



Terms of Reference

“Develop data collection and monitoring system for Ombudsman and CSOs on violence against children”

Advocacy Consultant for VAC

1. BACKGROUND

When it comes to violence against children, it is a challenge to know the exact numbers, as these types of crime remain unreported and data collection methods among institutions that handle such cases are inconsistent. Moreover, comprehensive mechanisms and capacities to monitor and report VAC related issues also lack. In addition, the state does not have a complete system for providing effective protection and justice for particular groups of children such as street children, children drug-users and children with educational and social problems for whom the risk of violence and abuse is higher. The 2012 Ombudsman report on child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation¹ of children confirms discrepancy in obtaining reliable data of the actual number of child victims of sexual violence per institution or organization; for example, the Courts reported 192 children victims, Public Prosecutor 312, Ministry of Interior 322 and the Centre for Social Work 243. According to a UNICEF study,² almost 69% of children age 2-14 were exposed to “violent discipline” (physical or psychological abuse) at home. 52% experienced physical and 56% experienced psychological punishment (being yelled at, insulted or humiliated). The competences of the Ombudsman are indisputable, however there are limits in its mandate restricting the scope of services such as investigative capacities to assess facts on the ground and capacities to engage in direct work with a child in need. The latter however is covered mainly by CSOs.

2. OBJECTIVE

The programme proposes to establish an effective mechanism for continuous monitoring of VAC for the Ombudsman office and CSOs, through joint developing, testing and operationalization of a monitoring tool. This would be complemented with CSOs’ networking, capacity building and training personnel in data collection, monitoring and advocacy, and identifying roles and areas for monitoring and reporting. The programme is expected to build a coherent system that would ensure independent observation and reporting on VAC, improved capacity of the Ombudsman office and the CSOs to monitor VAC, identify main barriers in access to and efficiency of the institutional services provided to children victims of violence and their families, as well as areas where stronger support for children victims of violence is needed.

3. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

¹ ИЗВЕШТАЈОД СПРОВЕДЕНОТО ИСТРАЖУВАЊЕ ЗА ПОЈАВИТЕ НА СЕКСУАЛНАЗЛОУПОТРЕБА И СЕКСУАЛНА ЕКСПЛУАТАЦИЈА НА ДЕЦАТА,2012<http://ombudsman.mk/upload/Deca-Dokumenti/Kniga-Istrazuvanje%20deca-2012%20PFormat.pdf>

² Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2011 https://www.unicef.org/tfymacedonia/MICS_ENG_FINAL_websize.pdf



The overall duties and responsibilities of the consultancy will be to develop an “Advocacy Plan” for Civil Society Organizations participating in the monitoring mechanism for VAC. The consultant will be expected to conduct one-day workshop to consult with CSOs and identify priority areas for advocacy. The consultant will be expected to work with CSOs and Project Management team and give input to the CSOs Declaration.

4. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

- Total of 3 working days in the period of 1 month

5. SPECIFIC TASKS AND DELIVERABLES

- Facilitate workshop to consult with CSO’s and identify priority areas for advocacy. The workshop will rely on participatory methods and brainstorming sessions
- Prepare and submit final CSO advocacy report workshop, providing recommendations for the future advocacy activities identified; The format and content of the report will be additionally defined in agreement with La Strada
- Share the report with CSOs
- Provide input and comments to the CSOs Declaration
- Establish and maintain close cooperation with the project management team and the key experts involved in the project;

6. QUALIFICATIONS:

- Formal university education in the field of social science or another related field.
- Extensive work experience and proven record in advocacy, policy, campaign, strategic management.
- Demonstrate experience of having undertaken similar assignments
- Good communication and facilitation skills
- Excellent analytical, research and capacity building skills;
- Experience with analyses of group dynamics and relations and conducting workshops and trainings;
- Relevant personal skills like neutrality, ability to communicate and to define and clarify issues;
- Good documentation/report writing skills
- Cultural awareness and sensitivity to child protection issues



7. REMUNERATION

Payments shall be made in MKD into the bank account notified by the Consultant to the Contracting organization. The gross amount of the fee is 21 000MKD.

8. TO APPLY:

- All interested individuals are required to submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae listing relevant qualifications and background;
- The interested candidates should submit their application to: lastrada@lastrada.org.mk to the attention of Marija Todorovska - Program Director; by 3rd of May, 2018, 17:00 hrs. CET