

## **Return to Thrive**

### **Terms of Reference for Project Evaluation Expert**

#### **I. Introduction**

According to UNICEF, Albania is characterized by a relatively young population threatened by unemployment. Even today, the youth is aware of the gap that exists in the socio-economic levels between Albania and foreign countries and according to the public opinion this imbalance concerning the life standards seems likely to continue also in the future. Observed on a social context, the lack of employment opportunities has an affect on the relations within the family members, partners, and parents. In most of the cases it has led to emigration and immigration. For many children and youngsters, especially coming from the marginalized communities, the perspective and possibilities to finish school, get a diploma and find employment is at an all-time low.<sup>1</sup>

In Fushë-Kruja, 200-250 Roma families (about 1200 inhabitants), around 100 Egyptian families and 27,000 Albanian families are located. The Roma and Egyptian communities face a dire economical and social situation: Some direct consequences are below-standard living conditions, inadequate housing, as well as a deficient environment for the proper welfare and education of children. This explains their settling in and movement towards locations (with no legal status) where they are forced to live under unhygienic and below-standard conditions. Through the continuous work and support given in Fushe Kruja, ADRA Albania considers the intervention as important in the area in order to facilitate the access of adults and children to the public institutions and to rise awareness toward significant issues such as: having a school background, finding a constant job and breaking the barriers of isolation.

In this regard, ADRA Albania with the kind support of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH initiated the project “Return to Thrive” in January 2019. The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by GIZ and ADRA Albania. The project covers Tirana and the Fushe Kruja region. The beneficiaries are children, parents, community returned after migration. It offers people returned to their country of origin chances of a new start, by providing constant support, trainings and

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/sites/default/files/monitoring\\_20070607.pdf](http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/sites/default/files/monitoring_20070607.pdf)



Implemented by



mediations. The Project promotes activities, which support (re-) integration of children in school and (re-)integration of adults/parents into society. The end of the project implementation will be the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2020.

### **Beneficiaries**

The main beneficiaries are 300 members of Roma, Egyptian and non Roma/Egyptian families, of which 80 percent emigrated and returned back from Germany.

### **Overall Objective**

Facilitate the integration of Roma and Egyptian adults and children into the Albania society, with focus on those returned from Germany and other third countries.

### **Specific objectives**

1. Engagement of public institutions in migration management
2. Support of Roma and Egyptians in accessing public services, education and/or labor market

## **II. Purpose and Scope of the Evaluation**

The evaluation process will engage a national expert who will assess the efficiency, effectiveness and relevance of the project and to improve intervention design or management. The evaluation will cover the entire project period from 01 January 2019- 31 March 2020 and all activities planned in the project as defined by the project document. The main objective of the evaluation is to assess and present results (output, outcome), conclusions, lessons learnt and recommendations for future interventions.

The evaluation is carried out to evaluate activities individually as well as holistically to learn if they have led toward the project's objective, to understand the lessons learnt, the potential impact and sustainability of the project, to provide information that will be helpful for the next programming. The evaluation will assess the project design, scope, implementation status and the capacity to achieve the project objective. It will collate and analyze lessons learnt, challenges faced, and best practices obtained during implementation. The results of this evaluation will be used as a guide to improve future planning.

## **III. Evaluation Questions**

The evaluation will seek to report on the efficiency, effectiveness and relevance of the project. Key questions that the evaluation seeks to answer include:

### **Relevance**

*Are we doing the right thing? How important is the relevance or significance of the intervention regarding local and national requirements and priorities?*

- To what extent did the project achieve its overall objectives?
- Was the project relevant to the identified needs?
- Were the inputs and strategies identified, and were they realistic, appropriate and adequate to achieve the results?

