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|  EURASIA FOUNDATION OF CENTRAL ASIA IN KAZAKHSTANANNOUNCES AN OPEN CALL FOR THE SELECTION OF A MID-TERM EVALUATION EXPERT FOR THE “GOOD GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE FUND” PROJECT SUPPORTED BY USAID  *Deadline - March 21, 2017* |

The call is open for Russian- and English-speaking experts in Kazakhstan as well as in other countries.

**1.** **Client Information**

Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia (EFCA) is a public organization established in the region in 2005. EFCA mobilizes public and private resources to help citizens participate in building their future by strengthening their communities and improving their civic and economic wellbeing. Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia continued activities of the Eurasia Foundation as a local institution. Eurasia Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization that since 1993, invests in initiatives, aimed at increasing civic activities, the development of private enterprise, education and governance in Central Asia. More information about EFCA programs, including a list of the members of the Board of Trustees, is available at <http://www.ef-ca.kz>.

**2.** **Project Information**

The Good Governance Initiative Fund (GGIF) is a two-phased grant mechanism which will result in the increased capacity of traditionally underserved and underrepresented Kazakh and Tajik CSOs outside of the capital cities to strategically plan, coordinate, and execute complex campaigns aimed at reforming the institutionalized delivery of services, public policy and legislation. The ultimate goal of the project is to promote institutionalized governance reforms which contribute to improved service delivery, public policy, legislation, or regulations. The project was launched in October 2014 and is expected to end in September 2018.

Grantees of the project are non-governmental organizations in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan working in close collaboration with the representatives of government agencies to improve the quality of public services, simplify access to services, and protect the rights of vulnerable groups, including people with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, children and adolescents, children left without parental care, as well as farmers and members of the broader community.

The project currently supports the following initiatives:

* Development of a tool to improve Kazakhstan’s compliance with international human rights recommendations
* Development of a model for integrated special social services for vulnerable populations
* Development of an online diagnosis tool for families to identify at-risk behavior among teenagers
* Increased accessibility of public services for people with disabilities in remote regions
* Identification and popularization of latent public services
* Creation of a multifunctional internet portal, [www.agrobiz.kz](http://www.agrobiz.kz), connecting farmers, buyers, and government agencies
* Modification of public spaces for increased accessibility of people with disabilities and other low-mobility groups
* Delivery of targeted mentorship and consulting for organizations which protect the rights of people with disabilities
* HIV/AIDS reduction through improved service and support networks for intravenous drug users and people living with HIV
* Improved public services provision and reduced stigma for people living with HIV, including pregnant women in Tajikistan
* Increased support and training for women in leadership in Tajikistan
* Popularization of consumer rights through e-registration of consumer goods in Tajikistan
* Development of citizen’s accountability tools for monitoring public utility use and actual costs

**2. Assignment for Mid-Term Evaluation (Scope of work, Budget, and Schedule)**

***Scope of Mid-Term Evaluation****:* The scope of the evaluation will include the status of governance, including achievements in governance reform, changes over time, and their relationship to the GGIF, and recommendations for next steps in promoting and sustaining good governance. The Mid-Term Evaluation will be used to identify and publicize the impact of GGIF projects on governance reform in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan, contributing to increased public awareness of good governance principles and effective reform mechanisms.

***Primary Goal of Mid-Term Evaluation***: to assess progress towards the project goal and objectives to date.

***Objectives of Mid-Term Evaluation:***

1. **Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of GGIF implementation by operator EFCA.**
* Effectiveness of grant selection, award, and management processes with regards to overall project objectives
* Effectiveness of grantee support and capacity-building activities.
1. **Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of GGIF-funded projects to achieve governance reform, based on the following indicators:**
* improvements in delivery of government services
* improvement of legislation through close cooperation and effective partnership between government bodies and civil society
* improvement of partnership/cooperation between government bodies and civil society
* effective work of an NGO with its target group or quality of delivered services to its beneficiaries
* improvement of quality of life of vulnerable groups through amendments to laws and regulations in three project categories: Good Governance Initiatives (GGIF), People Living with HIV (PLWH), People with Disabilities (PWD).

***Key Deliverable*:** The Mid-Term Evaluation should result in an analytical report (in Russian and in English languages) based on the following:

А. Analysis and recommendations on the effectiveness of the project implementation; monitoring and evaluation systems used by the operator EFCA (including management, administration, and partnership)

В. Analysis of project impact on the organizational and institutional development of grant recipients and recommendations

С. Analysis of results achieved by grantees, and concrete examples of how the project improved the lives of direct beneficiaries

D. Analysis of the effectiveness of cooperation between grantees and government bodies; concrete examples of how this cooperation improved the life of beneficiaries

Е. Success stories on sustainable and productive projects

F. Lessons learned and recommendations for improvement

G. Recommendations to improve current project activities, if needed

All material collected during the course of the evaluation (results of interviews, discussion, meeting minutes, recommendations, etc.) should be attached to the analytical report.

***Methodology***

The evaluation should include no less than 60% of project grantees and at least 20% of their beneficiaries, and include the following methodologies:

* surveys, questionnaires and interviews
* meetings with grantees, beneficiaries, and representatives of government authorities
* review of project documentation
* testing of services developed within the framework of the project

***Budget***

Budget should match the quality of work

***Geographic Regions for Evaluation*:** Kazakhstan and Tajikistan

***Evaluation Timeline*: 50 days / April 10- May 30, 2017**

**IV. Qualification Requirements**

Physical and legal persons with experience in project evaluation and research are invited to participate in the competition.

**Selection Criteria:**

1. Experience in conducting research (reports, analysis, interview) – 20%
2. Qualification and education – 20%
3. Work experience in the sphere of public management and social projects - 25%
4. Experience in project evaluation (preferably in the sphere of civil society development and/or governance reform) –20%

 5. Knowledge and understanding of regional specifics (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan) - 15%

**V. Application Package**

The application should include the following information:

1. Cover sheet indicating the title of the competition, name and contacts of the applicant (post address, telephone, e-mail) – no more than 2 pages
2. CV
3. Description of work experience in conducting NGO project evaluation
4. Brief vision of project evaluation, plan and methods to be applied
5. Detailed budget, including travel costs
6. References and contact information for 2 clients

The size of the letter of interest should not exceed six printed pages (Times New Roman, font size 12, one space interval), excluding annexes.

Annexes should include all collected materials during the evaluation process: (interviews, analysis, surveys, recommendations, etc.)

**VI. Selection Process**

Applications will be accepted from **February 21 - March 21, 2017.**

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee. EFCA reserves the right to request additional information during the selection process (additional contacts of the clients, references, etc.). Competition results will be announced via e-mail no later than **April 3, 2017**

Applicationswith the subject line “GGIF” should be submitted not later than **6 p.m. (Almaty)** **March 21, 2017,** to zhazira@ef-ca.org and tatyana@ef-ca.org. Applicants will receive a confirmation of receipt within two working days. Please contact the GGIF Project Assistant at *zhazira@ef-ca.org* if a confirmation is not received within this time.

**VIІ. Contacts**

For additional information, please contact GGIF Project Manager **Alma Sholpankulova** at alma@ef-ca.org.

***Note: Applications which include false, misleading, or incomplete information will be not considered by the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia.***