



Call for Expression of Interest

Local Partnerships

Economic Empowerment

Danish Refugee Council | www.drc.ngo

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SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

Background

Founded in 1956, The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is Denmark's largest, and a leading international NGO, with specific expertise in forced displacement. In 40 countries, our 7,500 employees protect, advocate and build sustainable futures for refugees and other displacement-affected people and communities. Since 2013, DRC has been actively involved in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to refugees and vulnerable host community members in Türkiye. DRC's mission revolves around supporting and empowering refugees by ensuring their rights are upheld, providing access to essential services, and fostering durable solutions to their situations.

- DRC works during displacement at all stages: In the acute crisis, in exile, when settling and integrating in a new place, or upon return.
- DRC provides sustainable and self-reliant economic recovery support and life-saving humanitarian assistance during emergencies.
- DRC supports displaced persons in becoming self-reliant and included in hosting societies.
- DRC works with civil society and responsible authorities to promote the protection of rights and peaceful coexistence.

DRC's core focus areas in Türkiye include:

Protection: DRC places a strong emphasis on protection services for individuals with vulnerabilities, including women, children, persons with disabilities, and those with legal protection needs. This involves identifying and assisting those at risk with a rights-based approach, offering psychosocial support, and promoting community-based protection mechanisms.

Economic Recovery: DRC is dedicated to fostering the self-reliance of communities affected by displacement, tackling dependency on humanitarian aid through targeted economic empowerment projects. Our comprehensive strategy spans three interconnected subsectors: decent livelihoods, financial inclusion, and food security. These initiatives encompass wage-employment and self-employment support, designed to enhance skills, improve access to labour markets, and provide startup and recovery grants for micro, small, and medium enterprises. Additionally, DRC provides cash assistance to those impacted by shocks and displacement, bolstering the resilience and stability of their income-generating resources.

Advocacy and Research: Alongside its operational activities, DRC engages in advocacy efforts to raise awareness about the challenges faced by refugees and other displacement-affected populations in Türkiye. DRC conducts research and produces reports to provide evidence-based insights that inform policy discussions and decision-making processes.

Capacity Development: DRC works closely with local partners and organizations to strengthen their capacity to respond effectively to the needs of displaced populations. This involves training local staff, enhancing coordination mechanisms, and building a more sustainable response infrastructure.

Collaboration and partnerships: DRC collaborates and partners with other humanitarian non-governmental agencies, local community-based organizations (CBOs), local authorities and international agencies to ensure a coordinated and effective response to the refugee situation in Türkiye.

Objectives:

We are currently seeking local partners to collaborate with us in the Economic Empowerment sector in Türkiye. This call for expressions of interest is designed to identify organizations that are committed to fostering a resilient, sustainable, and self-reliant economy for populations affected by displacement. The goal is to establish a partnership pool as a strategic measure, aiming toward potential future collaborations. Local partners in the pool may be considered for various initiatives, depending on their expertise, capacities, and how well they align with specific project objectives.

The primary objectives of this partnership initiative are:

- To collaborate on enhancing the employability of refugees and displacement-affected populations through on-the-job training and other skills-developing modalities.
- To enhance access to the labour market through conducting job matching and job placement support activities.
- To enhance access to finance and nationally available financial services.
- Improve the living conditions and food security of displacement/natural disaster-affected populations through providing cash and voucher assistance (CVA).
- To complement national economic empowerment plans through market system development initiatives.
- To improve the sustainability and self-reliance of displacement-affected populations through enhancing self-employment seekers' capacities and support them to establish, recover, and revitalize their Micro, Small, and Medium businesses.
- To promote the inclusiveness and gender sensitivity of the labour market and equal rights in accessing employment.
- To promote environmental sustainability through integrating green practices into all supported businesses and contributing to the national strategies to decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

Scope of Work:

We are seeking local partners that are actively engaged in economic empowerment-related activities, which may include but are not limited to:

1 Initial Support and Direct Assistance:

- Cash and Voucher Distributions: Provide cash and vouchers to refugees and displacement-affected populations to improve their food security situation.
- Economic Empowerment and Cash Assistance for Earthquake Camp Inhabitants: Offer immediate financial support to those affected by natural disasters to facilitate basic survival and initial recovery.

2 Vocational Training and Employment Facilitation:

- Vocational and On-the-Job Training: Equip individuals with the necessary skills for employment through structured training programs.
- Job Matching Activities: Include job placement, support for obtaining work permits, and wage subsidy assistance to help job seekers find and retain employment.

