CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

ON PREVENTION OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM (PVE) INITIATIVES

IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DHAKA, BANGLADESH

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 25 FEBRUARY 2021 – 12:00 AM (GMT+6)

Background

Rupantar is a local not-for-profit Development Organization established in 1992. It has been working in the area of Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) since 2015. In 2016, Rupantar received funding from the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) to initiate a project called "Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium."

The first phase of the project was implemented during 2016-2019 in Satkhira and Chapai-Nawabganj districts. The second phase of the project started in late 2019 and, in addition to the above geographical areas, it also covers Khulna, Rajshahi city corporation, and Dhaka.

The project supports initiatives that promote youth awareness of risks and threats of violent extremism and encourages them to become active agents of change on PVE. The project is implemented in consortium with 5 organizations.

A vital component of this project is strengthening the resilience of educated youth against radicalization to violent extremism in Dhaka, which is the focus of this Call for EoI.

1. Purpose of this call

Rupantar is pleased to announce a call for the expression of interest from interested Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and youth-led organizations to receive small grants for PVE initiatives in Dhaka under "Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium" project.

2. Scope of small grants

The beneficiary groups, geographical locations, potential programming areas and implementation modalities are presented below.

Through the small grants the project aims to enable local CSOs, NGOs and youth-led organizations to propose and support youth-led PVE initiatives in close collaboration and consultation with educational institutions and local stakeholders. The objectives of this small grants are:

- To strengthen youth capacities to prevent violent extremism through increased youth knowledge and capacities on causes of VE and on PVE and increased trust between youth from different groups.

- To connect young people for youth-to-youth mobilization for PVE and peace through increased youth engagement in PVE in their communities and increased awareness of the threat of VE among youth reached through campaigning.

WHO

Youth is the building block of any society. Therefore, the project will focus on young women and men between the age of 18 and 30 studying in higher educational institutions in Dhaka.

WHERE

The project will cover up to 20 Educational institutions in Dhaka, including colleges, Madrasas and University Level institutions (Public and Autonomous Universities, Private Universities, National University Level Colleges, Fazil and Kamil Madrasas). Each small grant will support PVE initiatives in one or more educational institution/s. The list of educational institutions for each small grant will be discussed and agreed between Rupantar and successful applicants.

WHAT

Successful applicants will propose, design and carry out activities aimed at strengthening the resilience of youth in educational institutions against radicalization to violent extremism by enhancing the social cohesion and the sense of purpose of youth in these institutions. Potential thematic areas include:

1) Strengthening youth resilience to violent extremism through enhancing their knowledge and skills on PVE, pluralism, diversity and tolerance and empowering them to become change agents in their society.

2) Enhancing youth critical thing skills through training such as social medial literacy and others to make them less vulnerable towards online and offline violent extremist propaganda.

3) Providing young people with skills and resources to design and organize PVE initiatives, such as art and cultural events and awareness-raising activities, to prevent radicalization, while fostering pluralism, diversity, and tolerance in their communities.

4) Develop alternative narratives to support PVE, through engaging religious leaders and youth in interfaith dialogues and similar initiatives.

Examples of potential activities may include:

- Creation of youth action teams in educational institutions to bring together young people from diverse backgrounds (*e.g.* religious, socio-economic, etc.) to come together in designing and leading PVE initiatives.

- Strengthen collaboration between youth and school principals, local and central state authorities, in organizing PVE initiatives.

- Awareness raising and training of youth on PVE.

- Enhance youth mobilization and engagement through social cohesion activities.

- Collect and share good practices in youth led PVE programming.

- Bring youth and religious leaders together to develop positive narratives to PVE.

HOW:

Rupantar will select 6 to 10 sub-grantees, where each of them will be involved in one or more of the thematic areas indicated above. Throughout grant management process, Rupantar will support sub-grantees with capacity building in programmatic, finance, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and PVE areas. A key goal of this program is to provide sub-grantees with the required capacities that will allow them to continue their work in PVE beyond the duration of this program, while increasing their chances to receive funding from international donors in the future. Moreover, Rupantar will also involve the sub-grantees in the Policy Level Advocacy Dialogue with Islamic Arab University (IAU), University Grant Commission (UGC), Law Commission and other relevant actors.

3. Value of small grants

The value of sub grants will vary from BDT 500,000 to BDT 900,000. Rupantar will sign agreements with the selected entities.

