**Programme: “**Economic and social participation of vulnerable displaced and local populations in the South Caucasus” (EPIC)

**PN:** 2017.4061.2-004.00

**AV:** Friederike Rochowanski

**Activity**: Develop the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the Action Plan stemming from 2021-2031 draft Strategy on Integration of Immigrants and Reintegration of Returnees and IDPs

**Period:** 6 July 2020 – 30 September 2020
 (up to 25 expert days)

1. **Project background**

The programme on Economic and Social Participation of Vulnerable Displaced and Local Populations in the South Caucasus (EPIC) was designed with the objective to improve socio-economic participation of vulnerable displaced and local population in the South Caucasus.The Armenian component under the EPIC programme was launched in October 2018 aiming at economic integration of vulnerable displaced persons from Syria and local population.

In Armenia, the programme objective is translated into three closely related fields of activity:

1. Strengthening capacities of public actors to promote economic participation of vulnerable population, both displaced and local
2. Increasing employability of target groups with a special focus on women and youth;
3. Enabling private sector actors to apply new measures to promote local economic development and business start-ups

The South Caucasus, since 1991 has witnessed a number of regional conflicts that resulted in proportionally huge displacements of population and large communities of displaced in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Different factors hamper the economic and social integration of displaced population in their host-communities, among them a lack of vocational qualifications and key competencies that match the demands of the local labour market and a lack of opportunities to participate in decisions about the local development in their host-communities.

Due to the war in Syria there was another significant movement to Armenia primarily of people with Armenian background. According to the Government of Armenia and UNHCR, the number of persons displaced from Syria currently present in Armenia is estimated to be around 15 000-17 000. While these figures are small in absolute numbers, they constitute a significant challenge for a small country such as Armenia. The government needed to expand its capacity to respond to the humanitarian challenges, elevate its process of naturalisation and prepare for the integration of thousands of new citizens into the labour market and larger society.

The RA government introduced a number of measures assisting persons displaced from Syria, offering them a variety of protection options, namely by way of (i) simplified acquisition of citizenship, (ii) accelerated asylum procedures or (iii) privileged granting of short, mid-term or long-term residence permits.

The quite heterogeneous and diverse in terms of professional background and skills group of Syrian Armenians (SAs) is welcomed with open arms by the RA government and society. This combination of i) SA enthusiasm, broad skills, experience especially in the Middle East and Mediterranean and service-orientation together with ii) Armenia’s declared interest and commitment for their integration supported by the international community offers excellent pre-conditions to tap into the many economic opportunities. This can possibly help Armenia’s economy to innovate and grow and open new markets regionally and internationally.

GIZ prioritizes gender mainstreaming in all its programmes and seeks for constant promotion of gender equality.

1. **Conditions of the assignment**
	1. **Objective, relevance, tasks and deliverables**
2. **Objective**

The objective of this assignment is to develop a monitoring and evaluation system for the assessment of the expected outcomes of the actions planned in the framework of the Action Plan of the 2021-2031 Strategy on Integration of Immigrants and Reintegration of Returnees and IDPs (AP).

1. **Relevance**

On 16 May 2019 the RA Government adopted Decision № 650-L on “Approving the Action Plan of 2019-2023 Activities of Republic of Armenia Government”. According to 233.1 point of the mentioned decision, it is envisaged to develop RA Government draft paper on “Comprehensive Strategy on the Integration of Returning Citizens to the Republic of Armenia, as well as Refugees and Long-Term Migrants in the Republic of Armenia” and submit it to the Office of the Prime Minister within the third decade of May 2020.

Later on, the state authorities have been offered to present recommendations on making amendments and supplements in the above-mentioned decision, if necessary. The Migration Service suggested editing the Strategy title by presenting it as “2021-2031 Strategy on the Integration of Immigrants and Reintegration of Returnees and IDPs”., as well as submitting the above-mentioned document to the RA Government in conjunction with the Action Plan stemming from it on the third decade of November in 2020. The aforementioned Action Plan is currently being developed by the key expert responsible for the AP development in consultation with the relevant experts from different fields (education, health and economic integration). In order to assess the achievement of expected outcomes and objectives laid out in the document it is necessary to develop AP monitoring and evaluation system.

**Tasks**

Develop a monitoring and evaluation system for the Action Plan with measurable indicators on the expected outcomes and outputs proposed in AP in close cooperation with the local expert and the Migration Service of Armenia.

Specific tasks:

* Develop measurable indicators for the evaluation of the expected outcomes for each AP action.
* Develop measurable indicators for the monitoring of the expected outputs for each AP action.
* Develop measurement/evaluation tools, e.g. survey, interview questionnaires, for the assessment of AP indicator achievement through identifying the kind of information necessary for the assessment in advance.
* Develop overall AP monitoring and evaluation process plan/guidelines.
* Present and discuss upon request of the Migration Service the monitoring and evaluation system and make amendments in it based on the suggestions and comments*.*
	1. **Deliverables and resources**

| **Deliverables** | **Timeline** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Interim report 1: development of outcome level indicators for all AP activities**
 | ***(10 expert days)*** |
| 1. Provide the first draft of outcome level indicators
 | *17 July 2020* |
| 1. 1st Interim report including the final list of outcome level indicators
 | *27 July 2020* |
| 1. **Interim report 2: Development of output level indicators for all AP activities**
 | ***(8 expert days)*** |
| * + - 1. Provide the first draft of all output level indicators
 | *6 August 2020* |
| * + - 1. 2nd interim report including the final list of all output level indicators
 | *15 August 2020* |
| 1. **Interim report 3: Development of necessary evaluation tools – qualitative/quantitative questionnaires for the assessment of output and outcome level indicators.**
 | ***(5 expert days)*** |
| Provide qualitative/quantitative questionnaires for the assessment outcome level indicators.  | *28 August 2020* |
| Provide qualitative/quantitative questionnaires for the assessment output level indicators |
| 1. **Final Report: the whole monitoring and evaluation plan for the AP including outcome/output level indicators, evaluation tools for each indicator and a brief description/guideline of the monitoring and evaluation process of the AP.**
 | ***(2 expert days)******7 September 2020*** |

* 1. **Conditions and payment terms**

Payment shall be made based on the type of remuneration, following the performance of services, submission of reports, acceptance of services performed and invoicing.

* 1. **Coordination and communication**

The Monitoring and Evaluation expert of the the Action Plan stemming from “2021-2031 Strategy on the Integration of Immigrants and Reintegration of Returnees and IDPs will be hired by GIZ in the frame of the “Economic and Social Participation of Vulnerable Displaced Persons and Local Population in the Caucasus” programme. The hired expert reports to EPIC programme team leader. The expert will coordinate closely in all technical issues with the GIZ EPIC team members. The M&E expert will work closely with the local expert on AP and the Migration Service. All activities shall be approved by the GIZ team and agreed with Migrations Service beforehand.

* 1. **Qualification Requirements**

The expert needs to meet the following requirements:

* Master’s Degree in Social Sciences with 5 years of experience in Monitoring and Evaluation primarily in the field of socioeconomic development
* Extensive knowledge of monitoring and evaluation methodologies i.e. both quantitative and qualitative data collection, processing and analysis
* Knowledge of sampling and questionnaire design
* Experience working with international, as well as counterparts and beneficiaries (e.g. International and Local NGOs and government representatives)
* Understanding the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
* Experience on gender mainstreaming is an asset.
* Good knowledge of English.