

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **FOR HOSTING A STUDY TOUR OF SPECIALISTS FROM TAJIKISTAN ON THE TOPIC “SOCIAL REINTEGRATION AND REFERRAL SYSTEMS IN AND OUT OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS”**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Since 2002 the Penitentiary System of Tajikistan has been under the responsibility of the Main Department of Penalty Execution of the Ministry of Justice of Tajikistan. The government operates 19 penal institutions, facing common problems, such as desperate conditions, insufficient nutrition, overcrowding and low production of the prisons. According to international observers the most significant human rights related problems in the prisons include torture and abuse of detainees, violence and discrimination, harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; prohibition of international monitor access to prisons.

Tajikistan has signed and ratified the International Pact on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, which recognizes the right of all peoples to self-determination, including the right to "freely determine their political status", pursue their economic, social and cultural goals, and manage and dispose of their own resources. However, access to education, including vocational, civic and personal development programmes in prisons is very limited. At present, there are 7 schools of general education and only 2 professional training schools functioning in penitentiary institutions of Tajikistan, where about 600 persons usually get education. The available general and vocational schools are not sufficient for convicts to receive guaranteed secondary education and proper vocational training.

In response, in 2014-2015 the EU-funded Project “SECRET”(Social-Economic and Cultural Rights of prisoners and Ex-prisoners in Tajikistan) was implemented to expand access to and availability of education through capacity building of penitentiary staff and local NGOs to offer vocational skills development trainings, civic education and personal development programmes for the female prisoners and ex-prisoners of both genders in Tajikistan. It contributed to fulfilment of human rights of the imprisoned women – the right for education, as well as ex-prisoners’ right to education, social security, participation in cultural life, and labour rights. Within this project the technical and organizational capacity of the Female Prison # 3 was strengthened to offer vocational training for prisoners, as well as the Ministry of Justice Main Department of Penalty Execution human capacity was enhanced through in-country training workshops on international standards of custodial supervision in specifics of penitentiary psychology. For more information, please refer to <http://dvv-international.tj/en/projects/2014/secret>

In April 2017 the follow-on EU-funded project on “Human Rights Protection for Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners” was launched to expand access to and availability of education services for the prisoners in Nurek and Yavan towns and legal support and consultations for ex-prisoners through strengthening referral mechanisms between CSOs and national and/or local public institutions in 10 cities. The two-year project will contribute to protection of human rights of one of the most disadvantaged groups of the population –

prisoners and ex-prisoners, with specific focus on realisation of their social, economic and cultural rights in Tajikistan and will cover 450 prisoners at the penal institutions in Nurek and Yavan towns, as well as over 800 ex-prisoners in 10 cities and district centres of Tajikistan. For more information, please refer to <http://dvv-international.tj/en/projects/2017/47-novyj-proekt-es-v-tadzhikistane-budet-prodvi-gat-sotsialno-ekonomicheskie-prava-osuzhdennykh-i-lits-osvobodivshikhsya-iz-mest-lisheniya-svobody-en>

In this regards, the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (DVV International), being the implementing agency for the last mentioned EU-funded Project, invites state and non-state counterparts in Georgia, Germany or Latvia to host a one-week study tour on best practices in social reintegration and referral systems in and out of penal institutions for the counterparts from Tajikistan.

## **OBJECTIVE**

A one-week study tour on best practices in social reintegration and referral systems in and out of penal institutions will be arranged for the prison supervisory staff, the Main Department on Penalty Execution staff and the implementing staff to gain exposure to the best practices in social reintegration and referral systems in and out of penal institutions, as well as to learn about the in-service training centers for the penitentiary staff capacity building.

