

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

## **MOLDOVA**

### **Local Roads Improvement Project (LRIP)**

Project ID: P150357

Assignment Title: **Social Survey for Local Road Improvement Project**

Reference No.: LRIP/CS/13

#### **Assignment description:**

The Government of the Republic of Moldova has applied for financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Local Roads Improvement Project in Moldova, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The project will be implemented under the general supervision and responsibility of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development (MIRD), who will execute the project through the State Road Administration (SRA) as the direct executing agency.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include survey and analysis works for the selected LRIP Project communities and road sections before implementation of road rehabilitation works and analysis of the actual situation and expected impact of the LRIP Project on different social groups (including men, women, youth, elderly, unemployed, disabled, etc.) in selected beneficiary communities – for newly intended corridors. At the same time to interview the beneficiaries from the localities about the level of road conditions and opportunities for population in already rehabilitated corridors during 2017-2023.

On a general level, the social surveys study should try:

1. To examine how the project can contribute towards regional development and job creation in some of Moldova’s most road users’ regions, thereby helping them to converge with the rest of the country and ensuring that the sustainable benefit from inclusive growth. In this regard, the proposed activities should: i) help improve the understanding on what are the connectivity and mobility constraints that various social groups in the local population face and what types of complimentary interventions could be needed to ignite growth and improve service delivery to each of these groups; ii) identify channels through which the project’s citizen engagement strategy could incorporate the preferences of the different social groups into the project design, and iii) help SRA to take best augmented solution for road rehabilitation with biggest benefit for population and regional development.
2. To evaluate the level of satisfaction of population in the area of implemented LRIP corridors. In this context, in July 2017, an opinion poll was conducted to establish and evaluate the initial situation and the expectations of the population. According to the Monitorization System based on indicators, which are implemented within the Project, in early 2023 another similar survey of opinions will be conducted to measure the level of satisfaction of the population regarding the implementation of the Local Road Improvement Project of the last 4 years. It must show what is the opinion of the people regarding the works carried out, the quality of the infrastructure, how the life of the

localities has changed due to the rehabilitated road, the access to social institutions, but also what new opportunities are created.

On all phases of the assignment, the consultant will give special attention to sub-groups, disaggregating to the extent possible, predominant trends, patterns, and issues affecting women, the elderly, the disabled, unemployed, youth, small-scale farmers, among other target population groups.

The social survey and analyses shall be done in two phases:

### **I. Initial situation and assessing the pre-project status**

A total of 40 representative/settlements located within the **proposed corridors project's area** will be selected by the SRA and the Bank in close consultation with the hired firm. Survey and analysis work for the selected communities will involve data collection and analysis socio-economic conditions and living standards of the population in selected beneficiary communities to allow *for the understanding of the initial situation and assessing the pre-project status*. In this phase, the Consultant shall:

- Review the socio-economic baseline information regarding selected beneficiary communities available with the National Statistical Bureau of the Republic of Moldova, regional and local authorities, project stakeholders etc. Based on this information the Consultant will determine the sampling plan for the conduct of pre-project survey.
- Conduct Household Survey in localities;
- Prepare the Social Survey Study Report that shall present the socio-economic conditions of the population of selected beneficiary communities, *their perceptions and views with respect to proposed LRIP Project activities*.

### **II. Satisfaction survey**

A total of 30 representative/settlements located within **the actual corridors LRIP project's area** will be selected by the SRA and the Bank in close consultation with the hired firm. Survey and analysis work for the selected communities will involve data collection and analysis of socio-economic conditions and living standards of the population in selected beneficiary communities to allow for the understanding of the actual situation and assessing the **post-project status**. In this phase, the Consultant shall:

- Review the socio-economic baseline information regarding selected beneficiary communities available in previous survey and with the National Statistical Bureau of the Republic of Moldova, regional and local authorities, project stakeholders etc. Based on this information the Consultant will determine the sampling plan for the conduct of post-project survey.
- Conduct Household Survey in localities;
- Prepare the Social Survey Study Report that shall present the socio-economic conditions of the population of selected beneficiary communities, their perceptions and views with respect to changes and opportunities due to LRIP Project activities implemented.

### **Assignment start and duration:**

The assignment is expected to start in May 2023 and last 2 months

### **Requirements for Expression of Interests (EOIs):**

The State Road Administration 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.

Expressions of interests (EOIs) may be submitted by a firm, association, or a joint venture. For shortlisting purposes, the combined experience of an association or a joint venture will be evaluated although the qualifications of the lead firm will be given a greater weight.

