



International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
The UN Migration Agency

Ref No: CO-CFP-2021-011

Date: 08 September 2021

### **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**International Organization for Migration (IOM)** is calling for proposals for civil society organizations (CSOs)/implementing partners for COVID-19 RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCEE) PROJECTS FOR THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE/INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES IN MINDANAO

#### **Background**

The COVID-19 pandemic poses higher risks for morbidities and mortalities among the vulnerable groups in the population. In the geographically isolated and depressed areas (GIDA) where Indigenous People (IP) and Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs) are situated, access to health services remains to be a problem. Especially at the time of the pandemic, access to relevant information and health care services on COVID-19 is crucial but indigenous people are disadvantaged because of the distance of the ancestral lands. This is worsened by the health protocols during the pandemic where physical distancing, purchase of masks and face shields are required, and the limitation of movement because of lockdowns. The presence of health care workers is prioritized in the isolation units, operation centers, and vaccination centers. The IPs/ICCs have higher risks for mortality rates caused by COVID-19 brought about by undernutrition, as well as a lack of clean water and sanitation. IPs/ICCs also continue to experience stigma and discrimination, which discourages them from accessing health care services. COVID-19 presents a new threat to the health and survival of indigenous people. While there is data on vulnerable groups such as older persons and those with comorbidities, data on infection rates among the IP are not readily available. Communicating with these communities can be a challenge and their response to COVID-19 is compounded by fears of the unknown, unfounded rumours and misinformation, and requests for them to behave in new ways such as following the required minimum health protocols. Reports from the different Local Government Units during vaccinations reveal that there is still a high level of vaccination hesitancy from the indigenous peoples/indigenous cultural communities.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) recognizes the need to come up with innovative solutions to ensure access to basic services in public health emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic by the IP/ICCs in isolated communities, especially those situated in the administrative boundaries, physically - challenged terrains and conflict-affected areas.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) invites proposals from civil society organizations (CSOs) and implementing partners to provide implementation services to support the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) strategy for the Indigenous People/Indigenous Cultural Communities concerning COVID-19 vaccination rollout in Mindanao.

Overall Objective:

The overall objective of this call for proposal is to support local civil society organizations (CSOs) in designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating RCCE activities necessary for scaling up effective COVID-19 response and COVID-19 vaccination programs.

Specific Objective:

Improve utilization of information regarding IP knowledge, beliefs, and practices related to COVID - 19, the barriers to service utilization and gaps in service provision as well as basic demographic information in designing risk communication and community engagement strategies.

Improve access to information on local COVID-19 vaccination programs and the minimum health standards for COVID-19 prevention in the selected ICC/IP and other disadvantaged communities in Mindanao through a comprehensive and culturally sensitive/culturally acceptable implementation of risk communication and community engagement (RCEE) strategy.

Requirements:

*Evidence-based*

Evidence is a significant consideration of this funding opportunity to ensure that projects are results-based. Evidence is needed to support the rationale for the proposed project/intervention, the specific population to be targeted, and the intervention to be implemented. Strategic approaches to motivate behavior change is central to the RCCE strategy. The current perception, beliefs, and practices of the IP/ICCs regarding COVID-19 should be clearly articulated and utilized in the communication strategies to develop IEC materials. Immediate results in terms of behavior changes should also be well-documented.

*Cultural sensitivity*

Promoting and improving cultural sensitivity involves understanding the social, political, and historical contexts of the IP and ICCs in designing research and awareness-raising activities that are sensitive and respectful to their culture and beliefs. The proposal must contain knowledge and understanding of the cultural factors affecting the health practices of the IP/ICCs.

*Gender-based analysis requirements*

International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to gender equality in the project implementation. Applicants are expected to incorporate these considerations in their proposal. This call is open to civil society organizations that are operating in Mindanao. Projects should be quick impact and concluded by 15 December 2021.

