

REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FOR STATE ROADS

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

ROAD UPGRADING AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Loan No.: 8525 - MK

Assignment Title: Consultancy Services for Technical Audits

Reference No. RUDP – CS – QCBS - 05

The Public Enterprise for State Roads of the Republic of North Macedonia (PESR) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Road Upgrading and Development Project (RUDP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project for Construction of express road Rankovce – Kriva Palanka is carried out in two lots; Execution of the construction works has started in May 2018 and the loan's closing date is December 2020.

The main objectives of the technical audits are to verify independently whether (i) the road on both lots is being constructed in accordance with the relevant civil works contracts, the relevant standards and specifications and good international practice, and (ii) the documentation, timeliness and overall quality of project management, supervision and construction is appropriate. The technical audits will be a part of the due diligence activities for the Public Enterprise for State Roads and the World Bank.

To verify construction as per contract, the technical audits are to ensure compliance of road works that will focus on the examination of the quality of works completed, to verify whether the road works comply with the technical specifications and standards described in the Contract documents. The examination will be based on visual inspections and on the laboratory analysis of road core samples, to verify, among other elements, layer thicknesses, gradings, bitumen content, compaction, voids-in-the-mix and the general quality of materials used. The laboratory testing will include all relevant examinations of unbound granular materials from sub-base and/or local soil material from subgrade,

examination of the works on bridges, shoulder's, drainage ditch, culverts etc. Verifying if the applied measures of safety improvement are in accordance with measures provided by the design documentation and Technical Specification Report on the status of contract completion, e.g. road markings, road signs and equipment. The Auditor will record and assess the possible existence of other elements considered relevant to safety.

The technical audits will be carried out at three stages in the period between September 2019 and December 2020 (end Dec 2019; end Jun 2020; end Dec 2020). The first audit will be done in the fourth quarter of 2019. The Consultant will carry out the activities described below under the various headings:

1. Audit of General Management
2. Audit of Execution of Road Works
3. Audit of Works Supervision
4. Audit of Quality of Road Works
5. Pre-opening road safety audit

The detailed Terms of Reference for the above referenced consulting services is posted on the website of the Public Enterprise for State Roads at:

<http://www.roads.org.mk/444/5129/proektna-programa-za-izbor-na-konsultant-za-tehnicka-revizija-na-rankovce-kriva-palanka>

The Public Enterprise for State Roads 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.

In order to determinate the capability and experience of the consultants seeking to be short listed, the information submitted shall include the following:

- Statement of intention to participate in the selection process
- Company information: name, status, address, telephone number, e-mail address, year of establishment, contact person for the project, turnover for the previous 10 (ten) years, number of permanent staff and part-timers, fields of expertise
- Details of experience in similar assignments undertaken in the previous 10 (ten) years, including the contract(s) value and location(s), number of staff involved in the contract(s), name of the Client(s), name of partners for contract(s) execution, source(s) of financing, type of services provided, contract(s) commencement and completion dates, brief description of the contract(s)
- Form of association (sub-contractor/consortium) for the execution of the contract, if the case may be, and the leading company. The same information as for the leading company shall be requested for the associated company/companies

- A list with ongoing assignments including the starting, the ending date and the personnel involved

The shortlisting criteria are:

- Minimum 10 (ten) years proven experience in carrying out technical audits or similar quality assurance/supervision services in the road sector;
- Experience in projects carrying out technical audits or similar quality assurance/supervision services in the road sector in at least 5 (five) countries worldwide in the past 10 (ten) years
- The firm must be fully independent and must demonstrate in its technical proposal that it has no conflict of interest. In particular it must demonstrate that it is not related in any way to contractors, supervision consultants and/or project management professionals currently working for or in contract with RUDP

Additionally, the Consultant shall provide evidence as to how he/she proposes to retain the same staff for the duration of the assignment, and if possible, the key professional staff should be permanent employees of the Consultant.

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* published in January 2011 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

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 m, venture. 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 Quality and Cost-Based Selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines (*Selection and Employment of Consultants under*

IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, dated January 2011 revised January 2014).

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 09:00 to 16:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail) by 16:30 local time **July 3rd, 2019**.

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