



Terms of References

for Expert for facilitation and support of the full process of lobby and advocacy for producer groups

PJ1359, "Organizational development of NFF and improved market linkages for the small farmers and producers from rural areas aiming at increased income"

Intervention "Producer Groups, stream 2- Lobby and Advocacy for improvement of socio-economic conditions of the small scale farmers"

I. Background

The National Federation of Farmers represents the largest network of farmers and farmer's organizations in the country. It has inherited all the institutional memory and experience from the Federation of Farmers of RM. It unites the effort of 43 local farmers' organizations and cooperatives, representing the voice of more than 3.000 members and cooperating with almost all key players in the agriculture and agribusiness sector.

The National Farmers Federation has expanded its scope of action. This means that besides farmers, agricultural associations, and agricultural cooperatives, the organization will continue to strengthen and support vulnerable categories in rural areas, greater support for young people and women, and their direct involvement in the development of agriculture through decision-making and active action.

In addition to agriculture, one of the organization's main focuses is rural development, i.e. dealing with the problems and challenges that the rural population faces, such as poverty and limited approaches of the rural population to health services, education, information law, and decision-making power.

The main pillar of action is lobbying to define the problems from the field and by joint work and analysis will be presented in front of the competent institutions for finding a common solution, which is in the interest of the farmers and the welfare of our entire country.

The focus of the National Farmers' Organization, which will continue to function under the slogan "Together for success" and the logo that symbolizes the labour and production of our farmers, is solving the biggest problems, which is placement and quality production. The mission of the rebranded organization is the ORGANIZED FARMER LEADER IN THE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA. The vision to which we strive is - PROFITABLE AGRICULTURE - STABLE VILLAGE.

As of May 2021, NFF implements the project "Organizational development of NFF and improved market linkages for the small farmers and producers from rural areas aiming at increased income" that is supported by Sida and We Effect.

The expected outcomes of the project are the following:

Outcome 1: Rural enterprises, small farmers/producers, grow and provide more income and employment opportunities for the people from the rural area, women, and youth in particular. The focus here will facilitate access to the market for actors that empower rural women and youth. Currently, market linkages for sales of products are broken for small farmers/producers, leading to low income of the rural target group, pushing them into poverty.

Outcome 2: Increased organizational capacities and financial sustainability of NFF. As a membership-based organization, NFF represents the interests of farmers and the rural population in the country. It has developed a paid membership system with a set of free services to which only members are eligible. In the last few years as a result of the previous Institutional Development to NFF Project, the organization has improved its internal organization, management, introduced procedures, book of rules, book of conduct and other administrative and management tools that improved the performance and the impact of our work. The focus here is the organizational development and financial sustainability as crucial to continue with the lobby and advocacy activities and develop new services to provide new sources of income.



II. Objective of the assignment

The main objective of this assignment is to provide expert's services for facilitation and support of the full process of lobby and advocacy for producer groups within intervention "Intervention "Producer Groups, stream 2- Lobby and Advocacy for improvement of socio-economic conditions of the small scale farmers", that is part within the Project "Organizational development of NFF and improved market linkages for the small farmers and producers from rural areas aiming at increased income".

Expected deliverables are:

- 1) Communication with the stakeholders (members of coordinative groups, institutions, NGOs)
- 2) Support in the process of organization of meetings, events, trainings and workshops with the institutions
- 3) Support in the process of elaboration and compilation of the developed material from the meetings and workshops including minutes, notes, reports and conclusions
- 4) Take care of the full logicians including photos, participant lists and materials
- 5) Preparation of monthly time sheet
- 6) Preparation of Final Report of the implemented activity

Expected workload i.e. time for delivery of the service

- The expert will be engaged for a total 84 working days within the period from 10 April until 30 September 2024, or 14 days per month in the full period.

Schedule of milestones and means of measurement/verification of their completion

Month	Milestone	Means of verification
10 April 2024	Engagement of expert	Contract with selected expert
10 April – 30 September 2024	Implemented activities according to the expected deliverables	Monthly time sheets
By 30 September 2024	Preparation of the Final Report	Final Report of the activity

Reference project activities/budget lines:

Project activity

2.4.6.	Expert for facilitation and support of the full process of lobby and advocacy
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Budget line:

4.2.1A.2.18.	Expert for facilitation and support of the full process of lobby and advocacy
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Expected duration of assignment/contract

The expert will be engaged for 84 working days within the period of April until 30 September 2024, or 14 days per month for the period.



III. Duty travel & accommodation

Covered by the project budget.

IV. Coordination & reporting

The engaged expert will report directly to Organizational Development Coordinator indicating the number of working days during the engagement and tasks performed in the course of the engagement. The reporting schedule and other documentation are indicated in the table below.

Month	Milestone	Means of verification
10 April 2024	Engagement of expert	Contract with selected expert
10 April – 30 September 2024	Implemented activities according to the expected deliverables	Monthly time sheets
By 30 September 2024	Preparation of the Final Report	Final Report of the activity

V. Qualification requirements

Mandatory technical criteria:

- Appropriate university degree (e.g. agriculture, law, economy, social sciences etc.)
- Master degree will be taken as advantage
- At least 3 years of professional experience
- Previous experience in logistics, business administration, support to small groups of beneficiaries
- Previous experience with organization of events
- Previous experience with NGOs

Skills of expert:

- Strong analytical skills
- Team working skills

VI. Application procedure:

Interested candidates for this ToR should submit the following documents:

- Up to date CV clearly indicating work on similar assignments
- Financial offer, stating the gross expert daily fee and gross expert fee for all working days, expressed in MKD with included personal tax
- Declaration of relationships is mandatory (signed)

Offers to be submitted on email nff@nff.org.mk and vidanka.martinovska@nff.org.mk **no later than 04 April 2024.**

All questions you may have about the offer can be addressed on email vidanka.martinovska@nff.org.mk



VII. Evaluation of the offers:

Offers with incomplete documentation and/or offers received after the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

The offers will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Best value for money principle will be taken into account by using a weighted scoring method to evaluate the combination of expert professional experience and previous work on similar assignments (60%) and financial offer/proposal (40%)

VIII. Terms of payment

Fee for this engagement is indicated in the Section II-Objective of the assignment under the Reference project activities and budget lines.

Payment will be made successive, on a monthly basis per number of days engaged, reported in time sheets and approved, indicating the deliverables achieved per month in the time sheets.

IX. Declaration of relationships

The applicant shall describe if he/she have any business or personal relationships with closely associated party from NFF and We Effect, its Regional Office in Skopje, its governing bodies and employees or with similar bodies/persons of the Client.

Closely associated party (persons, physical or legal) as per We Effect's definition is considered person who has the possibility to exert control over, or significant influence on, the other person when it comes to financial and operative decision-making concerning an activity. The purpose of the Declaration is to disclose such information which makes the application and evaluation process more transparent and supports the bids in its relevance according to conditions on the open market.