REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Republic of North Macedonia Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy AGRICULTURE MODERNIZATION PROJECT

Loan No.: 9037 - MK

Assignment Title: Consulting Services for Supervision of the civil works for the construction of Agri-food Platform in Gazi Baba, Skopje Reference No. AMP-CS-QCBS-SC1.2-5

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy of the Republic of North Macedonia (MAFWE) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Agriculture Modernization Project (AMP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project aims to improve competitiveness in targeted agricultural sub-sectors and strengthen agricultural public sector readiness for EU accession.

The main objective of the assignment is to supervise the construction (civil works) of the Agri-Food Platform and installation of equipment in the Agri-Food Platform (AFP) in the Municipality of Gazi Baba, Skopje, North Macedonia, in accordance with the applicable Laws of the Republic of North Macedonia, World Bank (WB) rules, procedures and policies, and international standards.

In doing so, the Consultant (as Supervision Consultant) shall act as "Engineer/Project Manager" as defined in respective WB General Conditions of Contract and to ensure that: (i) works, materials, equipment and workmanship are in compliance with the required standards and technical specifications/documentation, (ii) works are planned in an orderly manner and completed in due time, (iii) the recommendations of the Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) are properly followed during the construction phase, (iv) the provisions of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) are properly followed during the construction phase, (v) the works are performed in accordance with safety procedures for all involved parties.

The Consultant shall perform the duties and responsibilities of the "Engineer/Project Manager" as specified in the Contract for the Civil Works, in close co-operation and consultation with the Client.

More details about the assignment can be obtained in the Terms of Reference which is an integral part of this open call and can be obtained from the website of AMP at this <u>link</u>.

MAFWE now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to express their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants are required to submit information demonstrating that they meet the necessary qualifications and possess the relevant experience to carry out the Services. To assess the capability and experience of the consultants seeking to be shortlisted, the submitted information should, at a minimum, include the following:

- General Qualifications:
 - ❖ At least 10 years of experience in engineering and consulting services. As a proof of compliance, the consultant shall provide a copy of valid business license from country

- of origin (if such activity is subject to licencing in the consultant's country) and copy of the registration certificate (issued not earlier than 2 years prior to the proposal submission deadline):
- ❖ License for Supervision for 1st category (License A) issued according to the national legislation of the Republic of North Macedonia. Foreign Consultant companies can get more information about confirmation of their licenses on the following link: http://mtc.gov.mk;
- ❖ At least 50% of the key experts must be permanent staff of the consultant. As a proof of compliance with this requirement the consultant shall provide a signed and stamped staffing table;
- ❖ At least 30 permanent staff working for the Consultant, confirmed by official institution in RNM, including at least 6 engineers who possess valid authorization A for supervision issued by the Chamber of Certified Architects and certified Engineers of North Macedonia.
- ❖ The average annual turnover of the consultant must be at least EUR 1.000.000,00 equivalents in the last 5 (five) years. As a proof of compliance with this requirement, the consultant shall provide audited balance sheets or verified financial statements covering the required period.
- Specific Qualifications relevant for the assignment:
 - ❖ At least 3 construction supervision assignments in construction of agri-food, agro-logistics and agro-processing facilities, wholesale markets, etc., each with a value equivalent at minimum of EURO 1.000.000,00 successfully and substantially (at least 80%) completed either alone or as a member of a JV with a minimum participation of 50% during the last 10 years starting 1st of January 2015 and the deadline for submission of proposal;
 - ❖ At least 1 completed project during the last 10 years in supervision of works under World Bank conditions of contract or other internationally recognized conditions of Contract (in the region, country) with a minimum amount of 50% own input;

The credibility of mentioned experience shall be presented in a list of the required similar project/contracts as required above, including description of services provided (including information on contract value, contracting entity/client, project location/country, duration, assignment budget, percentage carried out by consultant in case of association of firms or subcontracting and main activities) and accompanied by certificates/confirmation of orderly fulfilment of the contracts verified by other party from such contracts.

It is required to provide examples of assignments of similar nature.

A proof that the Consultant's key personnel will include at least the key experts as listed in available Section 6.3 "Minimum Qualification requirements for the Key Staff" in the Terms of Reference.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14 of the World Bank's <u>Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers – Procurement in IPF of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, issued in July 2016, revised November 2017, July 2018, November 2020, September 2023 and February 2025 ("Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.</u>

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. The "association" may take the form of a Joint Venture or a sub consultancy. In case of a Joint Venture (JV), all members of the JV will be evaluated jointly for the purpose of short listing and shall be jointly and severally liable for the assignment and shall sign the contract in case of award is made to that JV group. Interested consultants should clearly indicate the structure of their "association" and the duties of the partners and sub consultants in their application. Unclear expression of interests in terms of "in association with" and/or "in affiliation with" and etc. may not be considered for short listing. Keeping one expression of interest per firm as principle, a consultant firm may decide whether it wishes to participate as a sub consultant or as an individual consultant or as a partner in a joint venture. Please note that a firm shall submit only one expression of interests. No firm can be a sub consultant while submitting an expression of interests individually or as a partner of a joint venture in the same selection process. A firm, if acting in the capacity of sub consultant in any consultant or JV, may participate in more than one consultant, but only in the capacity of a sub consultant.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Selection based on Consultants' Qualifications method set out in the <u>Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers</u> – <u>Procurement in IPF of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services</u>, (Regulations) issued in July 2016, revised November 2017, July 2018, November 2020, September 2023 and February 2025.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 08:00 to 16:00 hours, CET (GMT+1).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the addresses stated below (in person, by mail or by e-mail) by **Friday**, **May 30**th, **2025 by 15.00 CET (GMT+1).**

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy Attn.: Mr. Perica Ivanoski Str. Aminta Treti, no.2 1000 Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

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