

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR LEBANESE WOMEN
TERMS OF REFERENCE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Consultancy Title	Develop the National Gender strategy 2022-2030
Project	LBN04NCL
Duty Station	Beirut, Lebanon
Reports to	NCLW Executive Director
Duration of Consultancy	25 July 2021- 30 November 2021

II. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

The National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) is the National Women Machinery and is as an official institution affiliated to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. NCLW was established by law in 1998 to promote women's rights in the Lebanese society and enhance gender mainstreaming in public institutions.

Since 2006, NCLW has been collaborating with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) towards mainstreaming gender aspects in various development platforms, policies, and strategies. This collaboration led to the development of the National Ten-Year Strategy for Women in Lebanon (NWS) (2011-2021) endorsed by the Government of Lebanon in 2012. The work had started in 2011 with the launching of the National Strategy for Women in Lebanon (2011-2021). This participatory work continued with the development of the National Action Plan (2013-2016) in 2013, the annual monitoring of the implementation of the National Action Plan (2013-2016) by relevant ministries and public administrations as well as civil society organizations (Universities, NGOs, Syndicates) and International Organizations and UN agencies. The monitoring process of the yearly implementation of the National action plan covered the years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 with the publication of annual reports. In 2016, at the completion of the first National Action Plan (2013-2016) NCLW, in a participatory approach with the main partners from ministries, public institutions, CSOs, associations, trade unions, international organizations operating in Lebanon, a National Action Plan for the years 2017-2019, was drafted, and validated.

The second National Action Plan for the years 2017-2019 included practical objectives for each strategic goal, as well as activities/interventions, results, expected outcomes, indicators and suggested stakeholders for the execution of each goal.

One of the goals of the 2011-2021 NWS in Lebanon has been to serve as a guiding principle to any official or civil-society initiative seeking to enhance the status of women in the country.

The NWS spells out 12 priority objectives identified as essential ones for ensuring that gender equality dimensions are adequately mainstreamed in the social, cultural, economic, and political spheres.

In 2021, NCLW and UNFPA have sustained their collaboration and agreed to implement a series of activities among which developing a gender strategy (2022-2030).

Since almost two years, Lebanon has been assailed by compounded crises—specifically, an economic and financial crisis, followed by COVID-19 and, lastly, the explosion at the Port of Beirut on August 4, 2020. Of the three, the economic crisis has had by far the largest negative impact. Lebanon is enduring a severe, prolonged economic depression that has likely dragged more than half the population below the poverty line, as unemployment soars and the price of basic goods surges.

This Strategy will be the main policy under which governmental and non-governmental entities national and international working in Lebanon, will operate, prioritize and develop their interventions in Lebanon; while taking into consideration the increased vulnerabilities and emerging priorities resulting from the crises Lebanon is going through. The National Strategy will ensure gender mainstreaming in different sectors as per the SDGs, the Lebanese state commitment to ICPD+ Nairobi commitment, CEDAW, UPR, Beijing platform of action, as well as the UNSCR1325, and all other relevant international conventions. The procedure would cut across the spectrum to involve all concerned entities and institutions from both the public and private sectors, in addition to civil-society associations and regional and international organizations with a focus on gender/ women's issues. On a collaborative level among all the above-mentioned entities, the process also would include identifying the main strategic priorities and objectives of the National Gender Strategy that would lay the ground for articulation of an operational action plan. The cumulative efforts at all those levels would assist greatly in enhancing the updating/development process and would lead to many achievements relative to the advancement of women; specifically, the improvement of (a) their living conditions, (b) their position within the family, and (c) their role in society.

Based on the above, and in order to achieve progress towards systematically and effectively mainstreaming gender and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in Lebanon, NCLW in collaboration with UNFPA is recruiting an expert to develop a National Gender Strategy (2022–2030).

