



Terms of Reference for

MID-TERM EVALUATION

for the Project **“Civil Society for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption in Southeast Europe: Capacity Building for Monitoring, Advocacy and Awareness Raising (SELDI)”**

financed by the **European Union**, managed by European Commission

1. BACKGROUND

Contracting Authority

The Contracting Authority is the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC), Executive Secretariat of the Southeast Europe Leadership for Development and Integrity (SELDI).

Beneficiary

The beneficiary of this project is Southeast Europe Leadership for Development and Integrity (SELDI).

Legal Basis

The legal basis for this assignment derives from the Grant Contract no. 2018/394-123, dated as of 09.05.2018 and Addendum No 1 to the Grant Contract no. 2018/394-123 as of 08.02.2019, signed between the European Commission and the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation, where EC has agreed to provide financial support to the project “Civil Society for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption in Southeast Europe: Capacity Building for Monitoring, Advocacy and Awareness Raising (SELDI)” (hereinafter the Project).

Relevant Background

Southeast Europe Leadership for Development and Integrity (SELDI) (www.seldi.net) is an anti-corruption and good governance coalition created in November 2012, currently including 37 members from 11 countries in Southeast Europe (coordinator and executive secretariat, [12 partners and 24 associates](#)).

The project aims to consolidate the efforts and enhance the impact on anticorruption policy making of the premier indigenous regional anticorruption and good governance network - the Southeast European Leadership for Development and Integrity (SELDI.net). The action takes stock of the results and experience of SELDI’s work on anti-corruption in the Western Balkans and Turkey in the past years, as well as of the recommendations of its internal (2016) and external evaluations (2014 and 2016). It aims to implement the



This activity is funded by the European Union.

The views expressed during this activity do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.

Civil Society Strategy and Joint Strategic Programme for Good Governance and Anti-corruption 2020.¹ SELDI strives to: (i) improve the environment and policies concerning CSOs in the region by **tackling civil society capture and loss of trust** in civil society organisations in the region; (ii) **increase networking and build partnerships** with local grass-roots organisations active on anticorruption, across regional thematic networks, and with public organisations implementing the anticorruption policies of the region and at EU level; (iii) strengthen its internal **monitoring and advocacy capacity**, and **increase its effective policy communication** with other stakeholders and the general public.

The Grant Contract was signed on 09.05.2018, and the implementation period commenced on 10.05.2018. Addendum No.1 to the Grant Contract was signed on 08.02.2019. Coordinator of the Action is the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation while twelve partners from WB countries and Turkey are beneficiaries of the Project.

The organizational and implementation structure is shown here below:

Coordinator and technical secretariat: Macedonian Center for International Cooperation, North Macedonia

Methodological Coordinator: Center for Study of Democracy, Bulgaria

WB countries core partners:

- Albanian Center for Economic Research (ACER), Albania
- Center for Contemporary Politics (CCP), Serbia
- Center for Democratic Transition (CDT), Montenegro
- Centers for Civic Initiatives (CCI), Bosnia and Herzegovina
- RIINVEST Institute, Kosovo*

WB countries thematic partners:

- Institut Alternativa (IA), Montenegro
- Institute for Democracy 'Societas Civilis' (IDSCS), North Macedonia
- Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM), Albania
- The association of citizens "Why Not" (ZastoNE), Bosnia and Herzegovina

Support partners:

- Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation (TESEV), Turkey
- Partnership for Social Development (PSD), Croatia

Overall objective of the Project:

Enhance the impact of civil society in public decision-making and reform processes in the Western Balkans in the area of good governance and anti-corruption through evidence-based advocacy, watchdog and policy monitoring, and dialogue with the Governments.

¹ [SELDI, 2016, SELDI Strategy 2020](#)

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence





Specific objectives:

- Strengthen CSOs' capacities for structured civil society dialogue and outreach through networking and cooperation with other CSOs and public authorities at EU, regional, national and local level.
- Influenced policies and produced good governance changes through cooperation, advocacy and dialogue with government structures.
- Increased impact of CSOs' by piloting new approaches and enforcement of relevant laws, strategies and regulations on anti-corruption and good governance through established monitoring systems on corruption, state capture and hidden economy.
- Increased impact of CSOs' monitoring and evidence-based advocacy in the decision-making processes by piloting new approaches to develop and communicate results to the public with focus on state capture and the links between corruption and economic growth.
- Enhanced enforcement of relevant laws, strategies and regulations on anti-corruption and good governance through established monitoring systems on corruption, state capture, and hidden economy, and provision of policy advice.
- Expanded number of anti-corruption supporters among grass-root CSOs through small grants program for capacity building, sharing of information and methodologies.
- Increased impact of CSOs by involving grass-roots CSOs and enhancing the local buy-in on anti-corruption reforms.
- Local actors, the citizens and the media are better aware of and capable of tackling corruption and state capture.
- Efficient project implementation, time-management, strengthened cooperation between the SELDI network members

Overall Duration of the Project is 48 months (10 May 2018 - 9 May 2022).

