Introduction: Current sanitation products (including latrine slabs and super-structures) used in emergencies do not include components for enabling access by elderly or persons living with disabilities (including children). UNICEF is seeking solutions to improve access to latrines in emergency contexts. This is an innovation project as from our desk reviews we have not found a product on the market that can fulfill our need for an add-on solution to our current squatting plate to assist people with disabilities. Hence we are requesting suppliers to come forward with their proposal as per the RFP and TPP information.

Status: The TPP has been updated (V.2.2) and an RFP to solicit prototypes for field trials was issued 4th April 2017. Responses are requested by Monday 3rd July 2017 at 23:59 hrs (Copenhagen time). UNICEF will be field trialing designs in 2017.

Q&As
To ensure transparency, all answers and clarifications received to the TPP and RFP will be published in the table below. Suppliers are therefore encouraged to visit this document on a regular basis to view answers and clarifications which may be relevant to them.

1. Is it correct that you require a pit latrine rather than sitting position and that sustainability is not a mandatory criteria?
We are not limiting on the solution (whether it is sitting, assisted squat, or handrails) but we would like to clarify that we are looking for additions to our current slab/squat plate, which is a product that is placed over a dug pit. We will be looking at durability.

2. Would you be able to provide more specification on the products, like detail drawing / picture of the product & sample?
We are looking out for new products that might not even be in the market place yet and hence we are not able to provide further specifications (drawing/picture) for the proposed solution. Our current LTA holders are KK Nag and Monarflex. For dimensional information see images below. Please note that this tender is not an Invitation to Bid (ITB) with clear specifications, but rather a Request for Proposals (RFP), where we are asking suppliers/partners to come up with different proposals based on the TPP and Evaluation criteria.

3. In diagram 1 of the TPP (Annex 1), it shows a wheel chair being positioned alongside the toilet seat. The dimensions of the toilet room appear to be approximately 2.2 m x 1.7 m. But the dimensions of the squatting plate are only 1.2 m x 0.8 m. Are you therefore expecting a toilet superstructure to be part of the proposal?
The additional information in the Annex are for guidance. UNICEF is looking for options for disabled people, a person in a wheel chair a challenge among others. We do not expect a superstructure to be part of the proposal. However UNICEF is open to any solution as long as it is in line with the TPP and evaluation criteria. We do not foresee any change to the current plate size in near future but might consider creating more space on the side to manoeuvre a chair.
4. Even if a superstructure has to be provided as part of the proposal, the drop hole of the squatting plate is close to the centre. But in the diagram the toilet seat is shown towards the very back of the toilet room. How can the toilet seat be at the back of the toilet room when it is at the centre of the squatting plate?

No changes on the current squatting plate is planned. The additional information in Annex 1 is only a reference.

5. When we send you the prototypes, do we need to send you a squatting plate as well?

There is no need to send a squatting plate. The prototype should fit on any of UNICEF's current slabs (currently two suppliers for this as figure 1 & 2 below).

6. On page 25 of the TPP you have shown 3 drawings with a wheel chair in a door-outward space approx 2.40 x 1.60m next to a standard wall set cistern WC. How is this meant to illustrate what is relevant to the remainder of the brief which is all about utilising a standard latrine plate accessories, presumably set in a plate-sized latrine structure?

See question 3

7. Would foil housing be acceptable in the context of the request for Unicef?

See question 3

8. Is a floor (solid of flexible) required in the latrine, besides the squatting/toilet holding plate?

This might be possible. Please indicate this in your future submission.

9. Is it allowed to fill internal floor pores with long-lasting flexible kit?

We are not sure what is meant. To be clarified with the enquirer.

10. What are the minimum/maximum dimensions of the trench, which is to be dug under the latrines?

The squatting plate is not included in scope of this project and hence the trench is not determined by the design. However, it should be noted that pit dimensions can vary in the field and depend on the construction team in the camp.

11. Can the dimensions of the trench be determined by the design of the disabled latrine?

The squatting plate is not included in scope of this project and hence the trench is not determined by the design.

12. Is there a minimum length (depth) of the housing?

There is no superstructure involved in this project. (see also answer 3).

13. Are there results available of previous filed tests of latrines for disabled persons?

UNICEF has not carried out any formal field tests of accessible latrines in emergencies. There are quite often locally constructed solutions. For more information on accessible WASH facilities, including on some example solutions, please see the provided links in the TPP.

14. Is there a certain distribution on latrines for disabled children (small toilet pot) and adult disabled (high toilet pot)?

Ideally it’s a one fits all solution (adjustable) or one type for children and another for adults and then it would be a 50/50 split. Could be a kit.

15. Is cost at place (so including transport) a determining factor, or the cost FCA sea (or air) port?

The emphasis of the evaluations is on the technical aspects of the proposals, and cost is only 30% of the total evaluation criteria.
Dimensional images from current suppliers: