Terms of Reference (ToR)

Assignment: Fostering Livelihood Opportunities for Women and Provision of Outdoor Playground / Child-Friendly Space

Targeted Implementing Partners: NGOs Active in Somali and Oromia Regions

Project Location: (1) Beyahow relocation site, Gode Woreda, Somali Region and (2) Gela returnee site, Chinaksen Woreda, Oromia Region

Donors: SDC and the Government of Sweden

Project timeline: 4 Months

Project: Strengthening Resilience of Disaster-Affected Communities through Durable Solutions in Oromia and Somali Regions of Ethiopia

The purpose of this Call for Proposal is to solicit interest from Non-Government Implementing Partners in Oromia and Somali regional states in women/community livelihood domain to participate in UN Habitat's initiative and contribute complementary resources (human resources, knowledge, funds, in-kind contributions, supplies and/or equipment) to achieving a common objective as outlines in this ToR and subsequently agree to partner by entering into an Agreement of Cooperation.
Potential partners should clearly indicate for which of the two sites they are putting a proposal for.
All requests for clarification should be sent to muhammed.nuru@un.org

1. Background

UN Habitat has been supporting member states, including Ethiopia, in developing planned human settlements, increased access to public spaces, adequate housing, infrastructure and basic services. UN-Habitat Ethiopia, in a joint project with IOM, FAO, and the regional governments of Somali and Oromia regions, through joint funding from the Government of Sweden and the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), is implementing a project titled "Strengthening Resilience of Disaster-Affected Communities Through Durable Solutions in Oromia and Somali Regions of Ethiopia". Among other objectives, the project on child-friendly public space aims to strengthen resilience among displaced and disaster-affected communities through long-term solutions, enhancing social cohesion, supporting mental and physical health, building community resilience, and contributing to sustainable integration.

UN Habitat also believes in addressing the socio-cultural barriers that impede women's economic participation. Hence, it seeks to engage NGOs working with communities to provide holistic support services that contribute to livelihood opportunities in displacement settings.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) particularly children, face heightened risks including psychosocial stress, disrupted development, social fragmentation, and exposure to protection concerns. Safe, inclusive, and well-designed outdoor playgrounds serve as Child-Friendly Spaces that support children's physical, emotional, and social well-being. UN Habitat's intervention on one relocation and one returnee site will contribute to psychosocial recovery, resilience, community cohesion, and improved livability of settlements providing a protected environment for play, learning, and positive social interaction.

The intervention is aimed to contribute to SDG 8 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), SDG 10 (Reducing Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 8 decent work and economic growth and SDG 16 (Peaceful and Inclusive Societies).

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2. Purpose of the Assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to engage an NGO implementing partner

a) to provide a proposal and implementation package for holistic support service, including marketable skills that contribute to livelihood opportunities targeting women

b) to drive sustainability and social cohesion objective and engage a contractor to supply all necessary materials and construct a safe, inclusive, and durable outdoor playground that functions as a Child-Friendly Space.

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3. Objectives

General Objective

To empower women in displacement settings economically, enhance their self-reliance, and improve their overall well-being and resilience and establish a safe, inclusive, and child-centered outdoor playground that enhances psychosocial well-being and strengthens social cohesion among children and communities in the settlements.

Specific Objectives

- Move women beyond mere survival to a state where they can actively contribute to their households and communities, and rebuild their lives with dignity
- Economic empowerment and financial independence of women
- Improved food security and reduced vulnerability
- Provide a safe and protective play environment for children

- Promote positive interaction among children from different backgrounds, including host and displaced communities
- Support psychosocial well-being, creativity, and physical development
- Ensure universal accessibility, including for children with disabilities
- Use locally available, recycled, durable, and low-maintenance materials
- Teach children about growing food

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4. Project Locations

4.1 Site 1 : Public Space Location at Beyahaw Relocation Site, Gode Woreda

Location map (within the region)

Beyahaw community site is administratively located in Gode woreda, Shebelle zone, Somali National Regional State. Geographically, its coordinates are 5°46'22.08"N; 43°53'33.22"E , located some 45 Km South-East of the zonal capital, Gode town, along the Gode-Qelafo route, 595 kms away from Jigjiga City (the region's capital).