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

In compliance with the Grant Contract and the Description of the Action (Annex 1 to the Grant Contract), MCIC as Project Coordinator and Technical Secretariat, during the period of implementation and after its completion, shall arrange external evaluations linked to the monitoring of project implementation (mid-term and final, in year 2 and 4 of Project duration), conducting a functional review of the management, implementation and achieved impact of the project. Hence, one interim (mid-term) evaluation shall be carried out during the period of implementation of the programme i.e. after the completion of 2 years of project implementation.

The purpose of this assignment is the following:

- To carry out mid-term evaluation of the Project's achieved impact, the level of the CSOs involvement and the acceptance of the provided policy recommendations. In particular, the process of stakeholders' consultations, reviews and endorsement of the main analytical findings, policy briefs, MACPI reports and the Corruption Assessment Report will be measured as means for improvement the mutual understanding and collaboration between the state and the civil society.



The external evaluation objective is to improve the quality, effectiveness, consistency and the strategy for implementation of the Project, and assist the Project Coordinator and Technical Secretariat and its partners in decision making process related to its functioning, focus and activities for effective and efficient implementation of the Project in the next period.

Requested services regarding the assignment

The evaluator should carry out mid-term implementation evaluation report to assess both the immediate results, as well as the potential impact of the activities undertaken so far. It shall determine the level of progress made towards achievement of the Project overall and specific objectives. The target values of the outputs and deliverables are specified in the activity descriptions of the Description of Action (Annex 1 to the Grant Contract) and in the Logical Framework for the Project (i.e. number of reports, analyses, participants at events, policy recommendations presented, people reached by partners' websites and social media, etc.) and they will be used for measuring immediate results of the activities.

The evaluator should assess several impact indicators, for example:

- Policy recommendations developed and provided to the stakeholders / policy-makers;
- Number of contacted/consulted stakeholders and number of institutions per country approached and engaged with policy change;
- Sustainability achieved through activities financed by other donors (number of proposals and newly funded projects on similar or related topics),
- etc.

The evaluation should be based on:

- statistical information gathered throughout the project's implementation (produced deliverables, number of meetings with policy-makers, established collaborations, number and type of participants at events, social media visibility) and
- interviews (telephone or skype) with the project coordinator and the project partners to assess their policy impact and capacity development as result of the project, as well as complement any missing statistical information.

In addition, the evaluation report should also comment on the quality of the design of the activities and the management of the network; efficiency and effectiveness of the network in relation to achievement of results; implementation and monitoring arrangements, established synergies and collaborations; sustainability of the network; recommendations and lessons learned.

The evaluator is expected to further develop the evaluation methodology, based on the pre-determined target values of the indicators.

Subject of this assignment are the first two years of Project duration (10 May 2018- 9 May 2020).

Required outputs

The evaluator should prepare a report with recommendations. The report should not be more than 15 pages, without the annexes (current values of the target indicators). The evaluator is requested to provide:





- Draft Mid-Term Evaluation Report, prepared and presented for comments, and
- Final Mid-Term Evaluation Report.

The evaluator should develop the structure of the Evaluation report, following the requested services regarding the assignment. It shall however include elaboration of the methodology, conclusions and recommendations.

The official language of this contract is English and all reports, analysis, correspondence and documentation prepared within the Contract should be produced in English.

Nature of Contract: global price contract.

3. EXPERTS' PROFILE

Qualifications and skills

Education at least University degree (where a university degree has been awarded on completion of four years' study in a university or equivalent institution) in the field of politics, economics, law, social-educational political sciences, public administration, business administration or related field.

Professional experience

- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in the field of rule of law, good governance, anti-corruption;
- At least 2 evaluations on project's/ programme results and achievements and/ or evaluation of performance completed
- Experience in evaluation of EU funded programmes/ projects will be considered as an asset;
- Experience in the Western Balkan countries, and knowledge of their local context, will be considered as an asset.

Language skills

- Fluency in written and spoken English language.

4. AWARD CRITERIA

Best value for money.

5. LOCATION AND DURATION

➤ **Location(s) of assignment:**



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The assignment will be home-based. Therefore, the consultant may organize the interviews by telephone, e-mail, skype calls or other options. The Contracting Authority shall make available all necessary information and contact details to the consultant in this respect.

➤ **Starting period**

The tentative starting period is August 2020. The specific start date of the mission will be specified upon contract signature, with an official notification issued by the Contracting Authority with prior agreement with the consultant.

- **Duration:** 1 month (deadlines: the draft mid-term evaluation report shall be prepared and presented for comments 20 days as of starting date of the assignment, and final evaluation report shall be submitted 10 days as of receipt of comments from the Contracting Authority)

6. FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND PAYMENT TERMS

The maximum budget foreseen for this assignment is €1.500.

Payment will be made upon submission of an invoice/ request for payment, subject to the approval of the respective report prepared for the assignment.

7. APPLICATION

How to apply

Applications must be submitted in electronic version in English via email to: seldi@mcms.mk

Deadline

Deadline for submission of application is 17:00 Central European Time on 24.07.2020 (Friday), as evidenced on the e-mail server. Any application received after this deadline will not be considered.

The consultant's offer should contain:

- Expert's CV with references from previous assignments;
- Financial offer.

However, the consultant should be aware that the Contracting Authority may request the provision of supporting documents to confirm the statements given in the CVs and respective documents.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Macedonian Center for International Cooperation, as Contracting Authority represented by:

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