

Call for Expression of Interest (Eoi) for one Local Humanitarian Partner (LHP)

1. ToGETHER! – Towards Greater Effectiveness and Timeliness in Humanitarian Emergency Response”

With the support of the German Federal Foreign Office, Malteser International is implementing in a consortium the localisation program “**ToGETHER - Towards Greater Effectiveness and Timeliness in Humanitarian Emergency Response**”. The first phase of the program was successfully implemented for four years from March 2020 to April 2024 in Asia, Africa and Latin America and offered an opportunity to five local or national organisations in each of the eight participating countries to jointly develop and undertake capacity strengthening and exchange measures in order to reinforce their institutional and operational capacity to effectively respond to humanitarian crises.

See more information on the website: <https://together-for-localisation.org>

The next phase of the program (“ToGETHER 2.0”) also creates a space for establishing complementary partnerships and promoting local partners’ roles as leading local actors in humanitarian response. Currently the program has four partner organizations and is looking for one more organization.

Capacity strengthening and exchange activities will be based on LHPs’ self-defined needs and priorities and the larger humanitarian context in their countries. LHPs will have access to funding for implementing innovative humanitarian approaches and for institutional strengthening. The programme will further provide technical support and advisory services to LHPs and facilitate the creation of platforms for knowledge exchange, learning and evidence-based good practice.

The next phase of the program (ToGETHER 2.0) starts on May 1, 2024, and will end on April 30, 2027. It strongly focuses on operational activities that directly impact affected populations, including a mentoring component to expand outreach and local knowledge, and be structured to be as streamlined as possible to ensure efficient implementation of its operational components. The program aims for an appropriate balance between operational and structural aspects, with a strong focus on strategic elements of humanitarian assistance such as gender, innovation, and anticipatory humanitarian action. It is planned that preferably LHPs which are very well established in their constituencies engage in mentoring of other smaller local humanitarian NGOs in the sense of a “peer-approach”. Through these mentoring activities local humanitarian peer NGOs could benefit from e. g. sharing knowledge, skills, abilities, and behavioural capacities regarding due diligence processes, engaging in humanitarian networking, and humanitarian coordination mechanisms, or being peer participants of LHP trainings, etc. Global and national humanitarian operations and innovation facilities (HOIFA) will be important instruments. The program’s success depends on the active cooperation of all stakeholders in a spirit of mutual engagement and genuine partnership.

2. General Information on Malteser International

Malteser International (MI), the worldwide relief agency of the Order of Malta for humanitarian aid, works in more than 35 countries in Africa, Asia and the Americas for people in need, regardless of their religion, origin, or political affiliation. Its mission is to provide emergency relief, implement rehabilitation measures, and facilitate the link between emergency relief and sustainable development. Christian values and the humanitarian principles of impartiality and independence form the basis of its work in the following areas:

Relief, Reconstruction & Rehabilitation; Health & Nutrition; Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH); Livelihood & Social Programs and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Malteser International has been operating in Bangladesh since 2017 (after the Rohingya influx) and is currently active in the Cox's Bazar, Dhaka, Satkhira, Bagerhat, and Kurigram districts. Malteser International has 10 staff members in Bangladesh and currently works with five partner organizations in the country. MI is involved in primary health care services, community outreach for health and hygiene services, nutritional services, WASH services, livelihood/income generation activities, localization of humanitarian aid, DRR, climate change initiatives, capacity strengthening for Local Humanitarian Partners (LHPs), and provision of relief assistance after disasters. It is registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau of Bangladesh (NGOAB) in Bangladesh, registration number 3401.

3. Information on the application and selection process

We would like to hear from any local humanitarian organisation who is interested and motivated to be part of the three-year long collaborative program. The selection of partners will take place in a two-stage process. In the first stage an initial shortlisting of organisations will be carried out based on your expressed motivation, expectations and added value for this program. The second stage will involve a participatory process to ensure that the Malteser International and the identified potential Local Humanitarian Partners (LHP) complement and support each other and are a good fit with the objectives of the program.

Please fill in the Application Form. In this Application Form, in addition to basic information on your organisation, we ask you to share with us your motivation for collaboration in this program, the expectations you place on the program as well as the added values your organisation brings to the program. These constitute the main criteria for selection. Kindly also submit the supporting documentation as stated in the Application Form.

4. LHPs eligibility and qualification criteria

Any local humanitarian organisation meeting the below programme-related criteria and administrative requirements are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest.

4.1 Program-related Criteria

- i. Have a presence and being active in the **Barisal or Sylhet** divisions of Bangladesh, see also under administrative criteria.
- ii. Share the vision of the ToGETHER! programme on localising humanitarian emergency response.
- iii. Have the willingness and ability to further develop capacities in humanitarian response as well as interested and/or involved in current localization movement at sub-national or national level.
- iv. Have the willingness to actively engage in and contribute to the joint effort, share knowledge and participate in joint initiatives at the Country Steering Committee level as well as in the programme's working groups.
- v. Have previous experience in humanitarian (or preparedness) action and/or have a double mandate in development and humanitarian action.
- vi. Have experience in working with marginalised and vulnerable groups.
- vii. Be committed to undertaking a self-defined capacity self-assessment to develop and implement a strengthening plan in the areas of humanitarian preparedness, response, coordination, advocacy and political dialogue
- viii. Show willingness to actively engage in humanitarian advocacy in the country.

- ix. Be committed to developing a strategy plan for the sustainability of the organisation after the end of the programme
- x. Have the willingness to create team cohesion, coordination and integration and to build the capacity of other local organizations and actors - transferring capacity to enable the community and individuals to determine their own path forward.
- xi. Has not already independently access to substantial international funding.
- xii. Should only in exceptional cases have been or be part of another recent or current similar, long term capacity strengthening project.
- xiii. **Be committed to engage in mentoring of other smaller local humanitarian NGOs in the sense of a “peer-approach”.**
- xiv. **Women led organizations are especially encouraged to apply and women leadership is an asset and priority**

4.2 Administrative requirements

- i. Be a non-profit, non-governmental organisation **registered in NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB)** working closely with the local community and should have **at least 5 years** working experience in humanitarian response.
- ii. The organization has a presence and being active in the **Barisal or Sylhet divisions** of Bangladesh and its origin should be within the mentioned two divisions, and their **Head office/principal office** must be in those areas.
- iii. Be able to host a seconded or hired full-time experienced and knowledgeable staff members for the project throughout the duration of the programme. (Related staff costs will be covered by the programme.)
- iv. Be willing to undergo a reference check and a cooperative partner assessment.
- v. Be willing to enter in a partnership based on the principles of trust and respect; mutuality; complementarity; transparency, anti-fraud, anti-corruption; accountability.
- vi. Be committed to respecting humanitarian standards: Core Humanitarian Standard, Code of Conduct for The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief, Do No Harm, Sphere, Gender and Diversity, Community Engagement and Accountability CEA, Child protection and safeguarding, Protection from Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH).

5. Requirements to submit the Expression of Interest (Eoi)

The application form for this Expression of Interest is available in the attached “**EOI application template**” and if you have any question about the call or ToGETHER programme, please contact us by phone number +88 01682 825343-during office hours.

Interested local humanitarian organizations are requested to submit their applications alongside the required supporting documents as laid out in the Application Form **not later than 30th June 2024, 5:00 pm** at mb.procurement-bangladesch@malteser-international.org and indicating in the subject line “**Submission: ToGETHER Project 2.0**”. Applications are welcome in **English or Bengali languages**. Applications will be considered only if meeting all basic requirements set out in the detailed expression of interest. Shortlisted NGOs will be contacted for further process.