

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES- FIRMS SELECTION)**

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

COMPETITIVENESS AND JOBS PROJECT

Loan No. 8528 YF

Assignment Title: Sector Policy Development

Reference No. (as per Procurement Plan): 2A.2.5.1

The Republic of Serbia has received financing for a loan from the World Bank (WB) toward the cost of the Competitiveness and Jobs Project (Project) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project, aims to improve the effectiveness and coordination of selected public programs to alleviate constraints to competitiveness and jobs, including investment and export promotion, innovation, active labour market programs, labour intermediation, and activation of social assistance beneficiaries. This Project is implemented by three ministries — the Ministry of Economy (plus its development agencies), Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, and Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs. The central institution responsible for coordination of the project is Public Policy Secretariat (PPS) with the assistance of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) established in PPS, as a technical coordination unit of the project. PPS coordinates the gathering and processing of the results of monitoring, reporting, fiduciary functions and safeguard procedures in close cooperation with the institutions participating in the Project. Ministry of Economy is responsible for the achieving results within Component 2. This Component supports implementation of the program for investment and export promotion.

Objective of the Assignment

The focus of this assignment is to position Serbian economy in the most competitive and sustainable position over the next five to ten years and beyond. Therefore, the **overall objective of the assignment is designing Sector Policy Development Strategies** in order to identify major opportunities in each of the four manufacturing sectors – **food processing industry, wood and furniture industry, rubber and plastics, machinery and equipment** – and develop sector strategy for the domestic and international market, including the Action Plan outlining implementation strategies and specific action activities for the sector.

In order to implement the assignment and achieve set objectives, the Consulting Firm will implement its activities in close harmonization with other activities implemented by other consulting firms and consultants, all working simultaneously on developing the strategic framework for investment promotion and export development. The Consulting firm will particularly closely cooperate and coordinate its activities with activities of experts working on the issues related to export development and investment increase. In addition, the Consulting firm is obliged to closely cooperate, coordinate and harmonize its activities with the activities of the Consulting firm engaged in development of performance and value chain analysis of selected sectors.

Experience and Qualifications

The Consulting firm needs to be highly qualified professional, creative and experienced firm or organization to develop Sector Policy Development strategies. In addition to the organizational capacities and proven relevant experience, the key staffs for the assignment are required to have individual experience in the appropriate field. The assistance includes not only development of the Sector Policy Strategies, but also the clear articulation of the findings and directions in communicating to the key actors for their understanding and support of these strategies/actions. The Consultant needs to have the capacity to assign a team of people that will work on this assignment. The qualifications of presented staff must be relevant to the assignment

Firm:

- Working experience in the field of strategic planning and designing of action plans (sustainable economic development, regional development, etc.) – at least 5, preferably 10 years
- Proven experience in development of methodology for strategic planning process in Republic of Serbia, including development of key performance indicators
- Preferable 15 strategies developed and/or revised on national and local level, conducted during the previous 10 years
- Experience in cooperation with private and public sector organizations and research and development institutions

Firm's Staff:

- Team Leader
 - Preferable 15 years of professional experience in working with companies, local governments, industry experts, academic institutions, international organizations, and public administration on economic development projects
 - Previous experience in similar projects and established knowledge in areas of strategic planning, project management, monitoring, and evaluation
 - Previous experience in macroeconomic analysis and established knowledge about key macro factors of enabling business environment, such as institutions and infrastructure, labour market efficiency, education and innovation, competition protection, attraction of foreign investments, inspections, etc.
- Sectorial Experts – 4 experts for 4 selected sectors
 - Preferable 8 years of professional experience in conducting research studies or providing advisory services in relation to the selected sector
 - Strong analytical skills and established knowledge relevant to practical understanding of the selected sector
 - Previous experience in analysing selected sector's structure, potential for integration into value chains and global trends.

Timing and Duration

It is expected that the Consulting firm conducts all activities and completes the assignment in the period of 9 months upon the date of Contract signing. The estimated time effort for the assignment is 1000 man days for the period of 9 months.

The PPS now invites eligible Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in providing the Services.

Interested Consulting Firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

Consulting Firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a subconsultancy to enhance their qualifications.

Expressions of interest from eligible Consulting firms/joint ventures (consortia) should specify the following relevant information:

- (i) Short introduction of the firm/joint venture (consortium);
- (ii) Core business and years in business;
- (iii) Qualifications in the field of the assignment (in case of a “joint venture (consortia)”, such evidence is required for all members of the “joint venture (consortia)”, while in case of a sub-consultancy, it is required only for the leading firm);
- (iv) Technical and managerial organization of the firm;
- (v) General qualifications and number of relevant key staff.

The attention of interested Consulting firms is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of 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., setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

A Consulting firm will be selected in accordance with the **Selection Based on the Consultants’ Qualifications (CQS) method** 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.*](#)

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours: 7.30-15.30

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form in English by June 22, 2016, 12:00 Noon, local time, in electronic format to the following e-mail: piu@rsjp.gov.rs

Contact:

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