

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EXTERNAL CONSULTANT

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**ANALYZE MAIN RISKS, VULNERABILITIES AND CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO
DISASTER/EMERGENCIES FOR THE PROJECT:**

**“Strengthening Humanitarian Protection System for Women Survivor of Gender
Based Violence In North And Middle Gaza”**

**ENTITY: FUNDACIÓN ALIANZA POR LOS DERECHOS, LA IGUALDAD Y LA SOLIDARIDAD INTERNACIONAL
(ALIZANZA)**

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1. INTRODUCTION

Fundación Alianza por los Derechos, la Igualdad y la Solidaridad Internacional (Alianza) is a non-confessional, progressive and independent non-governmental development organization (NGDO) founded in 1986. Alianza has a presence in more than 20 countries in Latin America, the Middle East and Africa.

Alianza is the recipient of a grant from the Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation (AACID) for the implementation of the Project: “Strengthening Humanitarian Protection System for Women Survivor of Gender Based Violence in North and Middle Gaza”.

To contribute to this proposal the objective of the assignment is to assess, design and establish recommendations to strengthening the capacity, preparedness and response to protect gender based violence cases in emergency situations in Gaza. Internal community resources and community copying mechanism will be acknowledge to underpin a Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE INTERVENTION

2.1 Fundación Alianza por los Derechos, la Igualdad y la Solidaridad Internacional.

Alianza has been present in the Middle East since 1993 and in oPt. Since 1998, Alianza has had a permanent office in Jerusalem. Since 2009 it has developed a process of sectorial and geographical targeting for its interventions, which meant the prioritization of women’s rights and gender equality in the Middle East, with the main line of action being the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights and fight against gender based violence.

Alianza maintains stable local partners with whom it works in a sustained manner and deepening not only the relations and regular contacts through the office in the field, but a fluid communication and analysis of the changes caused by the humanitarian situation in Palestine.

Alianza has extensive experience and expertise on women’s rights activities and there is a high degree of knowledge about the environment and relation with the population, civil society organizations, other humanitarian actors and local public entities. The proposal has been built as a product of that and is framed in the approaches, objectives and lines of action envisaged in the strategy proposed by local partners.

2.2 The project.

The project “Strengthening Humanitarian Protection System for Women Survivor of Gender Based Violence in North and Middle Gaza” is being implemented in the Gaza Strip with a duration of 17 months jointly with Aisha Association for Women and Child Protection (AISHA) and Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC). The design of the project has been validated with community-based organizations and UN, taking into consideration the needs of the GBV survivors of Nusseirat and Jabalia areas.

The specific objective defined for this project is to strength the protection system of women and girls survivor of Gender Based Violence in the Gaza Strip. To achieve this objective, the intervention compromises four expected results:

- Improvement of the access to target population to emergency multi-sectorial services (sexual and reproductive health, psychological and legal services) for the most vulnerable women survivors of GBV in the One Stop Center of Nusseirat and Jabalia.
- Access to livelihood for women and young girl’s survivor or under risk of GBV in order to mitigate the protection risk and threats.

- Improvement of data collection and referral system of GBV cases.
- Strengthening the capacity, preparedness and response to GBV cases in emergency situations resulting from the conflict or natural disasters in Gaza.

The right's holders of the project are 11.704 women and 2.054 men (12% under 18 years old). The project is focused on women and girls survivors and those at risk of GBV. Gender-age and cross vulnerability are taken into account prioritizing the following vulnerability indicators: female head of households, widows, internal displaced people, refugees, and women with disabilities.

2.2 Context and Justification.

The major drivers of humanitarian vulnerability in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) remain unchanged. Gaza context is framed by the protracted blockade, imposed by Israeli security forces, the recurrent hostilities in less than ten years and the intensification of the internal divide between Palestinian National Authority (PNA) and de facto Hamas authorities. All these factors have devastated public infrastructure, disrupted the delivery of basic services and undermined already vulnerable living conditions and coping mechanism, eroding the resilience of vulnerable households to cope with the prolonged nature of the humanitarian crisis.

Gazan people are currently denied or restricted in their access to essential services such as water and health care. Power outages of 18 to 20 hours a day continue, most of the population has access to piped water for only three to five hours every five days and only the most critical health, water and sanitation facilities are functioning. The health system, on the verge of collapse following years of blockade and de-development, is now overburdened with massive casualties from the ongoing "Great March of Return" demonstrations. In addition, over 12.000¹ people are internal displaced people without house since 2014 (most of them registered refugee form UNRWA) and out of them, 82% are dependent of humanitarian assistance and the economic development fail while the unemployment rate is the highest in the world.

