

UN Women Caribbean Regional Spotlight Initiative Small Grant Advertisement

Responding to the impact of family violence on survivors and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalisation in the Caribbean

Purpose: To expand the technical substantive capacity of civil society organisations on ending violence against women and girls in the Caribbean Region.

Eligible Organisations: Civil society organisations whose work has a direct impact on those at-risk or affected by family violence, in particular child survivors, women survivors and their children, families, groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalisation.

****NOTE: eligible organisations must be legally registered and operational for 3 or more years**

Eligible Countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, Barbados, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago.

Amount:

Up to USD 30,000 per organisation

Duration: Up to 6 months

Submission deadline: Please submit expressions of interest via email to info.brb@unwomen.org
(Ongoing applications invited)

Background

The European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) have embarked on a new, global, multi-year initiative focused on eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) - The Spotlight Initiative. The Initiative is so named as it brings focused attention to the issue of violence against women and girls, moving it into the spotlight and placing it at the centre of efforts to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In the Caribbean the focus of the Initiative is Family violence (FV), which is defined as a manifestation of gender inequality, created through unequal gender power relations, which overlap with harmful masculine stereotypes.

The vision of the Spotlight Initiative (SI) is that the rights of women and girls to live free from violence are protected, promoted, and upheld. The impact that the SI will work towards achieving is that all women and girls, particularly those who are most vulnerable, live a life free of violence and harmful practices. The main objectives are:

1. To contribute to the reduction of family violence against women and girls and
2. To improve access for women and girls to essential, safe, adequate, integrated gender-responsive services

The approach will be guided by the ecological theory that underpins the connections between family and society. The ecological model is seen as the best framework within which to address the causes, consequences, and response to family violence.

The key pillars of the Spotlight Initiative include:

- Pillar 1: Laws and Policies
- Pillar 2: Institutional Capacities
- Pillar 3: Social Norms and Behaviours
- Pillar 4: Services
- Pillar 5: Data Availability and Utilisation
- Pillar 6: Women's Rights Groups, Autonomous Social Movements and CSOs

UN Women MCO Caribbean is supporting implementation of the Spotlight Initiative in four CARICOM member states- Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago of six CARICOM Member States (the others being Belize and Haiti) to receive support from the Spotlight Initiative. UN Women MCO Caribbean leads on Pillar 6 in these four territories

Complementing the Spotlight country programmes in six Caribbean countries, the Regional Spotlight Initiative will focus on 4 pillars of programming: i) working to ensure institutions are gender-responsive; ii) establishing comprehensive and evidence based prevention programmes aimed at changing social norms and gender stereotypes; iii) promoting the collection and use of quality, comparable data to inform public policy, advocacy, policy making, and delivery of complimentary services to improve prevention; and iv) supporting autonomous women's movements to influence, and monitor policy and to ensure accountability.

The regional programme will complement the investments of regional institutions and contribute to the scale, sustainability, visibility, lessons learnt and replication of programming throughout the region. It will address specific regional institutional bottlenecks that impede or limit the reach of technical support to respond to and prevent family violence in CARICOM member countries. In particular, the regional programme will support CARICOM and OECS as the two intergovernmental frameworks leading functional cooperation in the region. The regional programme will add value in several ways, including:

- Ensuring that countries without a country level Spotlight programme benefit from the regional public goods developed through the regional programme
- Supporting regional integration and functional cooperation both within and between regional institutions as approaches to ending family violence are mainstreamed into approaches to crime and security, health, justice and data and research
- Build capacities of regional level organisations to provide technical support to national institutions will contribute to sustainability
- Support the demands of civil society for inter-governmental and state action and accountability to end family violence.
- Provide models for Caribbean specific community approaches to support behavioural and cultural change.

UN Women, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security, **plans to award small grants to eligible organisations in the identified territories.**

UN Women’s Small Grants are designed to support institutional strengthening and capacity-building, especially for smaller organisations. This call specifically supports CSOs working in the area of family violence, especially responding to the needs of women and girl survivors as well those who face discrimination or marginalisation. Expressions of interest that in addition to the above, integrate intersectional issues and/or communities most impacted (e.g. rural women and girls, young people, women and girls with disabilities, queer, transgender, marginalised and gender non-conforming communities etc.) are **highly encouraged.**

Small Grants can be used for a diversity of activities such as strengthening advocacy; fostering coalition-building among the women’s movement and civil society; building internal/institutional capacities; learning and capacity-building; adapting services and referrals, advancing an intersectional analysis or data on VAWG etc.

The Small Grants are not able to fund provision of direct services or operating/running costs unrelated to the specific proposal.

