**Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information (AWRTI) Bangladesh:
Strategies for Strengthening Transparency and Accountability in Bangladesh**
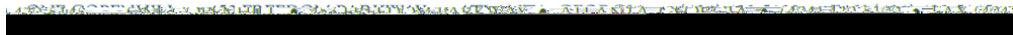
Request for Applications

Terms of Reference

Context

The Carter Center partners with governments, civil society, and international and regional bodies to enhance governance and transform lives through a meaningful right of access to information and justice for women. Women in Bangladesh face disproportionate challenges in exercising the fundamental right of access to information, which hinders economic empowerment and the promotion and protection of other human rights. Although the Bangladesh Right to Information (RTI) Act went into effect in 2009, the benefits of meaningful access to information for women have not fully been realized.

To address these challenges, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded funding to The Carter Center in 2023 to support the Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information (AWRTI) in Bangladesh Activity (the Project) in target districts. Under this project, the Center is working to implement three mutually reinforcing objectives, with a focus on assisting

Reporting:
The selected applicants will work under the technical direction of the Chief of Party and coordinate administratively and submit deliverables to the Project's Senior Grants Officer.

Application Process:
Applications are due by **August 11, 2024, at 5:00 PM EST.** Applicants should submit their application materials at the following link: https://filerequestpro.com/up/the-carter-center-bangladesh-research-partnerships-request-for-applications

For any questions, direct emails to ruleoflawbangladesh@cartercenter.org

Schedule of Expected Activities and Deliverables:
As part of its efforts to support a steady supply of policy briefs to inform the government and lead to evidence-based policies, the selected applicant will deliver to the Project:

> An initial draft of the proposed research methodology, including, as applicable, sampling and data collection tools. A final draft will be delivered after incorporation of Project feedback on the initial draft. Products will be submitted in English.
> An assessment of existing research in the format of a literature review and

Illustrative Deliverables Schedule (to be determined based on the nature of proposed research)			
Deliverables			**Payment schedule**
Research Methodology Literature review and background information			20%
Progress report			15%
Data gathered (including raw data) and preliminary research findings			30%
Final product/document for policymakers Draft and final versions of final report, PowerPoint and 2-page policy briefs			35%

Evaluation Criteria: 100 points max

Soundness of proposed methodology and technical approach, and degree to which they calculated to produce a practical evidence-based information for policymakers regarding access to information	**30 points**
Relevance of proposed topic to priorities set forth in this RFA	**30 points**
Qualification of proposed research team	**20 points**
Demonstrated history of quality research relevant to topics of access to information	**10 points**
Economic proposal	**10 points**

Applicants must submit the following:
1. Proposed methodology and technical approach (Attachment A).
2. Two written example(s) from previously conducted research on a topic relevant to the illustrative topics for focus set forth above.
3. CVs of proposed research team members; demonstrated capacity to conduct sound research on topics relevant to access to information.
4. Economic proposal (budget), not to exceed $20,000 (Attachment B).

Attachments
Attachment A: Attachment A Proposal Template.docx
Attachment B: Attachment B Details Budget and Gantt Chart Template.xlsx