



Call for Project Proposals: Supporting Community-Based Initiatives to Prevent Violent Extremism in Diwaniyah Governorate

Deadline for Submissions: September 30, 2025

Introduction

Al-Mesalla Organization for Human Resources Development, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the National Committee for Preventing Violent Extremism in Iraq, invites local NGOs registered with the NGO Directorate to submit proposals for community-led initiatives aimed at operationalizing Diwaniyah's local action plans to prevent violent extremism (PVE).

Available Funding

- Number of Grants: 2 per governorate
- Grant Amount: IQD 3,930,000 per selected initiative
- Each organization may apply for one grant only per governorate, and must maintain an active presence (i.e., an operational office) within Diwaniyah.

Objectives of the Grant

- Prevent violent extremism at the community level.
- Contribute directly to the governorate-level PVE Action Plan in coordination with the relevant committee.
- Promote active leadership by women and youth in efforts to counter violent extremism.



- Build local capacity in peacebuilding and social cohesion.
- Generate lessons learned on effective community-based PVE approaches.
- Address and counter hate speech, sectarian rhetoric, discrimination, and incitement.
- Promote social inclusion and cohesion in the face of division and provocation.

How to Apply

Applications must be completed in two steps:

1. Fill out the online application form with details about your organization and proposed initiative: <https://ee.kobotoolbox.org/x/EDbHM5Gq>
1. Submit the proposed budget using the official template provided to: grant@mesalla.org

Eligibility Criteria

- Be a locally registered NGO in Iraq.
- Have proven presence and operational capacity within Diwaniyah.
- Apply for only one grant in one governorate.
- Demonstrate experience in peacebuilding, youth engagement, women's empowerment, community development, or conflict resolution.
- Priority will be given to women- and youth-led organizations (minimum 40%).
- Be capable of responsible financial management and regular reporting.

Financial and Administrative Requirements

- Submit a certified financial report for 2024 (or the latest available fiscal year).
- Comply fully with Al-Mesalla's policies and procedures.
- Budget must not exceed IQD 3,930,000.
- No more than 20% of the total budget may be allocated to coordinators, facilitators, or trainers.



- Budgets must be detailed, realistic, and justified using the official template.

Thematic Focus Areas

• Education and Higher Education:

- Conduct specialized workshops to build the capacity of supervisors, teachers, and school counselors on early detection of extremist behaviors among students.
- Distribute educational booklets that promote tolerance, citizenship, and non-violence while addressing bullying and extremism.
- Activate university-led forums and workshops with psychology and sociology experts to promote dialogue, reject violence, and foster a culture of peace.

• Security and Community Relations:

- Develop training programs for police and Interior Ministry personnel on community engagement and human rights–based law enforcement.
- Organize awareness sessions with tribal leaders to discuss and prevent tribal violence, leveraging positive traditions (“sawani”) for peacebuilding.
- Train women as key actors in early warning systems and conflict resolution to support community-level peace efforts.

• Youth, Sports, and Social Inclusion:

- Use youth forums as platforms for innovative awareness activities (theatre plays, arts, workshops) to promote tolerance and counter bullying and extremism.
- Organize meetings focused on the rights of persons with disabilities, discussing their needs and ways to ensure their full inclusion in society.

Key Dates

- Applications open: September 21, 2025
- Submission deadline: September 30, 2025
- Implementation deadline: No later than November 30, 2025
- Late submissions will not be considered.



Selection Process

A joint evaluation committee will review applications based on:

- Relevance to PVE Action Plan (30%)
- Clarity and feasibility of design (25%)
- Impact and sustainability (20%)
- Organizational & financial capacity (15%)
- Gender/youth inclusion & conflict sensitivity (10%)

Final grantees will be notified by October 15, 2025.

Grantee Responsibilities

- Sign a grant agreement with AI-Mesalla.
- Fully comply with all grant-related policies and reporting requirements.

Contact

For further information contact us: grant@mesalla.org

<https://en.mesalla.org>