

EOI/SEC/01/2021

**PUBLIC CALL FOR IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS TO SUPPORT CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANIZATIONS IN ALBANIA IN SOCIAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL RE-USE OF
CONFISCATED ASSETS**

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Ref#: OSCE ExB Project n. 1102121 *“Strengthening the fight against transnational organized crime in South-Eastern Europe through improved regional co-operation in asset seizure, confiscation, management and re-use”*

In the efforts to support and build capacity of the local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to develop and maintain social enterprises at the benefit of the larger society through the re-use of assets confiscated from criminal organizations, the OSCE seeks to hire as Implementing Partner (IP) one experienced and internationally active civil society organization engaged in promoting and implementing projects in the field of social re-use of confiscated assets, with special focus on South-Eastern Europe, in particular Albania. The main mission of the IP is **to provide financial support to one CSO in Albania throughout the process of social re-use of a confiscated assets. i.e. conversion of an asset for the purpose of social enterprise, as well as capacity-building and individual mentoring activities to allow the CSO sustainably scale their activities and impact.**

The OSCE reserves the right to reject any or all applications received in response to this Public Call and to negotiate with any of the applicants in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of the OSCE.

1) Background information

Organized crime represents one of the biggest transnational threats to and a serious challenge for the countries across the OSCE region. Besides being drivers of illicit activities, criminal organizations have become an important economic player over the years. The importance of addressing the financial aspect of the organized crime in the efforts to effectively disrupt and dissolve serious and organized crime as well as to prevent the financing of terrorism, has been underlined by several OSCE Ministerial and Council Decisions¹. Targeting assets of the criminal organisations has proved indeed an effective strategy in preventing and repressing organized crime as it deprives criminals and their networks of financial power, thus limiting their ability to strengthen their criminal enterprise through corruption and reinvestment of

¹ See for example MC.DEC/5/06; MC.DOC/2/12; MC.DEC/4/16; PC.DEC/1049; PC.DEC/1063

profits in the legal and illegal economy. It also deters commission of further crimes, removing the incentive of financial gain and thus undermining the fundamental purpose of criminal organizations.

The OSCE ExB project: *“Strengthening the fight against transnational organized crime in South-Eastern Europe through improved regional co-operation in asset seizure, confiscation, management and re-use”* aims at improving the effectiveness of the fight against transnational organized crime by improving regional co-operation among five beneficiary countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia. The project adopts an overarching approach to address the entire cycle of asset recovery by providing support in three areas of intervention: a) financial investigations, asset seizure and asset confiscation; b) asset management; c) asset re-use.

The call for an IP, which shall culminate in an IPA, is developed within the framework of the third component of the abovementioned project, namely the eventual fate of the confiscated asset. Albeit the sale of confiscated assets is the most common practice, such fate of confiscated assets delivers very limited benefits to the public institutions and society at large. With that in mind, the third component of above project, and the IPA envisaged under its activity 3.5., are designated to promote the social re-use of confiscated assets as a meaningful tool in the prevention of organized criminal activities which, contrary to the common practice, fosters a culture of legality by giving back to society what organized crime has deprived it from.

Initiatives promoting the social re-use of assets confiscated from organized crime are crucial for raising the awareness of local communities on the sustainable re-use of confiscated assets and the possibility to convert them in safe places for community which can be used for social, cultural and rehabilitation purposes. Well-developed social business plans aiming to use confiscated assets for social purposes can be of benefit for the community as a whole, but also for victims of organized crime. Such practices deliver a message of social justice and trust. Albania is one of few countries in the SEE region that counts with successful stories of social re-use of confiscated assets. One of the good models is “KeBuono”: a bakery in Fier as a social business which offers job opportunities and free professional training for youth, and combines thus economic sustainability and promotion of culture legality. The development of social entrepreneurship by using confiscated assets is, however, often restrained by various factors, such as: changing political environments; scarce managerial and business skills of local CSO; lack of models to be considered as good examples to replicate. To concretely and effectively address the challenges and constrains CSO might encounter in the process of re-using confiscated assets for social purposes, experienced and specialized CSO need to share their expertise and scale the successful models.

2) Specific tasks of the implementing partners shall include:

In line with the ExB project’s *“Strengthening the fight against transnational organized crime in South-Eastern Europe through improved regional co-operation in asset seizure, confiscation, management and re-use”* result number three and activity 3.5., the Implementing Partner shall support a local CSO to develop social and business proposals, commence and

sustain a social enterprise, and scale their activities and impact, through grants, capacity-building and individual mentoring activities.

