

Request for Expression of Interest

Country: Kosovo

World Bank Loan/Credit Name: Kosovo Emergency COVID-19-Additional Financing

Project ID: P173819

Ref. No.: XK-MOH-314922-CS-CQS

Developing a Nationwide Assessment on the Mental Health

Introduction/Background

At the request of the Government of Kosovo (GoK) for support to respond to the COVID-19 emergency, the Kosovo Emergency COVID-19 Project (P173819) was approved on May 20, 2020, with an Additional Financing (AF) approved in June 2021. Both the Kosovo Emergency COVID-19 and AF project's objective is to prevent, detect, and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in Kosovo.

The following are the components of the project:

Component 1: Health Care delivery and health system strengthening:

Component 2: Supporting households to comply with public health containment measures:

Component 3: Project monitoring, communication, and community engagement:

The professional mental health services in Kosovo are organized into three (3) levels of health care and seven (7) functional administrative-regional units that are interdependent, and conceptually interlinked. Mental health services in primary care are offered through Family Medicine Centers (FMCs) by specialized family physicians. The secondary level of care includes psychiatric wards at regional hospitals, community-based mental health centers, integration houses, and the center for chronic psychiatric patients in Shtime. Whereas the tertiary level of care includes the psychiatric clinic and psychiatric intensive care under the University Clinical Center of Kosovo.

Kosovo is dedicated to implementing the Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030, and within Goal 3, to improve measures on mental health mainly focused on structured prevention efforts, and legislation, but also on accessibility to quality and safe medicines.

Objective of the Assignment:

The overall objectives of this assignment are (i) to provide a mapping of mental health services to provide evidence on the context and availability of services for the sector's long-term strategy, (ii) provide specific recommendations on the service gaps and estimated costing for necessary actions to offer holistic and improved services, (iii) identify human resource gaps for mental health services at the national level, (iv) assess infrastructure current situation and provide recommendations for improvements, and (v) review policy and regulatory framework.

Specific Scope of Work:

- To assess in detail the Policy and Legislative Framework for mental health services in Kosovo, as well as to make concrete recommendations for changes in the legal acts on mental health, in accordance with best practices;
- To conduct a mapping of available services in mental health within the existing health system, and provide specific recommendations for service improvement;
- To assess the needs for the establishment of the Addiction Diseases Centre, and provide specific recommendations for the establishment of such a centre, including the cost of construction/adaptation, equipment needs, logistics, human resources, and other;
- To assess in detail the conditions for the establishment of a separate clinic (or annex, or another appropriate unit) within the Hospital and University Clinical Service of Kosova (HUCSK) for the treatment of children and adolescents with mental health disorders;
- Assessment of the infrastructure conditions of all mental health institutions in the country;
- To assess the human resource availability for mental health services, including qualifications, and identify needs gap;
- To conduct a comprehensive analysis of the funding structure of mental health services, including financial responsibilities of departments/institutions and social services;

Other specific information's for duration, deliverables, reporting etc. are indicated under TOR for this assignment

Qualifications of the Consulting Firm

1. Must be a legal entity with experience in drafting and implementing Public Health assessments, preferably in public health management;
2. Experience in the field of at least 5 years. Prior collaboration with international organizations is desirable;
3. Experience in Policy and Legislative Framework, particularly in the current legislation in Kosovo.
4. At least one similar contract successfully completed for the development and implementation of the similar assignment;

The team of experts proposed by the consulting firm shall include the following key members:

- Team Leader
- Legal Expert

Selection process:

Experienced and qualified firms will be selected according to the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers' (the Regulations), issued in July 2016, and revised November 2017 and August 2018, based on the selection method for Consultant's Qualification based Selection (CQS).

The consulting firm will be selected based on:

1. Proven experience in the field of public health, management, and working experience with the Government institutions (50%);
2. Specific experience in providing similar scale public health assessment/quantitative and qualitative methods, knowledge and experience in the implementation of development initiatives, policies, legislation with local or international organization-funded project (50%);

Detailed TOR this assignment is available on MoH web page or may be requested to the contact person below:

Expression of interest may be submitted to Ministry of Health to the below stated address until **11 November, 2022**

Ministry of Health,

Attn.: Afrim Bajrami, Procurement Specialist

Address: Rr. Zagrebit Nr. 60

10 000 Prishtinë, Republic of Kosovo

Website: <https://msh.rks-gov.net>

E-mail: To : afrim.bajrami@rks-gov.net