

IOM MISSION – MOLDOVA

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (CEI)

Implementation of Counter-Trafficking Awareness Activities in Moldova

1 **Timeline**

CEI Reference number	CEI-MD10-2026-006
Posted (date)	16 March 2026
Clarification Request Deadline	23 March 2026 For additional clarification requests regarding any provision/item in this Call for Expression of Interest (CEI) document should be sent in writing to iomchisinou@iom.int at least 1 (one) week before the Application deadline
Application Deadline	30 March 2026 COB – 18:00 (GMT+2)
Notification of Results	Within three weeks following the Application deadline
Implementation Start Date	15 April 2026
Implementation End Date	31 October 2026

2 **Locations**

The proposed activities should be implemented on the Left Bank of the Nistru River/ and or areas along the administrative line and in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia (ATUG).

3 **Sector(s) and area(s) of specialization**

As part of IOM's efforts to promote the highest standards of international protection and humanitarian assistance to migrants, internally displaced population and host communities, IOM Mission to the Republic of Moldova is launching the present Call for Expression of Interest for the implementation of projects in the location and outcome areas specified in the Terms of Reference (Annex A). The expected implementation period is from 15 April 2026 to 31 October 2026.

Interested organizations should submit a Concept Note and other relevant documents requested herein, to demonstrate their unique advantage and added value in developing and implementing a Partnership Agreement with IOM.

It is to be noted that IOM is open to examining Concept Notes that propose alternative, creative, reasonable approaches to achieving the set objectives, as long as these proposals align with the overarching goals of the project implemented by IOM, within which the present CEI is announced.

IOM will consider any applicant that demonstrates the ability to provide practical solutions to achieving the goals of the project, is capable of executing tasks concerning reporting and reasonable budgetary allocations, has a degree of flexibility in adjusting working processes based on possible project adjustments.

4 **Issuing Agency**

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission to the Republic of Moldova

5 **Project Background**

Building on One UN JA Phase II and related UN pilots, this project sustains and scales proven human-rights interventions across both banks of the Nistru River, targeting vulnerable groups, such as inter alia persons with disabilities, Roma, people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, adolescents and youth, children in contact with the law, vulnerable women and girls, survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, trafficking in human beings, and migrants in difficult situations, refugees, prisoners and former prisoners and people who use drugs. The overall aim of the IOM component of the above programme is to raise awareness among vulnerable communities in Moldova on risks of trafficking in human beings, on safe migration and available services, thereby supporting the identification of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings. IOM will introduce an immersive counter-trafficking awareness initiative on the Left Bank, along the administrative line and in ATU Gagauzia, using a mobile, scenario-based learning space equipped with lighting, sound, video, temperature, and scent simulation. Trained facilitators will deliver survivor-informed simulations to strengthen community and frontline capacity to recognize trafficking in human beings (THB) risks and prevent exploitation.

6 **Expected Results**

Following a localization approach, IOM invites qualified Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) (the Applicants) to submit Expressions of Interest. Selected Applicants will be engaged to deliver non-profit activities in collaboration with IOM, with both parties jointly contributing time and resources and sharing risks and responsibilities for the Activities. These Activities will target the needs of affected communities and populations as described above.

In partnership with the selected Applicant, IOM will raise awareness among vulnerable communities on trafficking in human beings, safe migration, and available support services to improve victim identification and prevention. The initiative will also strengthen frontline responders' capacity to detect and refer potential victims of tracking in human beings, promote cross-river knowledge exchange, and institutionalize survivor-informed awareness methods.

7 **Indicative Budget**

The budget should be based on the proposed implementation logic. The Applicants should provide the budget using a template provided in the Budget Template (Annex H). The budget should not exceed the equivalence of **USD 15,000** (fifteen thousand USD).

8 **Other Information**

It is expected that Applicants would identify the best practical approach corresponding to each activity and arrange access to the areas of intervention for the implementation of Activities stated in this CEI.

The selected Implementing Partner (IP) shall perform the Activities according to the Terms of Reference (Annex A). The engagement between IOM and the IP shall be further covered with a Project Implementation Agreement (PIA) after a final confirmation by IOM of the project implementation.

All Applicants will receive written notifications of the outcome of the selection process within three weeks

after the deadline for the submission of CEI application documents. Should an Applicant request further clarification, IOM will provide a response explaining the transparency and integrity of the selection process undertaken.

IOM reserves the right to decline disclosure of the specificity of decision derived by the IOM mission due to reasons related to confidentiality.

IOM reserves the right to accept or reject any Application, annul the selection process, and reject all Calls for expression of interest at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected by Implementing Partners.

In case the Applicant has an existing agreement with IOM, it should not be asked to sign an agreement that would conflict with their prior or current obligations to other IOM projects or that may place them in a position of not being able to carry out the responsibilities in the best interest of the IOM.

9 **Selection Criteria**

IOM Moldova shall determine the Application(s) that is/are most favorable to its operation.

Applications that were submitted not according to the technical requirements and provisions required in this CEI, shall not be considered for evaluation.

