Inviting Expressions of Interest (EoIs): Support for sanitation workers’ mobilization, advocacy and stakeholder engagement

Sanitation workers – including pit emptiers, sewer cleaners, and others involved in faecal waste management – provide an essential public service, but this is often at the cost of their dignity, safety, health and living conditions. Often invisible, unquantified and ostracized, sanitation workers are exposed to serious health and safety hazards, risking illness, injury and even death. Sanitation workers deserve greater recognition and attention, as well as policy and regulatory reforms to safeguarding their rights.

The Initiative for Sanitation Workers (ISW) is a collaborative initiative between International Labour Organization, World Health Organization, WaterAid, World Bank, and SNV Netherlands Development Organisation, working on global advocacy for the health, safety and dignity of sanitation workers.

ISW is inviting expressions of interest for initiatives to support sanitation workers’ mobilization, advocacy and stakeholder engagement.

Objective: To support sanitation workers’ organizations (and those working closely with sanitation workers) in their initiatives to:

- mobilize sanitation workers; build/strengthen their movement and networks,
- engage with authorities and other stakeholders; highlight workers’ challenges/requirements; and advocate for their health, safety and dignity.

Eligibility: This call is open to:

- organizations formed by sanitation workers (including unions, emptiers’ groups, associations, cooperatives, etc.)
- local organizations/NGOs already working closely with sanitation workers (organizations working e.g. on urban sanitation but without an existing focus on supporting sanitation workers’ rights are not eligible).
- Geographical coverage: organisations based in Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, India, Bangladesh, and Nepal.

Note: ‘Sanitation workers’ includes those involved in the faecal waste management chain, including sewer cleaners, pit latrines/septic tank emptiers, dry latrine cleaners, toilet cleaners, faecal sludge treatment plant operators, etc. Solid waste workers are not covered under this grant.

Support available:

ISW offers monetary support for initiatives such as:

(i) Mobilization of workers
(ii) Stakeholder engagement/networking meetings
(iii) Capacity building of workers and their representatives/leaders (training, exchanges, etc.)
(iv) Advocacy initiatives
(v) Other activities which help in achieving the objective mentioned above.
The support would not cover the following activities/expenses:

- Procurement/distribution of desludging equipment, PPE etc.
- Monetary support to individual sanitation workers (or benefits such as insurance coverage, etc.)
- Admin/overhead/indirect expenses of organizations

The selected organizations will also be able to access non-monetary support from ISW organizations (e.g., convening engagement with authorities/stakeholders, technical support for advocacy etc.).

**EoI submission:** Please submit your Expression of Interest using [this form](#) by 5 October 2021. Please adhere to the word limits mentioned for each question. For queries, please reach out to initiativeforsanitationworkers@gmail.com

A panel will review the EoIs received. In mid-October 2021 shortlisted organizations will be invited to submit short proposals. Successful proposals are expected to be awarded by the end of 2021. Activities are expected to take place in 2022.

Note the final selection and grant disbursement will be subject to compliance with national/local legal/regulatory requirements.