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EU4Youth

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Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

“Landscape Analysis of Social Entrepreneurship in Georgia identifying key gaps, challenges, and characteristics, to support improvement of ecosystem in place through transferring and contextualizing best practices (Estonian expertise)”

For the project:

“Social Entrepreneurship and Enhanced Development-Based Skills-SEEDS- in Georgia and Ukraine” funded by the European Union

Terms of Reference

2024



Contents

Introduction	3
Project Overview	3
General Information	3
Project Summary	3
1. Research Summary	4
2. Research purpose and objectives	5
3. Research Methodology	6
4. Time Plan and Deliverables	6
5. Logistics	7
6. Ethical considerations	7
7. Itemized budget	7
8. Professional requirements for the consultant/institution/company	7
9. Application package to be submitted by applying organization	8



Introduction

DRC (Danish Refugee Council), founded in Denmark in 1956, is Denmark's largest and the world's leading non-profit, independent, rights-based refugee organization. Organization's vision is to assist refugees, internally displaced people, and their host communities to a dignified life. DRC protects lives and human rights and empowers beneficiaries throughout conflict displacement by providing shelter, food, and hope in terms of work, education, and integration towards a sustainable future. Since 1998, programmes in the South Caucasus are designed through a "protection lens", ensuring that all activities integrate protection principles. As such, organization will continue to work on expanding its knowledge and ensure durable solutions are provided to IDPs, returnees and host communities, and as well as make IDPs, returnees, host communities and persons in a refugee-like situation aware of and actively claim their rights, through legal assistance and awareness raising.

Project Overview

General Information

Project title: Social Entrepreneurship and Enhanced Development-based Skills-SEEDS- in Georgia and Ukraine

Donor: European Union

Implementing Agencies: DRC Georgia, Youth Innovations Center (YIC), Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA), Tallinn University, Association ATINATI, Mariupol Youth Union (MYU).

Locations: Georgia and Ukraine

Duration: 18 months

Project Summary

Overall objective: Placing Social Entrepreneurship at the core of an integrated State - CSO response framework to systemically promote the inclusion of disadvantaged youth and contribute poverty reduction in Georgia and Ukraine following a Go Green and Go Digital agenda.

The project builds upon the collected evidence, experience and lessons learnt from the first phase of EU4Youth action during which DRC in Georgia and Ukraine as of December 2018 till September 2021, in partnership with the Mariupol Youth Union in Eastern Ukraine and one partner in Imereti region in Georgia tested innovative dual skills development schemes for vulnerable youth NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training). The project also establishes a strong connection with the expected roll out in Georgia as of January 2023 of the World Bank-UNHCR founded initiative Ultra-Poor Graduation (UPG)



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approach which accompanies most vulnerable segments of the population in their trajectory out of poverty through long-term multifaceted interventions in an integrated manner.

The project will pay a specific attention to reduce structural gaps by engaging strategically on the path of social entrepreneurship mainly through the establishment of innovative incubators in partnership with the Youth Innovations Centre (YIC), the Georgian State Legal Entity under Public Law GITA (Georgia’s Innovation and Technology Agency) and the local NGO Atinati in Georgia, the Tallin University in Estonia with its instrumental link with the local development program NULA Incubator and finally the Mariupol Youth Union (MYU) in Ukraine for scaling up purposes.

The project will work under the two major outcome:

Outcome 1: To create an institutionalized competence framework at state level in Georgia to position with participation of CSOs Social Entrepreneurship at the center of youth inclusion and career management policy in Georgia in anticipation of a viable replication to Ukraine in support of its recovery efforts.

