**1. Background and Description of Project** The Carter Center is guided by the principles of our founders, former President Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. Founded in partnership with Emory University on a fundamental commitment to human rights and the alleviation of human suffering, the Center seeks to prevent and resolve conflicts, enhance freedom and democracy, and improve health.

The Carter Center's Rule of Law Program (RLP) works in partnership with governments, civil society, and international and regional bodies to improve governance and transform lives through a meaningful right of access to information and justice. Since 2016, The Center has implemented programming in Bangladesh at the national and local levels to address inequities in women's access to information by working with government officials and citizens.

In 2023, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded The Carter Center the Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh (AWRTI) Activity to increase public-led accountability to reduce corruption in Bangladesh by advancing a meaningful right to information (RTI) for women in target districts. Fundamental to democratic governance and countering corruption, RTI enables citizens to participate in decision-making that affects their lives and demand accountability from their governments.

A key tool that facilitates citizens' RTI are government data platforms that function as inclusive and accessible repositories of public information. The Right to Information Online Tracking System (RTIOTS), created by the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) seven years ago and managed by the Information Commission, is just such a tool. Given the age of RTIOTS and the rapid advance of modern information technology, the platform is currently dormant. It requires updates to ensure its functionality, improve the user experience, better account for barriers in use among women, and ensure its long-term viability as a tool in the GOB's RTI toolkit.

To address these challenges and enhance the effectiveness of the RTIOTS platform, The Carter Center seeks a consultant/firm to conduct a platform and user experience assessment. This assessment will identify the reasons Tm0 g3 12 T 0 0 1 4587 2383 Tm05(to )-20 1 2p2.1 T0090 gW\*hBT/F3 12

## 2. Objectives

- Assess the reasons for the disuse and dormancy of RTIOTS.
  Identify technical requirements to update, modernize, and increase the inclusivity of the platform.

3.

## 4. Deliverables

1. Assessment Report: A detailed report on the reasons for the platform's disuse, including both government and public

## Interested applicants should submit their proposal materials to: <u>https://filerequestpro.com/up/bangladesh-rtiots-platform-and-user-experience-assessment</u> by <u>June 30, 2024</u>

For questions, email us at <u>ruleoflawbangladesh@cartercenter.org</u>