



CALL FOR PROPOSAL

Promoting Access to Information for Communities Through Radio

Background

Within the framework of UNESCO's action to strengthen free, independent, and pluralistic media UNESCO seeks a national partner to support implementation of the “Support and Enabling Environment for Elections in South Sudan” project and “Support to a people-driven and gender responsive permanent constitution making process in South Sudan.” This will be carried out through extending support to community radios to educate and inform the public on elections and constitutional making process.

The project results are structured around five inter-related outputs, to be implemented by UNDP, UNMISS, UNESCO and UN Women in partnership with the National Elections Commission and a range of other state and non-state actors:

1. Establishment of an enabling legal framework for free, fair, and inclusive elections supported.
2. Strengthened institutional capacities for professional, transparent, and accountable election management.
3. Inclusive participation fostered through enhanced rights and access to information.
4. Enhanced environment for maintaining security and mitigating violence during elections.
5. Strengthened effectiveness in planning and implementing electoral processes for all citizens.

Promoting access to accurate and impartial information through media

The media is a central and powerful force in electoral processes. It is a primary means for communicating information to citizens, provides space for debate and becomes a tool for contestants to persuade voters to vote for them. Media can also be a watchdog and pillar of transparency, that can activate public pressure for accountability. With the media holding such a dominant role in shaping public opinion, there is always the risk that it will be co-opted and distorted for political ends.

As appropriate to UNESCO's communications mandate and area of expertise in relation to access to information and capacity building of the media, the project will aim to develop the capacity of

journalists and editors, particularly women journalists, to deliver professional, accurate, impartial, conflict-sensitive and gender-sensitive reporting on elections, as well as building capacities of community radio stations in election broadcasting. Alongside this, the project will work to promote understanding of the positive role of media in electoral processes and principles of freedom of information and access to information, through awareness raising for different stakeholders, including security personnel, line ministries, commissions, media houses, journalists and particular focus will be given to engaging youth constructively in local media activities around elections, and strategies for responding to mis/disinformation and hate speech, particularly against women.

Terms of reference

Under the authority of the UNESCO Juba Head of Office and direct supervision of the Communication and Information Specialist, the contractor shall:

1. Support community radio stations listed below to:

Station Name	Location
Don Bosco Radio	Warrap State
Sault al-Mahabba	Malakal - Upper Nile
Radio Easter	Yei, Central Equatoria
Radio Emmanuel and Grace FM	Torit, Eastern Equatoria
Radio Voice of Hope	Wau, Western Bahr El Ghazel
Annisa FM	Yambio, Western Equatoria
Voice of Reconciliation, Magwi	Eastern Equatoria
Bakhita FM	Central Equatoria
Kuajok Radio	Warrap
Radio Wau	Western Bahr El Ghazal
Bentiu FM	Unity State
Radio Voice of Peace	Nuba Mountain -Sudan

- (i) Educate communities on elections and constitutional making process through radio talk shows, Public Service Announcements (PSAs), Jingles etc. The radio talk shows, and other materials will be aired to suit community needs and contexts.
- (ii) Monitor and report on programmes aired by the community radios stations supported during the project with regards to educating and informing the community on constitution making process and electoral issues.
- (iii) Assist in the production of messages and translate into six traditional languages.

(iii) Use of local languages during airing of programmes on elections and constitutional making process is obligatory during the project.

(iv) Provide monthly updates/reports on programmes/topics covered, indicate number of listeners reached through the programmes on elections and Constitution making process.

(v) Work in close partnership with the line Commissions and ministries plus other experts on the ground to enhance and broaden radio talk shows at the community level.

2. Ensure equal gender representation during project implementation
3. Ensure visibility of the activities is done during the project period.
4. Undertake all logistical arrangements to ensure success of the project in target locations.

Expected Outcomes

It is expected that, as a result of the activities:

- Community radio stations supported and have obtained skills to diversify their content, information/data, and have the ability to promote balanced reporting on constitutional making process and electoral issues.
- Programmes on electoral and constitutional issues recorded and aired with the aim to educate and inform communities/public.

Deliverables

a. Submit to UNESCO by 30 April 2024 a detailed radio plan for airing programmes, include coverage/ estimated number of people to be reached by the programmes and list of stakeholders that will be included in the radio programmes upon which the 1st instalment of 33% shall be made.

b. Submit to UNESCO by 30 July 2024, progress report on programmes aired and include high resolution photos upon which 2nd instalment 50% shall be made

c. Submit to UNESCO by 30 November 2024, final activity report, with high-resolution photos, recorded programmes, financial report, and receipts accounting for project funds upon which final payment of 17% shall be made.

Admission Requirement

- Proposals and Budget must be sent no later than the deadline for submitting applications referred to in the document.
- Proposal must be submitted in writing, submitted in English.
- Eligible project proposals and workplan may be submitted for the activities described in the terms of reference. Proposals should match the specific description of the action.
- Budget should be clearly developed and broken down per location areas indicated above.
- Grant applications are eligible if submitted by: - A non-profit organization/CSO.

Failure to comply with the above requirements will lead to the rejection of the application.

Exclusion from participation:

Applicants will be excluded from participating in the call for proposals if they are in any of the following situations:

- They have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify including by decisions of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, and Ministry of Labour.
- They are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, or have suspended business activities.
- They or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment of a competent authority which has the force of res judicata.

Eligibility/ Award Criteria

Only proposals that meet the eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria will be further assessed based on the below award criteria.

Criteria	Mark Maximum Point)
Relevance of application in relation to the activities in part a) and expected outputs	25 points
Experience carrying out similar activities with regards to working with journalists/media sector, Women and youth listener clubs and community radios	25 points
Presentation of expected results, expected impact and sustainability of the action	15 points
Time schedule of the action (work plan); management arrangements	15 points

Coherence, relevance, and proportionality of the estimated budget in relation with the proposed action	20 points
Maximum total score	100 points

Implementation period: The estimated duration of the action is 8 months. Activities shall start on the day both parties sign an agreement.

How to Submit

<p>Submit your proposal and budget to implement stated activities. via. procurement.juba@unesco.org by 12 April 2024, 4:00 PM (CAT)</p> <p>Note: Indicate in the Subject line title of the proposal for which you are applying</p>

UNESCO accords priority to gender equality in all fields of competence. Therefore, the contractor shall ensure equal opportunities are given to the participation of women and men during the training.