

INVITATION TO TENDER

“HOUSING FIRST ‘STATE OF EUROPE’ ANALYSIS AND REPORT”

SUMMARY

- This document invites proposals to produce a baseline study of the state-of-Europe on Housing First, both in terms of service delivery and national political commitment.
- The research will be conducted independently by the contractor. Project coordinators and members of the Housing First Europe Hub will be available to provide information about their national contexts.
- The project will begin around mid-May 2018 and has to be completed by mid-September 2018.
- There is a maximum budget of €30,000 (including VAT).
- The deadline for the proposal is Monday 14th May at 13pm (GMT).

ABOUT HOUSING FIRST EUROPE HUB

The Housing First Europe Hub was established by the Y-Foundation (Finland) and FEANTSA (European Federation of National Organisations Working with Homeless People), along with more than 15 partners in July 2016.

The Hub’s general objective is developing work on promoting and scaling up Housing First (HF) in Europe, with the Housing First Europe Guide as the reference model for Housing First in Europe. The Hub’s activities focus on advocacy, training, research and practice. In this regard, work clusters organize activities in each of these areas.

Additional information about the Hub can be found at: <http://housingfirsteurope.eu>

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

In coordination with the Hub’s Advocacy work cluster, the Research work cluster is seeking an experienced contractor with knowledge of the Housing First model in order to conduct a transnational research aiming at understanding the scale of Housing First delivery and political commitment with the model across Europe (EU and EFTA countries).

The result of the research (as a report) will provide an informed analysis of the relative prevalence of the model in Europe. Results will be used to position the Hub as a reference for qualified data and analysis about the prevalence and political backing for HF, and to allow the Hub to advocate bolder measures for scaling up across different nations.

The research will have to answer the following Research Questions:

1. How much Housing First is being provided, by household, in each European State?
2. What is the percentage of Housing First provided in relation to the total number of beds provided by more traditional shelter/hostel approaches services in each European State?

3. Which countries have a national political commitment to deliver and support Housing First, and in what way?
4. What are the HF services being implemented across Europe? By what organisations?
5. Which HF programs are assessing their fidelity to the HF model? Which HF fidelity assessment methods are being used?

An agreement of questions or guidance will be reached once a research partner is appointed (for example, does small scale funding constitute a political commitment?).

THE BRIEF

The Housing First model is still at an early introduction stage across Europe (EU and EFTA countries). Public and private organisations have been providing HF services across Europe since 2005. There are still great differences in political commitment to the model and the support to HF services being offered.

Several countries have already adopted national or regional strategies to tackle homelessness in which support to Housing First varies. In many European countries, it is still social organizations which are leading the introduction of HF. In some countries, secondary-level initiatives have been set up to promote the introduction or delivery of HF, such as technical assistance, training or developing common national frameworks.

Program fidelity to the HF principle is still an unsorted but relevant element in the introduction of the model across Europe. Research suggests that some service providers claim to be delivering Housing First, while a closer analysis of some of the services raise doubts about the implementation of its principles. This drift from the model may affect the successful results that the HF model has proven in services driven by the HF principles. Some programs are conducting fidelity assessments through different methodologies, either adapting methods developed for the North American context or by developing their own assessment methodologies.

This research will set a baseline for HF across Europe so that the Hub can inform and advocate about the penetration of HF across Europe both at political and technical levels. We aim to provide national, regional and local authorities with information about countries in which there is a clear political commitment on HF, but also to promote knowledge exchange between organisations delivering HF.

METHODOLOGY

A review of existing documents or other secondary sources of information is proposed as the main method of research. Other proposed methods will be welcome. Members of the HF Europe Hub are expected to collaborate with the contractor by providing information of their own national context.

It is expected that the contractor identifies the different HF fidelity assessment methods being used across Europe. A brief analysis of the critical elements in those methods will be provided in terms of how these methods rely on the HF principles, the administration procedures and the use of results to improve the programs.

Coordination and support will be provided by the Research work cluster coordinator via telephone, Skype or on-site in Madrid (Spain).

Given the limited budget of the project, it is important to indicate in your bid what the cost implications for different elements of the analysis. In case there was more than one approach to fulfil the objectives, we would be interested in seeing different methods of analysing the problem and the budget attached to these.

OUTPUTS

The contractor is expected to deliver:

1. A digital written report in English, including at least:
 - a. An Executive Summary
 - b. The research methodology.
 - c. A general analysis of the state of HF in Europe (EU and EFTA countries)
 - d. An individual analysis of the HF state-of-the-art per country (EU and EFTA countries), with an identification of HF services and organisations involved in advocacy, service provision or support to HF delivery.
 - e. An identification and analysis of HF fidelity assessment methods being used across Europe.
 - f. Discussion and conclusions.

2. A PPT presentation of the results, which may be delivered at the 2018 FEANTSA Research conferences – to be confirmed upon awarding of the tender -.

It is important that the report is written in a good but easy to understand English language since it will reach a broad international audience, ranging from students and professionals of the homelessness sector to policy makers at the highest level.

TIMELINE

We have agreed a deadline by mid-September 2018. For your proposal, please assume the following timeline:

Milestone/Output	Date
Deadline for consultant's proposal	14 th May 2018
Project start and inception meeting	25 th May 2018
Draft report submitted	27 th August 2018
Final report submitted	17 th September 2018

BUDGET

A maximum budget of €30,000 (including VAT and expenses) is available for this project, to be paid from Finland by Y-Foundation (administrative partner of the Housing First Europe Hub).

The budget must cover the full planning, at least 4 Skype meetings with the project coordinators from the Hub, delivery and report-writing costs.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The project will be managed by the Hub's Research work cluster coordinators Roberto Bernad and Saija Turunen. Housing First Europe Hub and Advocacy work cluster coordinators may participate in the meetings.

The primary contact will be Roberto Bernad (roberto.bernad@raisfundacion.org). The project coordinator will facilitate the contact of members of the Hub if required for the research.

The contractor may be an individual researcher or a group of researchers/organisations.

PROPOSAL INFORMATION

The proposal should set out:

1. An explanation of how the work you will do addresses the issues in this brief;
2. Details of the proposed research methodology, who will be involved in the project and how the results will be analysed and presented;
3. A detailed project timetable (breakdown of activities and working days included);
4. A breakdown of costs per activity and the total amount;
5. The relevant experience of the organisation and/or individual(s) delivering the project;
6. If several individuals/organisations are involved, please provide detailed tasks assignment and a comprehensive explanation of how they will work together;
7. A summary of the risks associated with the work and how these will be mitigated.

Proposals must be sent by April 23th to Roberto Bernad: roberto.bernad@raisfundacion.org and Saija Turunen: saija.turunen@ysaatio.fi

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. The extent to which the proposal meets the objectives of the brief and research questions;
2. The contractor's experience of similar research projects, analysis and knowledge of the subject area;
3. The proposed research methodology;
4. Costs and value for money;
5. Ability to meet the specified timescale.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Enquiries about this brief should be addressed to Roberto Bernad roberto.bernad@raisfundacion.org

For further information about the Housing First Europe Hub and our work, please visit <http://housingfirsteurope.eu>