

Berlin, 21.09.2010

## Call for Tender

### A Fact Finding Mission

**In the border area of Poland/Ukraine on target group specific HIV/STI prevention and mobility in the frame of the EU-funded (Public Health Programme) project BORDERNETwork n° 20091202,**

**Areas of Cooperation Interdisciplinary cross-border networking (Work Package 4) and related also to Referral and Treatment Systems for HIV and Co-infections (Work package 7)**

#### I. General Objective of the Fact Finding Mission

**To sort out gaps in and between the core strands HIV/AIDS/STI prevention, diagnostic and therapy in border areas between EU and ENP country, Ukraine.**

For the purpose of the assessment along the external EU border the BORDERNETwork project coordinated by SPI Forschung envisages subcontracting suitable organisation to conduct a *Fact Finding Mission*. In order to take advantage of the existing local expertise by the fulfilment of the task the project will involve subcontractors in the ENP country Ukraine from the West Ukraine Lviv Region.

This fact finding mission will take place outside of EU, but will implement the requirements of EU bearing direct benefit to EU citizens and will implement the methodology and instruments developed by the co-ordinator SPI Forschung responsible for the conducting of the tender and the selection of subcontractors.

#### II. Specific objective: Referral and treatment systems:

To augment the country-specific evidence in EU-border ENP countries on treatment and care of HIV and co-infections and to enhance interlinks in referral systems for diagnostic, treatment and care of STIs, HIV/AIDS and co-infections

Main focus of the fact finding mission under this specific objective will be on information on particularities of local treatment and referral context (e.g. HIV/AIDS/STI, HIV Co-infections, Tuberculosis) with special focus also on treatment pathways for most at risk groups, IDUs, Sex workers.

At same time the scope and barriers of the available diagnostic, counselling and referral measures, HIV treatment, Management of Co-infections (Tuberculosis, Hepatitis C) will be assessed. This will raise understanding about shortcomings of the measures undertaken so far and will study closer the needs related to diagnostic, referral, medical and social offers, care and support for the affected communities

### **III. Subject of Tender**

Preparation, conduct and report on a Fact Finding Mission, incl. stock-taking and mapping survey in the West Ukraine(Lviv Region) in the EU border area to Poland with regard to HIV-treatment services with organigram, management of HIV Co-infections (e.g. Tuberculosis), and social inclusion of affected groups and communities (PLHIV)

Target groups to be addressed in the frame of the Fact Finding Mission:

- Medical professionals, HIV/STI/TB-treatment practitioners, heads of treatment institutions,
- Representatives of civil society, HIV-service provider NGOs, self-help groups of PLHIV
- PLHIV, HIV-positive IDUs, TB-patients

The thematic priorities will be:

- General HIV and STI situation in the city/region Lviv
- Description of the HIV/STI diagnostic and treatment practices
- Description of the barriers to HIV treatment for vulnerable groups
- Description of the risks for discrimination and social exclusion of PLHIV and effected groups,
- Description of social and counselling services for social inclusion and mobilisation of the group of PLHIV

Geographical scope:

The EU-border area between Lviv Region, West Ukraine and Poland

### **IV. Tasks to be fulfilled**

#### **1.1. Desk review**

- Review and systematic description of relevant information from background documents (reports, publications, presentations, web-sites) highlighting the particular context, incl. epidemiological situation and socio-demographic features of the most vulnerable groups and affected communities;
- Compilation of mapping report on referral and treatment service provision

## **1.2. Small-scale field survey involving regional and community experts, stake-holders, target group representatives;**

- The instruments, among others the *HIV/STI diagnostic and treatment Questionnaire and Guidance for Focus Groups with PLHIV* will be prepared in English by the responsible for the tender SPI Forschung in cooperation with other BORDERNETwork partners and delivered to the applicant for the analysis of the situation;
- Data collection in the form of individual interviews or focus group discussions. The number of interviews and/or focus groups is to be defined by the applicant as part of the application and financial plan.

## **1.3. Data analysis and report writing**

## **1.4. Submission of compiled Report on Fact Finding and summary in English to SPI Forschung**

## **1.5. Participation in expert meeting and exchange on results of “Fact Finding Missions in different ENP countries in EU- border areas in Berlin in 2010 or 2011**

Additionally the experts from the ENP countries will be invited to participate in a medical exchange workshop and hospitation to HIV-treatment clinics in Potsdam and Rostock, Germany in November 2011 in the frame of the relevant work package of BORDERNETwork.

The budget for international travel is not part of this tender. SPI will cover the costs for participation in international expert workshops and meetings.

## **V. Financing**

The total budget amount for the Fact Finding Mission, including all related expenses incurred in the country is 3 500 EUR.

## **VI. Time line**

The time frame for the performance of the survey will be up to 4 months, between November 2010 and February 2011, including report, translation of report and submission to SPI.

## **VII. Criteria for selection of applicant:**

- Relevance to the objectives and priorities of the call and solidity of the concept;
- Required competence in relation to the required thematic area and priorities;
- Cost-efficiency

Application, including content description and detailed financial plan should be returned to SPI Forschung GMBH only via e-mail by October 8, 2010 at latest:  
[spi@spi-research.de](mailto:spi@spi-research.de)

The applications will be reviewed and feedback sent to the applicant by October 15, 2010.