

UNPRPD MPTF 4TH FUNDING ROUND WEBINAR

Q&As

Please read the [TOR](#) carefully, as many answers to questions can be found in the TOR.

Eligibility

Which UN agencies are eligible to participate in this Call as a participating UN organization?

UNPRPD consists of nine UN participating agencies: ILO, OHCHR, UNDESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and WHO.

Can a non-PUNO receive funding?

No. Only UNPRPD PUNOs can receive funds.

Can a non-participating UN agency be included as a technical partner?

Yes, if the funds are administered by the participating UN agency, and there is no transfer of funds between agencies (and not incurring double charging of indirect costs), non-participating agencies can serve as a technical partner.

What is the minimum and maximum number of PUNOs that can implement a proposal?

Two is the minimum number. The decision on the maximum number of UN entities that are to be involved in implementation should be taken at the country level based on country priorities and context.

Can a UNCT that has previously received UNPRPD funding apply?

Current UNPRPD programs that conclude after February 2021 are not eligible to receive funds under the current funding round. They can apply for future funding rounds.

Are multi-country projects eligible?

This is a country-specific call, so multi-country submissions are not eligible for this call. In the case of regional UNCTs, individual countries will need to submit an expression of interest through the same RCO.

Do you have a list of priority countries?

No, there is no list of countries. However, some factors, such as geographic distribution, socio-economic status of the country and context, will inform the decision-making process.

Can middle income countries apply or expect to receive funding?

While UNPRPD’s focus is mainly on low income countries, it is still possible for some middle-income countries to receive funding, depending on the pool of applications received. Being a middle-income country is not a criterion for exclusion.

Application Process and Deadlines

What is the timeline for the application process and program implementation? What is the deadline for submission of the EOI?

Activity	Start Date	Due Date
Expression of Interest	3 August 2020	30 September 2020
Situational Analysis, Full Proposal, Induction Workshop	25 October 2020	20 February 2021
Implementation of Program	15 March 2021	15 February 2023

The deadline for the EOI is 30 September 2020.

Who can submit the EOI?

The RC office should lead the consultations and submit the EOI on behalf of the UNCT. UNPRPD’s approach is to promote coalition building which aims to bring together key stakeholders to promote disability inclusion at country level. Therefore, consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) and government are essential in the EOI process, as well as in subsequent stages of the application process and program implementation.

Can more than one EOI be submitted for the same country?

No, there should be a unified vision based on the priorities that are identified in the country through a consultative process. Therefore, only one EOI should be submitted by the RC Office per country. The focus of the program will derive from the Situational Analysis in the next phase, and at that point, the UNCT can decide which entities should implement based on the focus of the program.

Should the RCO be approached to indicate interest or can the interested UN agency take the lead and partner with other UN agencies?

To avoid confusion and duplication and to maintain a consistent approach across countries, the RCO should take the lead in coordinating the submission.

How many countries will be funded under this call?

12-15 countries. Depending on availability of funds a pipeline can be created.

Is this Call for Proposals for a specific region or is it global?

This is a country-level call open to all countries.

Is it compulsory to submit letters of endorsement? Will one letter of endorsement be sufficient?

It is compulsory to submit a letter of endorsement from the government and a letter of endorsement from an OPD to be submitted to demonstrate multi-stakeholder engagement in the process and ownership by key stakeholders. If you are unable to obtain a letter of endorsement by one or both stakeholders, you must demonstrate a very good reason for this. It is UNPRPD's expectation that the endorsement letters will be submitted. English is the preferred language, but if that poses as a challenge, then the letters may be in local languages accompanied with a translation.

Which OPD should draft the letter of endorsement?

If possible, it should come from the umbrella OPD, i.e., the national organization/federation. If there is no umbrella OPD or if the UNCT feels that the letter should come from another OPD, it ideally should be a national, cross-disability OPD that can represent the diversity of persons with disabilities across the country.

How can countries without a government or in prolonged process of negotiation of forming a government be considered if a letter of endorsement is required?

The UNCT needs to explain why a letter of endorsement was not possible to obtain from the government.

Is there a template for the letters of endorsement?

