programme contributes	<i>Refer to Section 1.3 of the Call for Expression of Interest</i>		
1.3 Programme duration	<i>Number of months, From MM/YYYY to MM/YYYY</i>		
1.4 Geographical coverage	<i>State/ province, etc.</i>		
1.5 Population focus	<i>Number of beneficiaries / groups</i>		
1.6 Programme Budget	From CSO		%
	From UNICEF		%
	Total		

Section 2. Programme description	
2.1 Rationale/ justification <i>(3 to 5 paragraphs; max 400 words)</i>	<p>“Why” this programme <i>This section outlines the problem statement, the context and the rationale for the Programme:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Overview of the existing problem, using data (disaggregated) from existing reports; who is affected and what are the barriers/bottlenecks to outcomes for children?</i> • <i>How the problem is linked to national priorities and policies;</i> • <i>The relevance of the Programme in addressing problem identified.</i>
2.2 Expected results <i>(No narrative required)</i>	<p>“What” this programme will achieve <i>The table below defines the programme results framework (results and their link to results defined in the country programme and/or humanitarian response plan; specific indicators, baselines, targets and MOV for each programme output).</i></p>

Result statement	Performance indicator/s	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification ⁴
Corresponding result from Country programme/ Humanitarian Response Plan ⁵	- Xxx - Xxx			
Programme Output 1 <i>Service or product resulting from the programme</i>	<i>List each indicator in a separate line</i>			
Programme Output 2				
Programme Output 3				

2.3 Gender, Equity and Sustainability <i>(3 paragraphs; max 250 words)</i>	<i>“How” this programme takes into account gender, equity and sustainability This section briefly mentions the practical measures taken in the programme to address gender, equity and sustainability considerations.</i>
2.4 Partner’s contribution <i>(1 paragraph; max 100 words)</i>	<i>This section briefly outlines the partner specific contribution to the programme (monetary or in-kind)</i>
2.5 Other partners involved <i>(1 paragraph; max 100 words)</i>	<i>“With whom” will this programme works in partnership This section outlines other partners who have a role in programme implementation, including other organisation providing technical and financial support for the programme.</i>
2.6 Additional documentation <i>(1 paragraph; max 100 words)</i>	<i>Additional documentation can be mentioned here for reference.</i>

⁴ The specific sources from which the status of each of the performance indicators can be ascertained. If any data source is a survey or a study which the implementing partner is planning to conduct for this programme, this should be planned and budgeted for in section 3 below (programme workplan and budget).

⁵ Refer to Section 1.3 of the Call for Expression of Interest. If the programme contributes to more than one result, each should be identified in a separate line, with programme outputs listed below each corresponding result.

Section 3. Programme work plan and budget

The table below defines the programme implementation work plan (the specific activities to be undertaken towards achievement of each of the programme outputs; the schedule of implementation; and the planned budget, including the CSO and UNICEF's contributions to the programme)

Note: Text and costs in blue provided as an example.

Result Level	Result/activity	Timeframe (quarters/year(s))					Total (CSO+UNICEF)	CSO contribution	UNICEF contribution	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year2			Cash ⁶	Supply
Progr. Output 1:	<i>E.g. Community-based management of SAM introduced in 200 villages In 10 districts</i>						400,000	10,000	190,000	200,000
	Performance indicator(s), - # children receiving RUFT/in patient - # children receiving RUFT/ community - recovery rate									
Act.1.1	<i>Organise training of 500 health workers in community nutrition in 10 districts</i>	x	x				100,000		100,000	
Act. 1.2	<i>Undertake community outreach activities & referral in 200 villages in 10 districts</i>	x	x	x	x		50,000		50,000	
Act. 1.3	<i>Provide nutrition equipment & supplies in 50 health centres</i>	x			x		200,000			200,000
Act. 1.4	<i>Programme management and technical supervision</i>	x	x	x	x		50,000	10,000	40,000	
Progr. Output 2:	Output statement						Sub-total output 2	Sub-total output 2	Sub-total output 2	Sub-total output 2
	Performance indicator(s):									
Act 2.1	Activity statement ⁷									
Act. 2.2										

⁶ The budget is prepared in the currency of implementation. Most generally, this correspond to the local currency in the country.

⁷ Costs budgeted as part of the programme output budgeting include the following:

- Cash for activities, such as workshop or trainings;
- Cost of supplies that directly assist beneficiaries or beneficiary institutions, including warehousing, transport and assembling;
- Technical assistance and costs of technical staff to directly support beneficiaries / beneficiary institutions (experts in health, education, protection, etc.);
- Cost of surveys and other data collection activities in relation to beneficiaries or measurement or programme expected results;
- Communication activities to directly support programme planned results.

Result Level	Result/activity	Timeframe (quarters/year(s))					Total (CSO+UNICEF)	CSO contribution	UNICEF contribution	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year2			Cash ⁶	Supply
Progr. Output 3:	Output statement Performance indicator(s):						Sub-total output 3	Sub-total output 3	Sub-total output 3	Sub-total output 3
Act 3.1	Activity statement									
Act 3.1										
Sub-total for the outputs										
Progr. Output 4	Effective and efficient programme management						Sub-total output 4	Sub-total output 4	Sub-total output 4	Sub-total output 4
Act 4.1	<i>Standard activity:</i> In-country management & support staff ⁸ pro-rated to their contribution to the programme (representation, planning, coordination, logistics, admin, finance)									
Act 4.2	<i>Standard activity:</i> Operational costs pro-rated to their contribution to the programme (office space, equipment, office supplies, maintenance)									
Act 4.3	<i>Standard activity:</i> Planning, monitoring, evaluation and communication ⁹ , pro-rated to their contribution to the programme (venue, travels, etc.)									
Sub-total for programme costs										
HQcosts ¹⁰	HQ technical support ¹¹ (7% of the cash component)									
Total programme document budget										

⁸ Costs of technical assistance/staff directly related to the achievement of planned results are budgeted as part of programme output budgeting, see above footnote 4.

⁹ Costs of M&E and communication activities directly related to the achievement of the planned results re budgeted as part of the programme output budgeting, see above footnote 4.

¹⁰ Only payable to organizations with headquarters outside of the country of implementation.

¹¹ Amount is an estimate. Amount paid is a standard 7% on actual expenditures subject to calculation exclusions as per Annex I of the CSO Procedure.