

TERMS OF REFERENCES

Job title: International Expert to support the consolidation of Moldovan Local Action Groups as role-models for specific sectors

Contract type: Contract of Services Provider

Period of assignment: December, 2020

Estimation of the work-load: 7 working days

1. BACKGROUND

Since 2017 Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova in partnership with the National LEADER Network in the Republic of Moldova contributes to creation of a supportive environment for functioning and development of the Local Action Groups and LEADER approach in Moldova, and through that supports sustainable development and modernization of rural areas in the country. Solidarity Fund understands that the LAGs have potential to become important stakeholders that might deliver innovation to rural communities. Thus the Fund intends to launch a call for proposals for Moldovan Local Action Groups to support the selected LAGs (3-6) in piloting innovative instruments for sustainable rural development through the LAGs as local development entities. The Fund will be launched by the end of 2020 within the EU & Polish Aid financed project „*LEADER approach for rural prosperity in Moldova.*”

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE SERVICES

The purpose of the consultancy is to support Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova team in consolidation of the Moldovan LAGs as possible role-models for specific sectors / topics that might effectively contribute to rural development in the country. The role of the expert is to provide good international practices – practical examples – in order to inspire the LAGs’ management in developing concept for the LAGs as role-models for rural development in the LAG territory.

The expert will take part in defining the concept of the Fund and will be involved during the information sessions which will be held prior to a restricted call for proposals launch. The Fund will co-finance three LAG initiatives. The role of the Expert is to identify (approx. 15) examples of LAGs / local development processes managed by the LAGs that might be adopted to local context and could serve as an inspiration for Moldovan LAGs willing to apply for financing within the call.

During this mission the expert will provide the following:

- Conducting a research and assessment on identifying good practices of the LAGs that implement innovative tools for local development in the LAG territory;
- Analysing the applicable practices for Moldovan LEADER environment;
- Providing at least 15 concrete examples of good practices that can be embraced by the Moldovan LAGs (incl. implementation modality);
- Based on the research and assessment results, identify potential negative precedents of the implemented practices and provide a list of possible risks;
- Drafting and conducting a presentation which will compile the collected data;
- Providing one workshop for the LAGs and two working meetings with the Fund Team in order to create an environment that fosters innovative thinking for the LAG managers;
- Elaborating a brief activity report by the end of the mission;
- Ensuring the high quality of the provided services which will impact not only the current project but also the future multiplication of role models.

The activities will be implemented on-line (info session and working meetings with the team of Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova).

3. COMPETENCIES

- Demonstrates excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Works effectively with people from different backgrounds;
- Facilitates and encourages open communication;
- Shares knowledge and experience and contributes to the understanding of the LAGs as role-models philosophy;
- Demonstrates good knowledge of the LEADER approach;
- Encourages and promotes community mobilizing and efficient use of local resources;
- Shares the vision for sustainable local development based on solidarity, subsidiarity and people-oriented approach as principles of operation.

4. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The expert should have background in local economic development. Experience in implementing or assisting community development processes will be a strong advantage.

In particular:

- University degree in economic studies, development studies or related disciplines;
- In depth knowledge of the LEADER approach;
- Knowledge of Romanian or Russian is an advantage;
- Computer proficiency, including knowledge of MS Office products;
- High level of responsibility and organisation capacities;
- Excellent communication and reporting skills in English;
- Capacity to communicate efficiently with specific stakeholders;
- Experience within community development programs;
- Hands-on experience in capacity building.

5. KEY ACTIVITIES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The expected deliverables in the given period are:

- One elaborated brief survey;
- At least one (1) discussion with the Fund Team on the context and introduction to the service;
- At least one (1) workshop on role-model practices provided for the Project Team;
- At least one (1) workshop on role-models practices provided for the LAGs managers;
- A drafted list of recommendations and possible risks;
- Report on undertaken activities.

The timeframe for the delivery of each activity/output shall be coordinated and agreed in advance with the team of Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova and other implementation partners.

6. BENEFITS OF THE ROLE

- An excellent opportunity to get involved in small-scale development projects and to directly influence ongoing local processes;
- Contribution to the successful implementation of the rural development Moldovan LEADER approach;
- Work in a team of a young, energetic, enthusiastic people;
- The possibility to work on other community/local development projects implemented by Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova in the future.

The expert will work under the supervision of the Project coordinators from Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova and will work in close cooperation with the LAG manager.

7. SERVICE COST

According to the internal Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova procedures the maximum daily-fee for the international expert cannot exceed EUR 300 (gross).

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Application shall be sent by e-mail to hr@solidarityfund.md with the subject line – *Role-models expert*, no later than **1 December, 12:00 (EST time) 2020** and shall contain:

- CV in English, Romanian or Russian;
- Brief experience description and brief introduction to the vision of the task/service
- Price offer.

In case of questions please contact our representative at the following email cristina.gonta@solidarityfund.md.

9. SELECTION PROCESS

The criteria for selection process are following:

- price – 30 points;
- relevant background – 50 points;
- relevant experience in community mobilization – 20 points.

** The personal data will be processed by Solidarity Fund PL for the employment purposes only. The data will not be sent to third parties without the preliminary agreement of the persons that entrusted us with their data.*