

## IZVJEŠTAJ O ODRŽANIM KONSULTACIJAMA SA ZAINTERESIRANOM JAVNOŠĆU

TEMA Sector Planning Document, Employment / education / social policies, IPA 2018-2020

### OPIS TIJEKA KONSULTACIJA

Metode konsultacija	Statistika
Online konsultacije sa OCD i zainteresiranom javnošću o nacrtu sektorskog planskog dokumenta	<b>Broj prijavljenih za konsultacije: 2</b>
Datum početka 1.8.2017	<b>Broj komentara: 1</b>
Datum kraja 5.9.2017	<b>Broj prijedloga: 0</b>
	<b>Broj prihvaćenih prijedloga: 0</b>

### ZAKLJUČAK:

Zaprimljeni komentar će biti upućen vodećoj instituciji za pripremu navedenog Sektorskog planskog dokumenta, odnosno Ministarstvu civilnih poslova Bosne i Hercegovine.

### VODITELJ KONSULTACIJA

Midhat Džemić

Sarajevo, dana 7.9.2017

### Aneks

### Prikupljeni prijedlozi i komentari na dokument iz online konsultacija

#### Prijedlozi i komentari na Poglavlje 1

Prijedlozi:

Komentari:

1. On behalf of the Child Rights Working Group (CRWG) in Bosnia and Herzegovina comprising Save the Children, Hope and Homes for Children, SOS Children's Villages and World Vision, we hereby submit our proposal for the Plan of Interventions within the SPD Employment, Education and Social Policies as part of IPA II 2018-2020 planning. Our general opinion is that social policies, although formally present in the name of the SPD, are not sufficiently represented in terms of possible reforms which would lead to greater social justice and protection of marginalized groups, and ultimately to their better inclusion and functioning in the society. This is particularly true when we speak of children, as one of the most vulnerable groups in BiH society. Risks that children are faced with in BiH are multiple but most stem from the weakened function of their primary families which lack the means and the capacities to adequately care for their children. Reasons for this are also manifold but we are mostly talking about growing poverty, economic instability, and lack of

