

Invitation to Tender: Advocacy research consultancies

Title	Invitation to Tender: Advocacy research consultancies
Author	Bridge 47
Nature of the document	Final
Date	8.2.2021, revised 11.3.2021
Recipients	Public

The Bridge 47 Project is looking to contract a maximum of 8 advocacy research consultants, with the purpose of creating publications on key research themes.

1. About Bridge 47

The *Bridge 47* project aims to mobilise global civil society to contribute to global justice and eradication of poverty through global citizenship education.

The Bridge 47 project focuses on the following areas:

1. *Bridge 47 network*: The project sets up a vibrant global coalition in support of global citizenship.
2. *Advocacy* at national, EU and global level. The project works to change policies at national, EU and global level to better recognize the essential role of Global Citizenship Education in achieving Agenda 2030, global justice and eradication of poverty.
3. *Development of partnerships*: The project creates new partnerships – advocacy, knowledge exchange and exploratory partnerships – with a range of different actors, from policy makers to academia, and from media to police and military, in support of Global Citizenship Education.
4. *Capacity development and innovation*: The project builds the capacity of European and civil society organisations to work with and create innovations for Global Citizenship Education.

2. Purpose of the roles

The purpose of the advocacy research consultancy roles is to create publications and accompanying materials on the key research topics identified below. These publications will support advocacy for more space for [Target 4.7. of Agenda 2030](#) in European and global policies.

All publications will build on a desk review and analysis of existing resources, arguments, strategies, evidence and expertise on the themes, and create a synthesis of these, in order to lessen the risk of duplication of effort and building on lessons learnt of civil society working on Global Citizenship Education and Target 4.7. The desk review can include, among others, a review of resources on the research topic produced by [Bridge 47 Network members](#) and other relevant actors in the field of transformative education.

In 2019, Bridge 47 organised an event called Envision 4.7., which brought together civil society organisations, civil servants of national governments, MEPs, European and global organisations, and together wrote a Roadmap for SDG Target 4.7 for Europe, called the [Envision 4.7 Roadmap](#). The advocacy research consultants will use the Envision 4.7. Roadmap, and the supporting [Envision 4.7. policy papers](#) as key references and starting points for their work, in particular for research topics 1-7. While the roadmap and policy papers were created for a European context, the consultants will approach the research topics from a more global perspective (with the exception of topic 7). The research on topics 1-7 is intended to further deepen the understanding of the topics and recommendations raised in the roadmap and support the Bridge 47 Network in advocacy for its implementation, while research on topic 8 is intended to support the Bridge 47 Network in better anticipating and responding to future challenges and trends.

The consultants can further build upon and take inspiration from previous Bridge 47 publications on:

- [SDG Target 4.7. Characteristics, Monitoring and Measuring the Progress: Mission Possible](#), by Rosaria Kunda Marron and Deirdre Naughton, Education and Development Solutions (EADS) and
- [GCE For Unknown Futures](#), by Rene Susa

The consultants are encouraged to approach the topics with creativity, which should also be visible in the tender proposal.

3. Research topics

1. Transformative Education - CLOSED

The Envision 4.7. roadmap notes that “Target 4.7. reflects the transformative power of education by promoting global citizenship, sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, peace, and appreciation of cultural diversity. To effectively achieve Target 4.7., *the strengths of each of its components must be built upon, common ground identified, and past and ongoing successes and failures learnt from.*”

The research consultant will conduct a desk review and review definitions and key interlinkages between the different types of transformative education that are outlined in [Target 4.7.](#) of the Sustainable Development Goals, such as Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship Education, and others, ideally illustrated by positive examples of different types of transformative education coming together in the spirit of Target 4.7. Based on this review, the consultant will help identify strengths and common ground that can be further built upon, as well as strategies and arguments for further building such common ground among different actors working on the different aspects of Target 4.7.

2. Life-long learning supported through formal, non-formal and informal education - CLOSED

The Envision 4.7. roadmap states that “*Equally valuing all forms of education and supporting life-long learning opportunities is the first step towards achieving the 2030 Agenda vision.*”

The research consultant will conduct a desk review and examine definitions and links among formal, non-formal and informal learning, identifying positive examples of how Target 4.7. has been included in lifelong learning policies and strategies, with a specific focus on non-formal and informal learning. Based on this review, the consultant will identify strategies and arguments for strengthening lifelong learning in all its forms in the context of Target 4.7. of Agenda 2030.