## **PROGRAM COMPONENTS:**

**Suggested topics** (list topics visitors will be interested in discussing)

- Brief introduction on the penitentiary system of the hosting country;
- Penitentiary system reforming stages and actions taken by the Government;
- Feedback on the Presentation on challenges of penitentiary institutions in Tajikistan;
- Best practices in preparation and in-service training for penitentiary system staff;
- Educational programs for different categories of prisoners (women, minors, life prisoners);
- Probation services ( known as ‘social services in the criminal justice system’);
- Low cost/high impact educational programs for prisoners and ex-prisoners;
- Presentation of challenges faced by ex-prisoners upon release in Tajikistan: sharing experience
- State and non-state re-socialization programs for ex-prisoners;
- Role of non-governmental sector (NGOs) in penitentiary system development;
- Program evaluation session or action planning session.

**Suggested site-visits** (list specific site-visits/organizations in bullet points)

- Penitentiary institutions supervisory department;
- Penitentiary system staff in-service training institutions;
- Various penitentiary institutions, including women and men detention institutions, correctional labour and penal colonies (meetings with administration, penitentiary staff involved in medical, psychological, educational social and religious services for prisoners);
- Organizations involved in the protection of human rights for prisoners and ex-prisoners;
- State and non-state organizations implementing re-socialization programmes for ex-prisoners;
- Cultural sites and sightseeing.

## **SHORT SUMMARY OF DESIRED GROUP PROFILE**

The group of 12 participants from Tajikistan will be represented by the supervisory staff from the Ministry of Justice and Main Department of Penalty Execution, the Female Prison in Nurek town, the Male Prison in Yavan town, Employment Agency, Legal Aid Centers, Institute of In-service Training for Law-enforcement Bodies, NGOs “Jahon”, “Bureau on Human Rights and Rule of Law”, and DVV International

Tajikistan country office. If needed, the interpreter will be hired locally at the hosting country or will be attracted from the Regional or Country Offices of DVV International.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

First-hand experience gained by the participants through the site visits will be directly applied to:

- Support the implementation of the vocational skills development trainings, civic education, entrepreneurship skills development, legal awareness, legal aid support and personal development programmes for the prisoners and ex-prisoners of both genders in Tajikistan;
- Enhance the curriculum of the Institute of In-service Training for Law-enforcement Bodies through development, piloting and institutionalization of 3 new training modules on capacity building of penitentiary staff;
- Institutionalize the social reintegration consultation mechanisms between civil society and national or local public institutions through development and dissemination of a roadmap on social reintegration of ex-prisoners, capacity building and strengthening information sharing and referral mechanisms between penal institutions, civil society organizations, legal aid centres network, adult training and employment centres.

Upon return, the participants will make a presentation about the lessons learned during the first roundtable to wider audience. In addition, the group will share its learning experience with the heads of the other prisons during an information session conducted at the facilities of the MoJ Main Department on Penalty Execution.

## **TIMEFRAME AND LOCATION**

A one-week study tour (8 days, 7 nights in the host country) is designed for late November-early December 2017.

The location and hosting organization is to be selected based on the best quality and value proposal submitted from interested organizations from one of the eligible countries. In 2014 a group of stakeholders has been already exposed to the successful experience of the penal institution of Brandenburg, Germany, hence other locations in Germany are preferred.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Interested state or non-state organizations from Georgia, Germany or Latvia;
- Previous experience in hosting international groups;
- Strong contacts with state and non-state actors in penitentiary system;
- Previous working background in human rights protection is desirable;
- Ability to provide Russian interpretation to the group, if needed;
- Ability to offer cost-effective budget – please take a note that 14.000 EUR as a maximal amount (*includes participants' accommodations and allowances, in-country group transportation, interpreter costs and organization's fee*) are available for in-country expenses for 12 participants and 1 interpreter, if needed).

Interested organizations should forward their proposals (including motivation letter, an outline of study tour with indication of the desired period for hosting, and cost proposal) by the **15<sup>th</sup> of August, 2017** to Ms. Thekla Kelbert, Desk-Officer for Central Asia & Funding at the DVV International Head-Office in Bonn and Mr. Levan Kvatchadze, DVV International Regional Director for Central Asia at the following e-mail-addresses: [kelbert@dvv-international.de](mailto:kelbert@dvv-international.de) , [kvatchadze@dvv-international.uz](mailto:kvatchadze@dvv-international.uz)