**Timeline**

The engagement will run for three and a half (3 ½) months starting September 1, 2021, until December 15, 2021. As noted, the selected implementing partner will be expected to cover all administrative and operational costs. These are the proposed activities within the given timeframe (indicative only):

Activities	M1	M2	M3	M4
Submission of Detailed Workplan	Wk 1			
Submission of results of the IP knowledge, belief perception and practices analysis on COVID – 19 and vaccination	Wk 3			
Submission of the communication plan, training design, session guides and materials on the awareness - raising activities for RCEE strategy		Wk 1		
Completion of the activities conducted under agreed RCCE strategy				Wk 1
Submission of final report				Wk 2

**Deliverables and payment**

Achievement of the specific deliverables will determine the release of fees in tranches:

1.	Submission of detailed Workplan	30% (Amount TBD)
2.	Submission of the results of the analysis on the IP knowledge, belief, perception, and practices	40% (Amount TBD)
3.	Submitted final operational and financial report detailing completion of all immediate output and results of the assigned tasks.	30% (Amount TBD)

## Application process:

### 1. Selection Criteria and Eligibility Criteria

- Proposals received will be reviewed for compliance Selection Criteria. CSOs will be evaluated with the eligibility criteria (see the section on Eligibility Requirements)

### 2. Technical review

- The IOM Technical Team will assess the quality of each application based on the Selection Criteria and Eligibility Requirements.
- Online interviews and focused group discussions will be scheduled with selected applicants.
- Proponents may be requested to refine/revise their proposal based on the results of the interviews and discussions.

### 3. Approved proposal

- The IOM Technical Team will notify selected participating institutions by email.
- An inception meeting will be held with the approved project/s.
- The Technical Team will prepare a memorandum of agreement to be signed by duly designated representatives of IOM and the designated CSO representatives of the approved project/s.

## Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible CSOs must comply with the following requirements:

1. The CSOs must be duly accredited/recognized by NCIP (National Commission for the Indigenous People. They should have undertaken FPIC (Free and Prior Informed Consent) process in their selected project sites with their present or past projects.
2. A formally designated representative of the CSO must sign a formal agreement with IOM should the proposal be selected.
3. The CSOs must have a track record or experience in conducting studies on the IP knowledge, beliefs, and practices and the implementation of awareness-raising projects with the IP/ICCS. Interested parties must provide information on ongoing or past projects and the names of three persons who can provide references about the performance of the CSO in these projects.
4. The CSOs must have the technical, human, and financial resources needed to undertake their proposed risk communication strategies and campaigns.

Please submit the following documents:

- A cover letter for submission of expression of interest for partnership signed by the head of the CSO.
- Project Proposal (Please see Annex A)
- Copy of supporting documents as mentioned below:
- Copy of the registration from Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
- Copy of the organization's constitution and by-laws (CBL)
- Copy of the organization's structure, including the project implementation team
- Copy of the latest annual report of the organization
- At least 2 references from existing/former funding partners.

How to Apply:

Submit a full project document using the project narrative template (Annex A) and budget proposal template (Annex B) on or before 15 September 2021 at 11:59 PM to **Marianne Magtibay**, [mmagtibay@iom.int](mailto:mmagtibay@iom.int). – **Senior Procurement and Logistics Asst, IOM**. Please indicate in the subject: **Project Proposal for RCCE IPs/ICCs on COVID – 19**.

Annex A

PROJECT PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

**COVID – 19 RISK COMMUNICATION  
AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCEE) PROJECT FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND  
INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES IN MINDANAO**

**Basic Information:**

NAME OF THE IMPLEMENTING CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION:		
Geographical Coverage:		
Beneficiaries:	<i>Direct Beneficiaries:</i>	
Total funds required under Inter-Agency Plans / Appeals for this current emergency:		
Total funds received for this current emergency:		%
Total funds requested for this proposal:		%
Timeframe:		

**Main Body of the Proposal:**

1. Rationale
2. Project Description
3. Partnership and Coordination
4. Monitoring and Evaluation
5. Results Matrix

	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Data Source and Collection Method</i>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Assumptions</i>
Outcome 1					
Outcome 2					

6. Workplan

Annex B

BUDGET PROPOSAL TEMPLATE ATTACHED AS EXCEL