

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Legal and Budgetary Possibilities

#### Assessment for increasing governmental subsidies

### 1. Background

SOS Children's Villages Albania (SOS CV AL), was established in 1995, it has been active in the field of social protection through provision of direct care services for children and young people without parental care, as well community based services for families at risk. The mission of our work is to ensure that every child grows with love, security and respect.

SOS CV AL operates in Albania with 2 main programs:

1. Family Based Care (FBC) offering care for 117 children and young people. Uniquely, we provide long-term, family-like care for children who have lost parental care. The FBC programme units are usually organized in the form of a cluster of SOS families, where a SOS caregiver cares for small groups of children.
2. Family Strengthening Program (FSP) supporting 763 children/young people and 285 families. We work with vulnerable families and communities to help strengthen them and prevent child abandonment. Through our family strengthening activities, SOS CV AL helps families look after themselves by providing material support, childcare, education, counselling - whatever is needed so that families can become self-reliant and stay together. Only in this way can we ensure that children are not abandoned and that they can grow up with dignity and security in their own families.

Since 2009 these programs are supported by Advocacy Campaigns for Child Rights. At SOS CV AL, advocacy is taking action to improve policies and practices that undermine the well-being of children and young people at risk of losing parental care or who have lost parental care.

### 2. Purpose of the assessment

*This assessment will contribute to SOS CV AL by providing feasible information concerning the country's status on social services and in particular those related to children that have lost parental care or at risk of losing it. Our maximum goal is to increase the share of **Governmental subsidies** in the total amount of SOS CV AL local income by creating a strategy using this assessment as one of the core tools. The strategy aim is to empower organization in establishment of cooperation and partnership with Governments in order to increase level of government subsidies and improve the lives of children and families.*

### 3. Key topics/questions for the assessment

- Analysis of relevant regional and national strategies and policy documents
- What are the government's priorities in social welfare?
- Service providers in the country working with our target group
- Analysis of state budget in the country in social sphere
- Mechanisms and models for public financial mechanisms (government or local budget allocations mechanisms)
- SOS CV AL registration and operation framework
- Advocacy & networks, advocacy through partnership and networking in country

- Challenges and opportunities to increase access to government subsidies.

*Main research question:* in the particular contexts, how an organization which is providing social services, including alternative care provision and preventive services, can access better partnership with the authorities in delivering support to children and young people and how public funding can be ensured for such partnership

#### **4. Assessment approach**

The main approach of this assessment is to respond in the most complete and accurate way each of the TOR questions, in order to provide the organization with feasible information that helps the process of developing a national subsidies strategy and hence, the increase of the governmental contributions. It's vital not to just summarize data but interpret the meaning of this information according to the national context for the organizational goal.

#### **5. Expected deliverables:**

External evaluation expert will commit to the following key deliverables:

1. Assessment design – contains the assessment framework; detailed methodology; work plan and budget
2. Developed assessment tools
3. Draft report of assessment
4. Final report of assessment

#### **6. Time frame**

The evaluation will be carried out during the period April 2018 – June 2018

#### **7. Payment schedule**

The payment will be done after the completion of the evaluation and submission of the Final Evaluation Report in English and Albanian language, to SOS Children's Villages, Albania.

#### **8. Profile and tasks of the external consultant**

##### **Profile of the consultant/agency**

- proven competency and experience in monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment
- a social science background is preferable
- a good understanding of development work and partnerships
- good facilitation and interpersonal skills
- proven experience or participatory evaluation and data collection methods
- strong skills in coordinating teamwork
- strong analytical and conceptual skills
- excellent writing and communication skills in English and local language.
- ability to transfer complex concepts/ideas into practical and simple language
- should have knowledge of how child welfare system is organized in the country and to have a good understanding on public financial mechanisms
- ideally experience in organising research processes with/for SOS Children's Villages

## **9. Application procedure**

Interested candidates and/or institutions are requested to submit in English Language:

- A Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of interest
- Methodology of conducting the study with relevant cost of the study

The application deadline is 25 April 2018, these documents should be sent via e-mail to [info@soskd.org.al](mailto:info@soskd.org.al)

For any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at: [info@soskd.org.al](mailto:info@soskd.org.al)