

## **Expression of Interest (EOI) for National NGOs to Operate 16 Safe Spaces for Women & Girls in Gedaref State**

### **1. Background**

Mercy Corps is inviting **NNGOs** to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) to operate **16 Women & Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS)** in **Gedaref State, Sudan (Basonda, Alfashaga, Alfao, Alrahad, Almafaza)**. These spaces will provide protection, psychosocial support, life skills training, and referral services for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and other vulnerable women and girls.

### **Purpose of the Call for Eoi**

Mercy Corps invites **National Non-Governmental Organizations (NNGOs)** with proven experience in gender-based violence prevention and response, protection programming, and community-based support for women and girls to express interest in **operating the 16 Safe Spaces in Gedaref** for an initial period of **12 months** under a service contract agreement.

Mercy Corps will be responsible for the **construction and equipping** of the Safe Spaces, while the selected NNGO(s) will be responsible for the **daily operation and service provision** within the centers.

### **Scope of Work for Selected NNGO(s)**

The selected NNGO(s) will be expected to:

1. **Manage the day-to-day operations** of the Safe Spaces, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for women and girls.
2. **Deliver life skills training** and economic empowerment activities for women and girls.
3. **Facilitate awareness-raising sessions** on women's rights, GBV prevention, and available support services.
4. **Develop and strengthen referral pathways** for survivors in coordination with relevant stakeholders.
5. **Recruit and train staff** to provide quality services. The recruitment and training of staff will be in collaboration with the Mercy Corps team to ensure quality.
6. **Engage with local communities** to promote acceptance and utilization of the Safe Spaces.
7. **Monitor and report** on activities, outcomes, and impact, in line with Mercy Corps' reporting requirements.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Interested NNGOs must meet the following criteria:

- Be a legally registered National NGO in Sudan.
- Have at least **three years of experience** implementing GBV/Protection programs in Gedaref.

- Demonstrate experience in operating Safe Spaces or similar women-focused community centers.
- Have a presence in or capacity to operate in Gedaref State.
- Show evidence of effective financial and programmatic management systems.
- Commit to Mercy Corps' safeguarding, protection, and humanitarian principles.

## Application Process

Interested NNGOs should submit a **Expression of Interest (EOI) document** including:

### 1. Organization Profile (1 Page)

- Brief background, mission, and vision.
- Previous experience in operating Safe Spaces or relevant protection programs.
- Geographic areas of operation and previous work with IDPs.

### 2. Technical Proposal (2 pages)

- Detailed **approach to operating Safe Spaces**, including activities, methodologies, and inclusion strategies.
- Community engagement and stakeholder involvement strategy.

### 5.3. Staffing and Management Plan (2 pages)

- Profiles of key personnel and their experience in child protection.
- Recruitment and capacity-building plans for Safe Space staff.

### 5.5. Past Performance and References

- Summary of past relevant projects.
- Letters of reference from donors or partners.

## 6. Submission Guidelines

Interested NNGOs should submit their complete EOI by **[Submission Deadline]** via email to:

## 7. Selection Process

Mercy Corps will evaluate all applications based on the **following criteria**:

Evaluation Criteria	Description	Score (Points)
<b>1. Organizational Experience and Capacity</b>	Experience in implementing Protection and Safe Spaces programs	25
	Experience working in Gedaref or similar conflict-affected settings	

	Organizational capacity, including staffing, operational presence, and logistics	
<b>2. Technical Approach and Methodology</b>	Proposed approach to Safe Spaces operations, activities, safeguarding, and PSS	25
	Inclusion of people with disabilities, gender-sensitive programming, and community engagement	
	Monitoring and evaluation framework to measure impact	
<b>3. Staff Qualifications and Child Safeguarding</b>	Experience and qualifications of key staff in protection and Safe Space approaches	25
	Clear policies and procedures on safeguarding	
<b>4. Past Performance and References</b>	Positive references from previous donors or partners	25
	Demonstrated success in implementing similar projects	
<b>Total Score</b>		<b>100</b>

Shortlisted organizations will be requested to prepare a detailed technical and financial proposal and participate in an interview before the final selection. Mercy Corps reserves the right to **reject any or all applications** without obligation to provide reasoning.