



Call for Proposals for Civil Society Organizations to:

**Advance the Local Level Implementation of UN Security Council
Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security
in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

UN Women invites civil society organizations to develop and submit proposals for a project that will contribute to accelerating the local level implementation of women, peace and security commitments in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this regard, the project will focus on the practical realization of UNSCR 1325, its four complementary resolutions, and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the UNSCR 1325 in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The call is open to registered civil society organizations from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Deadline for receiving submissions: 29 February 2012

1. Introduction

UN Women was created in July 2010 by United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/298 and merges the mandates and responsibilities of four previously distinct UN entities: the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW).

Through its country and regional programmes and projects in South Eastern Europe, UN Women provides technical and financial assistance to a range of partners towards the implementation of their international and national commitments to strengthen the realization of women's rights and gender equality. One priority area for UN Women is to strengthen the implementation of the women's peace and security agenda through an increase in women's participation in conflict resolution and peace processes, in accordance with relevant UN Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security - UNSCR 1325 (2000); UNSCR 1820 (2008); UNSCRs 1888 and 1889 (2009); and UNSCR 1960 (2010).

As generously supported by the Government of Norway, in January 2011, UN Women launched the regional project, *Advancing the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in Western Balkans* (2011-2013). This initiative contributes to sustainable and democratic state-building in the Western Balkans and directly advances the implementation of commitments under UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions on women and peace and security in national laws, policies, strategies and plans in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Serbia, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and regionally (South-East Europe/Western Balkans).

2. Background and Focus of the Call for Proposals

On 27 July 2010, Bosnia and Herzegovina became the first country in the Western Balkans to adopt an Action Plan (2010-2013) for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. In conjunction with the adoption of the Action Plan, a Coordination Board was established by the Council of Ministers. The Coordination Board consists of representatives of State and Entity institutions and Civil Society, and is mandated to oversee and guide the implementation of the 8 goals contained within the Action Plan. It is well recognized that Action Plan implementation efforts would benefit from strengthened local level ownership and direction. ***To this end, UN Women invites civil society organizations with expertise in gender equality, human rights and/or peace and security issues, and legally eligible to conduct business in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to submit a proposal, individually or jointly with governmental, intergovernmental, and/or non-governmental partners, towards the piloting of local level implementation of UNSCR 1325, its four complementary resolutions, and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the UNSCR 1325 in Bosnia and Herzegovina in representative municipalities.***

Proposals should take into account the following: **(A)** In selecting pilot municipalities or group of municipalities for project proposal implementation, adherence to the principle of equality in respect to the three constituent peoples of BiH and its administrative division into two entities, the Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska; **(B)** Local level needs and ownership; and **(C)** Capacity development.

3. Guiding Principles in Designing Project Proposals

- Human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches that place first priority on promoting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of women and girls, as well as strengthening institutional and civil society capacities at the local level to implement the women, security and peace agenda.
- Transformation of inequitable gender norms and power disparities between women and men and empowerment of women and girls to thrive as equals.
- Holistic responses that address women's inter-related rights and needs.
- Focus on priority groups, including those living in poverty or otherwise especially excluded or disadvantaged, and ensuring responsiveness to diversity.
- Coordination and multi-sectoral partnerships, including among local government, nongovernmental, women's and other civil society groups, employers and workers' associations.
- Commitment to sharing knowledge, by documenting, evaluating and disseminating results, and working with UN Women staff in the process.
- Evidence-based programming, building on lessons learned and recommended practices, to ensure optimal results and use of resources.

4. Funding Level and Proposal Duration

Budget requests should not exceed **USD 50,000** in total. The Project should be implemented over a period not exceeding 18 months, starting no later than 1 April 2012 and ending before 30 September 2013. The Project should also take into consideration the effect of municipal elections that will take place in October 2012.

5. Application Process

Who can apply?

The Call for Proposals is open to registered civil society organizations working in BiH. Applications are encouraged particularly from women's organizations, human rights and peace and security organizations.

How, Where and When to Apply?

Eligible applicants are expected to submit proposals using the attached application form and budget template.

Submissions should be sent by e-mail with a signed cover letter and endorsements, wherever applicable. Please submit your proposal to the following email address: unwomen.bih@unwomen.org . The subject of the email should be: “1325 Project Women Peace and Security Call for Proposals - Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

Proposals should be addressed to:

UN Women Project Office for BiH
Titova 48
71 000 Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Proposals can be submitted in English only. The deadline for submission of proposals is **29 February 2012 before** close of business at **17:00 CET**. Proposals received after this deadline will not be considered.

6. Proposal Appraisal and Selection

All project proposals will be appraised based on the overall quality as demonstrated by the results-oriented nature of the proposal and the alignment of the proposed intervention with the focus of the call. Priority will be given to proposals that foster inclusiveness/cooperation and local level ownership.

The following indicative criteria may be used to assess proposals:

- a) Quality of proposal, ensuring that there is a strong link between the issues to be addressed, planned activities and anticipated results;
- b) Realism and feasibility of results;
- c) Organizational capacity to implement project;
- d) Strategic partnerships necessary for project success identified;
- e) Takes advantage of existing opportunities such as ongoing reforms;
- f) Clearly defined focus responding to one or several of the focus areas of the call; and
- g) Justifiable budget.