



Spotlight Initiative
To eliminate violence against women and girls

Initiated by the European Union and the United Nations:



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Expression of Interest for CSOs to implement project activities for the Spotlight Initiative in Nigeria

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Nigeria is characterized by gender inequality in almost all areas of human development and ranks 118 out of 134 countries on the Gender Equality Index. The inadequate inclusion of women and girls' perspectives in policy making decisions, resource allocation and implementation in economic and social sectors continues to challenge the advancement of gender equality.

Negative social norms which condone or support violence against women and girls and harmful practices remain pervasive. Gender-based violence is widespread and 30 percent of women aged 15-49 have reported experiences of sexual abuse. The Boko Haram insurgency, the rise of violent extremism and the humanitarian crisis have exacerbated the occurrence of gender-based violence in the North-East. Nigeria has the largest number of child brides in Africa and one of the highest prevalence rates in the world: 23 million girls and women were married as children. Currently, 43 percent of girls are married before age 18, and 17 percent are married before they turn 15. Nigeria accounts for the third highest number of women and girls who have undergone female genital mutilation, reported at 25 percent prevalence. Harmful practices occur in a context of limited knowledge and access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services, with complications of early child bearing and obstructed labour such as obstetric fistula.

The Nigerian Government's response has included efforts to improve its institutional and policy framework, which include the Violence against Person Prohibition (VAPP) Act, enacted at the national level in 2015, the National Policy on the Elimination of FGM/C, the National Strategy to End Child Marriage, a Road Map and National Priority Actions to End Violence Against Children (VAC) which have been adopted and are being supported for implementation as well as several policies and frameworks for a conducive environment for women and girls' access to quality sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services. As a preventive measure, the Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Education in collaboration with civil societies is implementing Family Life HIV Education (FLHE) to empower adolescents and young people develop the skills, knowledge, attitudes and competences required for making the right life choices to prevent sexual and gender-based violence. Ongoing efforts to increase access to quality accessible and affordable services include the National Health Act, as well as the One PHC per ward initiative of the Federal Government.

Civil society remains a key important constituency, working to hold the government accountable to deliver on rights protection. However, despite the existence of a strong feminist movement, the potential of civil society and women groups to advance women's rights, including SRHR, has been insufficiently tapped to date due to limited coordination and capacity gaps.



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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Through a comprehensive approach, the Spotlight Initiative in Nigeria will aim to support a *Nigeria where all women and girls, particularly the most vulnerable, live a life free from violence and harmful practices*. The vision will be realized by addressing the linkages between sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices with related aspects of sexual and reproductive health and rights as a cross-cutting theme. Focus will be on **prevention efforts**, particularly addressing the root causes of gender-based violence and harmful practices (child marriage and FGM) against women and girls; and **ensuring access to inclusive, timely, and quality services** for victims and survivors. The geographic scope will be vertical, supporting interventions at federal, state and community levels and horizontally across 5+1 focus states (**Lagos, Sokoto, FCT, Ebonyi, Adamawa and Cross River**), one per geo-political zone, based on a mixed set of criteria (including prevalence, political will, enabling environment, capacities and potential to facilitate further expansion and upscaling). The most vulnerable women and girls will be targeted.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Programme Management Unit of the Spotlight Initiative Nigeria, on behalf of the Recipient United Nations organizations: UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women, and UNESCO, wishes to engage CSO partners to implement activities across the six pillars of the Spotlight Initiative. The six pillars: **1) Laws and Policies, 2) Institutions, 3) Prevention, 4) Services, 5) Data, and 6) Women's movement** translate into **six outcomes**:

Outcome 1: Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices and their associated sexual and reproductive health and rights needs are in place and translated into plans.

Outcome 2: National and sub-national systems and institutions plan, fund and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and harmful practices including for sexual and reproductive health and rights, and in other relevant sectors.

Outcome 3: Gender equitable social norms, attitudes and behaviors change at community and individual levels to prevent violence against women and girls and harmful practices and to promote their access to sexual and reproductive health services.

Outcome 4: Women and girls who experience violence and harmful practices use available, accessible, acceptable, and quality comprehensive essential services including for long term recovery from violence.

Outcome 5: Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices and their SRHR needs, collected, analyzed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes.

Outcome 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant civil society organizations, including those representing youth and groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and EVAWG and their SRHR needs.

