CALL FOR AWARDS
“ICT TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”

I. Justification

Decades of demonstrations promoted by civil society and women's movements have been able to include put the issue of the eradication of violence against women in national and international agendas. Today there is great progress regarding the number of countries that have laws against violence, whether psychological, physical, patrimonial, economic, sexual, in the family, at work or school, as well as femicide. However, there are still challenges in the enforcement of these laws and the implementation of programs, resulting in limited protection and access to justice by women and girls who are victims of violence.

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have proven to be tools that contribute to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and to help prevent and eradicate violence against them.

Given all of the above, this Award has become a way to recognize those initiatives and examples of leadership in the region of the Americas that use ICTs to contribute to the prevention and eradication of violence against women.

II. Purpose of the Awards

To recognize the three best initiatives, projects, programs or examples of public policy involving the use of information and communication technologies, highlighting their implementation and support in the region of the Americas for the prevention and eradication of violence against women.

III. Eligibility of Participants

Participation is open to natural persons and legal entities, such as: governmental and non-governmental organizations, civil society and private organizations, the Member States of the Organization of American States (OAS),¹ and the Associate Members of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)².

¹ http://www.oas.org/en/member_states/default.asp
² https://www.citel.oas.org/en/Pages/Associate-Members-Directory.aspx
IV. **Category**

Proposals that contain projects, programs or examples of public policy which are in the execution stage and which focus on the use and application of ICTs as tools that directly benefit the prevention and eradication of violence against women in the Americas region.

V. **Stages**

**V.1 – March 8, 2016:** Official launch of the Call for Awards "ICTs TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN".

**V.2 – March 8 to June 30, 2016:** Dissemination of the Call for Awards through electronic media, the press and social networks of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), and the Organization of American States (OAS), in addition to the corresponding steps to send the Call for Awards to all the Administrations of the OAS countries so they can be publicly posted on the web pages of the entities or ministries related to women and ICTs.

**V.3 – June 1 to July 31, 2016:** Receipt of proposals via CITEL's email: citel@oas.org.

**V.4 – August 1 to September 29, 2016:** Review of the proposals submitted by the Selection Committee in order to admit those that comply with the guidelines set out in this Call for Awards. Only those proposals that comply with such guidelines will pass to the next stage, an assessment by the Evaluation Committee.

**V.5 – September 30, 2016:** Publication of the received proposals that meet all the guidelines established in the Call to be evaluated. This list will be posted on the web page of CITEL, the CIM and OAS.

**V.6 – (October 3 to 31, 2016):** Evaluation and selection by the Evaluation Committee of the three (3) best proposals.

**V.7 – November 1, 2016:** Official announcement of the three (3) winning proposals through electronic media, the press and social networks of CITEL, CIM and OAS.

**V.8 – February 2017:** The official awards ceremony will be carried out within the framework of the 30th meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/ICTs (PCC.I).

VI. **Selection Committee**

**V.1 –** The Selection Committee will be composed of:

* A representative from the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation (SCT) of Mexico in his/her capacity as Chair of the Ad Hoc Group on Gender of PCC.I.
* A representative from the Dominican Institute of Telecommunications (INDOTEL) in his/her capacity as Vice-chair of the Ad Hoc Group on Gender of PCC.I.
* A representative from the Secretariat of CITEL.
VI.2 - The Selection Committee will review and ensure that each of the proposals received meets the guidelines set forth in this Call for Awards.

V.3 – The review criteria and decisions of the Committee are final.

VII. Evaluation Committee

VII.1 – The Evaluation Committee will be composed of:

a. The Secretary General of the OAS or whoever is designated to act on his behalf.

b. The Executive Secretary of CITEL.

c. The Executive Secretary of CIM.

d. The Chair of the Ad Hoc Group on Gender of PCC.I.

e. The Vice-Chair of the Ad Hoc Group on Gender of PCC.I.

VII.2 – The Committee will analyze the proposals based on the following evaluation criteria:

a. Impact of the results of the project, program or example of public policy.

b. Sustainability of the project, program or example of public policy.

c. Scope of the project, program or example of public policy.

d. Innovation and creativity in the project, program or example of public policy.

e. Possibility to replicate the project, program or example of public policy.

VII.3 – The evaluation criteria and decisions of the Committee are final.

