



FÖR JÄMSTÄLLDHET. MOT VÅLD.
REDEFINING MASCULINITY.

Men in Belarus - Call for Bid

Project name: Men in Belarus 2018-2021

Contract period: September 2019 – February 2020

Contact: Project manager Mats Berggren, mats.berggren@mfj.se

Deadline: 2019-08-18

Background

Men in Belarus 2018-2021 is a continuation and development of the previous project New Men in Belarus 2013-2018, and is carried out in partnership between MÄN, in Sweden, and Klub Lvov and Gender Perspectives, in Belarus.

The three areas of activities in the project are fatherhood and equal parenting, informal education among youth and counselling of men in need of psychosocial support.

In the last few years the project partners have noticed a positive shift in the way fatherhood and men as caregivers are viewed in the modern Belarusian society. This change has partly become realized due to mass media's increased interest in the work with fathers and communication with relevant duty bearers, within the framework of the current project. The formation and development of a new role of the conscious father indicates a positive trend and a momentum that requires continued focus to reach gender equality and combating men's violence.

Despite this positive change in the view of fathers, huge challenges in connections to gender equality and men's violence against women and children remain. There is no national action plan on prevention of violence against women. The supportive and preventive work being done is mainly provided by NGOs and women's shelters, occasionally with encouragement from the state. Domestic violence offences make one third of the total number of crimes taking place in homes all over the country.

For more details, see the project description in the application (annex 1)

Project intermediary objectives

- A coordinated support structure created and in use for men and youth in Belarus to

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be able to develop equal relationships, redefine masculinity norms and enhance gender equality in the Belarusian society.

- A nationwide system developed and in use in Belarus for active involvement of fathers in the lives and care of their children.
- Gender-sensitive counselling service provided for men to enable them to reflect on masculinity in life situations.
- Young women and men targeted by peer-to-peer gender education increase their awareness of gender equality issues and change attitude towards gender roles and norms.
- Strategic cooperation and networking at a national level to have a fruitful dialogue on gender equality as a means for development.
- Strengthened strategic and operational management capacity including professional partnership among the partner organizations

Evaluator role

To improve the project implementation and evaluate the impact, the project partners seeks to contract an evaluator with a two-fold purpose.

1. Evaluate the project progress towards set objectives based on the project result matrix (annex 2), including
 - a. Analysis of statistics, reports and other documentation supplied by project partners
 - b. Analysis of mass media and social media content
 - c. Interviews with a subset of the target group, project staff and volunteers
2. Derive recommendations for the project partner to
 - a. Improve project implementation in relation to our objectives
 - b. Improve monitoring and evaluation to increase measurability of indicators

Assignment objective 1. Evaluation of progress

Each intermediary objective in the project has been accompanied with relevant indicators and means of verification in the result matrix (annex 2). The evaluator is expected to assess the progress of the project using these indicators and means of verification. Any obstacles in obtaining relevant data or need additional means of verification should be discussed with the the project management.

The evaluation is a mid-term evaluation and the evaluator should keep in mind the preliminary status of the results and that the evaluation should assess the trajectory of the project *so far*.

The evaluator is expected to present the data and methodology on which the assessment is based.

Assignment objective 2. Recommendations for success and measurability

2a) The evaluator is expected to provide recommendations for how the project management can improve the implementation of the project to increase the chance of reaching the objectives. Are we doing what we set out to do? Should any activities be added or adjusted to improve effectiveness?

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2b) The evaluator is also expected to provide recommendations for how the project management can improve their routines for monitoring and evaluation of activities to improve measurability of progress and impact. Are there any data missing? Are some indicators expressed in a way that is difficult to assess? Are the indicators relevant?

Scope

The evaluator will be expected to carry out the assignment before the end of February 2020. The bid should include a suggestion for how much time will be needed to carry out the assignment and how these hours will be allocated over the course of the assignment period.

Methodology

The assignment does include some data collection and interviews, but mostly the project staff will provide the required reports and documentation based on the evaluators request.

The evaluator will initially be tasked with creating a plan for the assignment together with project staff. The plan should include a time plan and determine which methods to use to carry out the appropriate analysis to fulfil the evaluation objectives.

Roles and responsibilities

The evaluator will be contracted by Men for Gender Equality Sweden (MÄN), the lead project partner. Any questions or complications should be directed to the project manager Mats Berggren, who will then be responsible for handling any issues together with the project partners and financier.

In any external contact, the evaluator represents themselves in their professional role, but not as a representative of the project or project partners.

Guiding principles and values

The partners have written a common memorandum of understanding (annex 3) describing our joint perspective on the work that we are doing within the scope of the project. The evaluator should consider this memorandum of understanding a guiding document on the same level as the project application and result matrix. A bid in conflict with these principles must be revised or will not be considered.

Working with men and boys to improve gender equality to preventing men's violence against women and children comes with a need for a certain form of Accountability (see objective 5, indicator 5d in the result matrix, annex 2). This special responsibility to remain accountable to the victims of gender inequality and the victims of men's violence goes beyond the general responsibility to do no harm in international development cooperation. The evaluator is expected to use the MenEngage Accountability Standards and Guidelines (annex 4) as a guide towards assessing the projects track record in assuring accountability in practice (indicator 5d).

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Professional Qualification

The evaluator is expected to be qualified in

- Evaluating international development cooperation projects
- Evaluating and providing feedback for NGO partnership relations
- Understanding Sida expectations regarding result-based management and evaluation
- Interpreting a person's attitude towards gender roles, gender equality, parenting and causes of psychosocial distress based textual analysis of statements and articles.
- Proficiency in writing reports in English

Additional relevant competencies are

- Proficiency in Russian
- Proficiency in Swedish
- Contextual knowledge of masculinities, gender roles and gender-based violence in Belarus

Deliverables and payment

The allocated amount for the external evaluation is SEK 200 000 for the whole period, including all expenses and including VAT/TAV. The price of the proposal needs to be priced accordingly in order to be considered.

The payment will be divided in according to deliverables over the course of the project identified in the proposal and specified in the contract. Presumably, deliverables will include

- Time and activity plan for the evaluation assignment written by the evaluator together with and with the approval of MÄN staff
- Preliminary evaluation report and revised time and activity plan
- Final evaluation report, including recommendations meeting the assignment objectives

Structure and Submission Guidelines

The bid should include

1. Contact information to submitting organization/individual and name of the author of the proposal.
2. Summary of competencies that will make the person(s) suitable to provide the service.
3. Evaluators availability for the period September 2019 - February 2020
4. Price and number of working days/hours that are included in the bid

We expect the bid to be described in a single (1) page + 1-2 pages description of competencies and be submitted by the 18th of August at the latest via e-mail to mats.berggren@mfj.se. Shortlisting will take place August 19-21 and shortlisted applicants will be contacted with follow up questions and proposal for time for interview (at MÄN office in Stockholm or online).

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Additional References or Resources

Annex 1. Men in Belarus 2018-2021 project application

Annex 2. Men in Belarus 2018-2021 revised result matrix

Annex 3. Memorandum of understanding

Annex 4. MenEngage Accountability Standards and Guidelines

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