4. Duration of small grants

The duration of small grants will be up to 8 months.

5. Selection criteria

The purpose of an Expression of Interest is for interested applicants to demonstrate that they meet the required prerequisites and possess the required capabilities to receive funding under this call. Priority will be given to interested organizations with proven experience in working with youth in the thematic areas mentioned in the call. Prior experience in PVE is a plus.

PREREQUISITES

i. Either entities with appropriate and valid legal registration[1] or having affiliation with any registered entity (*e.g., University or any Higher Educational Institutions based forums, clubs or platform or societies)*
ii. Willingness to accept and fulfil the role of a Sub-grantee (as described herein)[2].

REQUIRED CAPABILITIES

i. Established relationships and credibility with the young women and men aged 18 – 30 studying in higher educational institutions in Dhaka.
ii. Experience and capacity in program design and management, and project cycle management.
iii. Experience and capacity in working with educational institutions, particularly those of higher education. It will be an added value if the applicant has experience working with educated youth, including those from Madrasa schools, in programs that address local drivers of violent extremism.

6. How to Submit an Expression of Interest

All **Expressions of Interest** (annex 1) must be duly **filled and submitted** electronically to **eoi@rupantar.org** by **25 February 2021**. The e-mail should be marked as "**EOI – DHAKA**" in the subject line. Failing to do so might compromise your submission.

Shortlisted organizations/entities will be invited to undergo a due diligence prior to the selection decision.

For any **additional information or queries**, please contact **disha@rupantar.org** by COB of **18 February 2021.** Any communication after the mentioned timeline will not be accepted. Successful applicants will be contacted and notified for the further requirements.

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[1] For the youth groups who are interested and equipped with necessary other required capabilities, the legal registration will remain subject to further consideration considering the potentiality and promise.

[2] Sub-grantees are anticipated to propose, design and carry out activities. Upon submission of the proposal and after getting shortlisted, the sub-grantees will go through a due diligence process. Upon agreement, the Sub-grantees will implement the agreed intervention and maintain the necessary compliance issues as agreed and signed between Rupantar and Sub-grantees.

Expression of Interest
Annex 1 - Application

1. Organisational Information

Organisation name		
Type of organisation (e.g. NGO, CBO, Association, Club, Forum, Society etc.)		
Date of establishment		
Is your organisation registered? • If YES, provide the registration number and type • If NO, please state the affiliated entity with your organization		
Annual budget over the last two years (BDT)	**2019**	**2020**
	BDT.	**BDT.**
Number of full-time employees (If applicable)		
Address		
Website (if any)		
Social media accounts		
Contact person	Name	
	Position	
	E-mail Address	
	Phone Number	

2. Proposed Programme Information Summary

Proposed programme title	
Proposed duration (months respectively)	
Proposed name, number and types of the Institutions	
Preliminary funding request (BDT)	
Proposed programme objective	
How many people do you plan to reach through the proposed work? Please specify clearly (male, female)	

I. PART 1 – PROPOSED PROGRAMME CONCEPT

1.1. Context of Violent Extremism (maximum 300 words)

Describe how this project is relevant to the local context and how it will contribute to the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) in the selected educational institutions. What are the key drivers/factors of violent extremism that the project will address?

1.2. Focus Population Group(s) (minimum 1 group; maximum 4 groups)

Please list the groups of people who you plan to work with and please justify why (sex and age disaggregated):
1) Group 1
2) Group 2
3) Group 3
4) Group 4

1.3. Theory of Change (maximum 1000 words)

A Theory of Change (ToC) is an explanation of how and why your proposed programme will achieved the planned results and contribute to the prevention of VE. A clear ToC helps to describe the logic from the starting point (Problems Identified) to the action (Outputs) to the change you want to achieve (Outcomes). It also defines your Assumptions by identifying potential barriers to the delivery of your programme. Please describe the programme's ToC, using the below steps

➢ **Problems**: The problems are usually related to the drivers/factors of violent extremism in your location or context. Since you may have multiple groups that you plan to work with as listed in 1.2, you may have multiple problems. Please describe the problems you intend to address with a brief statement for each problem.

➢ **Outcomes**: Outcomes are expected combined results of respective or multiple Outputs to address the stated problem statements. They represent a change in a group of people, organisations, or places that is expected from delivering the Outputs to them. Your Outcomes should contribute to preventing violent extremism such as addressing a factor/driver of violent extremism. Please describe all the Outcomes you intend to achieve within the duration of the grant.