3 Business Support and Sector Development:

- Support for Micro, Small, and Medium Entrepreneurs: Provide support for business establishment and revitalization through grants, offering both cash and in-kind assistance.
- Access to Financial Services: Implement guarantee grant modalities with local banks and other financial service providers to enhance the financial capabilities of businesses.
- Expand the Service Map of Stakeholders and Establish Efficient Relations with Private Sector Entities: Develop a comprehensive network and foster relationships that can provide ongoing support and opportunities for business growth.

4 Sector-Specific Assistance:

- Support Manufacturing and Agri-Food Sectors with Sector Development Support in Southeast Areas: Provide targeted assistance to strengthen the manufacturing, agricultural and food sectors, ensuring sustainability and growth in critical regional industries.

The aim is to create a robust partnership pool for potential collaboration in future economic empowerment interventions

SECTION 2: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligibility and several desired criteria that we seek in our potential partners include:

- Be registered and operating in Türkiye.
- Have a registered bank account in the organization's name.
- Possess a proven track record of successfully implementing economic empowerment-related projects with a minimum of five years of experience, preferably in one or more of the following provinces: Adana, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, and Şanlıurfa.
- Experience in implementing projects funded by international donors.
- Track record implementing aforementioned activities with minority and specific vulnerability groups including Syrians under temporary protection, refugees under international protection, persons with disabilities, marginalized groups, and survivors of or persons at risk of GBV, among others.
- Possess a clear organizational organigram including governance bodies.
- Have their own Code of Conduct, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policy and Child Protection Policy that all staff members and volunteers sign or agree to abide by DRC's.
- Possess a deep understanding of the local context and challenges faced by vulnerable populations.
- Exhibit a commitment to collaboration, transparency, and accountability.
- Have the willingness to participate in capacity development activities.
- Have well-developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to guide the implementation of activities in place or be willing to develop them.
- Have required legal documentation to implement suggested activities.

Women-headed organizations are strongly encouraged to apply.

SECTION 3: DRC'S COMMITMENTS

DRC is committed to fostering strong and equitable partnerships with local organizations in the protection and economic empowerment sector. DRC recognizes that successful partnership entails collaboration built on mutual respect, shared objectives, and a commitment to achieving meaningful impact for vulnerable populations.

DRC wants to outline the commitments offered to support local partners:

1. Equitable Engagement: DRC is dedicated to an equitable approach to partnership, recognizing the value of diverse perspectives and contributions. DRC commits to meaningful and inclusive engagement that empowers local partners in the decision-making process.

2. Capacity Development: DRC is dedicated to enhancing the capacity of its local partners. Through tailored training, technical support, and knowledge sharing, DRC aims to strengthen local partners' ability to design, implement, and monitor protection programs effectively.

3. Resource Allocation: DRC is committed to providing financial and non-financial resources to support

the implementation of joint projects. This includes funding for program activities, access to necessary equipment, and staff support.

4. Technical Expertise: DRC's team of experienced professionals possesses valuable expertise in the protection sector. DRC is committed to sharing its technical knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned to ensure that projects are of high quality and meet the needs of programme participants.

5. Collaborative Approach: DRC values open and transparent collaboration. DRC commits to working closely with its local partners to jointly develop project plans, monitor progress, and address challenges. Local partners' input and perspectives will be integral to the decision-making process.

6. Networking and Advocacy: DRC is well-connected in the humanitarian sector and engages in advocacy efforts to address the needs of displacement-affected populations. Through our partnership, DRC commits to facilitating opportunities for networking, information sharing, and joint advocacy initiatives.

7. Recognition and Visibility: DRC acknowledges the importance of recognizing the valuable contributions of its local partners. DRC commits to appropriately recognizing partner organizations in project materials, reports, and communications.

8. Learning and Adaptation: DRC approaches its work with a learning-oriented mindset and acknowledges the ever-changing nature of humanitarian efforts. DRC and its local partners will collaborate to adjust strategies based on lessons learned and evolving circumstances, ensuring the achievement of the most effective outcomes.

Shared Goals, Shared Impact:

By entering into a partnership with DRC, local partners have the opportunity to access a wealth of resources, expertise, and collaborative support. DRC believes in creating a partnership that is based on trust, shared values, and a dedication to creating lasting positive impact for those we serve.

SECTION 4: APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested organizations are invited to submit their expression of interest to join DRC's partnerships pool in the economic recovery sector. The process is designed to identify local organizations that align with our mission and objectives and have the capacity to contribute effectively to our collective goals.

Submission of Expression of Interest:

Interested organizations should submit **Annex A duly completed** along with **all required documents listed under Annex B** to the following email address tur.partner@drc.ngo, with the subject line "EOI Submission: [Organization's Name] – Local Partnerships – Economic Empowerment.

