

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

# INNOVATORS AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AWARD

*“We are a party of innovation. We do not reject our traditions, but we are willing to adapt to changing circumstances, when change we must. We are willing to suffer the discomfort of change to achieve a better future” – Barbara Charline Jordan (1936 – 1996) an American lawyer, educator, politician and a leader of the Civil Rights Movement*

## WHY INNOVATE?

Over the past decade, more than a million young women around the world have devoted their energy, insights, and entrepreneurial commitment to finding solutions to some of the world’s greatest challenges. UN Women has seen the evidence of the astonishing engagement of young women around the world in building a better future for themselves and others. Under the International Women’s Day 2019 theme of “Think equal, build smart, innovate for change”, UN Women is prompting innovators with groundbreaking ideas and solutions to empower women. The key objective is to support female- led innovations to find new solutions to advance gender equality and eliminate Gender Based Violence (GBV). While we rightly celebrate greater emancipation and empowerment of women, we also must face a difficult reality: for every young woman with the commitment, capabilities, and (importantly) privilege to have participated in empowering work, more women lack opportunity, agency and control over their lives.

## HERE’S WHERE WE NEED YOU

We are challenging you to create opportunities for meaningful innovation for the women and girls in Bangladesh. And you will need to start with just one. So, what does an Innovator against GBV look like?

Are you willing to inspire, promote and share a positive message of empowerment for women and girls in Bangladesh in an innovative and creative way?

Would you like to join us in shaping the future of women and girls through creation of innovations for women’s empowerment? Or perhaps you want to help women and girls with your innovative empowerment initiative?

Do you want to positively influence gender social norms and stereotypes with a new idea that is diverse, accessible and empowering?

Addressing the local and global challenge means starting anew. But not just with technologies, but with new ideas, new ideologies, new business models. New mindsets. We’re looking for new ways to organize society that will create large-scale opportunities for women to actively participate, engage and contribute not just at home or are at work but in every strata of life.

## WHAT YOU CAN CHANGE WITH YOUR INNOVATION?

UN Women Bangladesh intends to open a competition for young women innovators like you to provide you with an opportunity to unleash your potential and your creativity to find innovative solutions to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment. We are seeking innovators with groundbreaking ideas and solutions to empower women and combat gender-based violence.

Your innovation can be of any type, in any industry and sector. You will need to envision and ideate an innovation that can be scaled up; specifically, by growing to have a large-scale positive impact on women

and girls. We encourage you to paint outside the lines, think out of the box and come up with strategies that go beyond business as usual. With your idea, we are expecting you to be:

