

Introduction

Catholic Relief Services is an international non-governmental organization that was founded in 1943 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States to serve World War II survivors in Europe. Since then, CRS has expanded in size to reach more than 85 million people in 101 countries on five continents. Although the CRS' mission is rooted in the Catholic faith, CRS' operations serve people based solely on need, regardless of their race, religion or ethnicity.

CRS/Egypt country program began in 1956 at the invitation of the Egyptian president Nasser by providing relief assistance to the victims of the Suez War. Over the following few decades, CRS Egypt moved from large-scale food relief to long-term poverty alleviation and development programs. Current programs in place range throughout providing livelihood opportunities, peace building, and basic & higher education programs.

Under the UNICEF project Education Assistance for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Egypt, CRS will support African unaccompanied and separated minor refugees between the ages of 15 - 18 with non-formal education opportunities through conducting Life Skills psychosocial-based activities as part of their enrollment in CRS' Accelerated Learning Program (ALP).

Purpose

The purpose of the PSS activities is to build unaccompanied and separated children's self-esteem, resilience, and ability to manage emotions using expressive art therapy combining a variety of art forms such as theatre, dancing, painting...etc.

The PSS activities will be delivered to a total of 115 ALP students (115 is the maximum number of students, average attendance rate is 80 students).

The sessions should be designed to tackle topics such as: 1) Self-awareness, 2) Expressing emotions, 3) Dealing with stress; in addition to other skills the service provider sees relevant to the target segment.

The recommended activity setting is as follows:

- The sessions will take place in a venue/school in Faysal or downtown area (tentative).
- The total number of sessions are 16; delivered to four groups (the division is based on language), four sessions per group.
- The desired topics should be delivered with PSS approach, through different types of art and drama therapy.
- Activities and reflection sessions (which should be held after the activity) will be delivered in Arabic and will be translated to participants' languages by CRS interpreters (Oromo and Amharic (one group), Somali, and Tigrinya (two groups)).
- Two sessions will be delivered per week from June till August. Session duration shall be four hours excluding breaks.
- The venue/ meals and other logistics will be handled by CRS life skills team.

Target segment background information

- Harassment, discrimination and violence are recurring challenges that refugees, particularly African refugees, face in Egypt. While the most common risk reported is harassment on the street, physical violence with gangs are more common among males, while sexual harassment is more common among females. UASCs are at an increased vulnerability as they often do not have a stable support system and often face issues on their own. Both male and female African UASC report feeling unsafe in their neighborhoods and on the streets of Cairo, including on the way to and from school. Both genders occasionally mentioned this as a reason for dropping out of school. Some UASC reported that attending life skills sessions or going places with friends helped them deal with protection issues, but many—both those enrolled in schools and those that have dropped out—lack connections to safe and relevant resources or social support systems. Due to these issues, UASC have reported feeling lonely, depressed and even suicidal. Further, UASC have expressed a desire for safe spaces where they can meet other refugees and make the connections necessary to secure their basic needs
- The objective of the specialized PSS activities is to help them develop their coping mechanisms and to deal with the common issues they face.

Required Specifications

First: Technically:

An experienced institute/individual that could deliver the PSS activities in an interactive way and reflection sessions using the experiential learning techniques to achieve the program objectives:

1. Delivering the agreed upon topics throughout the 16 sessions in 16 days at the agreed venue (four sessions for 20-30 students* four groups).
2. In cooperation with CRS life skills team, the service provider is responsible for the development of their own monitoring and evaluation tools to measure the satisfaction level and evaluate the effect of the activities on the beneficiaries.

Second: Logistically:

1. Program Materials like: flipcharts, markers, handouts, pens, colors and any required materials to be handled by service provider.
2. Attendance: will be handled by CRS life skills team.
3. Meals, snacks or refreshments will be handled by CRS life skills team.

Essential Deliverables

- 1- Hard copy of the detailed curriculum of the PSS sessions design should be provided at least a week before the start of the program outlining the topics that will be covered in each session as well as its objective.
- 2- A final report on different activities implemented and future recommendations including but not limited to:
 - a. Key Objectives
 - b. Key Achieved Results (Detailed covered topics, results of the monitoring and evaluation tools)
 - c. Key challenges and lessons learned
 - d. Recommendations for future activities.
- 3- Report attachments including but not limited to:
 - a. Summary of the assessment tools used with analyzed statistics at the end of the program.

Vendors are requested to submit the following requirements for bidding based on the above-mentioned required specifications and expected deliverables:

1- Technical Proposal:

- The proposal is required to show an understanding of the purpose of the activity with a detailed sessions plan indicating the topics/skills delivered and the methodology used.
- The plan should include a brief description of the planned activities, learning outcomes and should be based on delivering two sessions per week. If the service provider has the capacity to deliver two sessions simultaneously (in terms of staffing), this should be mentioned and will be considered an asset.
- Company portfolio and CVs of the potential facilitators indicating their previous experience working with refugees and children. The facilitators should demonstrate a proven experience in working with refugees and should be specialized PSS service provider.

- 2- Financial Proposal: The financial proposal should include the cost for the stationery/material needed and trainers' fees. Each cost should be included in separate line item. The service provider should include their payment plan.

CRS will be responsible for any other costs related to the training such as meals, refreshments, venue...etc.

General notes:

- Service provider will be oriented and committed to follow CRS Safeguarding policy.
- We accept that the vendor is either a registered company or an individual consultant.
- To apply, please attach the company portfolio/ CVs of the consultants to the CV cell, combine the technical and financial proposal in one document and attach it to the cover letter cell before the 19th of May.