

## TERMS of REFERENCE

### Consultancy to develop a Collection of Case Studies

#### EU investment in Child and Youth Services: What added value for the European Union?

##### 1. INTRODUCTION

SOS Children's Villages International (SOS CVI) is currently developing a Publication including case studies of 13 promising practices in Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa where SOS Children's Villages, in partnership with the EU and/or other stakeholders provides care, services and support to children and young people who are deprived of parental care or who are at risk of being so.

The objective of the publication is two-fold:

- 1. To make the case for the European Union to invest in child and youth services and demonstrate how this contributes to the achievement of EU policy and programme objectives:**

We will examine the main challenges (such as poverty, social exclusion and unemployment) that affect children and young people, in particular those in alternative care, in Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa and prevent them from reaching their full potential. Furthermore, we will look at how the EU has addressed these challenges through its policies and programmes and what role CSOs have played in EU policy implementation, in particular by providing care and services to children and young people in alternative care, thus contributing to the achievement of EU objectives.

- 2. To demonstrate how the EU can support the development of child and youth services that deliver high quality results for children and young people in alternative care:**

The EU has developed solid policies to promote child protection systems reform and to tackle poverty, unemployment and social exclusion in and outside the EU, but how can these be put into practice? Through the presentation of 13 practices implemented by SOS CVI, we will demonstrate success factors which have led to translating EU policies and international standards into better child and youth services, take stock of important developments in terms of service delivery and identify remaining gaps in policy and practice. This analysis will support formulation of key messages on why the EU should prioritise these children and services supporting them in its next Multiannual Financial Framework, and how supporting the development of services for children and young people in alternative care can lead to the achievement of social investment and development policy goals.

##### a) Why this project

During the coming 3 years, the EU institutions will negotiate the new Multi-Annual Financial Framework (MFF). The new MFF will define the EU's political priorities and how it will spend its budget from 2020 onwards. Our advocacy objective to influence the new MFF is to ensure that care and services for children and young people in alternative care remain priorities in Europe and are also prioritised in the EU's cooperation policies and external funding (which is not the case in the current MFF). The Collection of Case Study should help SOS CVI to develop an argumentation on the need for EU investment in care and services for children and young people in alternative care, demonstrate which factors are essential to translate EU investment into quality care and practices on the ground and provide guidance on how programmes within the new MFF should be designed

to provide better services and deliver better results for support children and young people in alternative care.

### **b) Project partners**

Project coordinator: SOS CVI, EU Office  
Case study authors: SOS Children's Villages national associations in Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Kenya, Cape Verde, Senegal and South Africa

### **c) Timeline**

The case study authors will provide the information to develop the case studies based on a questionnaire in July / August (specific deadlines agreed upon between the project coordinator and the case study author). It is expected that the publication will be drafted in September. The collection of case studies will be presented during a public event to be held in Brussels in November (exact date TBC) to EU Officials, national decision makers and Civil Society Organisations.

## **2. DUTIES OF THE CONSULTANT**

1. To develop an overview of EU policies and programmes that help to improve the social rights of children and young people in alternative care in Europe and Africa
2. To provide an overview of the role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in implementing EU policies, by providing care and services to children and young people in alternative care
3. To check whether the case studies are consistent and draw links with relevant EU policies (to conduct a so-called 'EU policy check' of the case studies)
4. Based on a good understanding of the EU policy and programme framework affecting children and young people in alternative care in Europe and internationally, to develop an argumentation on the need for EU investment in quality care and services for children and young people and their role in achieving EU policy objectives
5. To develop key messages and guidance on why the EU should invest in the development of services for children and young people in alternative care and how the EU can do so more effectively, in particular in the next MFF
6. Support the development of a strategy for SOS CVI EU office to further advocate for an MFF that promotes the rights of children and young people in alternative care and invests in services supporting them

### **a) Key milestones**

- Agreement on the work plan and timeline, following a meeting with the project coordinator – 25<sup>th</sup> August
- Chapter on relevant EU policies and programmes and the role of CSOs developed – 6<sup>th</sup> September
- Draft key messages and guidance to the EU developed and presented to the project coordinator – 20<sup>th</sup> September
- Key messages and guidance to the EU refined and finalised, following inputs of the project coordinator - 6<sup>th</sup> October
- EU policy check of the case studies conducted – 15<sup>th</sup> October

### **3. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- University degree, preferably in human rights or in a relevant social science discipline, or professional equivalent;
- Good understanding of the MFF and EU external and internal policies relevant for children and young people in alternative care
- Good understanding of EU policies related to social services supporting children
- Proven track record of conducting similar assignments

The criteria that will be used for selection are as follows: education, background and previous experience, reasonable cost proposal.

### **4. REMUNERATION**

The foreseen remuneration for the assignment consists of € 10.000 (including VAT).

### **5. DEADLINE AND APPLICATION PROCESS**

Interested experts should submit their CV together with a motivation letter, an example of a previous assignment in the desired areas of interest and an outline on how to undertake the assignment (e.g. key milestones, time plan) in English, electronically, by 28<sup>th</sup> July to Caroline Van der Hoeven at [eu@sos-kd.org](mailto:eu@sos-kd.org).