



Call for Project Proposals: Supporting Community-Based Initiatives to Prevent Violent Extremism in Kirkuk 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 Kirkuk'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 Kirkuk.

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 Kirkuk.
- 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 school-based awareness programs.
- Scientific research and academic studies on extremism and violence.
- Youth-led initiatives (wall art, awareness campaigns, scientific innovation).
- Sports and cultural activities to build social ties.
- Media campaigns and production of short awareness videos.
- Support for women survivors of violence and returnees from camps.
- Psychosocial support for children affected by violence.
- Inclusion of martyrs' families in project activities.
- Rehabilitation and support for war-affected areas (Hawija, Riyadh).
- Workshops and training for religious leaders and preachers.
- IDP and returnee support initiatives led by graduates and unemployed youth.
- Engagement with academic research to inform project design and community interventions.

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>