



# Proposal

## **Voices:**

### **Creative workshops & Cultural Event for Women Activists**

**Prepared by Roweida al Ghali and Yara AL Khoury**

This endeavor is in collaboration with Carmen Hassoun Abou Jaoudé, a researcher affiliated to University Saint-Joseph in partnership with Oxford Brookes University and supported by a British Academy grant

**Description :**

Building on the focus groups that have been established by the researcher, the consultant will lead four groups of women activists and rights holders. Each group will meet over the course of five sessions, with the fifth session serving as a culmination of the workshop. These sessions will utilize creative arts as tools for memory work and justice archiving, taking place between February and October.

Given the significant injustices of the past five years, particularly in light of the recent war in Lebanon, this initiative is essential.

**Objectives**

This initiative is essential in the wake of the major injustices of the past five years, particularly following the recent war on Lebanon. It aims to:

- Document injustices through creative methods.
- Explore the role of culture in processes of transitional justice.
- Contribute to archiving and memory work as a means of resistance and healing.
- Support efforts toward non-recurrence by amplifying marginalized voices and narratives.
- Ensure that all women's input and narratives are acknowledged and valued, fostering an inclusive "yes approach" where everyone, having chosen to engage in this cause, has a voice in the final event, with no exclusion.
- Activate the group formed during the focus group meetings, transitioning their language into a creative, expressive, and performative form that not only carries their speech but also transcends the work done during the focus group phase.

**Structure**

**Dates, Timings, and Participants:** TBD

**Number of Workshops:** 20 sessions, with 5 sessions for each of four groups, lasting *three and a half hours each*.

**Lead Trainer:** Roweida Al Ghali

**Facilitator and Assistant for Roweida:** Yara Al Khoury

**First Step:**

- Analyze the data and themes evoked during the focus groups to understand what they are interested in exploring under the umbrella of justice and social activism. This phase will help tailor the workshops to the specific needs and interests of the participants.
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## Second Step:

- **Sessions Breakdown**

1. **Session 1: Introduction & Discovery**

- Aimed at not just sharing names, but also their identities as activists. This session will help discover more about their interests, values, and the potential roadmap for the workshops.
- A series of multi-language exercises (movement, voice, etc.) will be used to activate the group that was formed during the focus group meetings.

2. **Session 2:**

- Introduce custom warm-up exercises based on the data collected during the introductory session.
- Begin shaping the exercises strategy while also understanding each participant's creative and artistic inclinations and preferences. This session will help identify the language they're inclined to adopt—whether in movement, voice, or other forms.

3. **Session 3: Storytelling**

- Based on insights from the first two sessions, introduce a series of storytelling exercises.
- The aim is to shape the final work, focusing on how their personal stories and collective narratives can be explored in a creative and performative manner.

4. **Session 4: Developing the Final Work**

- Focus on developing and rehearsing the final work.
  - This could incorporate various forms of expression such as text, voice, singing, devised movement, storytelling, multimedia installations, and acting.
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## Step 3: Final Rehearsal & Event

- **Session 5: Rehearsals & Event**

- Two hours of rehearsals before the final event
- The culmination of the workshop series—**The Event**—which will showcase the work created by the participants.