



RURAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK  
OF NORTH MACEDONIA

## **Terms of Reference for consultant for evaluation of project applications in the frame of Sub granting Scheme**

### **1. Background**

The project “**Institutional Support of the Rural Development Network of the Republic of Macedonia and its Members**” supported by We Effect started in September 2018. The overall goal of the project is empowering of RDN of RM and its rural members, woman and men, to be an important contributor in the democratic processes of participatory oriented governance, civic engagement and adjustment to the challenges of EU integration.

The project is designed to deliver concrete results over three years period of implementation and address the principle concern through the achievement of the following four objectives:

1. To increase RDN’s institutional capacities as well as the management and organization capacities of RDN member organizations;
2. To strengthen the institutional cooperation between the RDN member organizations and other community stakeholders based on the LEADER approach;
3. To improve RDN member organizations skills for project design, implementation and fundraising through implementation of sub granting schemes and carrying out small-scale projects via the existing Project Mechanism instrument; and
4. To strengthen the voice of rural women through evidence-based advocacy and promotion of rural women’s rights.

The project will first map the needs of the RDN and its member organizations. The subsequent components of the project will strengthen RDN institutional capacities and its member organizations, direct them towards development priorities in their areas and empower them to generate change. Special focus will be dedicated to strengthen the foundations of the member organizations that rely on good governance principles of transparency, accountability, inclusiveness and on sound internal management system. Simultaneously, a series of activities will be carried out with the aim of improving the local environment where rural CSOs operate and the cooperation with regional and local authorities as well as with other stakeholders. The member organizations will be supported to build on to the innovative EU LEADER approach and encourage them to become part of Local Action Groups, an initiative that will create sustainable rural partnerships in match with EU accession criteria. This will increase the participation of RDN members in decision making processes and boost their local activities. They will be involved in development of local rural strategies and programs stimulating the processes of participative democracy for initiating dialogue between all local stakeholders. Through the implementation of the project RDN will utilize a project management model called Project Mechanism, intended to raise and strengthen capacities of RDN member organizations regarding project management practices. The Project Mechanism will introduce standardized and systematized procedure as a support in preparing and implementation of small projects according to the project cycle methodology.

The project will be focused on improving of rural women’s contribution to rural development in order to empower and position women as important and equal economic actor at the farm level, business and local rural development. The aim of RDN will be to create awareness regarding the important role of rural women in decision making and strengthening negotiating power of women in the rural society.



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## **2. Objective of the assignment**

RDN in the process of capacity building of its member organisations will support them to implement projects as a grant scheme. The implementation of the projects will be through Sub-Granting Scheme. The RDN members through the sub-granting scheme will strengthen their capacity in project proposal writing, project cycle management and project monitoring and evaluation.

The objective of the assignment is to evaluate and rank the project proposals that will be submitted by the set deadline.

## **3. Tasks**

The consultant is expected to undertake the following tasks for achieving the consultancy:

- a. Individual assessment of the applications (including the Logical Framework for Grants Type – 1), and other relevant project documentation in accordance with the specific requirements which are stated in the Guidelines for the Call.
- b. To prepare an individual report which will include assessment of each application (both narrative and grades with points) regarding the relevance, effectiveness and feasibility of the projects, sustainability, budget and efficiency ;
- c. To create final report which will include evaluation from both evaluators and final ranking of the applications.

## **4. Consultant Skills and Experience Required**

The consultant must have previous experience in similar assignments specifically as follows:

- Comprehensive understanding of the work of NGOs;
- Practical experience in project proposals evaluation ;
- Good communication and team work skills;
- Confidentiality in evaluation;
- Good public relations background;
- Experience in providing reports in English.

## **5. Timeframe**

The assignment should be accomplished in May, 2020.

## **6. Estimated workload**

Five (5) consultancy days

## **7. Evaluation criteria**

Price and competence

## **8. Terms of payment**

The payment will be done after completion of the assignment

## **9. Declaration of relationships** (Describe if you/ your organisation/employees have any business or personal relationships connected to We Effect/RDN)