**Annex A**

**Terms of Reference and Scope of Services**

**Position:** Consultant for support to the Analysis “Shaping the Future of Poverty in Republicof Serbia”

**Duration:** October 20th 2021 – November 1st 2021

**Resources:** 7 working days

**1. Background**

**The social inclusion policies in Serbia are defined by a wider concept of Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD) sector** comprising a number of national strategies in the area of poverty reduction, social inclusion, social protection, education, employment, health and social housing, as well as strategies aimed at improving the position of excluded groups, such as women, people with disabilities, Roma, youth, migrants and others. **Serbia developed two national documents that directly relate to the challenges of social inclusion and poverty reduction – The Economic Reform Program (ERP) 2017-2019 and the Employment and Social Reform Program (ESRP).** ERP represents a vital instrument in the EU integrations process by setting out the measures for restructuring the Serbian economy and a number of structural reforms, of which a number contributes to increasing social inclusion. The ERP has integrated the Social Impact Assessment principle which helps identify the effects of structural reforms on the position and quality of life of excluded groups. The ESRP implementation process represents both a challenge and an opportunity for social inclusion and poverty reduction in Serbia and it requires long-term support.

The European Commission 2016 Report for Serbia recognized the importance of adoption of the first ESRP, which “has marked an important step in addressing policy challenges in the employment and social areas, which continue to be affected by scarce public finances and limited institutional capacity”. ESRP is one of the bolder documents in terms of targeted indicator values by 2020 and is perceived as an integrated HRSD Strategy[[1]](#footnote-1) that will ensure a coherent strategic and policy direction in this sector. National Reports on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction in the Republic of Serbia are regularly produced and contain recommendations and lines of action in these fields. The reports are adopted by the Government and provide medium-term projections and priorities.

The Government’s response to the requirements of EU accession, the continuing economic crisis, and the reforms required within the Government itself in order to be more effective require a coordinated effort grounded upon solid evidence of what works. The Swiss Confederation has provided assistance to the Government of Serbia to promote the social inclusion process in the Republic of Serbia (phase 3). The Program phases 1 (2009–2013) and 2 (2013–2017) have been pivotal for improving the Government of Serbia’s awareness and capacities to deal with poverty and social exclusion. The Program phase 3 includes the establishment of the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit (SIPRU) within the Office of the Prime Minister. The SIPRU operates at the central government level in Serbia, working across all ministries and government agencies with the ultimate aim of supporting poverty reduction and social inclusion processes. The SIPRU is responsible for supporting Government’s efforts to develop and implement social inclusion policies based on the European best practices. Furthermore, the SIPRU shall support the Office of the Prime Minister to monitor, report and provide advice on the Government’s efforts in promoting social inclusion process in the Republic of Serbia (phase 3).

**2. Introduction**

The **overall goal** of the Program phase 3 is to contribute to enhanced social inclusion and active participation of all in order to enable better quality of life for all in Serbian society. The Program phase 3 will have three outcomes:

* **Outcome 1:** Relevant national and local institutions apply more effectively selected principles of good governance (with focus on participation, equality and non-discrimination) in addressing social inclusion priorities in line with international standards, in the fields of social inclusion related policies (social welfare, education, health, employment and housing),
* **Outcome 2:** Local level institutions in targeted municipalities respond better to the needs of the poor and excluded citizens, and
* **Outcome 3:** People experiencing social exclusion (particularly women, youth, Roma, migrants and persons living with disabilities, especially in rural and high poverty concentration areas) are empowered by supportive environment to benefit from quality, integrated and inclusive social welfare, education, employment, health and housing services.

This specific Terms of Reference is related to achievement of **Outcome 1** and following key

Output 2. Enhanced capacities of relevant institutions to mainstream social inclusion.

**3. Objective of the Assignment**

To be able to manage the future challenges in social sphere, SIPRU initiated development of Scenario Analysis “Shaping the Future of Poverty in Republic of Serbia” (further Scenario Analysis). In order to accomplish this challenging task, SIPRU engaged consultant that lead the development of Scenario Analysis, to moderate the overall development of Analysis with close collaboration with SIPRU.

The Terms of Reference and Scope of Services for Shaping the Future of Poverty in Republic of Serbia using a Scenario Analysis also envisaged that the Consultant would need the support of one of the Members of Scenario Group (participants in the scenario workshops), to help the Consultant with shaping and improving the Final Report.

This initiative will provide the valuable insights for overall Serbian Development Strategy, desirable Poverty Reduction and Social Inclusion Strategy as well as for Social Welfare Strategy. Also, these Poverty Scenarios will help in reaching the Serbian development goals, as well as UN Sustainable Development goals.

**4. Scope of Work and Tasks**

The main task will be:

* support in collecting relevant data, check consistency of each scenario, adding new data and research to make scenarios more realistic.
* the analysis on how the social media could help with data collection on vulnerable groups (quantitative data) and with poverty (qualitative data)
* the analysis of potential development of internet media that could help with: efficiency of social programmes; the improvement of social inclusion and with communication between the state, beneficiaries and donnors.

**5. Outputs/Deliverables**

The Consultant will be responsible in delivering the following outputs:

* Report on implemented tasks defined by the scope of work and tasks.

**6. Consultant Requirements**

The Consultant shall have the following skills, experience and qualifications:

* University degree in political science, economy, social science or other relevant field;
* Extensive experience of technology platforms, internet and social media, and knowledge of social behaviors that can help with the analysis defined by the scope of work
* Experience working with NGO sector and projects related to socio-economic themes
* Experience with data analysis
* Consultancy experience with public and/or private sector is desirable
* Good communication skills
* Good knowledge of the English language.

**7. Reporting**

The Consultant shall report about all implemented tasks to the SIPRU Team Manager.

**8. Duration of the Assignment**

The assignment will be done in the period from October 20th 2021 – November 1st 2021

1. <http://www.evropa.gov.rs/Documents/Home/DACU/12/193/HRD%20evaluation%20report%20vol1and2.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)