

Call for Expression of Interest

Integrated Resource Recovery Centre (IRRC) model and Decentralized Safely Managed Sanitation Systems using Component sharing (OPP Model)

CEF/PAK/2025/014

1 Timeline

Posted	Sep 3, 2025
Clarification Request Deadline	Sep 8, 2025
Application Deadline	Sep 12, 2025
Notification of Results	Sep 18, 2025
Start Date	Sep 29, 2025
End Date	Aug 31, 2027

2 Locations

- A Pakistan
 - a Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
 - b Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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

- A WASH and Environment
 - a Basic sanitation
 - b Biodiversity conservation and ecosystem service restoration

4 Issuing Agency

UNICEF

5 Project Background

Solid waste management remains one of the most pressing environmental and public health challenges in Pakistan, particularly in Afghan refugee villages across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). These areas host approximately 800,000 registered Afghan refugees, residing in 43 officially notified camps and numerous off-camp settlements (Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees KP, 2024). In most of these locations, solid waste is openly dumped in streets, drains, or nearby agricultural fields due to the absence of structured systems for waste collection, segregation, and disposal. Over 70% of refugee villages lack regular solid waste collection services, and almost none have access to formal landfills or waste transfer stations. This situation not only contributes to environmental degradation but also significantly heightens the risk of vector-borne diseases—particularly among children—who are especially vulnerable to diarrhea, respiratory infections, and skin diseases linked to poor sanitation and waste exposure.

6 **Expected Results**

The situation is further exacerbated by institutional and behavioral barriers. Although the Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees plays a central role in coordination, the integration of refugee settlements into municipal solid waste services remains limited—particularly in peri-urban areas where jurisdictional overlaps between local authorities create ambiguity and hinder service delivery. Moreover, solid waste management is seldom included in local development plans or prioritized within humanitarian funding frameworks. As a result, interventions tend to be fragmented, short-term, and unsustainable, failing to address the root causes or ensure long-term impact. Moreover, public awareness of safe waste handling practices remains low. A 2022 survey conducted by UNHCR and WASH partners found that fewer than 15% of refugee households segregate their waste or make use of available community bins. This underscores the urgent need for a coordinated, community-led, and climate-sensitive solid waste management programme—one that integrates infrastructure development, local capacity building, and waste-to-resource initiatives such as composting and recycling. Equally important is the establishment of strong partnerships with local governments to ensure long-term sustainability and continuity of services. Two Afghan refugee camps—Panian 2 in District Haripur and Oblen & Gamkol in District Kohat, are currently experiencing acute challenges in solid waste management, with no adequate systems in place for the proper collection, segregation, or disposal of waste. The high population density, combined with scarce resources, has led to serious environmental and public health concerns in these areas. In both camps, mixed waste, including plastics, organic matter, and hazardous materials, is frequently discarded in open spaces or near water bodies, contributing to water contamination and elevating the risk of outbreaks of waterborne diseases such as cholera, dysentery, and typhoid. These health risks are particularly severe for children and other vulnerable groups. Beyond health hazards, the unmanaged accumulation of non-biodegradable waste (especially plastics) poses long-term environmental threats. Clogged drainage channels due to indiscriminate dumping increase the likelihood of localized flooding and degrade nearby ecosystems. The situation is compounded by a lack of organized waste systems, limited public awareness of safe waste practices, inadequate resources for routine collection and disposal, and weak institutional ownership at the local level. Addressing these issues urgently requires the development of a sustainable, camp-level waste management framework. This should include waste segregation and safe disposal mechanisms, reliable collection services, and robust community engagement and awareness initiatives to reduce environmental and health impacts. Based on the identified needs in Kohat and Haripur, UNICEF is seeking to invite Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from qualified organizations for the implementation of solid waste management projects in Afghan refugee camps and adjacent host communities. In Haripur, the Integrated Resource Recovery Centre (IRRC) structure has been completed in Panian Camp, and support is now required for its operationalization, routine operations and maintenance, and institutional sustainability. In Kohat, a similar IRRC is planned for construction near Oblen and Gamkol Camps, which will require technical oversight during construction, operational setup, and support for its ongoing functionality. The selected partner will be expected not only to operate and maintain these facilities but also to strengthen the capacity of concerned government departments to manage them independently over time. This includes establishing systems for daily operations, transferring skills, and providing a clear sustainability roadmap to guide future management. These interventions are being modeled as replicable systems in both districts, with the intent of building local ownership and encourage institutional replication beyond the initial project sites. While expansion to selected refugee-hosting areas in Balochistan is under consideration, it is not currently budgeted or included in the present EOI scope. Any such extension will be considered at a later stage and will depend on the successful approval and implementation of the agreement for Kohat and Haripur, as well as the satisfactory performance of the selected implementing partner

7 **Indicative Budget**

225000.00000

8 **Other Information**

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9 **Selection Criteria**

Name	Description	Weight
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Clarity of activities and expected results	This selection criterion is used to emphasize UNICEF's results-based management approach to programming and assess a CSO's RBM capacity. Such as: - Logical and structured activities aligned	30
Relevance of proposal to achieving expected results	This selection criterion is used to emphasize how directly the concept note addresses and is likely to achieve the "expected results" indicated in the CFEI.	20
Sector expertise and experience	This selection criterion is used to emphasize previous expertise and experience in the sector/area of specialization to which the CFEI relates. It may be especially relevant for those CFEIs that require deep sector-specific technical knowledge.	20
Sustainability of intervention	This selection criterion is used to emphasize the sustainability of the approach proposed by the CSO.	20
Local experience and presence	This selection criterion is used to emphasize the CSO's prior experience with and presence in a given community and geographic context.	10

10 **Attachments**

Description	URL
This format is recommended for submission of your proposal/concept note	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](#)