III. SCOPE OF WORK: (Description of services, activities, or outputs)

Based on the above and under the overall guidance of NCLW Executive Director and in close collaboration with UNFPA, the expert will be undertaking the following duties:

- Carry out an inception meeting to ensure clear understanding of the TORs with key milestones and deliverables.
- Conduct a desk review of the NWS (2011-2021), and its Action Plans (2013-2016) and (2017-2019) and the yearly reports of implementation (2013-2019), the National Action Plan to prevent and Mitigate Child Marriage in Lebanon, national action plan to protect women and children (MOSA) the National Action Plan for Human rights, the 1325 NAP, the VAW strategy and its Action Plan, the SDGs, CEDAW, UPR, Beijing recommendations for Lebanon, and Lebanon's ICPD@25/Nairobi commitments.
- Conduct 14-15 consultations (i.e., FGDs, KIIs, meetings) with different stakeholders such as public entities, local and international NGOs, UN agencies to identify national priorities and the main objectives of the National Gender Strategy itself as well as the mandate and goals of programmes to be implemented and adopted.
- Draft national priorities and key objectives of the strategy based on collected information and share with NCLW and UNFPA for feedback.

- Facilitate at least 5 meetings and ensure validation of the national priorities of the Gender Strategy and objectives along with description with main national stakeholders from public sector and CSOs including NGOs, Syndicates, Academia, Grassroots populations.
- Analyze findings and elaborate narrative section based on suggestions made.
- Prepare draft strategy in English and share with NCLW, UNFPA and relevant stakeholders for feedback.
- Include feedback of relevant stakeholders in the final draft and incorporate suggested modifications.
- Conduct a final validation meeting with relevant stakeholders, namely from public sector and CSOs including NGOs, Syndicates, Academia, Grassroots populations. to ensure validation of main strategic objectives and their situation analysis description.

IV. MONITORING AND PROGRESS CONTROL, INCLUDING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, PERIODICITY, FORMAT AND DEADLINE

Final Deliverables to be submitted electronically on November 30, 2021

Milestone	Deliverables	Timeline	Payment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct desk review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Desk review brief report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Week 3 	0%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conduct 14-15 consultations (i.e., FGDs, KIIs, meetings) with different stakeholders to identify the national priorities and main objectives of the National Gender Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brief report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Week 7 	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft national priorities and key objectives of the strategy based on collected information and share with NCLW and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Week 9 	20%

<p>UNFPA draft strategy in English and share with NCLW, UNFPA and relevant stakeholders for feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare draft strategy in English and share with NCLW, UNFPA and relevant stakeholders for feedback. • Finalizing Gender strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft strategy <p>Final Gender Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 12 <p>Week 16</p>	<p>0%</p> <p>60%</p>
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NCLW will ensure support as follows:

- Provide consultant with needed reference documents
- Follow up with the key stakeholders for main consultations. The consultation meetings will be organized by NCLW and facilitated by the expert.
- Ensure all logistical preparations for consultations are met and provided.
- The Consultant will work under the overall guidance of NCLW.

V. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:

The Consultant should fulfill the following requirements:

- A. Education:** Master’s degree in Public Administration, Social Sciences, Public Health, Gender Studies, Development Studies, or other relevant field.
- B. Experience:**
- 8-12 years of experience in research (both quantitative and qualitative)
 - Experience in development of M&E tools and templates within the framework of human rights and gender.
 - Experience in developing action plans, strategies, and monitoring frameworks.
 - Demonstrated organizational skills, including the ability to work independently and productively, with multiple stakeholders in a fast-paced environment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience with governmental and non-governmental entities is essential <p>Familiarity with UN work is desirable</p> <p>C. Language and other skills: Proficiency in oral and written Arabic and English is essential.</p>
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VI. Application process and deadline

Interested consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

- A cover letter explaining your suitability for the work and previous work portfolio, and ability to meet the requirements
- Updated and relevant Personal CV
- A financial proposal in US dollars

The above-mentioned documents should be submitted together by July 23, 2021 COB through the email link info@nclw.gov.lb; specifying in the subject:

Technical expertise for Developing the National Gender Strategy 2022-2030, NCLW/UNFPA

Incomplete submission can be a ground for disqualification.