Outcome 2: To pilot in Georgia based on one newly defined competence framework an innovative social entrepreneurship incubator model and career management paradigm in the green and digital economy as a foundation for the adoption of more integrated youth entrepreneurship trajectories in Georgia and Ukraine

1. Research Summary

Programme/Project	Social Entrepreneurship and Enhanced Development-Based Skills-SEEDS- in Georgia and Ukraine
Programme Phase	November 15, 2023 – May 15, 2025
Research Purpose	The purpose of the research is to analyse landscape of Social Entrepreneurship in Georgia identify key gaps, challenges, and characteristics, to support improvement of ecosystem in place through transferring and contextualizing best practices (Estonian expertise)
Primary Methodologies	Mixed methods design (survey analysis; KII Interviews, FGD, desk research)
Research Start and End Dates	March 25, 2024 – May 10, 2024
Anticipated Final Research Report Release Date	May 17, 2024



2. Research purpose and objectives

The **purpose** of this research is to conduct a comprehensive landscape analysis of social entrepreneurship in Georgia. The analysis aims to identify key gaps, challenges, and characteristics within the social entrepreneurship ecosystem to support the improvement of the existing ecosystem. The goal is to transfer and contextualize best practices (Estonian expertise) to enhance the sustainability and effectiveness of social entrepreneurship initiatives in Georgia.

Objectives:

To Assess the Current State of Social Entrepreneurship in Georgia:

- Conduct a desk review and evaluate the current landscape of social entrepreneurship in Georgia. This includes examining the involvement of key stakeholders, organizations, and networks, as well as existing policies, regulations, and funding sources.

To Identify Key Gaps and Challenges:

- Identify and analyze the key gaps and challenges faced by social entrepreneurship in Georgia. This includes exploring legal and regulatory barriers, lack of access to finance, capacity-building needs, and market barriers that hinder the growth and sustainability of social enterprises.

To Explore Opportunities for Improvement:

- Build upon the identified challenges and gaps to identify opportunities for improvement within the social entrepreneurship ecosystem in Georgia. This involves identifying potential solutions and strategies to address the challenges and promote the growth and sustainability of social entrepreneurship initiatives.

To Transfer and Contextualize Best Practices (Estonian Expertise):

- Utilize the findings of the landscape analysis to transfer and contextualize best practices, Estonian expertise in social entrepreneurship to the Georgian context. This involves adapting successful models, approaches, and strategies from Estonia to address the specific needs and challenges faced by social entrepreneurs in Georgia.

To Provide Key Findings and Recommendations:

- Compile the research findings into a comprehensive analytical report. This report will include key findings, insights, and recommendations for improvement of the social entrepreneurship ecosystem in Georgia. These recommendations will serve as a basis for further developments and interventions aimed at promoting the growth and sustainability of social entrepreneurship in the country.



By achieving these objectives, the research aims to contribute to the creation of a more conducive environment for social entrepreneurship in Georgia, thereby fostering sustainable development, promoting social inclusion, and addressing pressing societal challenges for diverse vulnerable groups.

Important Note:

*The study echoes the AGDM (Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming) policy of DRC – The Research report should be gender sensitive. Vulnerability, age and gender issues should be taken into account in the study/research, interpretation of results/findings and recommendations.

*The study echoes the GDPR policy - Research process should follow GDPR policy. Data collected as part of the research (personal information of KII and FGD participants) must be deleted/cleaned after the study is completed by contracted consultant/institution/company.

3. Research Methodology

The Danish Refugee Council in Georgia will select a local research consultant/institution/company to conduct the research. The research will be carried out through a desk review, KIIs and FGDs with relevant key stakeholders. Target areas for this research is Georgia and Estonia.

Research methods are selected in accordance with the specific objectives and indicators. Possible key respondents, detailed data source and methods, Key questions, as well as the tools (KII and FGD Guideline) of the research will be developed by the selected consultant/institution/company in close cooperation with DRC Georgia.

4. Time Plan and Deliverables

The research is expected to be carried out over an overall total of approximately 30 days. The following table outlines the main deliverables of this research:

Key Deliverables:	
Deliverable 1	Inception report including detailed work plan, before April 1, 2024.
Deliverable 2	The final draft research report by May 10, 2024 (either in Georgian or in English).
Deliverable 3	Final research report agreed with the DRC (in both languages, English and Georgian) May 17, 2024.



A detailed work plan needs to be developed by the contracted organization and agreed upon with DRC. Acceptance will be acknowledged only if the deliverables are judged to be in accordance with the requirements set out in the contract, to reflect agreements reached and plans submitted during the contract process and incorporate or reflect consideration of amendments proposed by DRC. Deliverables will be regarded as delivered when they have been received electronically by the Evaluation Manager and confirmed acceptance of them.