Currently 531 households relocated from Qoloji camp and 275 households from the host community are residing in the area.

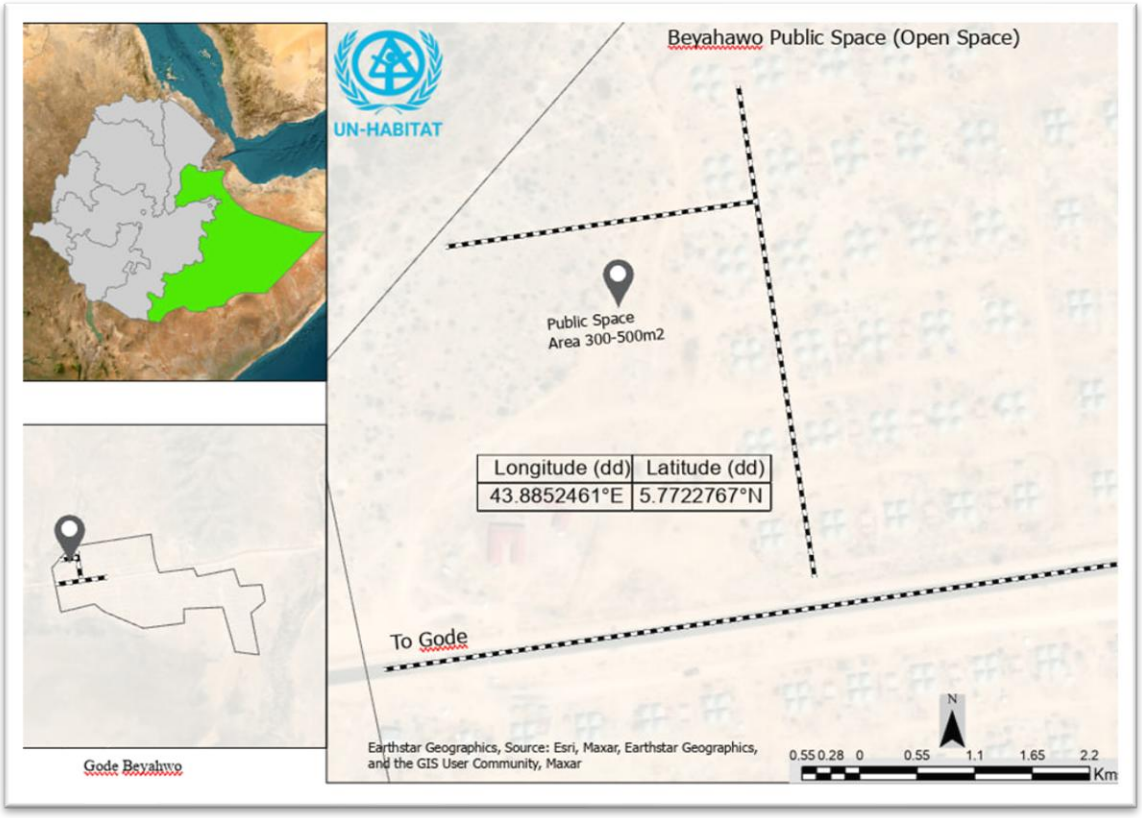

Fig 1: Location map of the public Space

The proposed Location of the public space: the site is proposed to be adjacent to a community space where there is an existing health center

Topography: The topography of the site is a very gentle slope.

4.2 Site 2: Public Space location at Gella Returnee, Chinaksen Woreda

Location map (within the region)

The Gela Returnee site is located in Chinaksen wereda which is part of East Hararge zone of the Oromia regional administration. It is located at some 17 Kilo meter distance from the Wereda capital of Chinaksen town. Gela Returnee site is found in between Denbel and Jigjiga weredas of Somali regional state. Currently, 450 households are residing at the Gella site sparsely laid out over a large area.

