REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

**Republic of Serbia**

**Inclusive Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)**

**Project ID No. P157117**

**Assignment Title:**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING FIRM, Reference No. SER-ECEC-8693YF-CQ-CS-19-46**

The Republic of Serbia has received financing in the amount of US$ 50,000,000 equivalent from the World Bank toward the cost of the Inclusive Early Childhood Education and Care Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Consulting Firm is responsible for carrying out all the activities related to environmental and social safeguard arrangements for the Project. Consulting firm is responsible for ensuring that all civil works related activities under Project Component 1 are undertaken in full compliance with the Project’s Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). This includes, but is not limited to: preparation of draft site-specific ESMPs, discussing these with the World Bank and Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development (MoESTD) their reviews and finalization; preparation and participation in the process of ESMP public disclosure, including presentation of ESMPs, preparation of Minutes of Public Meeting, and submission and discussion with the Bank and the Ministry; contribution to preparation of Tender Documents for the respective civil work contracts, and participation in the tender evaluation, if required by the Project Director; undertaking site visits and reviewing contractors’ compliance with site-specific ESMPs, including determining and suggesting remedial actions; preparation of non-compliance reports and keeping track of respective responses/actions undertaken; preparation of periodic Environmental Compliance Monitoring Reports; participating at the official meetings with the Bank; participating in the WB and the Ministry periodical missions; other actions to enable the Project to meet the environmental and social requirements within the legal framework of the Republic of Serbia and in accordance with the World Bank’s environmental and social policies and procedures. The Consulting firm will also be responsible for reviewing draft site-specific ESMPs if prepared by the third parties, and dealing with the comments as may be received from the Bank.

Services are expected to start in December 2019 and to be finished by the end of December 2022.

The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and Request for Expressions of Interest (REoI) for the above referenced consulting services are posted on the website of the MoESTD at <https://ecec.mpn.gov.rs/>

The Central Fiduciary Unit (CFU) of the Ministry of Finance now invites eligible consulting firms (“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 qualification criteria are:

Firm must have proven experience in previous similar assignments in past 5 years.

Firm shall have minimum 2 environmental experts and 1 social expert with following qualifications:

• University degree in environmental sciences, engineering, natural or social sciences;

• Minimum 4 years of experience in environmental aspects of demand-driven development projects;

• Experience in preparation of Environmental Assessment /Management Plans for the construction projects;

• Strong experience in environmental problems prioritization, tools and methodology development, project management experience at local and regional level;

• Exposure to the development work with the international organizations is an advantage;

• Good interpersonal and communication skills;

• Fluent knowledge of the English language (speaking, writing and reading);

• Demonstrated ability to work in a team;

• Computer literacy (MS Office);

• Advantage will be given to the key staff i.e. experts with the knowledge of the World Bank policies and procedures.

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| *#* | *Criteria* | *Weight* |
| 1 | Core business and general qualifications of the consultant | **30** |
| 2 | Qualifications and specific experience of the consultant related to the assignment | **50** |
| 3 | Organization of the firm, general qualifications and availability of key staff | **20** |

Expressions of Interest should contain following information: (1) profile of the firm; (2) CVs of team members that would work on above mentioned assignment; (3) information on experience in similar assignments and supportive material indicating qualification and competence of the firm to perform the services (portfolio, description of similar asssignments etc.).

The attention of interested Consultants 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) (“Consultant Guidelines”)**, setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the *Selection Based on the Consultants’ Qualifications (CQS)* method as set out in the Section III of the Consultant Guidelines.

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

Expressions of interest in English language must be sent in a written form to the **E-mail** address below, by **November 20, 2019, 12:00 hours, noon**, local time.

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| **Contact:** | **E–mail:** | **Address:** |
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