5. Logistics

The fieldwork logistics will be organized by the researcher and supported by the project team.

6. Ethical considerations

To ensure that ethical principles are considered, the following steps should be completed:

Informed consent will be received from participants before they take part. This means that before they agree to take part, the evaluator will explain to them exactly what is the study about and what they are being asked to do, how/why they were selected as the respondents, and what the information will be used for; will inform them that, even if they agree to take part, they can change their mind at any time, without giving an explanation.

Maintain Anonymity by removing the respondents' names, as well as other information that can help to identify people.

Respect the privacy and confidentiality of respondents participating in research through considering of how much information the respondent wants to reveal or share, and with whom; privacy in the processes of information gathering/data collection and storage that allows the exchange of information to be confidential to those involved.

Research consultant/institution/company involved in the process will sign CoC.

7. Itemized budget

Overall budget and detailed budget breakdown to be proposed by the applicant.

8. Professional requirements for the consultant/institution/company

The research will be conducted by a consultant/institution/company. The selection of the consultant/institution/company will be based on the qualifications and experience of potential candidates as described in their expression of interest for the assignment.

The research consultant/institution/company staff should have:



Expertise in Social Entrepreneurship and Ecosystem Analysis (or relevant fields) would be an asset. A minimum of 5 years of experience in conducting research, including data collection, desk review and quantitative and qualitative data analysis (Candidates should have strong analytical skills, with the ability to critically analyze data and information to identify key gaps, challenges, and characteristics within the social entrepreneurship ecosystem).

- ✓ Understanding of legal and regulatory framework (relevant to social entrepreneurship in Georgia).
- ✓ Financial and technical expertise.
- ✓ Full proficiency in English.
- ✓ Excellent communication, interview and report writing skills.
- ✓ Familiarity with programs for analysis of qualitative research results.
- ✓ Facilitation skills and ability to manage the diversity of views of different cultural context.
- ✓ Good interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills.
- ✓ Demonstrated ability to deliver quality results within strict deadlines.
- ✓ Knowledge of Estonian SE landscape - While not mandatory, candidates with knowledge of the Estonian social entrepreneurship landscape and expertise in transferring and contextualizing best practices from Estonia to other contexts would be highly desirable.

9. Application package to be submitted by the applicant organization

- CVs of research team members, including enumerators.
- List of research conducted within the last 3 years with the mentioned scope of the field stage.
- Recommendation letters from previous donors/contractors (at least 2 recommendation letters).
- Technical proposal with detailed timeline, involved human resources, and estimated budget (with a detailed breakdown of costs per unit) in EUR.
 - Budget should be presented without VAT.

The abovementioned documents should be sent in PDF format to: rfq.geo.tbs@drc.ngo, no later than March 12th, 2024 17:00 pm, **2024**. Please indicate the following assignment title in the subject line of the email **“Landscape Analysis of Social Entrepreneurship in Georgia identifying key gaps, challenges, and characteristics, to support improvement of ecosystem in place through transferring and contextualizing best practices (Estonian expertise)”**, otherwise your application will not be considered.

Proposal Evaluation and Selection

The evaluation is made on a technical and financial basis. The proposed technical offers by bidders will be evaluated using the following criteria, and points will be allocated on a scale from 1 – 10 for each of the criteria stipulated below, whereas the weighting is as follows:

Qualifications (50%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Documented experience working in requested sectors (30%) ▪ Documented experience of developing reports (20%)
Proposed services (50%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Content of the proposal is suitable for and meeting DRC’s requirements (30%) ▪ Demonstrated understanding of DRC’s profile (20%)
Total	100%



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All bidders must obtain an **average score of at least five** for the total technical scoring in order to proceed to the financial evaluation. The financial offer will then be weighed against the technical offer.

The final decision will be made after the interview (if applicable – the consultant is a physical person), considering applicants' relevant experience, qualification, and cost efficiency of the offer.