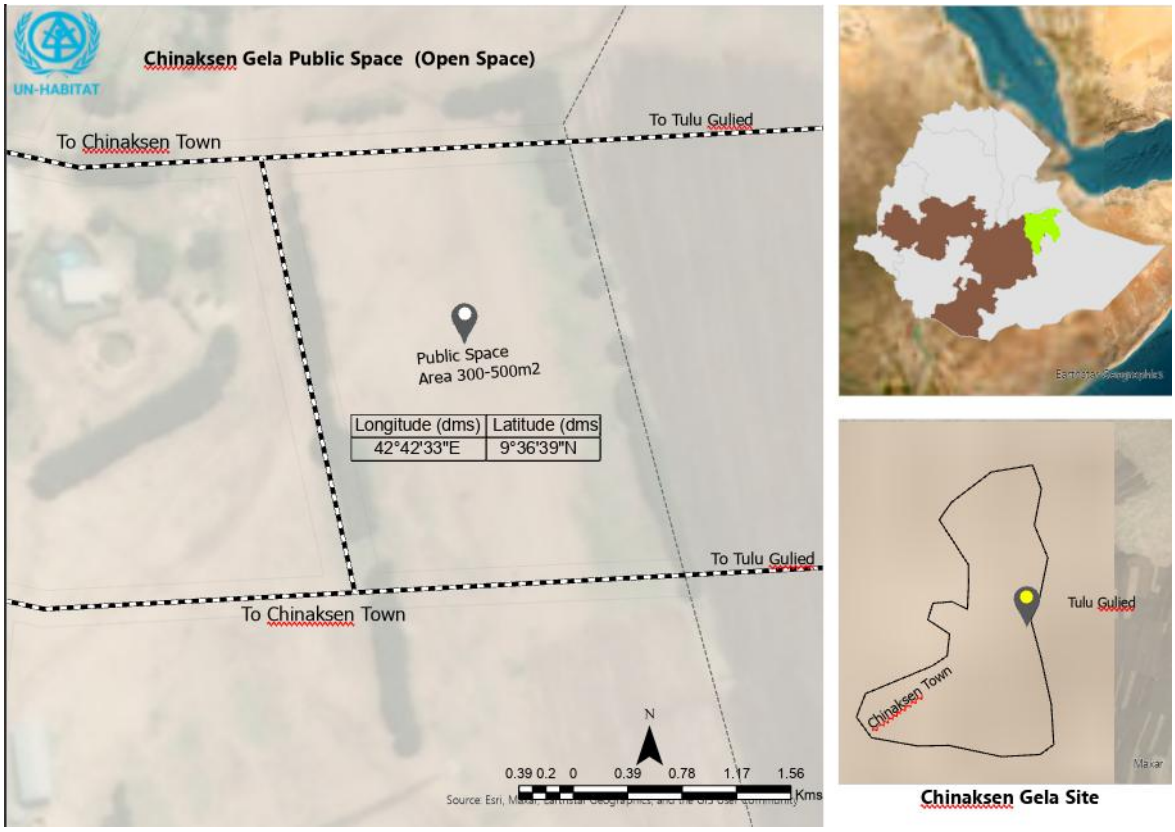

Fig 2: Location map of the public Space

Proposed Location for the public space: the site is a community focused space, positioned directly between the local primary school and mosque. It is located 16km from the woreda town.

Topography: The land features a consistent very gentle slope.

5. Scope of Work

The Implementing partner shall undertake the following tasks:

5.1 Livelihood opportunities for women

Provide a climate resilient livelihood opportunity package (maximum 20,000$ per site) for women in displacement settings allowing them to be part of the local economy. The proposals must be implementable within the anticipated period, focus specifically on economic empowerment of women [e.g skill development – handicraft, recycling, poultry, community vegetable gardens etc… entrepreneurship and market-relevant skills trainings] and addressing systemic barriers that hinder women's participation in the economy.

The IP is expected to provide a livelihood opportunity package for women, complete with workplan and financial plan, target and beneficiary selection criteria. The proposal must be based on local

knowledge of the community, with optimized resource allocation and increased efficiency and must demonstrate sustainability.

