

**UNHCR**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CFEI)**

| Project Details | |
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| CFEI ID | CFEI/HCR/ZAF/2025/001 |
| Title | Tshwaragano/Bambanani (togetherness) |
| Project/Programme Focal Point(s) | Sarah Tsokalida |
| Project location | South Africa |
| | |
| Sector(s) and Area(s) of Specialization | |
| Sector(s) | Livelihoods |
| Area(s) of Specialization | Community: Co-Existence with local communities |
| Issued by | UNHCR |
| Project background: | |
| <p>UNHCR's mandate is to ensure international protection for refugees, asylum seekers and stateless populations, herein referred to as Forcibly Displaced Populations (FDPs), in close collaboration with government who have a primary responsibility to offer international protection to the mentioned populations. To achieve this, UNHCR establishes partnership agreements to support government in implementing interventions aimed at delivering protection, assistance, and solutions.</p> <p>Social cohesion is central to UNHCR's mission because a peaceful and stable environment is essential for FDPs to rebuild their lives. Through a combination of advocacy, community engagement, and education, UNHCR works to foster environments where FDPs and host communities can live together in harmony. However, challenges remain, and continued efforts are needed to ensure that social cohesion is achieved and maintained in refugee-hosting areas.</p> <p>The purpose of this Call for Expression of Interest is to identify and, based on the responses received, select the most suitable partner(s) to implement a comprehensive project aimed at fostering social cohesion and providing protection and support to refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless persons. Priority locations for this project will be Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Western Cape, however submissions from all provinces will be reviewed. This project will be carried out on behalf of the UNHCR South Africa Multi-Country Office (SAMCO) in Pretoria, South Africa. The selected partner(s) will be responsible for managing and implementing the day-to-day activities of the project, under the overall coordination and management of UNHCR.</p> <p>In South Africa, FDPs and their host communities face social cohesion challenges including competition for limited resources, cultural and social integration barriers, legal obstacles including lack of documentation, violence and insecurity, negative perceptions, and difficulties accessing livelihoods and employment, all of which contribute to tensions and hinder mutual understanding and integration.</p> <p>For implementation purpose, the identified partner(s) will be expected to have established presence in South Africa. The partner(s) will work collaboratively with UNHCR, local, national organizations and government to implement the project in support of addressing the needs of refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless persons.</p> | |



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There will be an expectation to collaborate with various stakeholders and find innovative ways to implement the project in support of addressing basic needs of refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless persons.

Key deliverables

Annual sports tournaments:

Organise annual sports tournaments in the respective areas of project implementation.

Mentorship Programmes:

Conduct mentorship programmes through national, provincial, and local sport bodies.

Life Skills Development:

Equip participants with leadership and teamwork skills, aimed at improving social cohesion.

Integration and Information:

Encourage sports bodies to integrate displaced children in all sporting codes and provide them with the information needed to navigate different challenges, such as access to documentation.

Community Engagement:

Conduct outreach initiatives aimed at local communities where the projects will run, intended to get their buy-in and cooperation.

Promote improved relations between displaced people and the host community through mixed-nationality sports teams.

Who can apply:

Refugee-led organisations, or organisations with a majority refugee leadership:

A Refugee-led organization is an organization that is either:

- Primarily led by forcibly displaced and stateless persons: This means that more than half of the leadership roles within the organization, including decision-making positions, are held by individuals who are refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced, returnees, or stateless.
- Or jointly/equally led by forcibly displaced and stateless persons and host communities: This means that the organization has an equal distribution of leadership and decision-making roles between members of forcibly displaced or stateless communities and individuals from host communities.

Organizations meeting either of the criteria listed above are eligible to apply.

Refugee-led organisations can be formal or informal, registered, or unregistered, and may operate physically or virtually. Their leadership structure ensures that refugees have a significant role in decision-making processes. For more information on who qualifies to apply, please refer to the FAQs.

Expected results:

Overall strategic goal:

The project is aimed at enhancing social cohesion among South African national and forcibly displaced children and youth through sports.



