

TERMS OF REFERENCE

For elaboration of an analysis on opportunities about the implementation of the EU economic governance principles within the EU grant project “EU-grant project “Inform, Empower, Act. Civil Society for good budgetary governance in Republic of Moldova”

General framework

Independent Analytical Center “Expert-Grup”, as lead partner, in consortium with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung e.V. (KAS, Germany), Eastern Europe Studies Centre (EESC, Lithuania) and Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE, Republic of Moldova) are implementing since February 2019 the EU-grant project “Inform, Empower, Act. Civil Society for good budgetary governance in Republic of Moldova.”

The general objective of the project is to enhance civil society contribution to higher transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of budgetary formation and execution at the local level through participation and oversight.

Specific objectives:

1. To increase the level of information, awareness and motivation among the population and civil society at the local level about the budgetary process: importance of analyzing the local budgets, discussing spending priorities, monitoring the budgetary execution, with emphasis on procurements for large investment projects;
2. To empower the population and civil society at the local level with appropriate knowledge, tools and frameworks to take a more active role in consultations, contribution and oversight of the local public policies and budgets;
3. To enhance the involvement of the population and civil society in public policy development, budgetary process, monitoring and oversight activities of the public spending.

About the assignment

Although, most of the project activities are focused at the local level, an important component of the project is related to advocating for policy change at the central level, in order to ensure an enabling environment across the entire country for budgetary transparency, participation and inclusiveness.

Therefore, the project envisages to hire a team of consultants for conducting a comprehensive assessment about the dynamic of governance and reforms in Moldova related to the budgetary framework. Taking into account that the budgetary framework is dependent on economic and social sectors, the paper will also include the analysis of recent trends and forecasts of key economic and social indicators of Moldova. The analysis will be conducted by the lead implementing partner of the project - Independent Analytical Center “Expert-Grup” – and will be published under its flagship publication “MEGA – Moldovan Economic Growth Analysis”.

The paper will have the following structure (the titles of some chapters could be adjusted during the elaboration of the paper):

1. Key messages of the publication;
2. Executive summary;
3. Analysis of the budgetary process in Moldova and recent trends in public finances;
4. Households;
5. Firms;
6. Financial institutions;
7. Prices and monetary policy;

8. External sector.

Each chapter will include three sub-chapters: (i) main developments; (ii) short- and medium-term forecast; and (iii) main risks and challenges.

Importantly, the experts, in developing their analyses, will have to apply the provisions and principles of the toolkits on budgetary transparency and participation that were developed by the team of the project “Inform, Empower, Act. Civil Society for good budgetary governance in Republic of Moldova” project.

The dimensions of human rights, gender balance and environment protection will also be analyzed across all chapters. In this regards, the experts will take into account the available disaggregated data on gender and vulnerable groups (e.g. poor, rural population, disabled etc.) and will take into account the risks and implications of climate change and environment on economic and social dynamics of the country.

The publication will be written in a clear, concise and well-structured language. The experts will resort to the available statistical data from official sources (primarily, National Bureau of Statistics, National Bank of Moldova and the Ministry of Finance), as well as will conduct desk research of other relevant surveys and analyses conducted by the IMF, World Bank, Moody's and other relevant organizations.

Deliverables:

The team of experts will develop two deliverables:

1. The publication “MEGA – Moldovan Economic Growth Analysis” focused on comprehensive assessment about the dynamic of governance and reforms in Moldova related to the budgetary framework.
2. The final presentation of the publication, which will be delivered during a public event.

Composition of the team and management structure

The team will be coordinated by the project team leader and will be composed of 3 domestic senior experts and 2 domestic junior experts. The distribution of tasks will be the following:

1. Key messages of the publication (*team leader and the entire team*);
2. Executive summary (*team leader and the entire team*)
3. Analysis of the budgetary process in Moldova and recent trends in public finances (*domestic senior expert no. 1*);
4. Households (*domestic junior expert no. 1*);
5. Firms (*domestic junior expert no. 2*);
6. Financial institutions (*domestic senior expert no. 2*);
7. Prices and monetary policy (*domestic junior expert no. 1*);
8. External sector (*domestic senior expert no. 3*).

Allocation of man-days per domestic experts will be the following:

- Domestic senior expert no. 1 – 8 days;
- Domestic senior expert no. 2 – 8 days;
- Domestic senior expert no. 3 – 8 days;
- Domestic junior expert no. 1 – 15,5 days;
- Domestic junior expert no. 2 – 12 days.

Timeline of project activities

Kick-off meeting of the project – January 4, 2021

Desk review of key trends and elaboration an overview for each chapter – January 8, 2021

Developing the first draft of the analysis – January 15, 2021

Developing the final draft of the analysis – January 28, 2021

Final presentation – January 28, 2021.

Requirements for the senior experts

- Master degree in economic areas, public administration, finances or other relevant areas;
- At least 4 years of experience in monitoring and evaluation of public policies;
- At least 4 years of experience in developing policy studies in economic areas, public administration, finances or other relevant areas;
- At least 4 years of experience in working with statistical data for conducting policy research in the above-mentioned fields.
- Knowledge of concepts of budgetary participation and participatory budgeting.
- Knowledge of the concepts of gender-based budgeting.
- Knowledge of the concepts of territorial approach to budgeting.
- Excellent team work and communication skills.
- Excellent public communication and presentation skills.

Requirements for the junior experts

- Master degree in economic areas, public administration, finances or other relevant areas;
- At least 2 years of experience in monitoring and evaluation of public policies;
- At least 2 years of experience in developing policy studies in economic areas, public administration, finances or other relevant areas;
- At least 2 years of experience in working with statistical data for conducting policy research in the above-mentioned fields.
- Knowledge of concepts of budgetary participation and participatory budgeting.
- Knowledge of the concepts of gender-based budgeting.
- Knowledge of the concepts of territorial approach to budgeting.
- Excellent team work and communication skills.
- Excellent public communication and presentation skills.

Submission of CVs

Interested candidates should submit their CVs in English, along with examples of at least 3 policy papers elaborated during the last 3 years, by email: procurari@expert-grup.org. Deadline for submission: December 30, 2020, 17.00.