

TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCOPE OF SERVICES

METHODOLOGY FOR PRICING SOCIAL SERVICES

I. BACKGROUND

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia(GOM) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development signed a loan for implementing the Macedonia Social Services Improvement Project (SSIP).

The SSIP development objective is to expand access to and improve the quality of social services, including preschool services, for vulnerable groups.

The Social Services Improvement Project will help address the challenges that are particularly associated with social exclusion of vulnerable groups and the low quality and fragmentation of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and social services.

The project will contribute to the GoM's ultimate objectives of alleviating poverty and enhancing human capital by strengthening the overall social protection delivery system and access to services by existing social assistance recipients and other vulnerable groups. Also the Project shall help alleviating poverty and enhancing human capital by investing in quality early learning for preschool children and their families and by supporting the transition into primary education.

II. SPECIFIC BACKGROUND

The ongoing reform of the Social Protection System and the new Laws on Social Protection and on Child Protection shall strengthen the overall social protection delivery system through improved service provision and access to services by existing social assistance recipients and by vulnerable groups not currently covered. In 2020 the Methodology for determine the prices for services in depending on the standards and norms for giving social services delivering and Decision for prices of social services for 2020 were adopted from MoLSP. According to article 10 of the Law on Social Protection the MoLSP sets prices for social protection services on an annual basis. . Based on these regulations a pricing list for social services needs to be revised and a new pricing decision for 2021 is to be adopted.

III. MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSINGMENT

General objective is to provide support to the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy in its efforts to define/the cost list for establishment of social services, to revise the prices of services provided in the 2020 decision and to calculate the new prices for new services.

IV. SPECIFIC TASKS

Reviewing current methodology for the establishment of social services in order to development of a new cost list for the establishment of social services.

When reviewing the methodology, special attention should be paid to following:

- take into account the experiences and challenges faced by stakeholders in using/implementing the existing methodology
- The structure and criteria for determining the costs (per beneficiary, days, hours, etc)

Specific tasks of the consultant

Expert services shall refer to the development of a methodology for pricing of social services, and they shall include:

- Draft new costs lists for establishing of the social services and propose a cost structure per service;
- Revision of the existing Methodology for Delivering of the Social Services in accordance with the law on social protection;
- Revision of the prices of services provided in the Decision for 2020
- Revision of the pricing list-Calculation of costs for establishment and delivery of social services identified in the Law on Social Protection with recommendations for cost calculation criteria (per beneficiary or per hour):
 1. Professional help and support services - foster care support services
 2. Counseling services;
 3. Community Support Services
 - Temporary residence services
 4. Outside-family services
 - Foster care
- Upon the submission of the final documents, the contractor shall deliver training on how to use methodology through five existing examples to respective departments from MLSP.
- Advice the MLSP in preparation of bylaw for type and scope of the services paid by the beneficiaries and the amount of their participation in the costs of services

V. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

The consultant shall produce the following outputs:

- New Costs List for Establishing of the Social Services and cost structure per service: minimum service standard;
- Revised Pricing list for delivery of social services for 2021 identified in the Decision for prices of social services for 2020 with recommendations for costs (per beneficiary or per hour/day).
- Revised pricing list for establishment and delivery of:
 1. Professional help and support services – foster care support services
 2. Counseling services,
 3. Community Support Services
 - temporary residence services

All reports in English and Macedonian must be sent for approval to the MLSP Social Department and SSIP Project Management Unit.

VI. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Bachelor degree in economy, mathematics, statistics, or similar. MA or PhD is an asset;
2. At least 10 years of experience in developing methodologies, studies, analysis and research preferably including with focus on social issues;
3. Experience in determination and pricing of social services or other services/measures for vulnerable categories (at least one task similar to the scope of the assignment);
4. Experience in work with ministries and other state institutions is an asset;

Selection method and contract: The selection method is Individual Consultant Selection and the contract shall be Lump sum according to the World Bank Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers – Procurement in IPF of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, (Regulations) issued in July 2016, revised November 2017., www.worldbank.org.

VII.DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The planned date for commencement of services is November 20, 2020. The duration of the assignment shall be 2 months.