### **Effectiveness**

*Are the objectives of the development interventions being achieved? How big is the effectiveness or impact of the project compared to the objectives planned (Comparison: result – planning)?*

- To what extent has the project/program already achieved its outcome(s) or will be likely to achieve it/them? To what extent has the project/program already achieved its expected results/outputs or will be likely to achieve them?
- Was the project effective in delivering desired /planned results?
- How many beneficiaries have benefited by project's measures the project has provided? How did the measures affect the social integration of female and male Roma participants and which are the most positive (side) effects of all activities that have been organized?
- Which have been the most effective activities and events that have succeeded and brought about positive change among participants and community's overall opinion about the project?
- How effective has the project been in responding to the needs of the beneficiaries and what results were achieved.

### **Efficiency**

*Are the objectives being achieved economically by the development intervention? How big is the efficiency or utilization ratio of the resources used (Comparison: resources applied – results)?*

- Was the project/programme implemented in the most efficient way (time, personnel resources)? Have any issues emerged, if so which ones and why?
- Were the project financial resources and other inputs efficiently used to achieve the project goals?
- What is the ratio of beneficiary versus project contribution? Have there been any community contributions in order to organize or implement activities?

### **Sustainability**

*Are the positive effects or impacts sustainable? How is the sustainability or permanence of the intervention and its effects to be assessed?*

- If applicable, to what extent will the benefits of the project/programme continue after the withdrawal of the donor?
- What were the major factors, which influenced the achievement or non-achievement of sustainability of the project/programme?
- If applicable, what needs to be done and/or improved to ensure sustainability?

### **IV. Approach and methods of evaluation**

The evaluation will be carried out by an independent evaluation consultant, who will be responsible for the design of the evaluation methodology. This is a summative evaluation involving qualitative and quantitative methods to evaluate the support to the “Return to Thrive”-Project implementation and performance and to make the recommendations for the next programming cycle.

The evaluation will be carried out through the analysis of various sources of information including desk analysis, survey data, as well as interviews/group interviews with governmental counterparts and project partners, direct beneficiaries, municipalities, civil society etc.

### **V. Deliverables**

The evaluator will submit the following reports:

- An inception report (5-10 pages without annexes)
- A final draft evaluation report (about 20 pages without annexes)
- A final evaluation report (about 20 pages without annexes)

All the reports will be the in English.

The Final Evaluation Report should:

- Contain an executive summary (mandatory)
- Be analytical in nature (both quantitative and qualitative)
- Be structured around issues and related findings/lessons learnt
- Include conclusions
- Include recommendations

## **VI. Time-frame for the Evaluation Process**

The evaluation is expected to **start in the end of February 2020** and to be concluded **within March 2020**. This will include desk reviews, field work - interviews, and report writing.

## **VII. Required Qualification**

The evaluator should have the following qualifications and expertise :

- Relevant academic degree (master level) in Social sciences
- A minimum of three years' experience and expertise in the field/sector of Education
- Has conducted at least three evaluations in the last five years ideally in the relevant field
- Has participated in at least three evaluations ideally in the relevant field
- Knowledge of country Albania with focus on topics such as vulnerable local communities, Child protection issues, Migratory issues, Career development issues etc.
- Working experience in country Albania with other NGOs and public sector institutions
- Experience in project cycle management
- Experience preparing and analysing a theory of change
- Experience and expertise in evaluating cross-cutting issues
- Experience in social science methods
- Excellent oral and written English skills (state other language too, if applicable)
- Sound MS Office and IT skills

The consultants must not have been involved in the design, implementation or monitoring of this project/programme.

## **VIII. How to apply**

Candidates should apply by submitting via e-mail at **info@adra.al** the below documents:

- Curriculum Vitae of the applicant
- Letter of Motivation
- Financial Proposal
- Criminal Record

## **IX. Selection Criteria**

Submission will be evaluated in consideration of the Evaluation Criteria as stated below.

- The offer will be evaluated by using the Best Value for money approach.
- Technical Proposal will be evaluated on 70%
- Financial Proposal will be evaluated on 30%

## **X. Application Deadline**

The deadline for submitting the application is **10.02.2020**.