To this end, and under the overall supervision of the Transnational Threats Department and the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, the selected Implementing Partner shall engage in the project activities as follows:

1. Develop a detailed project proposal on the subject matter “*Supporting Civil Society Organizations in the Social Re-Use of Confiscated Assets from Organized Crime*”, specifying the project deliverables, activities and including the budgetary expenses; the project proposal shall aim to support and enhance civil society initiatives to foster legality and the social and entrepreneurial re-use of confiscated assets;
2. Upon approval of the project proposal, organize together with the Albanian Agency for the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets an open call and conduct the selection of a local CSO; enter into a contract with the selected local CSO in line with and under the framework of the IPA signed with the OSCE;
3. Support financially and in terms of capacity-building, training and mentoring activities, the local CSO throughout the process of developing a social enterprise based on the “KeBuono” model; these activities shall fall under the scope of the project developed within the IPA;
4. Provide a mid-term narrative and financial report by 1 March 2021;
5. Under the framework of the project proposal, deliver adequate and necessary training and capacity-building activities to the CSO to support the latter in sustaining and independently running the social enterprise;
6. Develop a strategy on how to further scale the model across the country and enable the CSO to further scale its activities and impact;
7. Provide the OSCE with narrative and financial reports for the above-described service, upon completion of activities and according to the schedule that will be specified in the Implementing Partner Agreement, tentatively by June 2021.

3) Qualifications of the IP (mandatory requirements):

Applicants that will not provide the below mandatory requirements will not be evaluated.

Each applicant organization:

1. Shall be a non-profit civil society organization active in South-Eastern Europe, in particular Albania, engaged in promoting and supporting the role of civil society in the fight against and prevention of organized crime;
2. Shall be registered in one of the 57 OSCE participating States;
3. Shall have expertise on social re-use of confiscated assets across the OSCE participating States in South-Eastern Europe, with the focus on in Albania;

4. Shall prove established relationship with the Albanian Agency for the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets, as the latter is a key actor for an impactful realization of the IPA goals;
5. Shall provide proven ability and expertise to replicated the existing models in Albania on social re-use of confiscated assets;
6. Shall provide records of involvement in projects on social re-use of confiscated assets, including those developed as a result of projects funded by public or private donors;
7. Shall be competent to deliver constructive and tailor-based training and mentoring initiatives to the CSO on the social re-use of confiscated assets and sustainable entrepreneurship models for the benefit of the society, as well as on the necessary business skills;
8. Shall ensure a proficient use of the English and Albanian languages, including technical language related to the topic;
9. Minimum two years of experience in project management, training and capacity-building activities on the subject matter;
10. Shall ensure professionalism, transparency and accountability in managing funds provided by external entities.

Applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Experience in developing and implementing projects on the social re-use of confiscated assets and development of sustainable social entrepreneurs;
– 25 out of 100 points
2. In depth knowledge of the procedure of social re-use of confiscated assets in Albania and hence ability to replicate the existing models, such as “KeBuono”, with other CSO;
- 20 out of 100 points
3. Experience in providing professional, high-quality training and capacity-building activities to members of civil society organization on: social re-use of confiscated assets; development and submission of social business plans; management of a social entrepreneurs;
- 20 out to 100 points
4. Active involvement in other projects on social re-use of confiscated assets in Albania and developed partnership with the key local institutions, including the Albanian Agency for the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets;
- 10 out of 100 points
5. Experience in working with international organizations or donor agencies in development and implementation of projects in the area of social re-use of confiscated assets and/or social entrepreneurship.
- 10 out of 100 points
6. Budget to complete activities related to tasks described under no. 2) of the present Call
- 15 out of 100 points

4) The proposal should provide:

Technical Proposal (no prices should be included to the Technical Proposal):

a) Supporting documentation, as requested under no. 6) below.

Financial Proposal:

a) The Implementing Partner Agreement will cover EUR 65,000 for undertaking the tasks as per point 2).

b) The Financial Proposal shall cover all expenses to be incurred for performing the services as specified including, but not limited to, the cost of the remuneration of the Bidder's personnel and all other compensations, insurance and social charges as well as technical assistance, supervision costs, and any other costs incurred by the contractor's personnel for the purpose of performing the services; and shall show a detailed cost breakdown per price categories;

c) progress payment(s) based on the specific tasks described under no. 2) above and in particular: 40% upon signature of the IP agreement; 50% upon approval of the mid-term narrative and financial report; 10% upon approval of the final narrative and financial report.

As the OSCE is always interested in delivering products of the highest quality, the applicants are welcomed to present any suggestions or comments on how to improve the delivering of the requested services.

5) Entities eligible to apply:

- Non-profit civil society organizations active in South-Eastern Europe, in particular Albania, engaged in promoting and supporting the role of civil society in the fight against and prevention of organized crime;
- Applicants scoring below 80 will not be considered as eligible.

6) Supporting documentation:

Applicants shall provide information on their operational capacities:

- Registration certificate (accreditation)
- Statute (in English)
- Documentation proving experience in project management, especially in the field of social re-use of confiscated assets, in English;
- A list of key personnel who will be involved in the project with CVs
- Bank account details.

7) How to apply and the procedures to follow:

Applicants must apply in English. Hand-written applications will not be accepted.

Applications (Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal must be delivered in separate PDF files) must be delivered to tenders-at@osce.org on or before **26th January 2021, 12:00 CET (Vienna local time)** quoting the reference "EOI/SEC/01/2021".

Any application submitted after the deadline will be automatically rejected.

Please address all your queries or questions in writing to Laurence.roche@osce.org up to 5 working days before the submission deadline and kindly refrain from any telephone calls.