parenting skills, all of which lead to disturbed family relations, abuse and neglect, and ultimately – separation of children from their biological parents. On the other hand, skills and capacities of social service providers to respond to the needs of families at risk in order to prevent abuse and separation are very limited, to a great extent due to the fact that the current manner in which Centres for Social Work (CSW) are organized and operate is entirely inadequate and inefficient. With this in mind, we propose an intervention which aims to, over the course of this and next IPA round, completely overhaul the system of functioning of CSWs, ultimately leading to a strengthened system of social welfare services in the country able to exercise its primary functions – empower the vulnerable groups in the society, resolve social issues, and prevent family breakdown. Please find below the outline of the proposed intervention: Action title: REFORMING CENTERS FOR SOCIAL WORK FOR BETTER PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA Specific objective: Reform and strengthen the capacities of centres for social work (CSW) in Bosnia and Herzegovina to protect families at risk and prevent separation of children Expected results: 1. Situation in CSWs across the country mapped out and their overall capacities for delivery of family protection/prevention programmes assessed, including addressing and preventing all forms of violence against children in the family and dealing with risks that may lead to family breakup. 2. Feasibility study based on the results of the situation analysis produced clearly outlining overall reform of CSW's scope of work/responsibilities/capacities, ultimately enabling them to provide protection/prevention services to families in a more efficient manner and with greater impact 3. Reform projects piloted in selected CSWs across the country to test guidelines and prepare for recommendations for full scale roll out 4. Plan for full reform of CSWs in the entire country prepared, presented to relevant stakeholders, and their commitment obtained for implementation Indicative foreseen activities to fulfill the results: 1. Design and implement situation analysis in all CSWs in BiH focusing on description of CSWs' scope of work, their organisational scheme, expected responsibilities, current workload, and professional capacities of employees 2. Produce feasibility study with clear guidelines and recommendations for initiating reform of CSWs and share with relevant stakeholders to ensure their consent and ownership. 3. Pilot reform in a selected number of CSWs from both entities and Brčko District 4. Create plan for full scale reform of all CSWs in the next round of IPA funding and present it to relevant stakeholders to obtain their consent Implementation arrangements: The project will be implemented over the entire 2018-2020 period of IPA II as follows: 2018: situation analysis (research methodology developed, public call to research agencies, analysis carried out in the field, report drafted and guidelines produced and shared with stakeholders) and feasibility study 2019-2020: Pilot reform projects carried out in selected CSWs (e.g. 10 in FBiH, 10 in RS, plus BD) – to include reorganisation of staff and working procedures, introduction of case management, capacity building for CSW staff etc. 2020: Plan drafted for full scale reform in the next IPA round and consensus obtained from all relevant stakeholders for its implementation The project will be implemented by relevant entity ministries of social welfare and Brčko District department of health and social protection. Involvement of cantonal ministries of social welfare in FBiH is also essential. It is foreseen that relevant CSOs will be involved in project implementation by providing specific knowledge and expertise, delivering capacity building trainings, etc. Justification for the choice of implementation arrangements: Social protection in Bosnia and Herzegovina is highly fragmented with regulatory framework determined by entities of FBiH and RS (and additionally by cantons in FBiH), and social services provided at the local level by Centres for Social Work which, in turn, are largely established and funded by municipalities and, in some cases, cantons. The way CSWs are organised, their overall lack of capacities, workload carried by social workers, coupled with tight and ineffective budgets for social protection have all resulted in very limited support being provided to most vulnerable groups in the society. This particularly bears impact on vulnerable families with children which, besides limited financial benefits, receive only scarce preventative services. It is estimated that there are over 70,000 children at risk of separation in BiH, and approx. 350 children being separated from biological families per year and placed into care (official data of statistical institutes in BiH). According to UNICEF data, over 55% of children aged 2-14 have been exposed to physical violence/violent discipline in the family. Common risk factors that lead to family breakup include violence against children due to increased stress on parents and inadequate parental skills, domestic violence (physical, emotional, children as witnesses etc), child maltreatment/neglect, substance abuse and – more increasingly – poverty. CSWs, to a great extent, have lost their basic function of prevention, advisory work, and rehabilitation of social problems. In addition to insufficient number of employees and above-mentioned issues, the CSWs receive guidelines for their work from virtually all levels of government, from entity and cantonal levels, to the municipalities. Employees often point out that their tasks are accumulating and the time devoted to working with individual beneficiaries is diminishing. In general, social workers are overburdened with various administrative tasks which leaves them little or no time to focus on real social work and prevention. Social protection services thus fail to meet the needs of beneficiaries, primarily vulnerable families with children. The present way in which the system operates also does not ensure the sustainable development of beneficiaries, but encourages long-term dependence on social support, because the active measures aimed at preventing and eliminating the causes that lead beneficiaries to the state of need are not being undertaken. Similarly, the impact of implemented social protection measures and beneficiaries' further needs for exercising certain rights are very rarely assessed. All this ultimately gives an image of an impaired social welfare system that drains public resources and yet does not fulfil its purpose of protecting the most vulnerable and resolving social problems. The proposed action aims to provide a full analysis of root causes of such dysfunctional operation of social protection services, map the existing situation in CSWs, and propose concrete solutions for a way out of the current deadlock. Necessary reforms as well as possible interventions within the legal framework will be identified as part of the comprehensive situation analysis, which will be followed by a detailed feasibility study and pilot reform projects in a selected number of CSWs across the country. As part of these projects, pilot CSWs will undergo reform in terms of reorganization of work flow, introduction of case management, capacity building of professionals, improvement in material conditions etc. Following the assessment of the pilot stage, plan for full overhaul of CSW operation will be developed, approved by relevant decision-makers and proposed for the next round of IPA assistance post 2020. This extensive transformation of the welfare

services system requires full support and engagement of relevant entity, cantonal, and Brčko District ministries/departments, involvement of civil society organisations, and possibly a coordinating role from the BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs as the only state-level body partly in charge of social protection issues.

#### **Zbirni odgovor i obrazloženje na Poglavlje 1**

#### **Prijedlozi i komentari na Poglavlje 2**

Prijedlozi:

Komentari:

#### **Zbirni odgovor i obrazloženje na Poglavlje 2**

#### **Prijedlozi i komentari na Poglavlje 3**

Prijedlozi:

Komentari:

#### **Zbirni odgovor i obrazloženje na Poglavlje 3**

#### **Prijedlozi i komentari na Poglavlje 4**

Prijedlozi:

Komentari:

#### **Zbirni odgovor i obrazloženje na Poglavlje 4**

#### **Prijedlozi i komentari na Poglavlje 5**

Prijedlozi:

Komentari:

#### **Zbirni odgovor i obrazloženje na Poglavlje 5**