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Impact Area (s):

- FDPs (refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons) are able to enjoy international protection and have safe spaces for sports and recreational activities. **(IA1: Protect)**.
- FDPs (refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons) have increased access to protection services through national systems **(IA2 - Assist)**.
- FDPs (refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons) are empowered with social economic opportunities and have durable solutions **(IA3: Empower)**.

Outcome statement (s):

- Improved social cohesion of refugees, asylum-seekers, and host community members.

Output statement/s:

- Participants have taken part in regular sport for protection activities.
- Sports bodies have increased awareness and understanding of the challenges of displaced children and youth in accessing sport.
Participants have developed vital life skills through sport, including leadership, teamwork, and tolerance.

To ensure the adequate protection of forcibly displaced and stateless persons, UNHCR requires partners to adhere to applicable sector standards outlined within [UNHCR's areas of specialization](#).

Indicative budget (optional):

Estimated budget for the duration of the Partnership Framework Agreement.

Other information

Interested organisations are requested to submit a concise Concept Note, not exceeding three pages (Available at [UNHCR Concept Note Template](#)) by **18 February 2025**.

Submissions will be accepted through the UNHCR's partner portal at:

www.unpartnerportal.org

*Any queries should be sent via the portal by **CoB 11 February 2025** and will also be responded to publicly via the portal on a weekly basis.*

Submission Requirements

Interested parties should submit the following:

Organization Profile: Including experience in similar projects.

Proposed Approach: Outline how your organization plans to implement the activities and achieve the project objectives.

Resource Availability: Detail the resources (human, financial, and material) your organization can commit to the project.

Partnerships: List any existing partnerships with local communities, schools, and sporting bodies.

| CFEI timeline | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Request for clarification deadline | Application deadline | Notification of results | Estimated start date | Estimated end date |
| 11/02/2025 | 18/02/2025 | 26/02/2025 | 03/03/2025 | 31/12/2025 |
| Selection Criteria | | | | |
| | Criteria Description | | | Assigned Weighting |
| | <p>Sector expertise and experience: the required specific skills, sector specialists, performance, knowledge, material and human resources. Knowledge of relevant protection, humanitarian principles and the approach to Age, Gender, Diversity (AGDM). Approach to the participation of refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons in the Programme Cycle.</p> <p>Mainstreaming measures to integrate environmental sustainability within proposed activities. Environmental considerations are aligned to the objectives of UNHCR's Strategic Framework for Climate Action.</p> | | | 40 |
| | <p>Project management: ability to effectively deliver project objectives with robust management systems/processes, and meet the expectations of all stakeholders, as well as provide accountability mechanisms and sound financial management, taking into account the audit results of the previous UNHCR-funded projects, past performance and the external audit of partners' financial statements and pending open audit recommendations (accounts receivables and internal control related recommendations) where applicable. Clear segregation of duties policy, as well as the integration of risk management; adequate control over assets and inventory (if applicable).</p> | | | 25 |
| | <p>Local experience and presence: ongoing programme in the area of operation; local knowledge; participation in inter-agency coordination fora, refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons in the programme cycle; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; feedback and complaint mechanisms for refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons; self-organized groups of refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons and that would reduce administrative difficulties.</p> | | | 15 |



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| | Cost effective: Evidence of a methodology for allocation of shared costs to project activities. Evidence of procedures/systems that ensure maximum resources are directed to project outcomes while also ensuring that resources are also directed to activities that ensure project risks are being appropriately managed. | 10 |
| | Access/ Security Considerations: ability to operate in security conditions of the Project site or country as well as existence and functionality of partner's organizational policies, procedures and practices related to security risk management. | 10 |

Issuing UNHCR Office

UNHCR South Africa Multi-Country Office (SAMCO)

Contact Address

Waterkloof House, 209 Waterkloof Road, Brooklyn, Pretoria, South Africa

Signature, Head of Office

Igor Ciobanu, Representative a.i

Full name and title, Head of Office

UNHCR South Africa Multi-Country Office (SAMCO)

Name of UNHCR Office

29 January 2025

Date