Below are some **examples** of relevant activities, however **they are not prescriptive/required, and are to be used as a guide:**

Sample Objectives and Activities	
Objective	Activities
To assess how service providers are responding to the needs of survivors of family violence, especially women and girls, especially those who face multiple forms of discrimination	<p>Conduct local assessments of service providers to understand operational gaps (including but not limited to age-adequation), case management processes and whether they are responsive to the needs of survivors of violence and survivor-centred.</p> <p>Develop a report, media product, series of webinars/in-person briefings on the findings of assessments</p>
To strengthen the advocacy for survivors to meet gaps, including building coalitions and capacities within civil society networks	<p>Facilitate teach-ins and learning/knowledge sharing sessions to build internal capacity.</p> <p>Create and implement an advocacy plan to address the impact of family violence on women and girls in all their diversity.</p> <p>Secure trainers and facilitators to build capacities on topics of interest.</p> <p>Establish communications and coordination platforms for coalition work.</p> <p>Host coalition development meetings</p>
To ensure presence, accessibility and quality	Strengthen and adapt safe, tailored, and survivor-centred services across different sectors.

of services for survivors of violence	<p>Develop accountability tools for key service providers and pilot the tools in specific settings.</p> <p>Adapt counselling, hotlines, health services, transportation and safe shelter to a diversity of scenarios (remote, online, in-person, accessible to different ages/rural/abilities) and within the COVID-19 context.</p>
Capacity-building of organisational members/staff	<p>Develop a capacity-building and training plan to strengthen delivery of essential services which the organisation provides.</p> <p>Increased capacity through procurement of relevant equipment and materials.</p> <p>Trainings on specific services and skills which are needed to enhance organisational reach and service delivery to survivors and victims.</p> <p>Activities to strengthen capacity around donor/development partner coordination across civil society to harmonise the response to VAWG.</p>

Successful organisations will be required to report on the progress of their projects using a results-based management approach and will be required to provide quarterly updates to UN Women. Training will be provided on the reporting templates and tools.

Eligibility Criteria:

The applicant may apply if it:

- is a registered CSO in operation for at least three years; (women-led organisations are strongly encouraged to apply)
- is not on the Consolidated UN Security Council Sanctions List;
- is not being investigated for fraud, corruption, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or other wrongdoing;
- has not had funding received from UN Women entirely or partly **written off** by UN Women;
- is not currently engaged as an Implementing Partner (IP) or Responsible Party (RP) for UN Women;
- has not been engaged as an IP/RP for UN Women at any time after 21 November 2019;
- is not a government entity;
- is not a UN organization;
- is not an established CSO with the capacity to be engaged as an IP/RP;
- has sufficient capacity to collaborate with various stakeholders;
- has sufficient financial stewardship, including having adequate financial policies and procedures in place to manage the small grant; and,
- past performance has been deemed satisfactory by UN Women (if it has received small grants previously or been engaged as an IP/RP before 21 November 2019).

How to apply

Step One: submit Expression of Interest and registration certificate –

- Required:
 - Complete and send the attached Expression of Interest (see template) and a copy of the organization’s registration certificate evidencing that the applicant is a registered CSO in operation for at least three years.
 - All applications must be in English.
 - All applications must be submitted via email. Unfortunately, handwritten or mailed applications will not be accepted.

UN Women will reject any application that does not contain enough information to show that the CSO or activities are eligible. UN Women will send a confirmation email upon receipt of application. Applications including proof of legal registration, should be sent by email to info.brb@unwomen.org.

Step Two: If short-listed, finalise submission for approval of agreement:

- UN Women may request further clarification about the proposal.
- Once the proposal and budget have been finalised, it is submitted for approval.

Step Three: if awarded a small grant, complete agreement process:

- If approved, UN Women will request a completed UN Women vendor form and supporting documentation.
- Based on all completed documentation and the proposal budget, UN Women will disburse the grant amount to the organisation’s bank account.

Step Four: implement activities according to the proposal, monitor and report as agreed.

Selection process and key dates

All submitted applications will receive a confirmation of receipt email from UN Women. All applications will be assessed by a panel of 3 to 4 UN Women staff.

1. Call for proposals released 01st May 2022
2. Expressions of interest due before the end of June 2022 for projects to be completed in 2022
3. Short-listed applicants notified within 1 month of application

Small Grant requirements for grantees

If selected for a Small Grant, all grantees are required to:

- submit a detailed progress report quarterly
- submit a final narrative and financial report at the end of the reporting period with documentation of expenses (e.g. receipts and invoices).

UN Women’s commitment to grantees

UN Women values equal partnership and mutual accountability. UN Women commits to supporting grantees with technical assistance and capacity-building for institutional and technical topics