VIII. Conditions for Participation

By submitting a proposal to this Call for Awards, the participants hereby:

a. Guarantee that the materials, methodologies, designs, devices, processes, reports, trademarks, documentation or information provided as part of the proposal do not violate or infringe any patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets or other proprietary rights of third parties, rights of privacy or publicity of any person, or any other right of any third party; they also certify that they have the full and unlimited right to transfer the contents of the proposal exempt from any claims and liens; and they agree and undertake to indemnify and protect the GS/OAS, CITEL and CIM, as well as their respective authorities, agents and employees, for any losses, damages, obligations, causes of action, judgments, costs or expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, that may result from the violation or alleged violation of these warranties.

b. They hereby grant the GS/OAS, CITEL and CIM a non-exclusive license to use, reproduce, communicate, display, make available for public display and distribute the content of the proposal for any promotional, informational, educational or awareness-raising purposes through printed or digital media or online.

c. They recognize the privileges and immunity enjoyed by the OAS, GS/OAS, its bodies, staff and assets, in accordance with the Charter of the OAS, agreements and laws on the matter, and the principles and practices that inspire international law.
IX. **Awards**

**IX.1** – There will be a total of three awards for the best projects, programs and/or examples of public policy selected by the Evaluation Committee.

**IX.2** – The award will consist of:

a. Recognition given by the Secretary General of the OAS.
b. Presentation of the project, program and/or example of public policy within the framework of the 30th meeting of PCC.I.
c. Dissemination of the project, program, or example of public policy through the CITEL, CIM and OAS platforms.
GUIDELINES FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS

1) The proposals must be written in Word and sent as PDF according to the following format:
   a. Font: Times New Roman,
   b. Font size: Titles 14, Subtitles 12, Text 10
   c. Paragraph spacing.
   d. Margins: 2.5 for each side.
   e. Number of pages. Minimum 8 and maximum 25.

2) The proposals must be submitted in Spanish or English.

3) The proposals shall include a heading with an executive summary indicating the topics being addressed; the geographic location where it was carried out or is being applied; the dates that cover the development of the project, program or example of public policy; who is participating in it; the sponsoring organization and its evaluation, highlighting the contribution of the project, program or example of public policy regarding the topic in question, and indicating how it can be replicated in other States of the region.

4) If there is an evaluation of the implementation of the project, program or example of public policy, graphics and/or photographs should be listed consecutively in the text and sent in a separate PDF file, which must be named as follows: Annex to the proposal: "name", name of the representative of the organization, and the country from which it is sent.

5) All files containing the proposal must be submitted in the same e-mail message to CITEL at email: citel@oas.org.

6) The body of the message that contains the proposal should refer to: the title of the project, program or example of public policy, the name of the representative or leader of the proposal and that of the participating organization, the country from which it is sent, and contact information.

7) The message containing the proposal should not exceed 5MB in size with attachments.

8) The representatives of the participating organization have to attach a one-page resume to the proposal with the following basic information about the organization, including the following data:

   Member State/Associate Member: __________________________
   Entity/Institution: __________________________________
   Contact information of the project leader:
   a. Name:
   b. Position
   c. E-mail:
   d. Phone number: + (country code) (city code) (local phone number)
   e. Fax: + (country code) (city code) (local phone number)

9) For more information please contact CITEL at: email: citel@oas.org.
PROCEDURE

1) To launch the Call for Awards within the framework of the celebration of International Women's Day at the OAS, gathering high-level officials including Mexico, the Dominican Republic, as well as the Executive Secretary of CITEL, the Executive Secretary of the CIM and the Secretary General of the OAS, with the aim of publicizing the Awards on "ICTs TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN" to the Member States in the Region.

2) Once open, to publish the Call for Awards on the web pages of CITEL, the CIM and OAS in order to inform the Administrations in the region about its development in a transparent manner.

3) Carry out all formalities to submit the Call for Awards to all Member States of the OAS, so it can be publicly disseminated on the web pages of the entities and bodies that address gender issues and women's rights, and the ministries that deal with ICTs.

4) The Selection Committee will have as function to check that each of the projects, programs or examples of public policy received comply with the guidelines stipulated in the Call.

5) The Selection Committee shall forward the projects, programs or examples of public policy that comply with the guidelines stipulates in the Call to the Evaluation Committee within the term stipulated in the Call for Awards.

6) The Evaluation Committee will review the projects, programs or examples of public policy it receives, evaluate them, and select the best three.

7) The Evaluation Committee will ask CITEL, the CIM and OAS to post the results of the Awards on their respective web pages.

8) There will be the corresponding Awards Ceremony within the framework of the 30th meeting of PCC.I in February 2017.
EVALUATION PROCESS

1) The projects, programs or examples of public policy received after the deadline established in the Call for Awards will not be taken into account.

2) All the projects, programs or examples of public policy received must fully comply with the Call, otherwise they will be dismissed by the Selection Committee.

3) The projects, programs or examples of public policy that are received and which meet all of the guidelines established in the Call for Awards must be shared in the portal of the Awards website to provide greater transparency to the selection process of the winners.

4) The projects, programs or examples of public policy that are received and which meet all of the guidelines established in the Call for Awards should be analyzed by the Evaluation Committee, which will issue its decision on November 1, 2016.