The Application shall be evaluated based on their responsiveness to the Terms of References (Annex A), based on the criteria and their weight below:

Name	Description	Weight
Correspondence of the proposed methods and types of activities to the IOM project, CEI aims and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant technical expertise and experience in working with a different range of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders of the Republic of Moldova at all levels, including de facto structures from the left bank of the Nistru River; • Relevance of the proposed methodology to achieving expected results and objectives under the CEI; • Relevant experience in organizing awareness raising activities in counter-trafficking in human beings; • Knowledge of migration context of the Republic of Moldova; • Sustainability of the proposed intervention and potential for 	25
Level of qualifications and competence of the professional staff involved in the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of the provided CVs of the staff of the Applicant organization against the proposed Activities 	10
Proven organizational capacity for the implementation of the assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of all resources that NGO has for successful project implementation. Final confirmation of the IP's selection will be contingent upon the IP successfully meeting IOM's Due Diligence requirements (refer to Annex C for the IOM General Information Questionnaire). 	20
Successful former experience in the implementation of similar projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of former implementation record of the Applicant, including projects funded by IOM and other humanitarian actors. 	25
Budget economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of the pricing to the overall situation on the market in the country 	10
Budget feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis if the budget lines provided in budget proposal are in line with project logic and are reasonable for implementation 	10

10. **Attachments**

Description
ANNEX A – Terms of Reference
ANNEX B - Implementing Partner References Checklist
ANNEX C - Implementing Partners General Information Questionnaire
ANNEX D - Concept Note Template
ANNEX E - Financial and Narrative Reporting Templates
ANNEX F - Project Implementation Agreement Template
ANNEX G – Declaration of Conformity for Partners
ANNEX H – Budget Template
ANNEX I – IOM Data Protection Notice

11. **Amendment of Call for Expression of Interest Documents**

The organizations responding to this CEI should demonstrate their capacity to implement the activities listed in the submitted concept note. Applications which do not correspond to the guidelines and are not accompanied by the mandatory documents will not be considered.

IOM reserves the right to cancel/reduce the scope of planned activities or to introduce new/broaden the scope of the existing activities.

All prospective Applicants will be notified of the amendment in writing and will be binding on them. Amended document prevails.

To allow prospective Applicants reasonable time in which to take the amendment into account in preparing their Applications, IOM, at its discretion, may extend the deadline for the submission of Applications.

12. **Expression of Interest submission guidelines**

The Applications must be sent in the form of scanned copies of all the documents in pdf format to the address iomchisinau@iom.int before the indicated deadline – 23 March 2026 COB – 18:00 (GMT+2). Late Applications will no longer be considered.

The total size of the attachment sent in a single message should not exceed 20 MB. Otherwise, files shall be uploaded to any open file sharing service (Dropbox, OneDrive) that does not require registration, and the link to download the folder with files shall be sent via email.

Please, indicate clearly in the subject line of an e-mail the following information:

1. **NGO's name_COE _application form "Implementation of Counter-Trafficking Awareness Activities in Moldova".**

The presented documents must be signed on all pages by the Implementing Partner's Authorized Representative.

2. A detailed description (Cover Letter) must be provided on how the requirements specified in the Call for Expression of Interest (CEI) issued by IOM will be matched with capabilities, experience, knowledge and expertise of the Implementing Partners.

3. The date and time of receipt of the email containing the Application shall be used as the actual date and time

of submission of the Application. In case of multiple emails containing the Application, the date and time of the receipt of the first email shall be the date and time of receipt of the Application. IOM reserves the right to reject all of Applications received after the deadline.

4. Applicants shall submit the following documents to prove that they meet the minimum qualifications as an organization and must submit proof that they have staff with the necessary credentials to be deployed in the project in case they are selected:

- 1) All duly completed Annexes (referred to p.10 Attachments)
- 2) Registration documents/Certificate of Registration
- 3) Bank account certificate
- 4) Copies of financial statements submitted to the tax inspection for the last two years

IMPORTANT – Please make sure to name the submitted documents in the same manner as shown above!

5. IOM reserves the right to request additional documents that may be potentially needed for evaluation based on the Donor's requirements and any other factors.
6. The Applications **must be submitted in the English language** (except documents issued by public authorities) and in the format prescribed by IOM within the CEI. All required information must be provided, responding clearly and concisely to all the points set out. Any application which does not fully and comprehensively address these CEI requirements may be rejected.
7. Applications may be modified or withdrawn in writing, prior to the closing time specified in this Request for EoI. Applications shall not be modified or withdrawn after the deadline.
8. The Implementing partner shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the Application and IOM will not in any case be responsible and liable for the costs incurred.
9. IOM at no occasion will ask an application fee from Implementing Partners.
10. Partners can use [IOM's We Are All In platform](#) for reporting fraud, corruption or misconduct.
11. All information given in writing to or verbally shared with the Implementing Partners in connection with this CEI is to be treated as strictly confidential. The Implementing Partner shall not share or invoke such information to any third party without the prior written approval of IOM. This obligation shall continue after the selection process has been completed whether or not the Implementing Partner application is successful.
12. IOM will treat all information (or that marked proprietary/sensitive/financial) received from Implementing Partners as confidential and any personal data in accordance with its Data Protection Principles.
13. The Implementing Partner, by submitting an application, gives consent to IOM to share information with those who need to know it for the purposes of evaluating and managing the proposal.
14. IOM reserves the right to accept or reject any Application, and to cancel the process and reject all Applications, at any time without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Implementing partner or any obligation to inform the affected Implementing partner of the ground for IOM's action.
15. By submitting the application/expression of interest, the applicant confirms adherence to IOM's Declaration of Conformity Form (Annex G) and acknowledges receipt of the list of Proscribed Practices.
- 16. Selected Implementing partner needs to be ready to develop a full project proposal and a detailed budget based on the submitted Application in two weeks upon receiving the notification from IOM.**
17. All applicants will receive written notification on the outcome of the selection process within three weeks after the deadline for the submission of Concept Notes. Should an applicant request further clarifications, IOM will provide a response explaining the transparency and integrity of the selection process undertaken.

