

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
COMPETITIVENESS AND JOBS PROJECT
Loan No. 8528 YF

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCY SERVICES

IMPACT EVALUATION SPECIALIST

Republic of Serbia was granted a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to improve the competitiveness and employment toward the cost of the Competitiveness and Jobs Project (Project) and intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for individual consultancy services under this Project.

Public Policy Secretariat of the Republic of Serbia (PPS) needs to engage (contract) one Impact Evaluation Specialist.

Background

The main goal of the Project is to improve the efficiency and coordination of selected public programs to mitigate the constraints for competitiveness and job creation, including investment and export promotion, innovation, active labour market programs, employment mediation and activation of users of social assistance. The Project incorporates three ministries — the Ministry of Economy (plus its development agencies), Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development and Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs — and the Public Policy Secretariat in the implementation and piloting of the policy planning, monitoring and coordination (PPMC) framework. The Project is expected to lead to better designed and better coordinated policies, since it is anticipated that, through piloting the PPMC system, they will become part of a clear, strategic framework with a robust monitoring and evaluation system. The central institution responsible for coordination of the project is the PPS, with the assistance of Project Implementation Unit established in the PPS, as a technical coordination unit of the Project.

The PPS is responsible for the achieving results within **Component A.1**. This Component supports planning, monitoring and coordination of public policies through: creation of an inter-ministerial policy planning, monitoring, and coordination (PPMC) framework (in support of competitiveness and jobs reforms); development of individual planning and monitoring frameworks at the ministry level; piloting of the PPMC system, including through semi-annual progress reports and annual performance review reports with inputs from each participating ministry.

Objective of the Assignment

The Impact Evaluation Specialist is a fundamental position required for assisting the PPS and the Impact Evaluation Lead in building the capacity necessary to implement the PPMC framework, and achieving the deliverables of the project associate with the Component A.1.

The PPMC framework aims at achieving better designed and better coordinated policies. The PPMC project framework is composed of an institutional organizational structure, monitoring and reporting system, and procedures integrating evidence-based project findings within the Republic of Serbia in the area of competitiveness and jobs. If successful, this framework and strategic planning structure could be upscale to include other ministries and agencies in the future.

The Impact Evaluation Specialist is expected to assist the Impact Evaluation Lead in monitoring and evaluating the impact of the PPMC framework on competitiveness and jobs in the Republic of Serbia.

While focusing primarily on the Project, the Impact Evaluation Specialist is also expected to assist in the evaluation other relevant competitiveness programs and policies in the Republic of Serbia, justify their inclusion or exclusion, and produce reports as necessary.

Scope of work

The Impact Evaluation Specialist will have the following scope of work:

1. Performing impact evaluations of the Project, as well as other relevant competitiveness programs and policies in the Republic of Serbia, and producing reports as necessary.
2. Producing recommendations based on impact evaluation findings, taking into account the findings of the Lead Result Based Management Expert, and communicating these to the PPS, participating ministries, and public administration bodies through evaluation reports.
3. Participating in relevant conferences, workshops and training events, as required to fulfill tasked role.
4. Support technical work in the PPS by reviewing impact evaluation methods, carrying out training needs, designing impact evaluation tools and advising on other impact evaluation programs in the PPS, as necessary.
5. Strengthening the capacities of the participating institutions in performing impact assessments in the area of competitiveness and jobs..

The Impact Evaluation Specialist is expected to assist the Impact Evaluation Lead to, inter alia:

1. Perform an evidence review of best practice examples in the area of policy reform impact evaluations, and update as needed.
2. Perform impact evaluation reports focusing on the Project while including other major competitiveness related policies and programs, as necessary. This can include a report on the design of one or more rigorous impact evaluations in the participating ministries.
3. Develop medium-term indicators in the competitiveness and jobs policy area that help evaluate the impact of the Project, and where relevant, other major competitiveness related projects in the Republic of Serbia. With the Lead Result Based Management Expert, evaluate the effectiveness of the project KPIs and make recommendations for improvement, as necessary.
4. Working closely with the Lead Results Based Management Expert, the Project Implementation Unit, and the PPS assist in evaluating the impact of the mid-year progress report and year end performance review reports to be published on the PPS website. These reports will be evaluated in terms of their effectiveness in synthesizing the study findings and disseminating appropriate information.
5. Assist the PPS in the application of the principles of the Strategy for Regulatory Reform within the Project, and evaluate related impacts and interplay between the two.

Experience and Qualifications

- Postgraduate academic or professional degree (master's degree, specialist academic degree, or specialist professional degree), or graduate degree awarded following the completion of a course of study of at least four years' duration;
- Academic knowledge in impact evaluation techniques (preferable);
- Five years of relevant professional experience (preferable);
- Experience (gained in the capacity of Impact Evaluation Specialist or in a similar position) in at least one project funded by the World Bank or other international organisation; (preferable);
- Knowledge and experience in applying academic impact evaluation techniques, tools and methodologies, preferred;
- Experience in performing impact evaluations of large-scale projects (preferable);
- Good spoken and written Serbian and English;
- Excellent communication, organisation, and teamwork skills.

Timing and Duration

The Impact Evaluation Specialist will be engaged on part-time basis whereas the total engagement is to be assessed as required by the project timeline, on one year basis with the possibility of annual renewal based on performance.

The Project Implementation Unit within the Public Policy Secretariat of the Republic of Serbia will administer the Contract with the selected consultant. The Public Policy Secretariat now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services.

The individual consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011 Revised July 2014](#)

Interested and eligible individual consultants for this position should send Expression of Interest, together with information on relevant experience and CV, by e-mail (with the exact title of the position in the "Subject" of the e-mail) to the contact information listed below.

Expressions of interest must be delivered by **May 06, 2016, 12:00 Noon, local time.**

Contact:

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