



## **Terms of Reference**

### **Conducting Trainings on Documentation of Cases of Domestic Violence for Lobbying and Advocacy - Sinhala**

#### **Profile of CEJ**

Centre for Equality and Justice (CEJ) is a women's organization based in Colombo, working primarily with war-affected Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim women. CEJ's mission is the achievement of gender justice so that men, women and gender minorities live in a society that is free, just and equal. Its objectives are the promotion of gender equality, advancing the rule of law, good governance and democratic principles, promoting women's advancement and economic empowerment, advocating for the commitment to international human rights standards by fostering partnerships with grassroots level women's networks.

#### **Project Description**

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Governments globally, including in Sri Lanka, deployed a lockdown strategy where people were confined to their places of residence in order to control the spread of the virus. The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) also imposed a nationwide curfew from March 20, 2020 as there was an increase in the number of cases testing positive for COVID-19. This sudden restriction of movement largely limited a woman's access to support services in situations of Domestic Violence (DV). The consequences of these restrictions further exacerbated as the Government's COVID-19 response plan did not include the continuation of services to combat the pre-existing problem of DV. The pressure to respond to COVID-19 cases

has compromised the combatting of DV in which Government services such as health care, Police and the Judiciary take center stage. National level hotlines, police desks, counseling services established to specifically support victim survivors of DV were not accessible and still remain inaccessible in certain areas to women since the COVID-19 outbreak.

Women's organizations and women's groups have proven to lead emergency responses during crisis situations more effectively within communities and countries worldwide. As women subjected to forms of DV in spatial confinements worsened during this COVID-19 lockdown with limited to no support services available, civil society organizations (CSOs) and development agencies have come forth to bridge these gaps. This involved having a primary focus on preventative and safeguarding measures which ensure access to support services for victim survivors of DV, an aspect which has been completely left out of the Government's formal COVID-19 response. Amidst this, CEJ identified the need to work with the Forum Against Gender Based Violence (FAGBV), a forum which was established in 2005 by UNFPA Sri Lanka following a consultation with a collective of organizations working on Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

This project aims to capacitate the advocacy and lobbying skills of member organizations of the FAGBV working at local and national levels on the issue of Domestic Violence within a COVID-19 context. CEJ further looks forward to upscaling the current interventions by the FAGBV by strengthening the lobbying and advocacy skills of its member organizations so they are better able to demand that relevant Authorities address Domestic Violence in a more holistic manner.

### **Scope of Work**

As such, CEJ seeks the services of a Consultant to conduct three one-day (9.00 AM to 4.00 PM) training sessions on '**Documentation of DV cases for Lobbying and Advocacy**' in the Sinhala language with selected grassroots, CSO representatives and members of the FAGBV.

The training shall focus on the skills required for proper documentation of domestic violence cases to fill gaps in the evidence base and to ensure that this documentation is used by activists, policy makers and lawmakers.

## **Objectives of the Training**

- Build the capacity of member organizations of the FAGBV on the documentation process in relation to cases of Domestic Violence
- Strengthening advocacy and lobbying skills of FAGBV members

## **Expected Deliverable (To be discussed with the Consultant):**

- Deliverable 01: Submit an outline of the session plan by 14th October 2022
- Deliverable 02: Submit PPT/discussion points needed for the session by 19th October 2022

## **Training 1 - Hambantota and Monaragala**

- Deliverable 03: Conduct the 1st Training in Sinhala language by 25th October 2022

## **Training 2 - Anuradhapura**

- Deliverable 04: Conduct the 2nd Training in Sinhala language by 31st October 2022

## **Training 3 - Puttalam (with Tamil simultaneous interpretation)**

- Deliverable 05: Conduct the 3rd Training in Sinhala language by 5th November 2022
- Deliverable 06: Send observations via email within a week of concluding all three training sessions. 15th November 2022

## **Duration**

The proposed time period of the consultancy will be from 10th October to 30th November 2022.

## Payment

The Consultant is required to submit a quotation to CEJ, with an all-inclusive fee. This payment will be agreed upon between CEJ and the Consultant and as per the Financial Guidelines of CEJ. The payment will be made in installments as follows:

- First Installment - 25% % of the payment will be made upon the submission and approval of deliverables 1, 2 & 3.
- Final Installment - 75% of the payment will be made upon the submission and approval of deliverables 4, 5 and 6 .
- The payment will be made within ten working days from the date of approval of satisfactory deliverables.

The Consultant will work in collaboration with CEJ staff and report to the Executive Director.

## How to Apply

*Only short-listed candidates will be called for an interview. Interested candidates may send a CV and two non-related referees to [srilanka.cej@gmail.com](mailto:srilanka.cej@gmail.com) indicating the position applied for in the subject line of the email by **7th October 2022**.*