



**BALKAN
MONITORING
PUBLIC
FINANCES**

www.wings-of-hope.ba

Terms of Reference

To provide services on the content of the 4 regional studies on public debt, tax justice, public-private partnerships and public infrastructure

Project background:

The Western Balkans CSOs influence and participation in monitoring public finance and policy-making is poor and not systematically conducted. CSOs have a weak knowledge-base on monitoring public finance and financial institutions due to lack of stable funding. However, the CSOs recognized the increasing need for closer monitoring of public finance. The existing know-how in the region can be upgraded through know-how sharing and transfer among the partners and CSO networks. In targeted countries the understanding of public finance among the wider public is rather low, hence public financing needs to be brought closer to ordinary citizens.

The aim of the project is to improve the transparency and accountability of policy and decision making in the area of public finances through strengthening the role and voice of NGOs in monitoring the institutions that operate in the area of public finances. In this way, the specific objectives of the project are to strengthen the CSOs knowledge of public finance and financial institutions and improve CSOs monitoring capacities. Other important objective is to advocate for transparency, accountability and effectiveness from public institutions in public finance and to build know-how in advocating for sustainability, transparency and accountability of public finance. Furthermore, this action should increase networking and cooperation of CSOs on monitoring of public finance at regional and EU level, and at the same time to increase the understanding of media and wider public of the challenges in public finance and the impacts of financial institutions.

As public finances and financial institutions are a very broad field, the listed objectives will in practice focus on several specific topics of public finance: public debt, public-private partnerships, tax justice and public infrastructure. The action will bring 4 regional analyses of the situation in the public finance field, which will provide problem identification and policy recommendations for the covered 7 countries and the EU.

Additional information about the project can be found on: http://wings-of-hope.ba/?page_id=377





Objective of the 4 studies

The objective of the public debt study is to analyze various policies, regulation and legislation regarding public debt and processes of the situation in the public finance field, recognize key problems, propose solutions and advocate for change.

The objective of the public infrastructure study is to provide an overview of different cases from the region regarding public funding for public infrastructure, based on which to draw some conclusions and recommendations on what type of infrastructure is needed, and what are the conditions that need to be fulfilled in our view.

The objective of the public-private partnership study is to analyze the policies, laws, regulations regarding Public-private partnerships, the relationship between PPP and Public infrastructure, PPP and debt, recognizing good and bad cases of PPP, and advocating for change.

The objective of the tax justice study is to provide an overview of the current tax system, explore the perception of taxes in the SEE region, tax dodging, tax competition and to study the effects of flat taxation and compare them to the benefits that could be ripped from progressive taxation system and look into detail on what sort of social services could be offered with more tax revenue coming to public budgets and to look beyond the specific proposals and outline some framework recommendations in order to facilitate a transition to a just tax system.

Countries which are involved:

- ✓ Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ✓ Macedonia
- ✓ Montenegro
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Bulgaria
- ✓ Kosovo
- ✓ Slovenia

4 experts on the following topics who are able to provide additional expertise and information about the 4 topics. The assignment of the person will be to review, give suggestions/recommendations for the improvements and answer some specific questions regarding the 4 topics.

Required expertise:

The Expert should have at least 5 year experience at policy level in the SEE region and have a detailed working knowledge in the field of public debt, tax justice, public-private partnership and public infrastructure.



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Other important qualifications include:

- ✓ an advanced degree in economics, public administration or public finance;
- ✓ practical experience in the SEE region

Remuneration

Total Expert fees of up to a maximum of 1.500 EUR which will be paid upon completion of services to the full satisfaction of the project coordinator and topical groups.

Assessment Criteria Bids will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- ✓ Qualifications and experience of bidder/consultant.

Second round, the expert will receive the full topical ToR and the assessment will be based on the:

- ✓ Understanding of the terms of reference and
- ✓ Proposed expert fee.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals for the first round must include the following:

The profile of the consultant and details of similar projects undertaken;

Detailed CV of consultant(s) showing:

- ✓ Skills related to the assignment;
- ✓ Experience related to the assignment;
- ✓ A detailed work plan
- ✓ Total effort and proposed consultancy fees

The proposal should be sent to emina.hasanagic@wings-of-hope.ba and any questions regarding the call. The call will be opened for 10 days.

Contract Arrangements

The assignment is foreseen for the period September – October 2017.

Size of final product

28-32 pages per regional analysis, 4-5 pages per country