3. Cross-sectoral cooperation – DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 25 MARCH

The Envision 4.7. roadmap states that “[t]he scale and ambition of SDG Target 4.7. *requires multilevel and cross-sectoral partnerships at various levels to ensure its achievement.* There is a need to bring together and engage local and national governments, members of parliament, the private sector, civil society, European Union, Council of Europe and United Nations system, academics, media, youth, educators, and other actors in order to mobilize all available resources for better results.”

The research consultant will conduct a desk review and explore existing strategies and best praxis in strengthening spaces for multi-stakeholder groups or coalitions in the context of Target 4.7. of the SDGs. Based on this review, the consultant will identify strategies and arguments for establishing and strengthening such coalitions at cross-European, national, regional or local levels.

4. Indicators for 4.7. - CLOSED

The Envision 4.7. roadmap recognizes that “Measuring progress is challenging given the multidimensional nature of Target 4.7 and the fact that there are different understandings of the focus of this target at global, national and sub-national levels, as well as among various stakeholders. While the diversity of interpretations of the Target are inspiring, this can also present a communication challenge and can complicate measurement efforts.”

The research consultant will review existing and proposed indicators for 4.7 and their frameworks at national, regional, and global levels, identifying the strengths as well as gaps that exist, including main challenges in supporting measurement efforts. Based on this review, the consultant will identify opportunities for learning and strategies for engaging with the topic.

5. Competencies for 4.7.- CLOSED

The Envision 4.7. roadmap notes that “Competencies linked to Target 4.7. relate to learning, engagement and critical reflection, and the use of cognitive, affective and behavioural skills and understanding. Such competencies are common to all of the components referred to in the Target and enable people to play active roles in the transformation of society at the global, national and local levels”

The research consultant will conduct a desk review of existing global and regional competency frameworks for 4.7., assess their strengths, weaknesses and linkages, as assessed by various stakeholders, and what elements of transformative education they capture. Based on this review, the consultant will indicate gaps in the existing frameworks and strategies for engaging with them.

6. Resources for 4.7. – DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 25 MARCH

The Envision 4.7. roadmap notes that “As Target 4.7. is key to the wider implementation of the 2030 Agenda, sufficient resources need to be ensured to enable and achieve its implementation. Such resources include prioritization of target 4.7., dedicated and adequate funding, appropriate technology and the development of relevant capacities and capabilities.”

The research consultant will conduct a desk review to examine different types of resources currently available for Target 4.7. at European and global levels, including funding strategies and non-financial resources, as described in the [Envision 4.7. roadmap](#), and assess existing gaps. The consultant will then go on to propose strategies for addressing said gaps.

7. A Pan-European strategy for 4.7.– DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 25 MARCH

The key recommendation of the Envision 4.7. roadmap is that “*A pan-European overarching strategy for Target 4.7. needs to be developed* [...]”. In order to guide this European strategy, a multi-stakeholder group with relevant expertise needs to be established.”

The consultant will look into different options and avenues to advocate for a pan-European strategy for Target 4.7., sharing case studies of similar successful advocacy campaigns. Based on this review, the consultant will assess the feasibility of the proposed strategies and lay out a proposal for the steps required to achieving such a strategy.

8. Foresight and 4.7. – DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 25 MARCH

The Envision 4.7. roadmap sees transformative education “as a lifelong learning process and a public good: promoting change and the necessary development of individuals, communities and systems. Transformative education fosters engaged, active and critical learners and builds constructive and democratic approaches to difference.” By doing so, we believe transformative education can help address the key global challenges of the century.

The research consultant will review existing studies and publications on foresight, including key reports on global challenges, risks and trends. Based on this review, the consultant will reflect on the role transformative education as described in SDG Target 4.7. can play in responding to the most frequently referenced challenges, risks and trends in foresight reports.

4. Main Deliverables

Each consultant is expected to conduct an extensive literary review of the research topic, and deliver:

- An approximately 15-20-page well-structured and concise publication on the research topic (including feedback rounds).
- A one-page summary of the key findings and conclusions.
- A visualization (mindmap or other) of the key elements or findings of the research. The findings will help inform the design of visuals and infographics, to be developed by a professional graphic designer separately contracted by Bridge 47 and in consultation with the consultant.
- A communications activity (such as a blog) on the resource, to be jointly agreed at a later date.