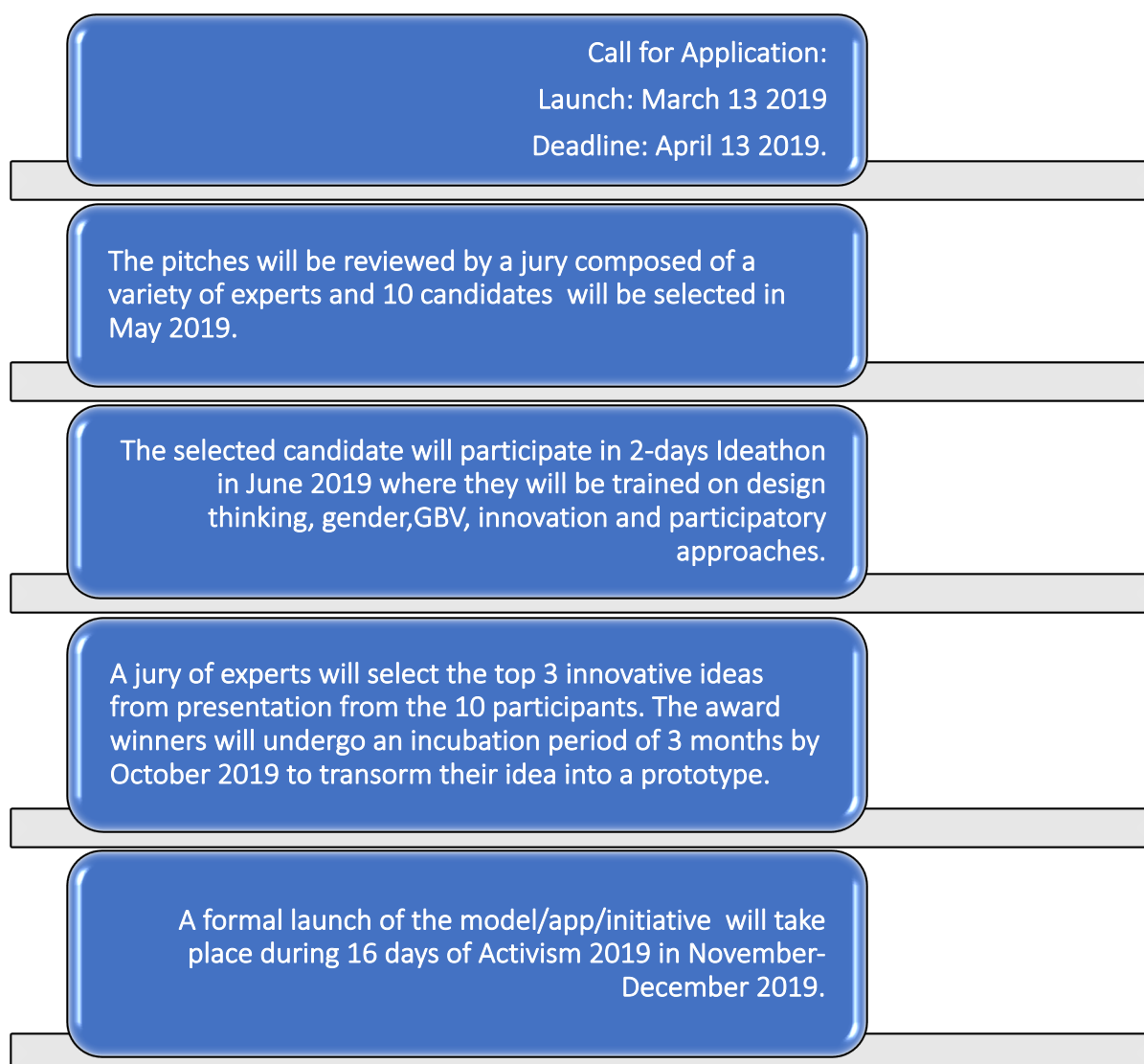
- Addressing and responding to violence against women and girls, especially in terms of accessing to public services and social protection.
- Addressing and preventing sexual harassment in universities, workplace and public space.
- Promote women's economic empowerment.
- Transforming social gender norms, by unlearning gender stereotypes and biases through advertisement, mass media and community mobilization, campaigning and movement building (such as the #MeToo Movement).

Our hope is to build from innovation as a mean to demonstrate the many identities and opportunities available to women and girls that extend beyond what has traditionally been offered to them.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Please fill up our form available at: <https://goo.gl/forms/DKFzUpRACreuUFJy1> by April 13, 2019.

## SELECTION PROCESS



## Prizes

- 3 Winners will receive 5000 USD each as incubation support for their innovation.

## Terms and Conditions

- Open to all women, of age 18 to 35, in Bangladesh.
- Entry must be an original idea – it should not be a copy of ideas of other innovators or have been submitted to and won in other competitions for funding.
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement in any section of application forms and in the process will lead to automatic disqualification.
- The judges' decisions are final at each stage.
- Each team/ individual can participate with only one entry. No participant can be members of multiple teams.
- Only the top 10 pitches will be notified within 60 days from the opening of the call.

## Contact

For any questions and/or clarifications, email us on: [i.at.gbv.2019@gmail.com](mailto:i.at.gbv.2019@gmail.com)