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

REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
Public Enterprise for State Roads
ROAD UPGRADING AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Loan No.: 8525 - MK

**Assignment Title: Consultancy Services for Technical Audits** 

Reference No. RUDP – CS – CQS - 01

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 and the loan's closing date is December 2022.

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.

The detailed Terms of Reference for the above referenced consulting services is posted on the website of the Public Enterprise for State Roads at: <a href="www.roads.org.mk">www.roads.org.mk</a>

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 qualification requirements for the purpose of short listing are the following:

The Consultant/technical audit firm shall be a firm or association of firms in the form of a joint venture or sub consultancy with following qualifications:

- The technical audit firm must have previous successful experience with carrying out technical audits or similar quality assurance/supervision services in the road sector, in at least 5 (five) countries worldwide during the past 10 years. Experience within the European Union or EU pre-accession countries as well as knowledge of conditions/legislation in subject area in North Macedonia is considered as an advantage.
- 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 credibility of mentioned experience shall be presented in a list of at least five (5) "technical audits or similar quality assurance/supervision services" project references within last ten (10) years with 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 of orderly fulfilment of the contracts verified by other party from such contracts.

The Consultant shall have the organizational capacity (it is expected that the Consultant shall have at least ten (10) employees/sub-contracted experts for performing activities under this assignment) to perform this assignment as well as available appropriate skills among staff. It is expected that the Consultant submits information on their organizational capacity in their Expression of Interest.

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, revised in July 2014 ("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. 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 Consultants' Qualifications 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 both addresses stated below (in person, by mail or by e-mail) by 16:30 local time (two weeks from publishing) March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

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