REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Republic of Serbia**

**STATE OWNED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENING PROJECT (SOFI)**

Project ID No. P156837

**Assignment Title:**

**Consultancy Services to assist the Ministry of Finance in Undertaking the Analysis and Evaluation of the Guarantee Schemes, as measures of support to the economy for mitigating the consequences and negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Reference #-SER-SOFI-CQ-CS-22-34**

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 SOFI Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for consulting services to be procured under this project. This project will be jointly financed by the Ministry of Finance of Serbia (MoF) in the amount of US$ 6,000,000.

**Scope of work**

Consultancy services to assist the Ministry of Finance in undertaking the analysis and evaluation of the Guarantee Schemes, as measure of support to the economy for mitigating the consequences and negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic shall focus in particular on:

1. Analysis and evaluation of the effects of the Guarantee Schemes

## Analysis of the „as-is“ situation

## Analysis and evaluation of the effects of the Guarantee Schemes

1. Procedure for monitoring of and reporting on the implemented Guarantee Schemes

The period of performance of the assignment envisaged by these Terms of Reference shall be December 31, 2022.

**CONSULTANT (COMPANY) QUALIFICATIONS**

In order to perform the Services, Consultants may associate with each other in the form of a joint venture or of a sub-consultancy agreement to complement their respective areas of expertise, strengthen the technical responsiveness of their proposals and make available bigger pools of experts, provide better approaches and methodologies, and, in some cases, offer lower prices.

However, in order to be selected, the Consultant must possess, at the minimum, the following qualifications:

* It must be a legal entity;
* The Consultant must prove its capability by listing its experience in similar engagements in the field of evaluation of the effects of guarantee scheme, or related financial instruments in the previous five years (2016-2021) wll be considered as an advantage.

As a proof, the Consultant shall prepare a table listing following information: name of the relevant similar assignment, short scope of work, year of contract’s implementation, contracted amount, country/region, contact reference (name, e-mail, phone number).

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## ***Key staff qualifications***

Consultant must ensure that the key staff that shall perform the Services possess the following qualifications:

***K-1 Team Leader***

* 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 (240 ESPB); finance, economics or related areas would be an advantage
* Experience as a team leader in at least one (1) prior consultative engagements of a similar nature in last 10 years; Adequate relevant experience in the Region would be an advantage
* At least 10 years of experience in financial sector (or related industry services), including comprehensive institutional analysis and diagnosis and developing and implementing strategies, policies and procedures, as well as analysis and evaluation of effects of the strategies, policies and procedures
* Leadership of or a significant contribution to policy development and implementation activities in the field of Public Sector would be an advantage;
* Excellent English written and presentation skills;
* Excellent communication, organization, and teamwork skills.

***K-2 Key expert***

* 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 (240 ESPB); finance, economics or related areas would be an advantage
* At least 5 years of professional experience in financial sector (or related industry services) in providing support in the field of analyses and evaluation of effects of the strategies, policies and procedures, as well as support in the development and implementation and / or upgrading of the strategies, policies and procedures
* Extensive knowledge of best international standards and good practices in banking
* Knowledge of Serbian Laws and bylaws is preferable
* Skills in data analysis and business analytics would be and advantage
* Excellent English written and presentation skills;
* Excellent communication, organization, and teamwork skills.

**Selection of the Consultant**

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*** ***and August 2018*** (“the Regulations”). The Consultant that obtains the highest score during evaluation of expressions of interest will be invited to submit technical and financial proposals.

Evaluation of the Expressions of Interest will be done in accordance with following criteria:

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| # | *Criteria* | *Weight* |
| 1 | Specific experience of the Consultant (as a firm) relevant to the Services | **10** |
| 2 | Adequacy and quality of the proposed methodology and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference | **40** |
|  | Key Experts’ qualifications and competence for the Services  a) K-1: Team Leader [points 30]  b) K-2: Key expert [points 20] | **50** |
| The Key Experts’ qualifications shall be evaluated according to the following sub-criteria and their belonging weights: | | |
| a) | General qualifications (general education and experience) | **30** |
| b) | Adequacy for the Services (relevant education and experience in the financial sector (or related industry services)/similar assignments) | **60** |
| c) | Relevant experience in the Public Sector (administrative system, government organization, etc.) | **10** |

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 detailed Terms of Reference for the above referenced consulting services is posted on the website of the Ministry of Finance <https://www.mfin.gov.rs/en/documents/state-owned-financial-institutions-strengthening-project-sofi-general-procurement-notice-2>

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.

Expressions of interest in English language must be delivered in a written form to the **e-mail addresses below, by June 30, 2022, 12:00 hours, noon**, local time.

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| **Contact:** | **E–mail:** | **Address:** |
| To: | [zorica.petrovic@mfin.gov.rs](mailto:zorica.petrovic@mfin.gov.rs)  Ms. Zorica Petrovic  Procurement Specialist | Ministry of Finance  Central Fiduciary Unit  3-5 Sremska St  11000 Belgrade, Serbia  Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 765 2587 |
| Cc: | [ljiljana.dzuver@mfin.gov.rs](mailto:ljiljana.dzuver@mfin.gov.rs)  [ognjen.popovic@mfin.gov.rs](mailto:ognjen.popovic@mfin.gov.rs) |