

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST in Partnership - LOCAL ACTORS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Posted date	<u>20/08/2025</u>
Application Deadline	31/08/2025
Deadline for requests of additional information/ clarifications	26/08/2025
Notification of Results	ONLY SELECTED PARTNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED

LOCATION:

Gaza
West Bank

BACKGROUND

NRC has been operating in Gaza and in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, since 2009 addressing the region's deeply rooted structural challenges. We ensure that Palestinians affected by, or threatened with, forced displacement have access to assistance and protection. Our operations – rooted in respect for human rights and the responsibility for all actors to uphold international humanitarian law (IHL) – serve Palestinians who have been impacted by the occupation and blockade by providing high quality humanitarian assistance for those underserved and most vulnerable, challenging policies that bring about violations of IHL, and being a strong advocate and clear voice for the people we seek to serve. These challenges have become increasingly entrenched and compounded by the heightened restrictions introduced since the onset of the Gaza conflict in October 2023.

With a dedicated Area Office for the West Bank and East Jerusalem and sub-offices across the West Bank, NRC implements its programmes through a robust and adaptive approach. Over the past decade, NRC has invested heavily in building strong partnerships with Palestinian and Israeli local organizations, making it the second-largest pool of local partners within NRC globally outside the Ukraine Response. In addition to local partnerships, NRC forms consortia with other international actors to leverage key expertise and response capacities. This hybrid modality of partnership and direct implementation enables NRC to focus on its core competencies where it offers added value in the local context. Field operations are reinforced by a country office in Jerusalem, with additional expertise and support provided by NRC's regional office in Amman, Jordan.

NRC's mission in Palestine is to ensure that Palestinians affected by or threatened by displacement have access to humanitarian assistance and protection. Whilst addressing the immediate needs of populations through **emergency response** programming, NRC has the longer-term prospect of instigating **resilience programming** within fragile communities across the humanitarian-development nexus. The foundation of expertise on interventions within NRC has focused primarily on Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance (ICLA) and Education (including Youth Programming). Due to the growing needs in the West Bank, NRC has explored additional Core Competencies that complement the overall humanitarian response. In 2023, NRC set up a standalone Protection from Violence programme focusing on protection case management, individual response services, and Civilian Self-Protection (CSP). Increased needs across the West Bank have been the impetus to complement existing programming with interventions to further increase the self-reliance of communities both through in-person service provision and digital modalities.

SCOPE

NRC has wide-ranging experience delivering humanitarian aid globally through direct implementation and with partners. To meet increasing humanitarian needs and better integrate local expertise, we continue to expand and improve our partnerships. We partner with a range of actors depending on the context, available expertise and the needs of communities. Strong partnerships enable us to maximise impact and reach, promote and support principled access in complex and insecure operating environments, increase community acceptance and involvement, deliver quality technical services and expertise, and deliver sustainable exit strategies. We are committed to localising aid by decentralising the power, funding, and resources in humanitarian responses.

This Expression of Interest (EOI) aims to identify and qualify potential humanitarian actors with the interest and capacity to implement humanitarian programmes with NRC. It is specifically aimed at Local non-profit organizations (LNGOs) that express interest in partnering with NRC in Palestine.

Through this prequalification process, this EOI aims to map LNGOs with a comparative advantage based on their geographic and programmatic focus to become identified LNGOs to partner with NRC based on:

- **Geographical Scope:** Organizations with an active registration in Palestine and Israel (if applicable) may apply
- Organisations with a demonstrated capacity to implement projects aligned with NRC's strategic objectives
- **Programmatic Scope:** Organisations should have the capacity to implement activities in one or more of the following sectors: Shelter, Protection, WASH, or LFS.
 - **Shelter:** Provides safe, dignified, and durable housing solutions, including emergency shelter assistance and home rehabilitation.
 - **Site Management:** Supports displaced populations by coordinating services within displacement sites, improving living conditions, ensuring community participation, and strengthening accountability to affected communities.
 - **Protection:** Safeguards the rights and well-being of vulnerable groups, enhances access to essential services, and strengthens community-based protection mechanisms.
 - **WASH:** Ensures access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, promoting healthier living conditions.
 - **Livelihoods and Food Security (LFS):** Supports individuals and households to restore and strengthen their livelihoods through skills development, cash assistance, and income-generating activities.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- Successful applications will be granted 1-year validity prequalification starting from the approval letter date.
 - After the one-year validation period and upon a refresher assessment, the validity period may be extended for another (second) year.
 - This prequalification does not amount to any contractual obligation (of any type) on the part of NRC during and after the validity period.
 - Being identified as a potential partner for NRC does not guarantee the assignment of projects, partnership implementation agreements (PIA), or funding during or after the validity period.
- Even after prequalification, additional documentation may be requested from partners for the approval of projects during the prequalification validity period.

Interested organizations must complete, sign, stamp, and submit the following documents to ps.partnership@nrc.no

- **Letter of Interest (Annex 1)**
- **Organisational Questionnaire (Annex 2)**
- **Documents Checklist (Annex 3)**
- **Project Basic Summary (Annex 4)**

It is a preferable option for all associated application documents and files to be uploaded online to a cloud platform and share the hyperlink with NRC on this Email address. Otherwise, If online sharing is unavailable, a hard copy can be delivered to the NRC office at the following addresses: Othman ben Afan Street 24, Sheikh Jarrah, East Jerusalem, or Prico Building, 3rd Floor, Al Masyoon, Ramallah.

Following the submission of documents, NRC will contact the selected potential partner organisations to schedule a face-to-face and/or online meeting. This meeting and/or visit will assist NRC in validating the evaluation results based on the submitted application and documents.

Initially, NRC will revise and evaluate the completeness of the documents submitted by applicant organisations but will not comprehensively evaluate the selection criteria. After receiving an application, the NRC aims to provide rudimentary recommendations and notes on missing documentation within ten (10) business days.

After receiving applications by the deadline specified earlier in this document, the NRC may request additional or lacking information from applicants. **Applications missing at least 50 per cent of the required documentation after the deadline will not be revised.** When requests are made, the NRC expects applicants to provide the requested information within five (5) business days.