

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS

Republic of Serbia

The Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project (SRSM)

Project ID No. P170868

Assignment Title: Individual Consultant (full time) – Transport Economist

Reference No. SER-SRSM-IC-CS-21-07-2

For the purpose of financing Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project, Phase 1 of the MPA, IBRD and the Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD), jointly, granted to the Republic of Serbia EUR 102 million loan to support enhancing the efficiency and safety of existing railway assets and improving governance and institutional capacity of the railway sector and the Republic of Serbia intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for consulting services to be procured under this project.

Scope of Work

The Transport Economist of the PIU will be responsible for the following duties:

- Full responsibility for delivery of activity on cargo ownership and market analysis as well as others agreed with the PIU Head, from scoping, ToR preparation, evaluation, supervision and implementation, and final delivery including dissemination;
- Participate or lead, as instructed by PIU Head, in preparation of terms of reference for other technical assistances under the Component 3;
- Participate in preparation of technical specifications for activities under the Sub-Component 2.1;
- Planning, monitoring and administering technical delivery of work, respectively surveys, analysis, strategies, etc.; including checking and reviewing of the deliverables;
- Provide support for all aspects related to demand and supply analysis, regulatory assessments, and economic and financial analysis;
- Contribute to efforts in knowledge management to ensure best practices and lessons learned related to railway management and institutional/governance approaches are reflected in railway operations;
- Support the Client for advancing policy, regulatory and institutional reforms in the railway sector, especially in the areas market reforms and deregulation;
- Contribute to activities for advocacy, dissemination and knowledge building around railway sector issues;
- Promote the adoption of technological innovations, institutional/governance setups, financial frameworks, rules and regulations, and commercial practices in railway projects;
- Liaising with the PITs, Central Fiduciary Unit (CFU) and Head of the PIU regarding inputs needed to prepare Bidding Documents, Terms of Reference, Monitoring Reports etc.
- Active participation and assistance during the tender processing, evaluation and selection;
- Reviewing and evaluating consultants' technical documentation, and schedule;
- Management of execution of service contracts ensuring their completion within defined timeframe, budget and at the required quality;
- Assisting the Head of the PIU in preparing the PIU Reports to the World Bank;
- Close cooperation with other PIU staff to be selected for support to implementation of the Project, and

- Any other task assigned by the Head of the PIU.

The Consultant shall provide full time services for the period of 36 months, or any other period as may be subsequently agreed by the parties in writing. The Consultant should be available to commence no later than one month after contract signature.

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

- Educational qualifications: At least a University Degree in Economics/Business Administration or similar (where a university degree has been awarded on completion of a minimum of three years of study in a university or equivalent institution). Advanced degree will be an advantage;
- Area of professional expertise: Corporate finance and/or market economist (revenues, tariffs, etc.);
- Minimum 10 years of general professional experience;
- Minimum 7 years of professional experience in financial management/financial restructuring or financial analysis/market analysis
- Experience in railway sector will be considered as an advantage;
- Previous experience with IFI or EU projects will be considered as an advantage
- Experience working with or within the public sector;
- Knowledge of Serbian language;
- Good knowledge of English language
- Computer skills: MS Office tools
- Project Management with multiple stakeholders;
- Self-Planning & Organizing, Problem Solving, Communication, Teamwork, Initiative.

The detailed Terms of Reference for the above referenced consulting services is posted on the website of the Ministry of Construction, Transportation and Infrastructure (MCTI) www.mgsi.gov.rs/en/dokuments/serbia-railway-sector-modernization-srsm-project-piu

The Central Fiduciary Unit (CFU) of the Ministry of Finance now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested consultants must provide Cover Letter and CV representing description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and availability of appropriate skills (scanned diplomas to be sent with CV).

The evaluation criteria for the assignment:

- Specific Experience relevant to the Assignment (60 Points)
- Qualifications and Competence relevant to the Assignment (40 Points)

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.16 and 3.17 of 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, August 2018 and November 2020*** ("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.

Interested consultants may obtain further information from the CFU at the address below from 09:00 to 15:00 hours.

Expressions of interest **in English language** must be delivered to the e-mail address below by **March 10, 2022, 12:00 Noon**, local time.

When submitting Expressions of interest please indicate assignment and reference number for which you are applying.