Specific activities to be implemented under each outcome under the first programme phase include:



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Outcome 1: Laws and Policies

- Map the existing legal and policy frameworks to identify gaps and build capacities across strategic actors to facilitate the passage of laws and monitor their implementation
- Develop and implement an advocacy campaign for the domestication and review of existing laws and policies
- Strengthen relevant stakeholders' capacities including: Parliamentarians, government officials, judges and prosecutors, women's rights advocates, human rights institutions, media and civil society, that have been identified as key game changers to enable sustainable change on VAWG/SGBV/HP and the promotion of SRHR for women and girls
- Conduct a Training of Trainers on the implementation of national action plans on VAWG/HP/SGBV and promotion of women and girls' access to SRHR.
- Facilitate the establishment of an Advocacy Mechanism at the state houses of assembly to support passage of the VAPP Act and other relevant laws and policies.
- Conduct stakeholder analysis to determine the level of support for the domestication and implementation of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act, CRA and other relevant laws and policies on EVAW/SGBV/HP/SRHR.
- Strengthen the capacity of women and girls' groups, CSOs and networks and the association of female journalists to advocate for the passage and implementation of the VAPP, the CRA and other relevant laws and policies.
- Build the capacity of school authorities (especially student welfare committees), the security sector institutions and other community leaders to support prevention programmes on VAWG/ SRHR, and support them to review their protocols, guidelines, SOPs and other relevant operational and policy documents.

Outcome 2: Institutions

- Train frontline multi-sector partners on how to better integrate and develop plans and programmes on VAWG/SGBV/HP and the inter-linkages with women's and girls' access to SRHR.
- Establish coordination mechanisms with the VAWG/SGBV/SRHR and HP focal points to improve inter-sectoral coordination, response and reporting.
- Advocate and sensitise inter-ministerial working groups to enhance their understanding of the importance of inputs and meaningful participation from CSO representatives, including those facing intersecting forms of discrimination.
- Capacity building of women's and girls' rights advocates, CSOs and groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination to demand accountability on SGBV, HP and SRHR in line with the SDGs, CEDAW and other human rights instruments and frameworks.
- Train of relevant stakeholders, women groups, CSOs, the media, male champions and others to engage with the budget process to ensure that VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR issues are prioritized.
- Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Women's Affairs and CSOs to mobilize and report to CEDAW and other human rights mechanisms as it relates to VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR.



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Outcome 3: Prevention

- Mobilize community/religious structures and champions including survivors that can be used as advocates and as advocacy platforms for messaging and engagement in the promotion of gender equitable norms, including prevention of VAWG/SGBV/HP and promoting women and girls' access to SRHR.
- Conduct public campaigns and advocacy on legal awareness on VAWG/SGBV/HP and women's and girls' access to SRHR
- Strengthen media awareness and capacity for public awareness campaigns on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR.
- Strengthen capacity of pre-and in-service teacher training to deliver accurate and age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education.
- Creation of safe spaces in and out of educational institutions that provide remedial lessons (and second chance education) and life skills in non-formal spaces to girls at risk of dropping out of school, to prevent VAGW/SGBV/HP, as well as access to SRHR.
- Orientation of parents/guardians and engagement of community gatekeepers and religious leaders as allies and champions to improve young girls'/people's access to CSE and SRH.
- Develop information package on VAWG/SGBV/HP/SRHR for dissemination through multiple service points including within basic and secondary education levels and Health Centres including SRH service points.
- Establish surveillance systems and early warning signals for erring on previous commitments to abandon VAWG/SGBV/HP.
- Strengthen the capacity of university management boards and students to support prevention of violence against women and girls and harmful practices in universities and make school environments safe.
- Develop and implement second chance education including vocational skills trainings programmes for out of school women and girls.
- Train and strengthen platforms of men's networks and coalitions to speak up against VAWG/SGBV/HP as well as advocate for gender equality and the empowerment of women.
- Train traditional and social media organizations and the private sector to become more involved in prevention of violence against women and girls and harmful practices.
- Strengthen capacities of traditional and religious leaders to use their institutions and influence/authorities to change negative cultural and social norms that promote VAWG/SGBV/HP and limits women's and girls' access to SRHR.

Outcome 4: Services

- Strengthen existing legal aid service provision at state and community level including pro bono legal services and representation in court for VAWG/SGBV victims.
- Adapt reporting tools and mechanisms for vulnerable populations to be able to access SGBV reporting systems.
- Establish/strengthen multi-sectoral service provision points such as traditional SRH service points, specialised One Stop Shops, and/or Youth Friendly Services using a survivor-centred approach to respond to the needs of women and girls who experience violence, through guidelines, job aids, SOPs including referrals, capacity building and setting up of services.
- Build capacity for the provision of specialised SRH services such as fistula management, and Young Mother's Clinics for girl survivors of GBV and harmful practices.
- Utilize sports, arts and other creative mechanisms to support long-term recovery of women and girls' survivors of VAWG/SGBV/HP.