5. Management and support

The consultant will be supported by, and work in close collaboration with the Bridge 47 Project Manager and other members of the Bridge 47 Team.

While the overall management responsibility of the consultancies is with Fingo – Finnish Development NGOs, the consultant will be contracted with the corresponding topic lead partner (Fingo, Ambrella, NGO Support Centre or SLOGA).

6. Requirements

Applicants may be individuals, groups of individuals with a designated team lead, or consultants. The applicants must have at minimum the following qualifications:

- Understanding and commitment to the values of Global Citizenship Education.
- Knowledge and experience of working for advancement of SDG Target 4.7.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience working with the specific research theme in question.
- Excellent written and oral communication in English, excellent copy-writing skills and ability to create engaging content.
- Demonstrated experience in conducting research and writing publications for a variety of audiences.

Additionally, the application/offer is invalid if the applicant:

- Has been convicted of an offence or a crime concerning professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata,
- Has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive and/or coercive practices.

7. Timeline for consultancy

These tasks are envisioned to take 20-30 days per research topic, between March/April 2021 and June 2021.

8. Application process

Interested applicants should submit a tender including technical and financial offer with the title “Research consultancy: [ADD RESEARCH TOPIC] no later than 10 March to contact@bridge47.org.

NB! Deadline extended to 25 March 2021 for research topics Cross-sectoral cooperation; Resources for 4.7.; A Pan-European strategy for 4.7. and Foresight and 4.7. Other opportunities are now closed.

Applications will be reviewed, and the candidates shortlisted by selection committees, appointed separately for each research topic. A few suitable candidates may be interviewed prior to final decision.

Joint applications of several consultants are encouraged. One consultant or team of consultants can submit a tender for several of the contracts; however, a separate, tailored application is required for each research topic and decisions will be taken independently for each topic.

How to apply

Interested applicants should submit a tender including the following:

A. Technical offer

The technical offer (no more than 5 pages excluding annexes) should include the following sections:

- Methodology: Describe your overall approach and methodology
- Relevant experience: Provide details of similar scope, complexity and nature you have worked on previously.
- Specific expertise: Describe your level of knowledge and expertise with this topic.

- Key personnel and staffing: Describe the key personnel. Include CVs (no more than 2 pages each and attached as annex) of key personnel who will be part of the proposed plan.
- Timeline: Include a detailed timeline of key activities.
- References (including telephone numbers) and links to previous work of similar nature

B. Financial offer

The financial offer should include a line-item budget and a budget narrative. The cost estimates used to prepare the budget should be presented in Euro. The tenderer should include their proposed daily rate, which should include all costs. Value for money will be considered in the tender evaluation.

9. Decision criteria

Decisions will be made by selection committees, separately appointed for each of the research topics, based on the following criteria:

- Previous experience of working with the research topic in question (30%)
- Clarity and suitability of proposed approach and timeline (20%)
- A tender and proposed approach that correspond to the values and demonstrates understanding of Bridge 47 (20%)
- Creativity in approaching the topic (10%)
- Affordability and value for money (20%)

10. Timeframe

Advertisement published: 8 February 2021

Deadline for submitting tenders: **25 March 2021**

Selections take place: Late March 2021

Consultants appointed and start working: Early April 2021

Work completed: June 2021

11. Questions

Any overall questions should be directed to Project Manager Nora Forsbacka (nora.forsbacka@bridge47.org).

Questions specific to the research topic can be directed to:

Topic	Contact person
Transformative Education	Jakub Žaludko

	jakub.zaludko@bridge47.org
Lifelong learning supported through formal, non-formal and informal education	Patricija Vrtič patricija.virtic@bridge47.org
Cross-sectoral cooperation	Patricija Vrtič patricija.virtic@bridge47.org
Indicators for 4.7.	Natalia Kouhartsiouk natalia.kouhartsiouk@bridge47.org
Competencies for 4.7.	Natalia Kouhartsiouk natalia.kouhartsiouk@bridge47.org
Resources for 4.7.	Jakub Žaludko jakub.zaludko@bridge47.org
A Pan-European strategy for 4.7.	Nora Forsbacka Nora.forsbacka@bridge47.org
Foresight and 4.7.	Nora Forsbacka Nora.forsbacka@bridge47.org

