

Call for Service: Field/Technical Expert(s)

FSM- 2024-07-19

Practical Task:

One of the deliverables of the project Internet Access Flagship: Rural Empowerment through Digital Inclusion (REDI) is to deploy and install connectivity infrastructure (Wi-Fi arrays and transmission equipment) into the selected 250 villages of Georgia. While the project will be paying the subscription fees for 3 months, there will be a need to pass the responsibility of maintaining the Wi-Fi zones to regional Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in order to ensure the sustainability of the project.

One of the options suggested by the team members (nontechnicians) is to cooperate with the regional association of small and medium ISPs.

In this case, the association would be obliged to:

1. Provide consultation services to draft TORs for the REDI project to procure the needed equipment;
2. Install the equipment (which will be procured by the REDI project) into the Wi-Fi zones of the selected 250 villages;
3. Coordinate with its member ISPs to provide Internet through these Wi-Fi zones;
4. Coordinate and monitor ISPs;
5. Agree to undertake the Wi-Fi zones, covering all maintenance and operational expenses.

Please suggest mutually beneficial optimal business model of work with the association (and, therefore, the ISPs with different capacities and needs), provided that REDI designates certain amount of budget for such cooperation and at the same time is framed with different procedural protocols (the expert needs to identify benefits for both parties and the types of procedure that will be triggered by the cooperation).