



# Call for Offer for a

# policy researcher for ethnographic research

# Call No: 1/225/KOS

# Background

The Institute of Strategic Studies and Prognoses (ISSP) was founded in 1998 with the vision of creating an open market society with a high level of economic, political, and individual freedom. ISSP is the first independent economic think tank in Montenegro, with 20 years of experience in conducting high-quality research and analysis. ISSP is a scientific research institution accredited by the Montenegrin Ministry of Science. ISSP is recognized in Montenegro but also in the region as an institution to set agenda for advocating reform and a vehicle to communicate economic and social change through data, analysis, and publications.

Institute for Development Policy (INDEP) was established in 2011 in Pristina, Kosovo, as a think‐tank guided by the mission to strengthen and guide sustainable socio‐political and economic development based on the principles of democracy and democratic values, equal opportunities, social and environmental justice, and human rights. To fulfill our mission’s beliefs, INDEP’s work is divided into our three core programs: Democratic Governance, Sustainable Development, and Regional Cooperation. Hence, matches our vision of a democratic society that is able to run a functional and integrated state. Customer protection is one of the core pre‐conditions to fully achieve a just society that protects all members of our society. In terms of means used, INDEP uses advocacy work and research to reach the set objectives.

Starting in March 2023, the Institute of Strategic Studies and Prognoses (ISSP) and Institute for Development Policy (INDEP) are implementing the two-year project ‘**Young NEETs: new opportunities for work and increased employability - UNEETED’** funded by the Ministry of Finance – Directorate for Finance and Contracting of the EU Assistance Funds. The overall objective of this project is to improve the social position of young people who are not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEETs) in the municipalities of Mojkovac, Bijelo Polje, Rozaje, Plav, and Gusinje in Montenegro and in Pejë, Junik, Deçan in Kosovo through enhancing their employability and connecting them with potential employers.

The key stakeholder groups are primarily representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Social Welfare, as well as the representatives of labor bureaus and social work centers. Also, the action involves the participation of representatives from non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. For the relevant stakeholders, primarily local and national authorities working to implement policies related to the NEET population, the actions of the project foresee a set of capacity-building activities, designed to meet their needs. It will result in improved policy framework and governing capacities, hence, leading to an increase in the efficiency of institutions in tackling the issues and achieving better results.

# Description of the assignment

The assignment is conducting of the ethnographic research on the young NEETs in Kosovo. Findings of the research report will serve as an input for other activities on the project especially for policy advocacy, capacity building and awareness raising activities.

The ethnographic research should be based on a qualitative research approach that assumes observing the young NEET in Kosovo. The observation should be conducted in the environment which allows as much as possible natural behavior of interviewees. This is planned to be carried out with the aim of obtaining objective research outcomes, through observation and analysis of their characteristics, habits, mutual differences and consequent problems and barriers, regarding their active participation in the labor market or education process.

The research should result in in-depth study of the systemic approach to these vulnerable people in the process of their activation and employment. The expert should prepare a special report, which would encompass the main findings from the research and the project, as well as recommendations for the necessary changes for developing an efficient and effective education/employment support system to young people, especially NEETs, as well as other vulnerable groups.

# Specification of the assignment

The ethnographic research will be conducted in 3 targeted municipalities in Kosovo (5 municipalities in Montenegro) and having in mind the goal of this ethnographic research, the basic method that will be used during its implementation is an interview. It is required to conduct at least 15 interviews with representatives of NEETs and at least 5 interviews with policy makers and(or) policy implementers regarding this target group in Kosovo.

However, elements of some other research methods used during ethnographic research could also be applied. This primarily refers to participant observation and naturalism.

The researcher should guarantee obtaining objective results of the research. Expert should also provide access to all information collected through the survey.

The researcher is required to have experience in conducting interviews, as well as in qualitative research, and at the same time demonstrate cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.

# Eligibility of the applicant

The interested parties should meet the following criteria:

1. Minimum 10 years of working experience in qualitative field research and in topics relevant to this ToR;
2. Advanced university degree in law, economy, political science, or associated fields;
3. Knowledge and understanding of public administration and creation of policies and programs, especially in the area of employment and/or social protection;
4. Excellent social, facilitation and communication skills;
5. Experience in preparing reports and data presentation;
6. Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude.

# Required Documentation

Interested parties that would like to submit their offers must submit the following documents:

* CV that confirms eligibility criteria of the candidate.
* Outline of the approach that expert will apply in the research (up to two pages)
* Financial Proposal

The financial proposal should include expenses that match **5,000.00 EUR per country.**

# How to apply?

All interested parties are welcome to bid. The interested parties should send all the required documents listed above to the address: [office@indep.info](mailto:office@indep.info%20) under the subject line: “[Researchers name] – Bid for policy researcher for ethnographic research”

However, INDEP reserves the right to contact the tenderers for further clarifications. Offers must be presented in EUR. The offers will be evaluated based on the substance of the offer provided they are within the financial limitations of this call. Only shortlisted tenderers will be invited for an interview.

# Deadline

The deadline for submission of the offers is **15 June 2023 at 23:59hr** at [office@indep.info](mailto:office@indep.info) or any questions, please do reach out to [office@indep.info](mailto:office@indep.info).