**UN Women Spotlight Initiative Guyana Call for Small Grants**

 **Increasing social accountability for at-risk groups and youth and supporting social justice activism in Guyana**

**Purpose**: To engage on social accountability for legislation and the conduct of service providers to specific at risk groups including at-risk youth and network building among CSOs to support social justice activism on GBV and Family Violence.

**Eligible Organisations**: Civil society and other not for profit organisations in Guyana working on Family Violence and VAWG.

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

**Amount**:

Category One: Ceiling of **USD 15,000 per organisation**

Category Two: Ceiling of **USD 30,000** **per organisation**

**Duration**: Up to 6 months

**Submission deadline**: Please submit expressions of interest via email to info.brb@unwomen.org

***\*****There may be a possibility to extend duration pending approval of Spotlight Phase II*

**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 Spotlight 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.

The selection of Guyana as a Spotlight country is a recognition of the high rates of incidence and prevalence of family violence which is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality and associated harmful gender norms and stereotypes.

The overall goal of the Spotlight Initiative in Guyana is to reduce Family Violence. This will be done through ensuring implementation of integrated, quality and accessible services and prevention approaches. This approach recognises that an architecture of laws, policies and institutions are in place for addressing family violence. Spotlight will build on, consolidate and scale up this progress whilst addressing the significant implementation deficits and programmatic gaps.

At the end of the Spotlight programme, a comprehensive National Strategy will be adopted, practical prevention tools available at community level, and services will be accessible, effective and therefore used by survivors and perpetrators. Service providers will be held responsible for timely correction of implementation failures because systems of supervision and accountability will be strengthened. Civil society and women’s organisations will be empowered to monitor and support responsive and survivor-centred services. These approaches will advance gender equality, end indifference and impunity for gender-based violence against women and children.

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

**Call for Small Grants**

The Spotlight Initiative takes a comprehensive approach to addressing family violence through six pillars that focus on 1) Laws and Policies, 2) Institutional Strengthening, 3) Prevention, 5) Data and 6) Women’s Movement and Civil Society. This grant falls under Pillar 6, in recognition of the integral role civil society has played in lobbying, advocacy, service delivery and support to address family violence in the region.

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 up to 15 small grants to eligible organisations and Guyana.**

UN Women welcomes expressions of interests in two categories:

1. Up to USD 15,000 equivalent per civil society organisation (CSO) for smaller/shorter projects

**OR**

1. Up to USD 30,000 equivalent per civil society organisation (CSO) for larger/longer projects

UN Women’s Small Grants are designed to support institutional strengthening and capacity-building, especially for smaller/grassroot organisations. This call specifically supports CSOs working in the area of family violence, especially responding to the needs of women and children survivors as well those who face discrimination or marginalisation. **Expressions of interest from CSOs not previously in receipt of Spotlight Initiative funding are highly encouraged**.

Under this advertisement, it is suggested that Small Grants be used for a diversity of activities such as:

* Building capacity on social accountability mechanisms for EVAWG
* Building capacity to scale up existing VAWG/FV programmes and services
* Strengthening advocacy around EVAWG
* Building internal institutional and operational capacities

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

**Eligibility Criteria:**

The applicant may apply if it:

* **is a registered CSO in operation for at least three years;**
* 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, should be sent by email to info.brb@unwomen.org.

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

* UN Women may provide feedback on changes required to the proposal, timeline, budget or may request further clarification about the proposal.
* Once the proposal and budget have been finalised incorporating all feedback, 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 grants in two installments to the organisation’s bank account.
* UN Women will also facilitate an orientation session to cover reporting and monitoring requirements, communications and visibility guidelines, and project support.

**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 UN Women and Spotlight Initiative focal points.

1. Call for proposals released 5th August 2022
2. Expressions of interest (ongoing)
3. Short-listed applicants notified (ongoing)
4. Successful applicants notified (ongoing).

**Small Grant requirements for grantees**

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

* Submit a mid-term narrative and financial report to UN Women
* Submit a final narrative and financial report at the end of the reporting period with documentation of expenses (including all receipts and invoices, photos, materials developed)

**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