Note: The Implementing partner can put forward proposals that provide opportunities for access to financial resources, and business grants by co-financing the initiative from its own resource for a common goal.

5.2 Provision of Child-friendly outdoor space

a) The IP to engage a contractor that can

- Conduct a site assessment (topography, safety, drainage, access, shading)
- Facilitate consultations with community leaders for consideration of skilled and unskilled labour that can participate in the construction of the public space
- Incorporate construction safety practice at active project construction site

b) Design adaptation

- Prepare a workplan understanding the design document, layout plan and material specification that is provided.
    - Plan for safe, inclusive play equipment (physical, sensory, imaginative play)
    - Shaded areas and seating for caregivers including with the planting schedule of locally suited vegetation
    - Safe surfacing (fine washed sand, safe rubber, non-sharp surfaces etc..)
    - Fencing and controlled entry points for child protection

c) Construction and Installation

- Demarcate the project site verifying measurements with the relevant party.
- Clear the site, provide appropriate drainage materials and undertake below ground works
- Undertake perimeter foundation works, including ground filling as per the work instructions
- Provide natural fertilizers and soil preparations before planting vegetation required for the project
- Ensure pavement works are done respecting slopes that are considerate of accessibility and inclusive design (age, disability…)
- Supply, produce, assemble and install playground equipment and associated infrastructure
- Ensure compliance with child safety and protection standards following recommended dimensions, material specifications …

- Apply weather-resilient construction paints and methods
- Undertake finishes and site clearance before site handover.

d) Capacity Building and Handover

- Orient community representatives on use, safety, and basic maintenance for both the play are and the green area
- Support establishment of a community-based playground and green area management committee considerate of promotion of the culture, social cohesion and peaceful interaction

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6. Deliverables

- Community engagement initial report (within 1 month) including list of selected beneficiaries, monthly reports, mid-term and final report on livelihood engagement
- Inception report with site assessment findings for the playground
- Constructed and fully functional playground
- Completion and handover report

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7. Duration of Assignment

The assignment for the IP is expected to be completed within **4 months**, including engaging a contractor that should complete their work in 3 months' time including mobilisation/demobilisation, construction, planting of vegetation, installation, cleanup and handover.

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8. Roles and Responsibilities

The implementing NGO partner

- Economically empower beneficiary women in displacement setting through implementation of targeted activities
- Engage a competent, legally registered contractor to undertake the construction component
- Follow the overall construction, planting, installation, cleanup and handover by the contractor
- Ensure compliance with safety, protection, and quality standards for the built component

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- Facilitate site access, Wereda and community coordination

- Provide design and material specification for the construction of outdoor playing space
- Provide oversight and approval of deliverables

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9. Required Qualifications and Experience

The Implementing NGO partner should demonstrate:

- Proven experience in livelihood component and/or programmes with communities specifically on empowering women
- Proven experience working in the region, knowledge of the local context including engagement of qualified technical staff that can speak the local language
- Proven experience implementing or managing construction projects and spaces in low-resource settings
- Experience working with IDP, refugee, or vulnerable communities is an asset
- Knowledge of child protection and inclusive design standards
- Valid legal registration as NGO including testimonies on successful implementation of programmes/ projects from previous partners

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10. Monitoring and Quality Assurance

- Community engagement initial report (within 1 month) including list of selected beneficiaries
- monthly reports, mid-term and final report on overall engagement including livelihood and playground components
- Regular site supervision and progress reporting
- Final construction inspection and acceptance report upon completion
- Compliance with agreed design, safety, and quality standards

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11. Ethical Considerations and Safeguarding

The IP must:

- Adhere to child safeguarding and protection principles: the contractor cannot engage underage children as unskilled or skilled labour
- Ensure respectful community engagement

- Prevent harm, exploitation, or exclusion

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12. Budget and Payment Schedule

Payments will be made based on:

- Milestone-based completion of works both for the livelihood and construction component
- Final acceptance of deliverables

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13. Reporting

The IP shall submit periodic progress reports and a final completion report to UN Habtiat.