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## **Terms of Reference**

### **FINAL EVALUATION of the project Strengthening local communities' resilience to violent extremism in North Macedonia**

Centre for Common Ground (CCG) seeks an experienced Consultant or company to carry out a Final Evaluation of its project *Strengthening local communities' resilience to violent extremism in North Macedonia*

#### **1. Background Information**

##### *Organizational Background*

Since 2008, **Centre for Common Ground (CCG)** has been working toward reconciliation, interethnic relations and stability in the Western Balkans. CCG's mission is to transform the way people and communities deal with conflict - away from adversarial approaches and towards cooperative solutions. Its projects are created to strengthen societies' capacity to deal with conflicts constructively: to understand the differences and act on the commonalities. Using innovative tools such as education, media, dialog, music, sport, arts and culture and working at different levels of society, CCG engage in pragmatic long-term processes of conflict transformation building social cohesion and using non-violent communication.

In the scope of the project ***“Strengthening local communities's resilience to violent extremism in North Macedonia”*** funded by The British Embassy in Skopje, CCG has to carry out a Final Evaluation of the project. For this purpose, CCG announces a public call for an external Consultant or company to conduct the Evaluation and to prepare the report of the project impact and achievements.

##### *Project Summary*

The **Overall objective** of the project is to strengthen resilience of local communities to violent extremism in target communities in North Macedonia through the effective implementation of the National Strategy and the National Action plan for CVE at the local/municipal level and technical support to communities and national actors for localized approaches to addressing violent extremism.

**Outcome 1:** Stakeholder mechanisms for preventing/countering violent extremism are established and operational.

**Outcome 2:** Targeted young (18-29 yrs) women and men demonstrate and are able to apply communication and collaborative leadership skills to identify and solve problems in their community.

## **Objectives of the Final Evaluation**

The objective of the Final Evaluation is to access the project data, evaluate the relevance, effectiveness of the project, measure the intended and unintended results and suggest recommendation.

### **2. Scope of work**

The Final Evaluation will reach the different target groups including the members of the Community Action teams (CAT) established in the targeted municipalities, and will consist of key informant interviews and Focus Group discussions with students, youth, representatives from religious communities and local police department in these municipalities, as well as local and central government institutions representatives. It will allow project staff to gauge the impact and achieved results in the local communities over the project life cycle.

The Local Consultant or Company will make the assessment through questionnaires, focus groups and interviews with stakeholders.

#### **The work includes:**

- Finalized technical offer including a detailed evaluation methodology, evaluation schedule, budget, sampling strategy, data analysis plan, roles and responsibilities of the consultant's team;
- Collaboration with the project staff to identify evaluation components and key evaluations questions;
- Desk Review
- Design of qualitative tools and guidelines
- Fieldwork
- Data entry, coding and cleaning
- Data analysis
- Draft report
- Final report reviewed and finalized

**Location:** the assessment will be conducted in five municipalities in North Macedonia: Skopje - Cair, Gostivar, Kicevo, Struga, and Prilep.

### **3. Methodology**

Final methodology and procedures will be developed in conjunction with the CCG Project staff.

#### **Desk review:**

The Local Consultant or Company will review the relevant project documents.

#### **Qualitative Research**

Qualitative research methods might include:

- a) Semi-structured interviews of key informants (Key Informants Interviews – KII). The Local Consultant or Company will organize at least 15 KIIs (three in each target municipality) with Community Action Team (CAT) members, School management, teachers, local government officials, civil society leaders and other concerned key stakeholders.
- b) Focus group discussions (FGD) with target groups/stakeholders. The Local Consultant or Company will organize at least 5 FGDs (one in each target municipality) with students, youth, parents, teachers and other concerned stakeholders.

- c) Case studies /Lessons learned consisting of evidence of change at a personal or organizational level.

#### **4. Deliverables**

The following specific deliverables will be expected:

- Final evaluation implementation schedule
- Questionnaires, discussion guides and other data collection tools
- End line fieldwork report
- Final Evaluation document

#### **5. Time-Frame & Schedule**

The Final Evaluation shall be executed in the period from March 5<sup>th</sup> to March 31, 2023

#### **6. Qualifications of the consultant team leader**

- Masters preferred or equivalent combination of education and relevant work experience. At least five years of M&E experience, three years specifically in designing and implementing surveys in the framework of EC-funded programs.
- Experienced in all aspects of survey management; validity testing, quantitative analysis, etc
- Experience of the Balkan context and especially in the field of violent extremism and radicalization
- Excellent written English skills preferred
- Strong organizational and prioritization skills
- Strong computer spreadsheet/word processing/data base/SPSS skills required
- Ability to work both independently and in a team
- Strong interpersonal skills.