Conflict and the protracted humanitarian crisis have also resulted in high level of psychological distress, particularly among children and women. While emergency situation affect all the population, leaves Palestinian women in an extreme vulnerable situation being exposed to a double discrimination by Israeli occupation and a patriarchal society that exacerbated GBV in all its forms. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), in the Gaza Strip, more than 148,000² women are exposed to GBV and PCBS (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics) estimates in a 51.1% the exposure of violence to women in Gaza (2012). While women are demand to take care of the family they also become the breadwinners of the houses in many cases. Young women and girls, face heightened vulnerabilities, given limited sociopolitical and economic opportunities and being frequently used as a bargaining chip in early marriage to cope the economic difficulties of the family.

Despite the erosion of the resilience of vulnerable households to cope with the prolonged nature of the humanitarian crisis and the collapse of family structures and access to response services. Local citizens become key actors in the prevention and response of emergency situations. During the last war in 2014, the communities demonstrated that have developed personal preparedness and copying mechanisms to mitigate the consequences in crisis situation. For example, as shelter where overcrowded and the resources were insufficient, families open their houses to other affected people and women organized turns to prepare the meals and cover the needs of the community. To avoid sexual assaults and gender violence, the women also organized groups to patrol during the night and along the shelters.

¹ "The monthly Humanitarian Bulletin". OCHA, April 2019.

² "The Humanitarian Impact of Gaza's Electricity and Fuel Crisis on GBV and Services". UNFPA, May 2017.

Alianza, UHWC and AISHA recognize the special vulnerability of women and girls in humanitarian situations and have made a series of commitments throughout this project to mitigate the vulnerabilities faced by these groups, identifying the need to strength the response of multi-sectorial services (sexual and reproductive health, psico-social and legal assistance) and to prepare an Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan with the communities ensuring gender responsive interventions.

3. DESCRIPTION TERMS OF REFERENCE.

3.1. Purpose of consultancy.

The consultant is required to design a Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (CEPRP) with the aim of improving the capacity of the communities of Nusseirat (Wadi Al Salga, Johr Al Deek , Al Heker, Al Zahraa) and Jabalia (Ezbet Abedrabo, Jabalia Al Balad, Al Salam Square, Jabalia Camp Block 2) to respond more efficiently and effectively during and after an emergency situation minimizing the humanitarian consequences. The plan it is intended to establish a comprehensive guideline through which resources will be mobilized and community effort would be coordinated in the event of an emergency. The CEPRP will include and mainstreamed prevention of GBV cases during an emergency situation.

On the one hand, with the objective of consolidate information on the humanitarian architecture, tools and services in the intervention areas, the consultant will use the mapping elaborated by UNFPA in 2016 about institutions and organizations in Gaza as a reference to update the information and consolidate a map of resources in the implementation areas.

On the other hand, an analysis of the main threats, risks, vulnerabilities and capacity of the communities will be conducted with target groups and Community-based Organization (CBOs) in order to develop the CEPRP through a community-based protection approach ensuring the most effective respond and coordination during an emergency. It is essential that through quantitative and qualitative data, the consultant identify the copying mechanisms used at the community level and the resources available in the area to lay the foundations of the CEPRP. Once the analysis has been done, the consultant will organize a validation workshop with the actors involved in order to share the results and discuss the CEPRP. Finally, as a strategy to reinforce the implementation of the CEPRP and the appropriation of the target groups four drills will be implemented by the consultant and lead along with Alianza.

Emergency situations impact women, girls, boys and men differently. The CEPRP must contribute to gender equality by effectively identifying and responding to the needs, capacities and priorities of women, girls, boys and men, including actions that meaningfully engages women and girls in humanitarian decision to lead to a more effective humanitarian response. Women often play a caregiving roles within their communities, and they can offer unique insights based on their experience, challenges and opportunities becoming key agents in the prevention and response of emergency situations. The consultant is responsible for ensuring that GBV prevention and response is understand among the community and prioritized across the activities, including vulnerable groups such as widows, women heads of households and women with disabilities.

3.1. Stakeholders involved.

- CBOs at Al Nusseirat:
 - Rural Women's Development Society
 - Al Tawoon Center
 - Injure Child Association
 - Shams Elhourya Association
 - Shbab Al Aqsa Association

- Nebras Association for society development
- CBOs at Al Jabalia:
 - Nedaa Phalastine Association.
 - Al Anqaa Association for society development.
 - Bena Association for development and empowerment.
 - Khotwa Association.
 - Al Marsa Association.
- Civil brigades of the communities.
- Community Leaders.
- Public and private health services and Community services providers
- Local, international NGOs and UN agencies.

4. METHODOLOGY AND WORKPLAN

4.1 Methodology

The Consultant will ensure a methodological design that adequately combines qualitative and quantitative techniques through data collection tools that ensure community based and gender analysis approach.

