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# **1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

## **1.1. Partner country**

Republic of N. Macedonia

## **1.2. Contracting authority**

Center for Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Rural Development (CeProSARD)

## **1.3. Country background**

Considering the needs and constraints of the target country/region the main constraints in the country are lack of knowledge and awareness for social entrepreneurship and lack of cooperation between SEs, public institutions, and private businesses. Moreover, 89 associations and foundations are registered with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (MoLSP) as civil society associations active in social protection, under contract through "Social Agreements", to provide social services. Also, there are 40 social enterprises registered as associations. It can be concluded that the operative SEs registered as associations are almost 130. Around 95% of funding for services provided by SCOs are from foreign donors. Another constraint is the unemployment, especially among vulnerable groups of population. At the end of the first half of 2019, the unemployment rate decreased to a historical minimum of 17.5%, accompanied by a significant decline of the youth unemployment rate. Considering OECD 2021 because of the Covid-19 pandemic this percentage has increased in the last year.

The particular needs and constraints of Republic of N. Macedonia are recognized in the strategic priorities of the National Strategy for development of SEs (2021-2024). From here, the proposed Action is in line with the Strategic priority 2 "Development of capacities of SEs and actors in the ecosystem" including mapping and development of SEs ecosystems; networks and mechanisms for mutual support; individual mentoring support of SEs according to their needs and development level and Strategic priority 3 "Market development" which will be achieved through development of commercial and strategic partnerships with the business sector and encouraging citizens to buy products/services of SEs

## **1.4. Current situation in the sector**

SEs/SCOs, socially vulnerable people and their families and national governmental institutions recognize the critical need for improving capacities of SEs and development of social entrepreneurship. The pandemic mostly affects people belonging to vulnerable social groups (poorer, women, unemployed youth and people with disabilities). There are several reasons for this - the poorer women, unemployed youth and people with disabilities are often employed on temporary or short-term contracts that do not renew in such economic crises. Especially big depression in conditions of Covid-19 pandemic, contributed to a very bad situation on the labor market in North Macedonia. In the second and third quarter of 2020 together, the number of employees (according to the Labor Force Survey) decreased by 25.545 employees, i.e. by 3.1% of the total number of employees. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, large segments of the population are still vulnerable, and suffer from social and economic exclusion. Inequalities persist and are more acute among rural households. The poorest are still left behind and even people who recently improved their standard of living are still vulnerable to falling back into poverty. Social CSOs and SEs work in the field of development and improvement of social services and increase cooperation with local and national institutions. They are employers of the vulnerable people and are oriented towards humanization of society by improving the quality of life, treatment, and education by raising the level of services and

public awareness about the opportunities and needs of all vulnerable people. Their activities ensure that vulnerable people will remain in their own communities, which is critical to establish a range of comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and responsive services for these persons and their families. National governmental institutions that work in the social sector such as the MoLSP develop national policy for social entrepreneurship. The awareness and support of business sector and municipalities is still insufficient especially for inclusion of people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups in the community.

### **1.5. Related programmes and other donor activities**

The synergy of action through the Objective 2 “Support to social enterprises” of the IPA II 2017 Annual Action Programme of the EU which aims at improving operating conditions and capacities of social enterprises in Republic of N. Macedonia, can be seen through numerous initiatives raised and supported by various EU programmes such as IPA II 2017 Action Programme of the EU “Support for Education, Employment and Social Policy Support for the De-institutionalisation Process in Social Sector”, IPA CBC programmes, as well as IPA 2020 “EU for Municipalities” programme. For more than 10 years they remain among the key tools offering assistance related to development; support actions to strengthen the capacities related to their competencies; finding solutions to local problems; support investments in practical solutions, transfer of know-how and experience related to technological, regulatory, social and governance aspects. CeProSARD has in the past and currently is implementing other projects under these programmes. There is no duplication with the projects implemented by the applicant that are aimed to improve the quality of life for the citizens by improving the existing infrastructure and introducing new social services.

## **2. OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE & EXPECTED RESULTS**

### **2.1. Overall objective**

The overall objective of the project of which this contract will be a part is as follows:

to support the development of new and existing social enterprises to enhance their economic independence by following the principle - leave no one behind.