18. IOM reserves the right to decline disclosure of the specificity of decision derived by the IOM mission due to reasons related to confidentiality.

19. IOM reserves the right to accept or reject any Expression of Interest, and to annul the selection process and reject all Expression of Interest at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Implementing Partners.

13. *Corrupt, Fraudulent, Collusive and Coercive Practices*

IOM requires that all IOM staff, proponents, manufacturers, suppliers, or distributors, observe the highest standard of ethics during procurement and execution of all agreements. IOM shall reject any Applications put forward by Applicants or where applicable terminate their agreement, if it is determined that they have engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, or coercive practices. In pursuance of this document, IOM defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:

- A. "corrupt practice" means the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting directly or indirectly anything of value to influence the action of the Procuring/Contracting Entity in the procurement process or in agreement execution;
- B. "fraudulent practice" is any acts or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, the Procuring/Contracting Entity in the procurement process or the execution of an agreement, to obtain a financial gain or other benefit to avoid an obligation;
- C. "collusive practice" is an undisclosed arrangement between two or more Implementing Partners designed to artificially alter the results of the tender procedure to obtain a financial gain or benefit;
- D. "coercive practice" is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any participant in the tender process to influence improperly its activities in a procurement process, or after the execution of an agreement.

IOM will reject Application for award if it determines that the Implementing Partner(-s) recommended for award has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive or coercive practices in competing for the agreement in question.

14. *Conflict of Interest*

IOM requires that all its contracts and agreements to be devoid of any form of conflict of interest. IOM staff are required to disclose their affiliation with any Implementing Partner(-s) before the evaluation of the Applications is conducted. Similarly, all Implementing Partner(-s) shall disclose any affiliation they or any of their staff may have with anyone working with IOM especially those who are affiliated with either the requesting program or the Procurement Unit of the mission. Failure on the part of the proponent to make such a disclosure shall be construed as a violation of the ethical standards required by proponents for this Call for Expression of Interest.

All Implementing Partner(-s) found to have conflict of interests shall be disqualified to participate in this Call for Expression of Interest. Aside from the definition above, the following are considered form of conflict of interests:

- a. If any director, member(s) of the board or any other key personnel of Implementing Partner(-s) is/are also connected in any capacity, with another Implementing Partner(-s);
- b. If Implementing Partner(-s) has direct access to information within IOM, whether through an IOM staff or any other source, that gives the Implementing Partner(-s) undue advantage over the other Implementing Partner(-s);
- c. If Implementing Partner(-s) has connection with key IOM staff who has significant influence on the outcome of the evaluation of the Applications in response to this Call for Expression of Interest;
- d. If Implementing Partner(-s) submits more than one Application: and
- e. If Implementing Partner(-s) who participated in the preparation of the terms of reference of this Call for Expression of Interest submits their own application.

15. *Period of Validity of the Applications*

Applications shall remain valid for a period of at least 45 days from the date of their opening prescribed in this document. IOM reserves the right to reject any or all bids that do not comply with this requirement.

In exceptional circumstances, prior to expiry of the validity of the Application, IOM may request the Implementing Partner(-s) to extend the period of validity of the Application for another 15 days. The request and the Implementing Partner(-s) responses shall be made in writing.

16. *Negotiations*

After the evaluation of the Applications, IOM may clarify any provisions in their Applications with the Implementing Partner(-s) and if necessary, negotiate further any provision in the Application of the Implementing Partner(-s). The aim of the negotiation is to reach an agreement on all points.

Negotiation will include:

- a) discussion and clarification of the project activities to be implemented within its frameworks;
- b) discussion and finalization of methodology and work program proposed by Implementing Partner(-s);
- c) consideration of appropriateness of qualifications of the personnel to be assigned to the job, and schedule of activities (staff schedule);
- d) discussion on the materials, facilities and data, to be provided by IOM;
- e) discussion and finalization of the reporting system (narrative and financial reports).

17. *Confidentiality*

Information related to Applications evaluation and recommendations regarding projects shall not be disclosed to Implementing Partner(-s) that submitted Applications or to other persons not officially related to the process. The undue use by any Implementing Partner(-s) of confidential information related to the process may result in the rejection of its application and may be subject to provisions of IOM's anti-fraud and corruption policy.