

**Aidsfonds and *AFEW International* are looking for a  
researcher to assess the impact of the  
*Emergency Support Fund for Key Populations in Eastern  
Europe and Central Asia.***

Aidsfonds - STI AIDS Netherlands works as one organization towards a world without AIDS and on reduction of STIs and HIV in the Netherlands. Over 140 highly motivated people work at our office in Amsterdam.

We are at a historic turning point in the fight against AIDS. We have all the knowledge to defeat the AIDS epidemic for good. In the Netherlands and in the rest of the world. But it is not yet a completed race. If we do not put the fight against AIDS at the highest speed now, the epidemic will continue. That cannot happen. Together with 140,000 donors and partners, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Postcode Loterij, Aidsfonds does everything to prevent that. As one of the largest private funds, we have been playing a pioneering role in the fight against AIDS for years. To put an end to AIDS, we work with local communities, support research and ensure that AIDS remains high on the global agenda. Soa Aids Nederland is the center of expertise in the field of STD, HIV and sexual health in the Netherlands.

Since 2018 Aidsfonds and *AFEW International* respond to the fast-growing HIV epidemic in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA), through the

**[Emergency Support Fund \(ESF\) for Key Populations in Eastern Europe and Central Asia](#)**

Small grants ranging from € 3.000 to € 10.000 to community based organisations aim to ensure access to HIV prevention, treatment and/or services for key populations, or projects protecting the human rights of key populations in 10 countries in EECA: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine or Uzbekistan.

Since its start the ESF has received about 600 applications of which over 230 received a grant.

To learn if and in what ways the ESF is a successful instrument in reaching key populations in the EECA region and what could be improved about the ESF, we are looking for a researcher that can assess what the local impact of the ESF was and in which lessons can be learned (i.e. which groups were not reached, which needs were not met, etc.). This could be studied by interviews with grantees, Advisory Board members, rejected applicants and members of local communities. This information is crucial in learning how the ESF as a funding mechanism can be improved.

Next to this Impact Assessment we will be carrying out an analysis of the data of the ESF.

## Requirements

We are looking for a hands-on, fast working consultant with proven experience in impact assessment. The consultant should be familiar with working with key populations (including LGBTQI people, sex workers, people who use drugs and people living with HIV).

- Excellent report writing skills in English and Russian.
- An advanced university degree in Social Sciences, International Public Health, Policy analysis or related field, or similar experiences;
- Proven experience in doing research in the EECA region and among communities affected by HIV;
- Available between mid-July and September 2021

## Expected output/deliverables

Aidsfonds and *AFEW International* expect a concise report of maximum 30 pages with clear recommendations based on the conducted research, how an improved funding mechanism like the ESF could and should work in the near future, best serving the interests and rights of those communities most affected by HIV in the EECA region.

We are looking for answers to the following questions:

### Impact on the Communities:

- Was the ESF able to respond to the needs of key populations in regard to access to HIV services?
- What needs of key populations were not met by the ESF?
- What was the longer term impact of the grant?
  - What was changed in the local situation because of the ESF grant?
    - On a practical access to services level: are services more accessible for KP?
    - On a policy level: have institutions and/or (local) authorities changed their policies?
  - Was the ESF grant only a short (financial) relief or did it help to make the organisation more sustainable and find other donors?

### ESF as a Funding Mechanism

- Is the ESF a successful instrument in reaching key populations in EECA with HIV service provision?
- What is working well when making use of small grants?
- What budgets are required to successfully operate an ESF?

## We offer

This assignment is based on a maximum of 6 weeks of 3 workdays/week at a rate of maximum EUR 150,-- including VAT, per workday, holidays excluded. Please note "VAT Reversed" on invoice(s) as Aidsfonds will pay Dutch VAT.

Payments will be made in two tranches, one at the start and one at the end of the assignment, when the report is handed in and approved by the operational team of the *Emergency Support Fund for Key Populations in eastern Europe and Central Asia*.

## How to apply

For questions and more information about the assignment please contact Dieuwke Bosmans ([dbosmans@aidsfonds.nl](mailto:dbosmans@aidsfonds.nl))

You can apply by sending the following information before July 17, 2021 to [secretariat@emergencyfund.nl](mailto:secretariat@emergencyfund.nl)

- CV or resume demonstrating relevant expertise and experience (max 4 pages); and a motivation letter (max. 2 pages);
- A preliminary research proposal of 3-4 pages, including: a plan outlining research methodology, and proposed tools and approaches;
- Overview of total consultancy fee, including the number of days and daily rate.