

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1 EXPERT RESEARCHER IN THE DOMAIN OF EDUCATION AND 1 GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE EXPERT

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Asylum Protection Center / Centar za zaštitu i pomoć tražiocima azila (APC/CZA) has been providing legal and psychosocial support to asylum seekers since the beginning of the asylum system in Serbia in 2008. APC/CZA uses a comprehensive approach to providing all-encompassing support and protection to asylum seekers and other people forced to migrate through weekly presence on the field, provision of legal and psychosocial support and organisation of various activities in asylum centers and local communities where asylum seekers live in Serbia.

Serbia is a country with mixed migratory flow from Asia, Middle East and North Africa on route to EU countries. In the last years, a minimum of 700 asylum requests in Serbia came from minor asylum seekers, both accompanied and unaccompanied. During their stay, asylum seeker children have the right to education. The Republic of Serbia is obliged to provide to each child, with parents or unaccompanied, regardless of the status and without discrimination, complete access to education. In practice, until 2014 only 2 children were enrolled with the help of APC/CZA into local school. Moreover, asylum seeker and migrant children are particularly exposed to the risks of gender-based violence, including domestic violence, trafficking and sexual abuse. However, state institutions fail to provide timely and adequate assistance or support to asylum children.

In order to develop sustainable procedures for enrolling asylum children in pre-school, primary and secondary school, and develop a more efficient prevention and protection system from genderbased violence, APC/CZA is implementing the project "Enhancing Access to Education and Preventing Gender-based Violence of Asylum Children in Serbia", funded by the EU. The project aims at increasing enrollment of asylum children into Serbia's educational system, empowering asylum children in recognizing and prevention of gender-based violence, increasing capacities of actors involved in education and protection of asylum/migrant children and enhancing awareness of the rights and needs for education and prevention of gender-based violence of asylum children in Serbia.

Therefore, Asylum Protection Center (APC/CZA) is looking for two (2) expert researchers for conducting a comprehensive analysis on the challenges and obstacles related to enrolment of asylum children and prevention of gender-based violence among asylum seeker children. The analysis developed by expert researchers will serve as a point of reference for developing a training course for representatives from national and local institutions mandated with education and gender-based

violence prevention and for provision of legal support in the process of enrolling asylum children in schools and protecting them from gender-based violence.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The key deliverables would be the following:

- \circ $\;$ Research methodology should delivered by September 5 $^{\rm th}$
- The first draft of the analysis should be delivered by October 20^{th.} The project team will comment on the first draft in the first half of October.
- The final version should be ready by November 20th 2014

All written products must be delivered in Serbian.

1 EXPERT RESEARCHER IN THE DOMAIN OF EDUCATION

Under the supervision of the Project Manager and in coordination with the Gender-Based Violence Expert, the Expert Researcher will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive study and producing a detailed report on the challenges and obstacles related to enrolment of asylum/migrant children into Serbian educational system, including:

- Mapping of institutional framework related to education of asylum seekers;
- Assessing the level of implementation of existing policies and regulations and identifying and assessing existing assistance and related practices, weaknesses, discrepancies and obstacles in the area of enrolment and education of asylum seekers;
- Identifying the needs of asylum seeker children and their parents in accessing their right to education, as well as the needs of professionals in order to better respond to the needs of asylum children related to enrolment into educational institutions;
- Producing recommendations for improving the enrolment of asylum seeker children in the Serbian educational system.

The Expert Researcher's specific responsibilities will include:

- Designing the research methodology, including the selection of the interviewees sample, designing instruments and tools for data collection (questionnaires for focus groups, semi-structural interviews and interview guidelines)
- Conducting desk research on current practice and provisions in the area of education, including laws, regulations and policies, statistical data and reports from international and local organisations
- Conducting field research, including focus groups, in-depth interviews and meetings with asylum seekers, professionals from local and national institutions mandated with education, asylum/migrant policy, social protection and human rights
- Collecting, processing and analysing the data collected;
- Writing the first draft of the study publication related to education of asylum seekers, including recommendations for improved access to education;
- Revising the draft to produce a final version taking into account the feedback received;

• Collaboration and cooperation with the Gender-Based Violence Expert and other members of the Project Team, including the Project Manager, Project Lawyer and APC/CZA field researcher project pedagogue.

DURATION

Researcher will be hired for a period of four months till November 2014, starting as soon as possible. The final version of the analysis should be submitted in Serbian language at the latest by November 2014.

KEY COMPETENCES AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Advanced Degree in Social Sciences / similar field
- At least three years of research experience, preferably in the field of education
- Expertise in and knowledge about the field of migration and asylum, inclusion in education and prevention of gender-based violence, preferably regarding the situation in Serbia
- Excellent drafting and analytical skills
- Ability to work under tight deadlines
- Proficiency in Serbian language, good knowledge of English

<u>1 GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE EXPERT</u>

Under the supervision of the Project Manager and the Expert Researcher, the Gender-Based Violence Expert will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive study and producing a detailed report on the challenges and obstacles related to prevention of gender-based violence among asylum seekers, including:

- Mapping of institutional framework related to social protection and protection from genderbased violence;
- Assessing the level of implementation of existing policies and regulations and identifying and assessing existing assistance and related practices, weaknesses, discrepancies and obstacles in the area of social protection and prevention of gender-based violence
- Identifying the needs of asylum seeker children and their parents with regard to protection from gender-based violence, as well as the needs of professionals in order to better respond to the needs of asylum children related to (potential) victims of gender-based violence
- Producing recommendations for improving the protection from and prevention of genderbased violence among asylum children in Serbia.

The Gender-Based Violence Expert's specific responsibilities will include:

• Providing substantial input regarding the research methodology developed by Expert Researcher, especially for researching available assistance and support to victims and potential victims of gender-based violence and current practice in the implementation of policies and legal regulation

- Conducting desk research on current practice and provisions in the area of social protection and prevention of gender-based violence, including laws, regulations and policies, statistical data and reports from international and local organisations
- Conducting field research, including focus groups, in-depth interviews and meetings with asylum seekers, professionals from local and national institutions mandated with social protection
- Collecting, processing and analysing the data collected;
- Writing the first draft of the study publication related to prevention of gender-based violence, including recommendations for improved protection from gender-based violence;
- Revising the draft to produce a final version taking into account the feedback received;
- Collaboration and cooperation with the Expert Researcher and other members of the Project Team, including the Project Manager, Project Lawyer and APC/CZA field researcher project pedagogue.

DURATION

Researcher will be hired for a period of four months from end of August till November 2014, starting as soon as possible. The final version of the analysis should be submitted at the latest by November 2014.

KEY COMPETENCES AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Advanced Degree in Social Sciences / similar field
- At least two years of research experience, preferably in the field of gender-based violence
- Expertise in and knowledge about the field of migration and asylum and prevention of gender-based violence, preferably regarding the situation in Serbia
- Excellent drafting and analytical skills
- Ability to work under tight deadlines
- Proficiency in Serbian language, good knowledge of English

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and CV in Serbian or English language to <u>gordana.vukasin@apc-cza.org</u> with the title of the position you are applying for in the subject line for your e-mail not later than August 20th 2014.