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- Strengthen the operational capacity of existing one-stop centres to provide services to women and girls who have experienced VAWG/SGBV/HP as well as those requiring access to SRHR services.
- Develop and implement marketing communication programmes to promote availability of essential services for women through public and private partnership and collaboration.
- Strengthen the technical and institutional capacity of women networks and security sector, especially the police, to provide protection for women and children as well as facilitate access to justice for victims and survivors.
- Design and implement comprehensive economic empowerment programmes for women survivors and graduates of the second chance program.
- Address gaps in different technologies to promote awareness and provide women and girls with information on access to services on VAWG & HPs e.g. U report
- Partnership with the media to better promote availability of reporting and access to services that prevent and respond to VAWG and HPs

Outcome 5: Data

- Strengthen the capacity of key national statistical officers and service providers in the use of the information management systems such as GBVIMS and Education Management Information System for routine reporting and responding appropriately.
- Set up reporting mechanisms in states for improved data collection and analysis for GBV and SRHR.
- Strengthen the capacity of women's rights organizations to collect, analyze and document qualitative data on VAWG, SRHR and HP from spotlight states in line with international best practices and standards to support advocacy messages and influence policy making.
- Support the roll-out of management information systems to ensure interface of GBV IMS and CP IMS by piloting CP IMS Primero
- Conduct baseline, midline and endline surveys to systematically capture the impact of the Spotlight Initiative project.
- Conduct specialized surveys with an implementation science approach to understand why women are/are not accessing SGBV services, including community, legal and security challenges.
- Ensure the use of data from Spotlight Initiative project to inform programs and policies
- Provide empirical data to support and guide advocacy activities
- Provide technical support to the Client Complaint Response Mechanism

Outcome 6: Women's Movement

- Develop and test innovative approaches to help partners strengthen and expand their work on VAWG/SGBV/HP and women's and girls SRHR.
- Organize multi-stakeholder dialogues to identify capacity gaps in implementing initiatives of VAWG, SGBV, HP, SRHR's among women groups, youth, people living with HIV and disabilities and other stakeholders in the spotlight states.
- Organize and manage learning and sharing programmes for older women/younger women organizations and between grassroots/national organizations for exchange and strengthening networking opportunity for EAW.
- Build the capacity of women groups, youth, people living with HIV and disabilities and other stakeholders working on SGBV, HP, SRHR's to be able to effectively plan, implement projects and monitoring programme outcomes.



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- Provide grant disbursement and management services to CSOs and coalitions advocating for the domestication of the VAPP and other relevant laws, policies and programme on VAWG, SGBV, HP to enable them replicate and scale up good practices.

REQUIREMENTS AND COMPETENCIES

Organizations wishing to apply for the grant should meet the following requirements and competencies:

- Be a not-for-profit organization with a strong track record on SGBV, gender equality, child protection, women empowerment, and/or legal reform, registered by relevant bodies (Corporate Affairs Commission, etc.) and operating in Nigeria;
- Proven experience of implementing projects in capacity building, human rights, access to justice, SRHR, FGM, child marriage, legal reform and advocating for gender equality;
- Ability to carry out activities under at least one of the mentioned outcomes of the project;
- Experience in innovative methodologies and approaches is an asset;
- Strong skills in written communications in English, particularly in preparing issue-based papers or reports;
- Previous and/or current interventions in the target states of the project is an advantage.

HOW TO APPLY

Organizations wishing to express their interest for the Spotlight Initiative shall submit the following:

- 1) **A Portfolio of the organization demonstrating the requirements and competencies listed above, including:**
 - Evidence of previous interventions in SGBV, capacity building, human rights, access to justice, SRHR, FGM, Child marriage, legal reform, strong understanding of gender equality and women empowerment principles, Family Life HIV Education (FLHE);
 - Experience in visibility, designing behaviour change communication and marketing products and brands;
 - Evidence of established management structure (i.e. Management Board responsible for making decisions for the organization);
 - Certificate of registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission;
 - Letter from your Bank indicating your Organization banks with it.
- 2) **A capacity statement demonstrating:**
 - The outcome/output the organization is applying to implement activities under;
 - The organization's ability to carry out the activities under the selected outcome.

Organizations should submit their application to cso.ng@undp.org and it should be no more than 5 pager long (font Times New Roman 12)

Deadline for submission of the application is 11 June 2019 by 17.00 CAT.