

LADDER project: evaluation and monitoring

Call for external evaluators: expression of interest

The project LADDER

LADDER, [Local Authorities as Drivers for Development Education and Awareness Raising](#), is a 3-year EU-funded project (DG EuropeAid) coordinated by [ALDA](#), that aims at empowering Local Authorities to contribute to the promotion and strengthening of DEAR (Development Education and Awareness Raising) policies in the EU and the Neighborhood, by applying a multi-stakeholder approach involving different kind of partners (CSOs, international organizations etc).

LADDER involves a wide consortium of 26 co-applicants and 20 associates from EU and non-EU countries that will be working together to promote DEAR policies, strengthen their capacities and the capacities of their members in becoming stronger 'drivers for change', enhancing their awareness, their understanding and their skills in getting engaged in global efforts to eradicate poverty, promote justice, human rights, sustainable development. They will be focusing on the local level while activities are foreseen at EU, National and Local levels. The final target group of LADDER is ordinary citizens, with the objective to raise their awareness on global issues and interdependency and increase their engagement in global challenges.

The project started in January 2015 and will end in December 2017, and includes 9 Work Packages.

Purpose of the evaluation & monitoring

The evaluation & monitoring expert/team of experts will be involved in the project LADDER, to support the co-applicants to understand, ensure, monitor and evaluate the overall **impact of the project**, being also involved in the planning of its follow up (after 2017).

The evaluation and monitoring team will support the LADDER's consortium to reach the objectives of the project, by providing professional and expert advice for the timely and efficient implementation of its activities.

Implementation guidelines and monitoring reports shall be drafted in cooperation with the co-applicants of LADDER, including qualitative and quantitative indicators that will allow measuring the project's impact during and after its implementation.

In particular, in order to ensure objectivity in the part of the evaluation concerning the process of interaction between partners and the final impact on beneficiaries, the external evaluator(s) has been foreseen for the following tasks:

- *Evaluate and stimulate the partnership in terms of:*
 - Roles and tasks division within the project
 - Level of engagement, contribution and mutual support of each partner in the different phases of it



- Quality and coherence of the implementation of the actions foreseen in the project
- Effectiveness of communication and decision making process inside the consortium
- Working methods and conflict management within the consortium
- *Evaluate the real impact on beneficiaries in terms of*
 - Concrete results in relation to the aims of the project
 - Local impact of practices experimented
 - Real commitment of the beneficiaries towards the project phases
- *Evaluate the success of the transnational cooperation throughout the*
 - Assessment of the effectiveness of the project against its objectives
 - Real achievements of the international project
 - Dimension of results reached at all levels by the project
 - Usefulness of the resources provided by the project
- *Contribute to the final report*

In order to accomplish the mission, the external evaluator(s) is requested to participate for all the duration of the mid-term evaluation meeting and of the final evaluation meeting.

Reactions by e-mail or Skype within the 72 hours after a direct request of advice from the members of the consortium are requested to the external evaluator(s).

The Evaluation process

It is intended to appoint an evaluator or an evaluation team as soon as possible and before the end of April 2015, that will follow and monitor the LADDER project during its entire implementation (2015-2017), ensuring a monitoring and evaluation of its impact and supporting the consortium in fulfilling the objectives of the project.

The evaluation & monitoring expert(s) will participate in the international events foreseen by the project, monitoring the implementation of the activities and designing the evaluation methodology. In the following table, an indicative (non-exhaustive) list of the LADDER events in which the evaluator will be required/invited to be present (travel costs may be covered by the project):

Indicative (and non exhaustive) list			
Event	Date	Country	
Expert workshop on monitoring/evaluation	6-7 May 2015 (tbc)	Montenegro	**
Launching Conference	June 2015	Latvia	**
Closing Conference	2017 (tbd)	Strasbourg (FR)	**
Steering Committee	2-day meeting every 9 months (vis-à-vis or online)	EU Member States	**
EU level Training	2nd half of 2015	Ireland	*
EU level Training	2nd half of 2015	Croatia	*
EU level Training	2nd half of 2015	Greece	*
Training of Citizens' Journalists	2nd half of 2015 or 2016	Italy	*
6 Special initiatives (Thematic Paths)	tbd	FR, AT, BE, IT, MT, SK	**
3 Special initiatives (Geographical paths)	tbd	Tunisia, Georgia, Serbia	**
Tool fair	tbd (2-day event)	Brussels (BE)	**



* presence of the external evaluator in one of the visits is recommended

** presence of the external evaluator requested

Events taking place at National and Local level (in the countries of the co-applicants) may be also included in the list of events where the evaluator's presence and participation will be required/recommended

Applicant profile: capacity, skills, experience and knowledge

We are looking for professionals (organisations) who can demonstrate:

- evaluation experience in relation to multi-stakeholder partnerships
- evidenced experience of working with European programmes
- excellent research and analysis skills
- excellent communication skills
- ability to draft qualitative reports in English

Evaluation content

The evaluation and monitoring work will address the issue of whether and to which extent the project is meeting its objectives and will measure its impact throughout its implementation period.

The expression of interest shall be structured as follows:

- presentation of the expert/team of experts and past relevant experience/references about similar tasks and assignments, especially related to EU projects on Development & DEAR policies – (2 pages)
- Presentation of the methodological approach for the monitoring and evaluation of the project (max 4 pages)

Budget

A budget of maximum EUR 20.000 is foreseen for the task. This open call for expression of interest is launched to constitute a pool of experts to be assessed and contacted for further information if pre-selected.

Deadline

Proposals including a concept note (max 7 pages) and budget should be sent by email to nikos.gamouras@aldaintranet.org as soon as possible and before the **20th of April 2015** the latest. ALDA will have the final decision on the choice of the external evaluation and its verdict will be unappealable.

For further information, please contact Nikos Gamouras (nikos.gamouras@aldaintranet.org)

****A detailed summary of the LADDER project is available and can be requested by email****