### **2.2. Purpose**

The purpose of this contract is as follows:

To engage qualified expert- Moderator for provision of service to guide and interpret the final event according to the activities promotion and preparation of Final Event of the project “Support to Social Enterprises by following the principle- Leave no one behind”

### **2.3. Results to be achieved by the contractor**

- Procurement of one Moderator that will moderate the final event and prepare a speech to promote the project and to introduce the speakers of the event
- Timesheet for moderating the final event

## **3. ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS**

### **3.1. Assumptions underlying the project**

Experienced and quality consultant available on the market to carry out the tasks in a timely manner.

### **3.2. Risks**

No significant risks are identified in regards to the timely and quality carrying out of this contract.

## **4. SCOPE OF THE WORK**

### **4.1. General**

#### **4.1.1. Description of the assignment**

The assignment within the project “Support to Social Enterprises by following the principle - Leave no one behind” is related to increasing the promotion of the project activities and results.

- The assignment is part of the Activity Working package 4 – WP4 “Promotion and dissemination of project activities and results, sub-activity A4.4. Organising promotional events or promotional video in pandemic situation; A4.4.2. Promotion of Final Event.

This activity is aiming to reach:

- Visibility of the project, its project activities and results.
- Promotion of regranted projects and support socially vulnerable people (people with disabilities, women at risk and long-term unemployed) trough presentation of project activities.

#### **4.1.2. Geographical area to be covered**

Republic of N. Macedonia

#### **4.1.3. Target groups**

The key target group and final beneficiary of the action are the SEs/social CSOs, socially vulnerable people (people with disabilities, women at risk and long-term unemployed) and their families, local businesses, local municipalities and national governmental institutions.

### **4.2. Specific work**

The Consultant will be engaged for:

- Preparation of speech for promotion of project activities and results.
- For provision of service to guide and interpret the final event

### **4.3. Project management**

#### **4.3.1. Responsible body**

Ms. Iskra Kacarska who is acting as Project Manager from CeProSARD will be responsible for overall management of this contract.

#### **4.3.2. Management structure**

The current management structure of the project related to this contrast is as following:

1. Project Manager: Iskra Kacarska from CeProSARD, responsible for the overall management of this service contract including the successful and timely carrying out of tasks by the Consultant.

#### **4.3.3. Facilities to be provided by the contracting authority and/or other parties**

CeProSARD as Coordinator of the project will be responsible to provide the necessary prerequisites and logistical support to the Consultant for successful realization of the assignment. CeProSARD office will be available for all correspondence and consultations matters throughout the Contract duration.

## **5. LOGISTICS AND TIMING**

### **5.1. Location**

Republic of N. Macedonia

### **5.2. Start date & period of implementation of tasks**

The intended start date is 19.09.2023 and the period of implementation of the contract will be 3 days from this date (1 day for preparation for the event, 19<sup>th</sup> 09 2023 the date of the event, 1 day for preparation of timesheet). Please see Articles 19.1 and 19.2 of the special conditions for the actual start date and period of implementation.

## **6. REQUIREMENTS**

### **6.1. Staff**

Note that civil servants and other staff of the public administration of the partner country, or of international/regional organisations based in the country, shall only be approved to work as experts if well justified. The justification should be submitted with the tender and shall include information on the added value the expert will bring as well as proof that the expert is seconded or on personal leave.

The Consultant shall submit CV and portfolio proving the above required capacity and expertise, as well as a financial offer.

#### **6.1.1. Key experts**

The Consultant must have the necessary professional capacity, skills and the required expertise to deliver the expected result.

Qualifications and skills:

- Applicants should have at least 2 years of experience in the field of social aspects
- experience in moderating events.
- Knowledge of the EU visibility guidelines
- Knowledge of English

### **6.1.2. Other experts, support staff & backstopping**

CVs for experts other than the key experts should not be submitted in the call.

The costs for backstopping and support staff, as needed, are considered not to be included in the tenderer's financial offer.

### **6.2. Office accommodation**

The office accommodation for the Consultant working on the contract is Contractor's responsibility.

### **6.3. Facilities to be provided by the contractor**

The Contracting Authority is not obliged to provide any facilities for the Consultant.

### **6.4. Equipment**

No equipment is to be purchased regarding this service contract.

## **7. REPORTS**

### **7.1. Reporting requirements**

No Reports should be submitted.

### **7.2. Submission and approval of reports**

N/A

## **8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

### **8.1. Definition of indicators**

N/A

### **8.2. Special requirements**

N/A