



*Eurasian Coalition
on Male Health*

Tartu mnt 63, Tallinn
10115, Estonia
Tel. +372 634 6257
contact@ecom.ngo
www.ecom.ngo

Call for Proposals

Desk Research on Legal Environment for HIV Services for gay men, other MSM and Trans Populations in CEECA

Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM) is soliciting proposals from individual consultants to conduct a desk research on enabling environments for HIV services for gay men, other MSM and trans people within the final assessment in the five target countries of ECOM's Regional Program "Right to Health" funded by the Global Fund.

Background

Eurasian Coalition on Male Health is an international non-governmental association, located in Tallinn, Estonia. We are a membership-based association, open for non-profits and individuals acting in the field of sexual health, including HIV issues, for gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM) and trans people, in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (CEECA).

In January 2017, ECOM has launched a Regional Program "Right to Health" supported by the Global Fund, which aims at increasing the access to HIV services for MSM and trans people in the five target countries: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, and Macedonia

Previously within the Regional Program, baseline evaluation on Legal Environment has been conducted in these 5 countries and reports prepared: <https://ecom.ngo/en/ecom-legislation-analysis/>

Description of Services required and Timelines

ECOM is seeking expert assistance to conduct a desk research on legal environments for HIV services for MSM and trans people in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, and Macedonia.

The goal for this research is to describe the current status of legal environments for HIV services for MSM and trans people (including issues of stigma and discrimination, human rights, and legal and policy barriers).

The consultant(s) is/are expected to:

- (1) review existing desk research protocol and tools including scoring table to give quantitative comparable information for content analysis of the documents;
- (2) with assistance of national consultants to collect appropriate national documents about legal situation of MSM and trans community in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia;
- (3) review and analyze the documents;

- (4) to compare data obtained with Legal Environment Assessment results, implemented in 2017 and 2018, and to show changes in the level of key indicators, and to prepare a joint regional analytical report, including separate country briefs.

The consultant(s) will work closely with the ECOM Human Rights and Legal Issues Officer.

Deliverables

- 1) Updated Desk research protocol and tool(s) to bring information on the following topics:
 - a) current legislative barriers to MSM and trans people accessing HIV and general health services;
 - b) reliable quantitative information about level of stigma and discrimination against LGBT in the target countries, especially among gate-keepers (doctors, social services, police etc.)
 - c) human rights projects or services run by organizations of MSM and trans people
- 2) Collection of appropriate national documents with assistance of national consultants;
- 3) Regional Report with results profiles for each of the 5 target countries:
 - Prohibition on travel and immigration for people living with HIV;
 - Criminalization of HIV transmission;
 - Prohibition for MSM to be blood donors;
 - Access for NGOs working with MSM or LGBT to the state funding to provide social and health services;
 - Legislation and policies in the sphere of sexual orientation and gender identity (same-sex relations; prohibition of “gay propaganda”; legal gender confirmation and related procedures; legal status of same-sex couples and adoption);
 - Freedom of expression and assembly in the context of LGBT community;
 - Anti-discrimination laws – in particular, in relation to sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression;
 - Hate crimes (homophobia and transphobia based).

Budget and Contract

Budget allocation will cover the costs for implementing the desk review in the period between 1 January and 1 May 2019.

Consultant(s) Qualifications

Essential

- At least Master’s degree in Law or relevant issues
- At least 3 years of experience as an analyst/consultant
- Experience in LGBT-related research in at least two or more CEECA countries
- Effective communication skills in Russian and English

Desirable

- Experience in scholar research and publications on stigma, prejudice and discrimination, preferably those concerning LGBT
- Experience in survey development
- Previous working experience with NGOs
- Fluency in language(s) of CEECA countries other than Russian is an asset

Consultant(s) with a proposal that demonstrates experience of effectively analyzing documents and knowledge of HIV and LGBT situation in CEECA countries, clear methodology, competitive rate and timeline will be selected.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted by email with a reference “Legal Environment Assessment 2019” at contact@ecom.ngo

Deadline for submission: 15 December 2018 at 23:59 EET.

Applications should include:

1. Cover Letter outlining experience in conducting similar work along with CV
2. Brief proposal (3 pages max.) outlining methodology, design, timetable and budget (number of days and daily rate)
3. Samples of previous analytical reports

Application materials are non-returnable.

Thank you for understanding that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

For more information, prospective consultants may contact Yuri Yoursky, ECOM Human Rights and Legal Issues Officer, at yuri@ecom.ngo