No, there is no template for the letters of endorsement. The purpose is to demonstrate a multi-stakeholder approach and support from key partners should the UNCT receive funding.

How will EOIs be assessed?

EOIs will be reviewed against the eligibility criteria in the first instance. Then, a panel of external evaluators will assess the EOIs against the published selection criteria in the TOR. They will score each EOI and submit their recommendations to the UNPRPD Management Committee for validation. The EOI stage is an important one, as the selection of countries will be based on the EOI selection process. UNPRPD anticipates that it may also develop a pipeline for future funding once more funding becomes available based on the EOI selection process. It is recommended that UNCTs answer all of the questions in the EOI template to increase the possibility of a positive assessment from the evaluators.

Program Focus and Design

Should the application address both of the Call objectives?

Yes, the UNCT should address both of the objectives. Objective One on CRPD implementation of the preconditions of disability inclusion will comprise 85-90% of the program budget and Objective Two on implementation of disability inclusive SDGs through national planning processes will comprise 10-15% of the program budget. Therefore, Objective One is a larger component of the program. However, EOIs will be assessed on both objectives.

Should the proposal be fully aligned with COVID-19 response and recovery?

UNCTs are strongly encouraged to focus on disability mainstreaming in COVID-19 response and recovery plans and implementation strategies as a cross-cutting theme. However, it is not a requirement, as countries are being affected differently – with some countries deeply affected and others only marginally affected. UNPRPD will prioritize this as a theme, but it is not essential. If COVID 19 is affecting the country, this should be reflected in the EOI and in the next phase of the Situational Analysis, if the country is shortlisted.

Is there a focus on humanitarian settings?

This Call for Proposals applies to both development and humanitarian settings. If a humanitarian situation is affecting the country, this should be reflected in the EOI and in the next phase of the Situational Analysis, if the country is shortlisted.

Are organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) the only required partnership? Can there be partnerships with other types of organizations?

UNPRPD requires that UNCTs develop partnerships with organizations of persons with disabilities to address systemic issues and to adopt a holistic approach, ensuring the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities (Please see UNPRPD's Briefing on Cross-Cutting Approaches). Government partnerships are also key, as they are necessary for systemic reforms. Partnerships with other relevant actors, such as civil society organizations, professional bodies, private sector, etc., may also be instrumental in bringing about changes at the government level, depending on the focus of the program. UNPRPD strongly encourages a partnership model at the country level which may involve partners beyond government and OPDs, as a multi-stakeholder approach is key to UNPRPD programs.

Budget and Fund Transfers

What is the total grant amount? Does it include the 7% of indirect costs?

The grant amounts range between US\$700,000 - US\$900,000. This amount includes the 7% of indirect costs. Indirect costs should not be added on top of the budget maximum. UNCTs must keep within the budget maximum in order to be eligible.

Can fund transfers be made from one agency to the other? Is sub-granting possible?

Only the nine UN participating organizations (ILO, OHCHR, UNDESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN WOMEN and WHO) that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNPRPD are eligible to receive and administer the funds. Transfers from one UN agency to another UN agency would incur double charging of indirect costs (7%). Therefore, it is not permitted.

Is the US\$900,000 budget allocated to each agency?

No, the US\$900,000 is the maximum allowable amount of the overall budget for the selected country in order to deliver the program for up to 24 months. The budget is, therefore, shared between the participating UN agencies. The budget will not be developed during the EOI stage of the process and will be part of the development of the Full Proposal, following the Situational Analysis for those countries that are shortlisted.

Are there budget costs that are not allowed?

UNPRPD will NOT fund the following:

- Direct provision of services, e.g., assistive devices, educational services, or rehabilitation services
- Acquisition of land or buildings or reconstruction or renovation of physical spaces
- Equipment costs, such as computers, vehicles, etc.
- Grants for filling a 'funding gap' for fulfilling the mandates of UN entities
- Re-granting activities
- Scholarships
- Infrastructure work
- Travel to countries outside of the target country unless it is part of capacity building
- Regional activities, unless it is part of UNPRPD MPTF knowledge management programs

Are OPDs and civil society organizations allowed to receive access to funding?

It is possible through sub-granting.