

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EVALUATION OF COUNTER BALANCE COALITION RESULTS

Proposals should be submitted to xavier.sol@bankwatch.org no later than 14th of December 2012

Objective, scope and requirements of the evaluation

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the results of the Counter Balance coalition in the three years of its operations and with regard to the project “Connecting Europeans to improve European development finance's effectiveness and value, with particular emphasis on the European Investment Bank“ implemented in the period 01.01.2010-31.12.2012.

CEE Bankwatch Network, on behalf of Counter Balance coalition, is seeking an evaluator and consultant to carry out an analysis of the coalition’s work in the last three years. The overall aim of this evaluation is to evaluate the implementation of the proposed action in order to assess its efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability.

More specifically the evaluation aims to:

- Get a global view on the achievements of the action implemented by the Counter Balance coalition, in terms of effective impact and its sustainability on European and Southern civil society groups, European policy makers and government officials, and the creation of European public awareness and debate about reforms which are needed to improve European development finance's effectiveness and value.
- Assess effectiveness of the use of resources in the coalition in the years of operation for achievement of the intended results.
- Evaluate the management of the project “Connecting Europeans to improve European development finance's effectiveness and value, with particular emphasis on the European Investment Bank“.
- Provide recommendations regarding the future work of Counter Balance: assessment of on-going processes, as well as assessment of political opportunities and where work on these processes is most useful for partners and potential allies. Scoping of the political landscape and where Counter Balance could make a difference in it.
- Provide recommendations for improvement of the effectiveness of the coalition’s work.

The evaluation will look at the activities, outreach materials and resources used by the coalition in the respective period. The outcomes of the Counter Balance work should be assessed against its mission and objectives in terms of coherence and sustainability of the different activities.

Background

Counter Balance is a European coalition of development and environmental non-governmental organisations, formed specifically to challenge the European Investment Bank, especially around its lending outside of the European Union. The groups involved have extensive experience working on development finance and international financial institutions (IFI) as well as campaigning to prevent negative impacts resulting from major infrastructure projects.

Counter Balance’s mission is to make the EIB an open and progressive institution delivering on EU development goals and promoting sustainable development to empower people affected by its work.

Counter Balance includes: Central and Eastern Europe Bankwatch Network, Les Amis de la Terre (France), Urgewald (Germany), Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale/Re:Common (Italy), Both Ends (Netherlands), Bretton Woods Project (United Kingdom).

Finance

The evaluation is financed by CEE Bankwatch Network under the Europe Aid funded project “Connecting Europeans to improve European development finance's effectiveness and value, with particular emphasis on the European Investment Bank“. The results of the evaluation will be used by the Counter Balance coalition.

Deliverables

The deliverable consists of a well-structured, reader-friendly document in English which presents key findings of the conducted research, bearing in mind the above outlined evaluation aims, and the following elements:

Target audience:

Counter Balance Coalition members

Content:

The key finding's document will answer the following questions:

What progress has the Counter Balance coalition made towards its mission and set objectives, namely to make the EIB an open and progressive institution delivering on EU development goals and promoting sustainable development to empower people affected by its work?

This question would involve review of:

- The impact of the Counter Balance coalition work on the EIB and decision makers such as the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Member State representatives;
- Coalition building and strategic alliances with other relevant players;
- The impact of the Counter Balance work on the target groups and other stakeholders (media, academics etc.) and the publicity of the issues among the European public, also evaluating the meant multiplier effect;
- Results of the implemented activities versus the use of resources

What are the lessons learnt from the last 3 years?

This question would involve review of:

- Opportunities and limits deriving from the 3-year project grant
- Project management and coordination of the coalition
- Planning and follow up
- Motivation and commitment to the common goals

Suggestions for the future of the coalition

This question would include:

- Assessment of on-going and upcoming processes around EIB/EBRD/EU in the areas of infrastructure financing and PPP, financial intermediaries, energy policies, climate

financing and their relevance for Counter Balance's work, power play around these issues;

- Assessment of where Counter Balance's work can most benefit work of other civil society groups as a basis for reaching out and further coalition building;
- Identification of potential further allies;
- Scoping of the political landscape and where Counter Balance could make a difference in it.

Main responsibilities

The contractor will be responsible for:

- Drafting a research plan and timeline that is to be discussed with and approved by a supervisor assigned by CEE Bankwatch Network;
- Conducting the relevant research based on the research plan;
- Presenting key findings of the research in the form described above.

Timeline for evaluation to be completed and presented:

The evaluation shall start by beginning of January 2013 and shall be finalised before the end of February 2013.