

Call for participants

Regional Training Workshop on

“Youth Social Mobilization to End Violence against Women and Girls”

May 17-19, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

UN Women invites civil society organizations to express their interest and nominate up to two participants for the Regional Training on “Youth Social Mobilization to End Violence against Women and Girls”. Nominations should be sent to: unwomen.bih@unwomen.org. Nominations will be accepted until 15 April, 2012, 23:59 CET.

Purpose:

Focusing on young people, especially adolescent girls and boys, is crucial to foster positive attitudes towards gender equality and to instill zero tolerance for violence against women and girls. In UN Women, we consider that working with young people presents an invaluable opportunity to cultivate generations in which violence against women is no longer common place or tolerated.

The purpose of the Regional Workshop is to strengthen the capacities of youth Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and youth leaders from several countries in Southeastern Europe on social mobilization for the prevention of violence against women and girls. The regional training will bring together youth representatives of CSOs that are currently working in the field of gender equality, with particular focus on ending violence against women, and/or have expressed interest in this area.

The training will offer to youth representatives and activists of CSOs the basics of how to create a campaign to raise awareness of violence against women and girls, as well as how to combine it with peer education to prevent gender based violence. It will also provide examples of promising initiatives working with young men in the region to advance gender equality and challenge attitudes that condone violence. A special focus of the training workshop will be on the use of social media as a powerful tool to address the issue and mobilize youth.

The training will be interactive. Most of the work will be carried out in small groups to facilitate the learning process through practical exercises. The training will have two parts:

- 1) **Campaigning:** focusing on how a communication campaign on gender based violence should be developed. Using practical examples from various countries, young people will learn what steps they have to follow to plan, implement and evaluate for a campaign to end VAWG.
- 2) **Peer Education:** focusing on the importance of peer education to prevent violent behavior. Various practical examples of peer to peer education methods will be presented and young people will increase their skills on peer education through practical exercises.

Participating youth representatives of CSOs will be given the opportunity to present and get inspired by the experiences of their peer organizations and discuss challenges encountered and best practices applied.

At the end of the training, participants will develop their own individual or organizational action plans for taking forward the learning from the regional workshop.

Duration and costs:

Two and a half days in mid-May, in Bosnia and Herzegovina (place to be decided)

The transport and accommodation costs will be covered by UN Women.

Number and profile of participants:

30 participants will be selected from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, FYR Macedonia and Croatia.

Participants will be young people (18-29) who are involved in gender equality work and particularly in activities to end violence against women. Maximum 2 representatives will be invited from each organization.

One of the most important selection criteria is that the participants have the knowledge of, are committed to, and/or are actively working on preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls.

Participants can be from various disciplines linked to gender equality and violence against women and girls, including but not limited to the following:

- Activists from youth, women's and human rights organizations that work to end violence against women and girls;
- Activists with experience in engaging men and boys for gender equality;
- Activists working with information and communication technologies or in the field of formal or non formal education.

UN Women will consider the following when selecting the youth activists to be invited to take part in this Workshop:

- Diversity of experiences in the prevention of violence
- Participation in or development of innovative projects for the purpose of social mobilization and awareness raising;
- Success rate of work done so far and relevant achievements;
- Gender balance;
- Country representation.

Language:

The working languages of the training workshop are B/C/S and English.

How to apply:

Please send your nominations in the attached Application Form before the 15th April to: unwomen.bih@unwomen.org.

Applications should be submitted only in English.