1. Research and literature review will be undertaken in order to identify key issues in the design of the CEPRP and gain a detailed understanding of the context.
2. Field work will be carry out in order to meet the information needs using the tools previously designed.
 - a. Conduct 4 focus group in each area* with target groups (women, men, boys and girls) and CBOs in order to identify the copying mechanism in emergencies, capacities, needs and priorities of the communities. 10 people / focus group.
 - * Nusseirat: Wadi Al Salga - Johr Al Deek - Al Heker - Al Zahraa
 - Jabalia: Ezbet Abedrabo - Jabalia Al Balad - Al Salam Square - Jabalia Camp Block 2
 - b. Conduct at least 5 interviews with stakeholders (members of protection and sub GBV cluster, UN agencies, AIDA and OCHA).
 - c. Conduct 8-10 interviews with people living in the communities of intervention. The people interview will be defined during the consultancy.
 - d. 30 Questionnaires (open and close ended) will be create and distributed among the actors involved to contribute to gather information.
3. A validation workshop will be conducted with actors involved in order to validate the results of the process and enhance the ownership of the CEPRP.
4. Implementation of four drills with people from the focus group in order to strengthen the appropriation and the capacity of the target groups in emergency situations. The drills will be develop at the end of the consultancy in two localities of Nusseirat and two localities of Jabalia (to be defined with the consultant). The consultant will develop a guide defining the objective of the drills, the scenario and an assessment report at the end of the implementation.

4.2 Work Plan

The consultancy will compromise the following phases:

1. Design and desk review: The consultant will examine all the documentation and gain understanding of the context including the map of resources, access to services and identify key informants. During this period the agenda of field work will be also be agreed.
2. Fieldwork: field work will be carried out in the different areas of implementation of the project. Once the field work has been completed, it will include the return of contributions made by field

participants and stakeholders in order to share the analysis, conclusions and recommendations to define de CEPRP and facilitate the appropriation of the target groups.

3. Preparation of the report: A final draft will be drawn up to be reviewed and discussed by all parties one week before the consultancy period ends until a definitive report is produced. Once the final report has been produced, the consultant will report directly to the project coordinator and it will be shared with the main actors involved.

Timeframe: The Consultancy is expected to start at the end of May 2019 for a period of 5 weeks. The duration of the consultancy can slightly be adjusted upon request and prior approval from the two parties. An indicative timeframe is proposed below:

Activities	1	2	3	4	5
Document review	X				
Development of methodological proposal and data collection tools	X				
Field work. Quantitative and qualitative data.		X	X		
Information analysis and preliminary results			X		
Draft report and discussion of the results with partners and Alianza				X	
Feedback workshops on the draft CEPRP.				X	
Drafting of final CEPRP				X	
Implementation of drills					X
Final CEPRP					x

4.3 Deliverables.

The final product will be delivered by 10th of July 2019 and will include the following documents in English and Arabic.

- Updated mapping about institutions and organizations that provide services in the intervention areas.
- Analysis of the main threats, risks, vulnerabilities and capacity of preparedness to disaster and emergencies of the community. The report should include:
 - A matrix, of community measures and resources of protection and prevention in emergency situations identified.
 - A matrix of threats, risks, capacities and vulnerabilities of target population.
- The Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (CEPRP) defined by the community-based approach.
- Guidelines to implement the drills following the principles design in the CEPRP.

4. REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONSULTANT AND ECONOMIC OFFER

4.1 Qualifications and competencies

Alianza seeks candidates of the highest integrity and professionalism who share our humanitarian principles. Selection of consultant is made on a competitive basis, is expected to prove:

- Bachelor's degree preferably in Social Sciences, in research, gender or humanitarian action.
- 5 years of experience in research, development and humanitarian action interventions.
- Experience and knowledge of gender issues in humanitarian action, gender based violence in humanitarian crisis and emergencies is essential.

- A good knowledge of socio-political policies and the situation in the Middle East, as well as the specific conditions affecting women and girls in the Gaza Strip.
- Proven experience as an assessment team leader and in conducting workshops on assessment findings.
- Knowledge of methodologies employed for qualitative and quantitative data collection.
- Ability to produce well-written reports that demonstrate excellent analytical and communication skills.
- Ability to work with the organization and with other stakeholders to ensure the delivery of a high quality product in a timely manner.
- Excellent command of English

4.2 Economic offer

The budget must be presented in a table format with an indication of the following: fees, travel expenses and any other expenses with breakdown of the price per units. All the translations, including the translation of the final deliverables to Spanish must be included in the consultancy budget.

The consultancy total amount can't exceed the total of 14.000€.

The consultant must submit to Alianza its financial and technical offer no later than 15th June 2019.

The proposals (technical and financial) must be sent by email to pherranz@aporsolidaridad.org and eanadon@aporsolidaridad.org