Closing Date for Submission: 12 June 2024

Please note that submissions can be made in either English or Turkish.

SECTION 5: LOCAL PARTNER SELECTION PROCESS

The selection of local partners is a meticulous and transparent process that aims to identify organizations aligned with DRC's mission and the objectives of the partnership. This process seeks to identify local organizations that share our commitment to economic empowerment with a rights-based approach and have the capacity to effectively contribute to our collective goals. Importantly, it is designed to create a robust partnership pool for potential collaboration in the future, rather than providing an assurance of immediate funding or project engagement.

1. Expression of Interest Review:

Expressions of interest will be reviewed by a dedicated committee within DRC. This review will evaluate the alignment of the organization's mission and experience with the focus areas outlined in the call for expressions of interest.

2. Eligibility Assessment:

Submissions will undergo a thorough eligibility assessment to ensure that potential partners meet the specified criteria.

3. Pre-Selection:

Based on the expression of interest and eligibility assessment, a shortlist of organizations will be compiled. Pre-selected organizations will be contacted for further discussions to gain a deeper understanding of their expertise, capacity, and alignment with the partnership's objectives.

4. Stage desk review:

Pre-selected organizations will be invited to participate in a light assessment, which will involve sharing key project documents and relevant information. This phase allows DRC to gain a better understanding of the organization's experience, alignment with economic recovery-related initiatives and capacity to implement economic empowerment programs. Organizations will be requested to provide past project reports, financial statements, and other relevant documents.

5. Reference Checks:

As part of the thorough selection process, reference checks may be conducted with relevant stakeholders who are familiar with the pre-selected organizations. These references will help provide insights into the organizations' operational capabilities, collaboration history, and the impact of their projects. This information aids in enhancing DRC's understanding of the organizations' potential for effective partnership and alignment with our goals.

It is important to note that inclusion in the partnerships pool does not guarantee immediate funding or collaboration on specific projects.

The partnerships pool will be in effect for a duration of two years, after which it will undergo a comprehensive review and potential renewal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For inquiries and submission of expressions of interest, please contact through the email address below:

tur.partner@drc.ngo

Annex A: Local Partner Profile

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Name of Organization:	
Year Established in Türkiye:	
Office Address:	
Areas of expertise:	List up to 3.
Are you registered in Türkiye?	[Yes / No] If yes, please share a copy of the registration documents. If no, please provide information on actions to secure registration and the expected date of completion
Have you previously worked with the DRC:	[Yes / No] If yes, please provide a summary of the relationship with DRC.
Where is your main office/HQ based:	
Provide a link to website/ social network pages:	
Head of Programme (HoP)	Contact for Partnership (if different from HoP):
Name:	Name:
Title:	Title:
Phone:	Phone:
Email:	Email:
RELEVANCE	
Why are you interested in partnering with DRC?	Respond in max 300 words.

<p>Please summarize the strategy of your organisation for the next 3 years.</p>	<p>Respond in max 300 words.</p>				
<p>What complementarity do you see with DRC regarding your programming?</p>	<p>Respond in max 300 words.</p>				
<p>What permissions do you hold to implement an Economic Empowerment programme?</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational training <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership with the Ministry of National Education <input type="checkbox"/> Job Linkage Partnership with İŞKUR <input type="checkbox"/> Cash and in-kind distribution <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach permission to conduct field assessment and market study </p> <p>Respond in max 300 words. Please include proof of the validity of the permissions you possess.</p>				
<p>ORGANISATIONAL PRESENCE IN TÜRKİYE (Please only include where you currently have programming)</p>					
<p>Province</p>	<p>Programming Sectors</p>	<p>Current Funding (\$)</p>	<p>Number of Staff</p>		
<p>PROGRAMMING EXPERIENCE IN TÜRKİYE</p>					
<p>Have you received funding (any donor/UN agencies/INGOs) in Türkiye before:</p>		<p>[Yes/No] If yes, please provide a summary of up to 5 of the most recent funding below.</p>			
<p>Donor</p>	<p>Funding Amount (\$)</p>	<p>Location</p>	<p>Dates</p>	<p>Sector</p>	<p>Achievements</p>

Annex B: Supporting Document Checklist

In addition to the completed and signed application, applicants must also submit as annexes the following information.

#	Supporting document
1	Annual Budget
2	Organizational chart
3	Copy of provisions of the legal status of the NGO in Türkiye

Annex C: DRC Civil Society Engagement Strategy

Please refer to the online DRC Civil Society Engagement Strategy document:

<https://pro.drc.ngo/media/cqtpz4pq/global-cse-strategy.pdf>

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the provided information is true and accurate.

Date:

Signature:

Signatory Name:

Signatory Title: