



Call for Participation (CFP)

for

Civil Society Hub for Women-Led CSOs

Kabul, Afghanistan

Introduction

Prior to the Taliban takeover in August 2021, the emergence of a vibrant, diverse and active civil society had become a symbol of the country's achievements over the past 20 years. During the past year of Taliban rule, however, much of that progress has been reversed, with people now living in constant fear or being forced to escape. Rights and freedoms of Afghan girls have been dramatically curtailed by Taliban regime, which affect every aspect of their lives. The Taliban has upended two decades of progress in women's rights and published a long-lists of policies violating women's rights such as end of the Ministry for Women's Affairs (MoWA), violated women's and girls' rights to education, work and free movement; decimated the system of protection and support for those fleeing domestic violence; detained women and girls for minor violations of discriminatory rules; and contributed to a surge in the rates of child, early and forced marriage in Afghanistan.

The report, Death in slow motion: Women and Girls under Taliban rule, reveals those who protest peacefully against these oppressive rules have been threatened, detained, tortured and disappeared. Women-led CSOs supporting the rights and freedom of these Afghan women are also not immune and it is not a surprise that as per UN Women rapid response survey with its stakeholders, 71 percent of respondents reported that women-led civil society organization (CSOs) are not operating in their area and mostly women CSOs5 are affected by political, financial, mobility and administrative restrictions.

AGHO is implementing to establish "Civil Society Hub for Women-led CSOs "strengthening the capacity of twenty women-led organizations and leaders for the next 24 months which is an expanded version of the initiative. It will be crucial to assist women-led civil society to understand the regulatory environment; to adapt operations, as appropriate, to the contours of the new environment; and to reduce vulnerabilities that may face in navigating the operational space by capacity assessment of CSO's as per the new realities on the ground and provide capacity-building support and technical accompaniment to improve organizational systems and strengthening data monitoring systems to track the resourcing for women-led organizations. The Board of Directors envisioned that AGHO would be a service to enable those women-led CSOs through proposed program who cares for gender equality and human rights, awareness for women and girls that allows AGHO to fulfil its mission and AGHO as a resilient women-led organization has extensive experience in overcoming challenges that women-led CSOs may face dealing with de-facto authorities.

Program Objective:

The overall objective of this project is to strengthening the capacity and resiliency of women-led organizations under new regulatory environment by providing comprehensive capacity development programme and technical accompaniment through establishing Civil Society Hub for Women-led CSOs.

Program Goals

- To build a strong coalition of diverse women-led organizations committed to reducing gender inequality that works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men;
- To build resilient new and emerging women's organizations and leaders through mentorship programme to understand and adapt operations, as appropriate, to the contours of the new environment; and to reduce vulnerabilities that may face in navigating the operational space;

- To strengthen the capacity of women-led CSO's through capacity assessment seminars and workshops by providing them with the knowledge and skills they need to write (grant-writing, report-writing, monitoring and evaluation), and technical capacity related to programming areas;
- To improve organizational systems and processes of women-led CSOs through the purchase of and training in the use of automated systems that will result in efficiency gains and modernize communications and administration, both remote and local.

Eligibility Criteria

Prospective applicants seeking participation in this project must satisfy the ensuing criteria:

- Organizations either led by women.
- Organization must be registered with ministry of economy.
- Organization shall be established at least five years ago.
- Presence in geographically Kabul locations.
- Adherence to Afghan laws and regulations and no legal disputes or conflicts.
- No prior debarment or blacklisting by donors or the Afghan Government.
- Previous work experience working in the community and civil society activities.

Application and Submission Instruction

Applicants should submit the following documents:

- Completed Application Form
- Copy of official registration documentation (if not registered with the government any document to prove this as community based women entity)
- Detailed organization profile
- List of Board of director

Application deadline:

Applications must be submitted no later than Sep 7, 2023, to be considered for the program.

How to Apply:

To complete the application process, interested applicants are required to submit a comprehensive application package that includes completed Application Form, Copy of official registration documentation, detailed organization profile, list of Board of director to the email address <u>khalid.raufi@agho.net</u> no later than the deadline of Sep 7, 2023. Please ensure that all required information is included in the application, taking into consideration your areas of engagement, current organizational functionality, and eligibility criteria. Incomplete or inaccurate applications may result in disqualification.

For any question or concern please call (+93)-799422157 or send an email to <u>khalid.raufi@agho.net</u> for clarification before the deadline.