Contact:	E-mail:	Address:
To:	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:	ljljana.dzuver@mfin.gov.rs	

Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Transport Economist

Background

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) launched the Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA) to support the Government of Serbia in continuation of institutional, physical and operational modernization of the railway sector in an integrated manner through providing financial support to Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project as part of the Multiphase Programmatic Approach to be implemented in three overlapping phases over the ten-year period.

For the purpose of financing Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project, Phase 1 of the MPA, IBRD and the Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD), jointly, granted to the Republic of Serbia EUR 102 million loan to support enhancing the efficiency and safety of existing railway assets and improving governance and institutional capacity of the railway sector.

The Project includes following components:

- Component 1: Infrastructure Investments and Asset Management: Sub-Component 1.1: Reliable and Safe Railway Infrastructure (track rehabilitation, level crossings, railway station “Prokop”, Bogojevo station bypass, measurement stations), Sub-Component 1.2: Technical Documentation for the Phase 2, Sub-Component 1.3: Asset Management
- Component 2: Institutional Strengthening and Project Management: Sub-Component 2.1: Sectoral Governance, Sub-Component 2.2: Human capital, Sub-Component 2.3: Project Management and Citizen Engagement
- Component 3: Railway Modernization Enablers: Sub-Component 3.1: Intelligent Railway Systems (ITS) and Safety Management System (SMS), Sub-Component 3.2: Integrated Territorial Development and Sub-Component 3.3: Modal Shift

Project will be managed by the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure (MoCTI) through the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) supplemented by the Project Implementation Teams (PITs) in Railway Directorate (RD) and in railway companies, respectively Serbian Railway Infrastructure (IZS), Serbia Voz (SV) and Serbia Cargo (SC). PITs will act as subordinate implementing agencies and provide technical support for specific Project subcomponents or activities of the MPA that pertain to their area of expertise. Primary responsibility for Project execution lies on PIU which will ensure that the Project development objectives are met.

Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure (the Client) intends to engage a highly qualified consultant (individual expert) to provide required services more closely described below. The successful candidate will work closely with the Client and other

relevant stakeholders to ensure that the activities of the Project are managed efficiently both technically and in compliance with the objectives of the Project Appraisal Document (PAD), the Loan Agreement, Credit Facility Agreement and the Project Operations Manual. The consultant, always aligned with the Head of the PIU and in collaboration with the other PIU staff, shall interact and liaise with PITs, consultants, World Bank, AFD, and others relevant for successful completion of the tasks. He/she will closely monitor the implementation of the activities in order to coordinate the inputs from the different actors, ensure excellent execution, quickly address implementing challenges and efficiently react to unexpected developments.

General information

Individual Consultant Title: Transport Economist of the PIU to support Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project. The Consultant shall report to the Head of the PIU, linked to the MoCTI of the Republic of Serbia.

Position in organization

Immediate superior: Head of the Project Implementation Unit

Main position objective

Generally, the main task of the Consultant is to support the implementation of the Component 3: “Railway Modernization Enablers”. Within this Component measures for strengthening the enabling environment for the railway sector through selected innovations will be financed. In Serbia, utilization of information technologies in railway transport is still in its infancy. Knowledge of market potentials is not structured, and strategies for attracting unconventional users are absent. The GoS would like to introduce new approaches that have been proven to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and safety. This component will offer a mix of technical assistance and pilot investments for three enabling elements: (i) intelligent railway system (IRS) and Safety Management System (SMS); (ii) integration with other transport modes and urban areas; and (iii) optimizing market potential in the rail sector.

In addition, the Consultant will be expected to provide technical support to the implementation of several activities under Component 2: “Institutional Strengthening and Project Management”, in particular subcomponent 2.1. Sectorial Governance. Respectively, Component 2, Institutional Strengthening and Project Management, focuses on institutional transformation of the rail sector to deepen and sustain recent reforms. The Government of Serbia’s (GoS) previous reform cycle introduced fundamental structural changes, clarified contractual arrangements among institutions, and defined their separate obligations and responsibilities. These measures need to be followed up with institutional capacity building and the introduction of modern management systems and approaches, especially to promote more efficient, customer-responsive and commercially oriented ways of operating. Thus, within this Component support to the effort of GoS in continuing the sectoral reforms through institutional capacity building and the introduction of modern management systems and approaches, especially those that will promote more efficient, transparent, customer-responsive and commercially oriented ways of operating, will be ensured. To this end, the component will finance: (1) Sectoral Governance (a mix of technical assistance and investments to

strengthen the governance of the key railway agencies and improve their efficiency and results), (2) Human Capital (a mix of technical assistance and capacity building activities to establish mechanisms and frameworks for long term development of human resources and knowledge sharing in the sector), and (3) Project Management and Citizen Engagement

