***Expertise on the perimeter of the bank accounts of the Greek State***

*Duty station: remote*

*Contract type: service contract*

*Duration: 60 days maximum, dispersed in the period between January-December 2025*

*Department: Governance*

*Unit: Transparency, Management and Public Accountability*

*Deadline for application is: January 15, 2025*

**Context of the project**

Greece is currently undergoing a significant reform in its financial accounting practices, transitioning to a new accrual-based framework aligned with International public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). This initiative, mandated by a Presidential Decree in 2018, involves the introduction of a Unified Chart of Accounts and new classification structures for all General Government entities.

The reform is a national priority and is integral to Greece’s commitment to the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RPP) with key milestones set for Q4 2025. The aim is to achieve full compliance with accounting standards by 2025, including the issuance of the first consolidated financial statement for the Hellenic Republic.

To facilitate this transition, the General Government Accounting Framework (GGAF) must be established by the end of the 2025, requiring the integration of accounting and reporting requirements into the GovERP system.

The current governance of the reform is led by the General Accounting Office (GAO) of the Greek Ministry of Finance, with key stakeholders including the Ministry of Finance and various public entities. Training programs targeting officers in Central Administration will be implemented to support the reform and address change management challenges.

While challenges persist, including data collection for consolidated financial statements and aligning with Public Sector Accounting Standards, the project aims to achieve essential outcomes to support Greece’s accounting reform.

**Description of activity:**

Provision of technical advice concerning the management of and the implementation of the perimeter of the bank accounts of the State (Central Administration) in govERP in the context of the ongoing PFM and accounting reforms.

* The advice will be aimed at devising a procedure, both for the State Budget as well as the Public Investment Budget, for reducing the perimeter of the bank accounts of the State to the absolute necessary minimum, including for the authorisation of new bank accounts and new Tax Registration Numbers, and effectively managing the cash and cash equivalents of the State.
* The procedure shall be devised with due respect to the “notion of control” and the definition of “cash and cash equivalents” of the State, in line with the stipulations of the IPSAS-based Greek General Government Accounting Framework (GGAF).
* The perimeter of the bank accounts of the State comprises the Treasury Single Account of the State.
* The advisor will be supported by and work directly with the management and staff of GAO’s General Government Accounting Directorate and the strategic advisor on the PFM and accounting reforms of EF.

**Objective:**

Advise on

* building up an effective and efficient system for the real-time management of the perimeter of the bank accounts of the State and its implementation in govERP.
* the implementation of the cash management tool in govERP, in the context of the PFM and accounting reform process.

**Outputs**

* regular progress, and,
* where necessary, ad-hoc reports on emerging issues, and
* a final report addressed to the Greek Authorities.

The final report will comprise

* the progress achieved,
* advice and the recommendations provided, as well as
* outstanding issues, including recommendations on how those could be addressed in the subsequent phases of the reform.