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Call for Expressions of Interest Western Balkans Programme Review (mid-term strategy review)

About PeaceNexus

PeaceNexus is a Swiss private foundation that aims to strengthen the capacity of organisations working to build peaceful and inclusive societies. By strengthening the skills of and collaboration between partners engaged in peacebuilding activities, PeaceNexus aims to increase their effectiveness in peacebuilding.

Based across [West Africa](#), [Central Asia](#), [South East Asia](#) and the [Western Balkans](#), our team of 20 works with local partners who are well positioned to address specific conflict risks. We also support [international organisations](#) that are active in fragile states and are well positioned to contribute to social cohesion and peacebuilding, by supporting local initiatives or by shaping national and international policy.

PeaceNexus supports its partners in three main areas:

1. supporting the organisational development of peacebuilding actors,
2. strengthening the capacity of governments, civil society and businesses to integrate a conflict-sensitive approach at strategic and operational levels; and
3. engaging with the private sector to develop collective solutions to conflicts between local communities and companies.

About our Western Balkans programme

In the Western Balkans (WB), we provide support on organisational development and conflict sensitivity to partners from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia. PeaceNexus has been operating in the WB since 2014 and currently supports eight organisations across the region (more information on the WB programme can be found [here](#)). We select our partners in view of (a) their peacebuilding potential (capacity to contribute to greater inter-ethnic collaboration within and across states and/or ability to mobilise citizens in support of transitional justice and democratic reforms) and (b) their interest to engage in a process of internal change.

Objectives of the review

PeaceNexus is seeking an external consultant(s) to review the work of its Western Balkans programme since 2020 and its alignment with the 2021-2023 strategy. The findings of this review will feed into a broader organisational review scheduled for late 2022 and support the next strategy development

process in 2023. This programme review will assess:

- I. Progress towards 2021-2023 strategic goals
- II. Progress towards expected (institutional strengthening) outcomes
- III. Relevance and quality of PeaceNexus' positioning and approach

Methodology and deliverables

The consultant(s) will review progress towards strategic objectives and generate findings and recommendations related to PeaceNexus positioning, activities and approach. The primary deliverable will be a report summarising the findings of the review. The report will include annexes /raw data (survey responses, interviews, documents) that are the evidence basis for the findings. In support of the review objectives, the reviewer is encouraged to consider the relevance of outcome harvesting methodologies and draw data from:

- a) Desk review of partnership, programme and partner documentation
 - Programme staff will provide the consultant(s) with key documents relating to all the programme and partnership objectives, including progress reports
 - The consultant(s) will be responsible for reviewing PeaceNexus documents as well as public and internal documents provided by partners to capture and assess evidence of progress towards desired outcomes
 - The consultant(s) will provide an index of all documents consulted and provide references for the review findings
- b) A partner survey
 - The survey of all partners will be drafted by programme staff following previous practice of partner feedback surveys and finalized with the consultant.
 - The consultant will be responsible for analysing survey responses to develop findings related to the quality and impact of PeaceNexus' accompaniment approach.
- c) Approximately 15 interviews with PeaceNexus' staff, partners and selected context experts
 - The plan for interviews, including list of interviews and draft questions, will be prepared in collaboration with programme staff

The consultant will be responsible for conducting, recording or transcribing interviews and developing findings related to all three review objectives.

Timeframe and coordination

This assignment is expected to require approximately 15 consultancy days and is anticipated to be carried out over several weeks, starting no later than September 2022. The review must be finalized by early November.

To begin with, inception meetings will be scheduled with PeaceNexus staff to prepare the survey,

interviews and desk research. The consultant will prepare an inception report clarifying the methodology and workplan (including interview questions). After approval of this inception report, the consultant will receive logistical support from PeaceNexus in conducting the review.

The draft report will be presented to and discussed with PeaceNexus staff. The final report will also be shared with the PeaceNexus Governing Board.

Application process

We are looking for applicants with the following profile:

- Experience in the area of monitoring, evaluation and learning
- Excellent (qualitative) analytical and drafting skills
- Strong communication and interviewing skills
- Demonstrated familiarity with the socio-political context of the Western Balkans
- Experience working with civil society organisations, preferably in the Western Balkans
- Experience in capacity building and organisational development
- Experience or familiarity with advisory & accompaniment roles
- Demonstrated familiarity with conflict sensitivity
- Familiarity with at least one of the following thematic areas: Dealing with the past; democratization; media freedom would be an asset

Application package:

- CV (not exceeding 4 pages) (relevant to this assignment)
- Expression of Interest letter, highlighting relevant experience
- Proposed methodology and timeframe
- Financial proposal for the assignment, showing working days and expected fee and availability.
- Contact details of two references/previous (relevant to this assignment)

Please send applications to deborah.reymond@peacenexus.org with 'Western Balkans Programme Review' as the subject.

The deadline for application is **31st July**.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted in August for an interview.