Considering aforementioned, the Consultant will be responsible to monitor, control and provide expert advice on required surveys for railway services, analysis and strategy(ies), economic and financial data, assessments and other relevant documents prepared by others within the scope of the Project to ensure achievement of Project objectives. This will be done in close cooperation with the Head of the PIU, other PIU staff and the consultants to be selected for each specific task, as well as the Client, and other agencies (as described in the Project Operation Manual). He/she will closely monitor the implementation of the activities in order to coordinate the inputs from the different actors, ensure excellent execution, quickly address challenges and efficiently react to unexpected developments. In line with the project cycle and Procurement Plan, the implementation of activities as per contract provisions and in compliance with the legal/regulatory framework of the World Bank and the country (R Serbia), he/she will ensure that services are satisfactorily completed on time, within budget, aligned with the contractual requirements and in a coherent way across sub-components.

Principal responsibilities

The transport Economist of the PIU will be responsible for the following duties:

- Full responsibility for delivery of activity on cargo ownership and market analysis as well as others agreed with the PIU Head, from scoping, ToR preparation, evaluation, supervision and implementation, and final delivery including dissemination;
- Participate or lead, as instructed by PIU Head, in preparation of terms of reference for other technical assistances under the Component 3;
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- Assisting the Head of the PIU in preparing the PIU Reports to the World Bank;
- Close cooperation with other PIU staff to be selected for support to implementation of the Project, and
- Any other task assigned by the Head of the PIU.

Reporting requirements

The Consultant will report to the Head of the Project Implementation Unit and provide Monthly Progress Reports, within 5 (five) days after the end of the month for which the report is due. The report should contain at least:

- List of meetings held with brief description of objectives and conclusions;
- The status of progress, problems encountered, corrective actions needed, rationale for actions and
- any further comments relevant for the reporting period.

The Consultant shall prepare ad-hoc reports on any major issues raised during Project implementation, at the Head of the PIU, Client or Bank's request.

Knowledge, experience, skills and competencies

- Educational qualifications: At least a University Degree in Economics/Business Administration or similar (where a university degree has been awarded on completion of a minimum of three years of study in a university or equivalent institution). Advanced degree will be an advantage;
- Area of professional expertise: Corporate finance and/or market economist (revenues, tariffs, etc.);
- Minimum 10 years of general professional experience;
- Minimum 7 years of professional experience in financial management/financial restructuring or financial analysis/market analysis
- Experience in railway sector will be considered as an advantage;
- Previous experience with IFI or EU projects will be considered as an advantage
- Experience working with or within the public sector;
- Knowledge of Serbian language;
- Good knowledge of English language
- Computer skills: MS Office tools
- Project Management with multiple stakeholders;
- Self-Planning & Organizing, Problem Solving, Communication, Teamwork, Initiative.

Length of the assignment

The Consultant shall provide full time services. It is expected that the period over which the consultant shall provide the Services will be 36 months, or any other period as may be subsequently agreed by the parties in writing.

The Consultant should be available to commence no later than one month after the contract signature. The Consultant should be available to provide services for at least 8 hours each day, Monday to Friday, for a minimum period of 40 hours per week. All leave to be allowed to the Consultant is included in the staff months of service. The Consultant will have 30 days of paid vacation leave per year. The leave for national holidays is to be considered paid.

Facilities to be provided by the Client

The Client will be responsible for provision of the following:

- Fully equipped office space, with access to Internet, local telephone line, printing, photocopying and document binding;
- Access to necessary documents; and
- Where the Consultant is required to travel, to site or elsewhere in accordance with the Client's instruction, transportation costs will be borne by the Client.

Confidentiality

The Consultant undertakes to maintain confidentiality on all information that is not in the public domain and shall not be involved in another assignment that represents a conflict of interest to the prevailing assignment.

Selection of Consultant

The Consultant will be selected applying Open competitive method.

The Consultant is eligible and his selection does not create any conflict of interest as provided in the Bank's Procurement Regulations.