➢ **Outputs**: Outputs are the immediate, visible, and concrete results of your activities. Please describe the major outputs you plan to deliver. The proposed outputs will remain aligned with the outcomes mentioned and achievable through the proposed interventions.

➢ **Proposed Interventions**: The interventions are usually the anticipated activities that is getting proposed for being implemented. Please select the activity following the identified problems and clearly state the respective number of activities and targeted direct beneficiaries under the activities and how that will contribute to achieve anticipated results.

1.4. Proposed Intervention Strategy (maximum 500 words)	
Please describe how the organisation will select educational institutions and population groups.	
Describe in brief how the proposed work will engage women, and men and how you plan to mainstream gender and diversity perspective.	
How do you plan to collaborate with other actors (e.g., state, faith-based representatives, Educational Institutions/University authorities, etc.)?	
What are the top three risks that you foresee and how do you plan to mitigate them?	
How will you ensure that the project does not cause any harm to the participants (e.g. stigmatisation)?	
How will you manage the implementation of the project?	

1.5. Expertise of the Organisation (maximum400 words)
What makes your organisation well positioned to implement the proposed programme. Please provide evidence or experience/expertise from your organisation that supports your claim that if your organisation delivers the Output, you are confident it will lead to the achievement of the Outcome. Based on your review of that evidence or your experience/expertise, also indicate your level of confidence in achieving those Outcomes (high, moderate, or low). This evidence/experience/expertise is critical for demonstrating the eligibility of the organisation.

II.   PART 2 – ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY[3]

Does your Organisation have a Strategic Plan? (period covered?)					
Was any of your programmes evaluated by an external agency in the last three years? (date, organisation)					
Do you have a written policy or guidelines covering the areas below?					
Gender and Diversity	Child Protection	Youth	Monitoring and Evaluation	Security	Social Media Usage
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Number of Finance Staff					
Do you have a written policy or guidelines covering the areas below?					
Accounting and Financial Reporting	Budget & Cash management	HR management	Procurement of goods and services	Fraud, bribery, corruption	Conflict of Interest
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Who were the three largest donors of your organsiation (total value of signed contribution)?					
2018 (Name)	(BDT)	2019 (Name)	(BDT)	2020 (Name)	(BDT)

Annex 2 - Attachments required

Please kindly attach the following documents to your application:
- Official Valid Registration Copy of the organization
- Latest Audit Report
- Latest Annual Report
- Organization Profile / Introduction to the Organization (maximum 2 pages)
- Organization Organogram

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[3] This section will not remain crucial and obligatory while shortlisting the potential applicants.

Annex B – Past Projects

Please only describe projects that your organisation has directly worked on during the past 36 months. Please enter the relevant and requested information into the table below.

SN	Objective of the Project	Donor	Budget (BDT)	Duration	Location	Was it P/CVE or CT relevant?
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						

Add rows as required

Annex C – Proposed Budget Outline

Preliminary Funding Request (please adjust the number of Outcomes and Outputs based on your proposed programme)		
	Description	**Total Amount (BDT)**
Outcome 1		
Output 1		
Output 2		
Outcome 2		
Output 1		
Output 2		
Management Costs Including Personnel Costs		
TOTAL		

*** PLEASE BE NOTED THAT, ANY TYPE OF FIXED ASSESTS WILL REMAIN INELLIGIBLE.*
**** PLEASE ENSURE THE DETAILS OF THE COST BREAKDOWN FOR CLEAR BRIEF UNDERSTANDING*

Declarations in support of application for the role of Sub-grantee

Has your Organization previously applied to Rupantar (Yes/No)	
If yes, when and under which intervention? Mention the latest status in brief of the application?	

If your organization is selected as a Sub-grantee, you will be expected to play that role meeting the expectation of the planned intervention. The identified finalised Sub-grantee will bear the responsibilities of the intervention subjected upon the agreement signed between Rupantar and the sub-grantee. Regular monitoring and mentoring will be done by Rupantar while necessary guidelines will be provided accordingly for meeting up contextual further requirement.

By signing this Expression of Interest, you confirm:

- your organization acknowledges and is able to accept the role of a Sub-grantee as described above;
- that the information provided is correct to the best of your knowledge;
- you have agreed to comply with the terms described in the Rupantar code of conduct.

Name	
Designation/Position	
Organisation	
Signature with Date	