

Call for Expression of Interest

Women and Youth engagement initiative

CEF/SSD/2023/160

1 Timeline

Posted	Sep 18, 2023
Clarification Request Deadline	Sep 28, 2023
Application Deadline	Oct 6, 2023
Notification of Results	Oct 13, 2023
Start Date	Oct 25, 2023
End Date	Dec 31, 2025

2 Locations

- A South Sudan
 - a Central Equatoria
 - b Jonglei
 - c Western Bahr el Ghazal
 - d Western Equatoria
 - e Eastern Equatoria
 - f South Sudan
 - g Upper Nile
 - h Unity
 - i Warrap
 - j Northern Bahr el Ghazal
 - k Lakes

3 Sector(s) and area(s) of specialization

- A Cross Sectoral Areas
 - a Communication for development
 - b Engaging men and boys
 - c Gender equality and women empowerment
 - d Youth leadership and participation
- B Health
 - a Immunization
- C Nutrition
 - a Infant and young child feeding
- D Protection
 - a Child protection
- E WASH and Environment

- a Basic sanitation
- b Hygiene
- c WASH in emergencies

4 **Issuing Agency**

UNICEF

5 **Project Background**

The escalation of the conflict in South Sudan resulted in the deterioration of the country stability, destroyed infrastructure, including communication channels but more importantly in further distancing the communities from basic services that has led to their regressive behaviours leading to disease outbreaks like measles and cholera. In such a context, integrated and sustained community engagement for development interventions, focused on behaviour change, increasing awareness, building capacity and mobilization of communities complemented with mass media engagement, improves knowledge, increase the demand and utilization of life saving services and change negative attitudes and practices. SBC programming promotes behaviour change through building capacity and in turn mobilizing wider community networks, strengthening institutional capacity for active community engagement at household level, and enabling broader social change so that families have an enabling environment to promote rights of children. Since its beginning in the South Sudan Country Office (SSCO), SBC has been a sectoral programme support focused on issues related to health, nutrition, education, protection and WASH thematic areas. The lessons learned in this process indicated a high demand for the engagement of women and Youth in planning, developing, and implementing social and behaviour change interventions that has been achieved through the promotion of integrated, cross-sectoral approach and establishment of community-based partnerships. With the goal to promote and sustain positive social norms and behaviour change, SBC will focus its efforts on the issues affecting girls, youth, adolescents, mothers and caregivers through increasing community awareness and their engagement in planning, implementing, monitoring activities intended at increasing demand for utilization of services and addressing issues contributing to gender inequality, social exclusion, and stigma. The integrated, cross-sectoral, and sustained SBC approach will further contribute to the empowerment of the communities, particularly women and girls, to adopt positive behaviours that decrease violence and increase their participation in decision-making and healthy behaviours, including service seeking. Particular attention in SBC programming will be given to reaching out to the pastoralist communities to promote sustained adoption of healthy behaviours.

Situation Analysis The continued skirmish in South Sudan highly affects every South Sudanese citizen with severe effects on children, young people and women who are disadvantaged from their rights to life, survival, and development to their full potential. Approximately, 2 million of South Sudanese children (around 70 per cent) are out of school resulting in a high illiteracy rate that is the highest in the world. Women and girls are highly affected by the lack of education that is a result of traditional social norms and low appreciation for girls' education. Food insecurity is rising, leading to over 1 million children acutely malnourished and almost one third of them who are severely malnourished and potentially in life-threatening condition. The destroyed infrastructure, including water, sanitation and health systems, exposed children to several health risks and preventable diseases, such as measles, watery diarrhoea, and cholera. Gender-based violence (GBV), that has already been high before the conflict is on an increase. Women and girls are exposed to and subjected to different forms of GBV, including high levels of sexual violence, rape, child and forced marriages and extreme violence, such as torture and murders. Grave violations of child rights are also widespread. UNICEF SBC partnership with women and youth can help empower communities and enable positive social and behavioural change for children and families. The partnership will create opportunities to understand the needs and motivations, strengths, and lower barriers to positive change for women and youths particularly girls. UNICEF will actively engage with women, youth, and children while bringing together local knowledge with scientific insights to support the vulnerable to strengthen their role in creating the societies they want – societies in which equity prevails, stigma and discrimination recede, and their own voices contribute to meaningful change.

Justification Under the country program 2023-2025, the SBC is supporting evolving needs of the country program by addressing the intensified demands of emergency and development program in South Sudan including increased cross-sectoral needs. Since the outbreak of the conflict, the SBC unit has significantly ramped up its work in response to the emergency, most notably with life-saving interventions directed at internally displaced communities covering immunization services, scaling-up nutrition, diseases of epidemic potential, education in emergencies and increasing demand for birth notification.

6 **Expected Results**

1. Improved information access as well as inter-personal and communication skills for social service providers and community mobilizers 2. Improved self-confidence, motivation, and skills to make informed decisions and take appropriate action promoted at community, household, and individual level 3. Empowered communities, adolescents, and children, especially the most marginalized, to take part in collective situation analysis, decision-making and advocacy to improve their wellbeing 4. Increased awareness, preparedness, capacities, resilience, and direct engagement of affected populations in Humanitarian Action 5. Improved data quality and use for decision-making at national and sub-national levels

7 **Indicative Budget**

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8 **Other Information**

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9 **Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	the understanding of the assignment by the proposer and the alignment of the proposal submitted with concept note ,Completeness of all of components of Concept note ,Meeting overall as per EOI requirements and proposal.	10
Sector expertise and experience	Range and depth of organizational experience with community engagement ,Number of Human resources per location ,Well-articulated community engagement approaches ,Key personnel with relevant experience and qualification of the proposed team for the assignment.	30
Clarity of activities and expected results	Proposed activity budget and approach of implementation of the tasks as per requirements. Implementation strategies, community engagement and feedback mechanisms monitoring and evaluation and Proposed Technologies to be used and compatibility with UNICEF/ MOH and community Innovative approaches such as used of Human Centered Design approaches and internet of good things	30
Contribution of resource	UNICEF will be considering three aspects of costing in the competitive partnership development process, including the Direct Programme Cost, Efficient and effective programme management costs, and the applicant's ability to contribute either in cash or in-kind to direct program costs and effective and efficient programme management in line with the UNICEF partnership principles.	30

10 **Attachments**

Description	URL
UNICEF Call for Expression of Interest for Women and Youth Engagement 2023	Download the document here

11 **Concept Note Template**

[Download the document here](#)

12 **For more information on this partnership opportunity, and to apply, please visit** [UN Partner Portal](#)