REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

**Republic of Serbia**

**Serbia Strengthening Agriculture Sector Capacities for Evidence-Based Policy Making**

PHRD Grant No.: TF0B1676

**Assignment Title: Capacity Building for Evidence-Based Policy-Making**

**Reference No.:** SER-GA-CQS-CS-23-19

The Republic of Serbia has received a financing from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association (“World Bank”), acting as administrator of grant funds provided by Japan (“Donor”) under the Policy and Human Resources Development Fund toward the cost of the Strengthening agriculture sector capacities for evidence-based policy making project (PHRD Grant) in the amount of USD 1,800,000, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services..

**Scope of Services**

**Services to be provided by the Consultant under the Contract include:**

Services specific to this call relate to Sub-component 1.1 of the PHRD project and more specifically, to the development and implementation of training programs on agriculture and rural development policy M&E. To this end, a Training Needs Assessment Analysis and a Capacity Building Program (CBP) were drafted in 2022 and approved by the PHRD PMT. Hence, this call abides with the contents of the CBP and comes as a sequel to these activities.

Services to be provided by the Consultant under the Contract include:

* + Development of the detailed training program as a document outlining how capacity building activities will be carried out. This document shall describe the strategic goals and steps, as well as the completion timeline, list of activities and Agenda for each training module. A detailed education program with training modules should be included in the implementation plan.
  + Realization of training Program.

Training program should be discussed and accepted by the PHRD Project Management Team (PMT).

Contract duration: 75 days

**Required consultant’s (company) qualifications**

The Consultant is to meet the following requirements:

* The Consultant shall be registered as a legal entity for a minimum of 10 years,
* The Consultant shall have appropriate professional, organizational and logistical capacities necessary for carrying out the assignment on the territory of the Republic of Serbia,
* The Consultant must have at least 5 full time employees,
* The Consultant should have at least 3 employees with university degree of education,
* The Consultant should have an experience of minimum 10 years in the organization of agricultural related, strategic planning, accounting, small business development or entrepreneurship trainings and consulting projects,
* Organization and implementation of workshops, seminars, trainings or other relevant capacity building events - minimum of 10 trainings (modules) with a total of at least 500 participants in the previous 5 years,
* At least one consulting assignment in the field of national strategy development in Serbia in the last 5 years,
* At least two consulting assignments in the field of strategy development for a company in agriculture sector in Serbia in the last 5 years.

The Consultant can be a joint venture (JV) between maximum two legal entities. A letter of intent or a copy of an existing JV agreement shall be submitted as a part of the documentation, together with a power of attorney for the authorized representative of each JV member, or a power of attorney for the representative of the lead member to represent all JV members.

The Consultant shall provide a team of experts covering the following requirements:

• Key expert 1 - Team leader

• Key expert 2 - Strategic planning and Management Expert

• Key expert 3 - Agriculture and Rural Development Expert

• Key expert 4 - Expert for EU Common Agriculture Policy

• Key expert 5 - Accounting Expert

• Key expert 6 - Legal Expert

Consultant must provide adequate proof for all of the requirements presented.

Expressions of interest will be evaluated by applying the following criteria with allocated points:

Consultant’s specific experience related to the assignment – 30 points

Relevance of the proposed key staff to the assignment – 70 points

The Terms of Reference for the above referenced assignment is posted on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM): <http://www.minpolj.gov.rs/category/javni-pozivi/javni-pozivi-u-2023-godini/>.

The Consultant will be selected in accordance with Consultant`s Qualifications Based Selection (CQS) as set out in the **World Bank’s Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers – Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, World, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016, revised November 2017, August 2018 and August 2020** (“the Regulations”). The Consultant that obtains the highest score during evaluation of expressions of interest will be invited to submit technical and financial proposals.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraphs 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the Regulations setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

The Central Fiduciary Unit of the Ministry of Finance now invites eligible Consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Expressions of interest in English language must be delivered in a written form to the **e-mail** below by **November 13, 2023, 12:00 hrs, noon,** local time.

When submitting Expressions of interest please indicate assignment and reference number for which you are applying.

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| **Contact:** | **E–mail:** | **Address:** |
| To: | [dejan.jeremic@mfin.gov.rs](mailto:dejan.jeremic@mfin.gov.rs)  Mr. Dejan Jeremić  Procurement Specialist | Ministry of Finance  Central Fiduciary Unit  3-5 Sremska St  11000 Belgrade, Serbia  Tel: +381 11 765-25-65 |
| Cc: | [ljiljana.dzuver@mfin.gov.rs](mailto:ljiljana.dzuver@mfin.gov.rs)  [aleksandar.radulovic@phrd.rs](mailto:aleksandar.radulovic@phrd.rs) |