REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

Republic of Serbia
Serbia Accelerating Innovation and Growth Entrepreneurship (SAIGE)
Project ID No. P170185
Assignment Title:

- **Analytics and Policy Implementation Specialist (part-time individual consultant), Reference No. SER-SAIGE-IC-CS-22-32**

Serbia has received a loan from the World Bank (Bank), through the "Serbia Accelerating Innovation and Growth Entrepreneurship Project" (Project), to contribute to the country's growth and competitiveness by improving (i) relevance and excellence of scientific research and (ii) innovative entrepreneurship and access to finance for enterprise growth.

Objectives of Engagement:

The Analytics and Policy Implementation Specialist (hereinafter: Consultant) will provide the evidence-based support for the transformation process of the selected Research and Development Institutes (RDIs), as well as for the continuation of Entrepreneurial discovery process (EDP) workshops and consultations with stakeholders. The Consultant will facilitate obtaining and analysis of relevant data from various resources that may serve as inputs for the RDIs transformation process, EDP and 4S monitoring, with a view of contributing to Serbia's growth and competitiveness. Moreover, the Consultant will get engaged in providing technical support to RDIs in implementation of their transformation plans, including but not limited to needs assessment, coordination with consultants and reporting.

Scope of work:

1. Contribution to effective coordination of external support and harmonization of the work the SAIGE consultants with RDIs to match their needs in terms of scope and timing of the support, as well as monitoring of the obtained outcomes;
2. Prepare brief needs assessment reports for initiation of procurement of specific consulting services on the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) level to support transformation process of a group of RDIs. It should include objectives of assignment, scope of work, expected experience and qualifications, and expected time effort;
3. Assist PIU in communications on Project Component 1.2 - RDI Reforms, stakeholders' expectations and any scope implications with the RDIs, diagnose issues with in-progress reporting on transformation of RDIs and propose recommended solutions;

4. Support the RDIs' reporting procedures by contributing to the evidence-based assessment of their achievements and transformation process outcomes;
5. Under the supervision of MoESTD/PIU, provide support to the overall 4S implementation activities in order to ensure efficient and timely achievement of the expected outcomes, in compliance with the adopted Strategy and related Action Plans;
6. Cooperate with the MoESTD and other relevant ministries, Government officials and other public authorities on collection and interpretation of relevant data for monitoring and evaluation of the 4S implementation, including analytical support to implementation of 4S and continuous EDP in terms of evidence-based governance;
7. Encourage effective and efficient 4S governance structure and system and continual EDP, including support to a team of international and local 4S specialists in planning and organization of meetings materials and inputs, gauging group consultations and capacity building activities and maintenance of stakeholders' active engagement;
8. Participate in Smart Specialization macroregional networking and exchange of best practice between 4S and S3 of relevant regions that have developed and/or adopted approaches, methods and tools which may enhance 4S implementation, future planning and overall impact in Serbia;
9. Ensure data integrity by investigating inconsistencies in reported numbers from 4S implementing entities, including working with IT to understand any system issues or changes investigating templates and adjustments;
10. Provide technical support to the PIU in implementation of relevant policies in STI field, participation at relevant meetings, preparation of regular and ad-hoc reports as required by PIU/MoESTD and World Bank, and other duties as required by the Project Manager.

Timing and Duration

The Consultant is expected to be engaged on a part-time basis for one year with a probation period of 3 months. The engagement could be subject to appropriate extension and increase of the time effort depending on the Project need and performance. The expected time effort for the assignment is approximately 100 working days.

Required qualifications:

- Master's degree or equivalent in engineering, management or statistics;
- At least 5 years of relevant professional experience in providing scientific support to evidence-based policy making, public policy processes and organisations;

- Experience in public policies in the area of research, innovation, entrepreneurship and collaboration in quadruple helix;
- Previous experience with RDIs and Innovation ecosystem;
- Previous experience in Smart specialization process in Serbia is considered an advantage;
- Experience in public-private dialog;
- Excellent spoken and written English, communication, organisation and teamwork skills

The Central Fiduciary Unit (CFU) 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.

The evaluation criteria for the assignment:

- General Experience (40 Points)
- Specific Experience relevant to the Assignment (60 Points)

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the ***World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers – Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services (July 2016, revised November 2017 and August 2018)*** ("the Regulations") setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the *Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants* as set out in the Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 09:00 to 15:00 hours.

Expressions of interest in English language must be delivered in a written form to the email below, by **June 15, 2022, 12:00 hours, noon**, local time. Interested consultants must provide **Cover Letter** (**name and reference number of the assignment to be indicated in the email**) and **CV** representing description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and availability of appropriate skills (**scanned diplomas to be sent with CV**).

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