In order to determine the capability and experience of consulting firms seeking to be qualified, the information submitted with the Expression of Interest shall include the following:

### **1. Company Profile:**

- Company profile, core business, staffing levels and technical capacity, annual turnover;
- Details of firm's/association's/joint venture's standard quality policies, procedures and practices;
- Name, qualifications and relevant experience of firm's director or manager who will assume overall responsibility for the firm's, association's or joint venture's team coordination, management and output;
- Specific details of firm's/association's/joint venture's procedures to ensure quality of its performance over the life of this assignment including management coordination and role of each firm.

### **2. Company Experience:**

Provide up to 10 project references in similar social survey study assignments, undertaken in the past 5 years<sup>1</sup> (**started and successfully completed in the related period**), which the firm/association/joint venture considers that best illustrate its experience relevant to the assignment, to include the following details:

- Project title and narrative description of the project;
- Contractual role of the firm;
- Detailed description of the actual services provided by the firm;
- Name of firm's senior staff (Project Manager, Team Leader) involved and function performed;
- Number of staff and number of person-months of professional staff provided by the firm;
- The presence of any lead or affiliate companies and their respective roles;
- Detailed description of the actual services provided by associate companies;
- Number of staff and number of person-months of professional staff provided by affiliate companies;
- Location, and start and completion dates;
- Contract value;
- Name of the Client and funding source, with which procurement rules, e.g. IFIs', were applied.

Contracts that have been completed prior to this cut-off date will not be considered.

In case more than 10 project references will be provided, only first 10 will be taken into consideration during evaluation. These should be the most relevant 10 projects the Consultant believes will best demonstrate their fit for the assignment.

The information on the company's profile shall be submitted in accordance with Table 1 and the information on company's experience in accordance with Table 2 of the attached Annex 1.

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<sup>1</sup> Last five (5) years means the period from 2018 and up to expression of interests' submission date

The Expression of interest is to be in English language and should not exceed 50 pages.

The shortlisting criteria and weightings for each criteria/sub criteria:

<b>Criteria</b> • Sub criteria	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>Company Profile</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>30</b>
• Core business and years of experience	10%	10
• Technical and administrative capacity	10%	10
• Financial strength	10%	10
<b>Experience</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>70</b>
• Experience of consultant specific to the	60%	60
• Experience of consultant specific to region	10%	10

For evaluation purposes, the following rating system for each criterion and sub-criterion will be used:

Ranking	Percentage of the maximum score allocated to the criterion and/or sub-criterion (%)
Excellent	96 - 100
Good	81 - 95
Satisfactory	70 - 80
Unsatisfactory	0 - 69

The final percentage to be allocated will be determined following a quantitative and qualitative evaluation of the submitted Proposals and related information under each above-mentioned criterion.

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 & IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, 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.

**Procurement procedure:**

The best qualified and experienced firm will be selected in accordance with the CQS (Selection based on Consultant’s Qualification) method set out in the Guidelines mentioned above. Only the selected firm will be asked to submit a combined technical and financial proposal.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (local time).

Expressions of interest prepared in English must be delivered to the Client in an envelope marked “EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for “LRIP Social Survey Study”, to the address mentioned below by **April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 10:00 AM.** (local time) in hard copy (one original and one copy) and one electronic copy on memory stick.

Expressions of interest received after this time and date may be returned unopened.

Consultants should be aware that distance and customs formalities may require longer than expected delivery time.

Attention: Natalia Capatina  
State Road Administration  
Bucuriei str. 12A, MD 2004 Chisinau, Republic of Moldova  
Tel: (+373 22) 74 05 70  
E-mail: [procurement@asd.md](mailto:procurement@asd.md)

Table 1. Company's profile Form

Criteria • Sub criteria	Info																																
<b>Company Profile</b>																																	
• Core business and years of experience	<i>{type of company, country and year of formation, company registration number, head office address, branch office address, fields of activity, organizational and management structure}</i>																																
• Technical and administrative capacity	<i>{No. of permanent staff for last five years (total staff and staff in relevant fields); relevant managerial capacity of the Project Coordinator (CV), membership of professional organizations, quality control/ quality assurance certification}</i>																																
• Financial strength	<p><i>{Turnover for last five years (2018-2022), In case of joint venture of two or more firms to be filled separately for each member}</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="627 775 1386 1144"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="627 775 1386 813"><b>Annual Turnover</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="627 813 820 875">Year</th> <th data-bbox="820 813 1013 875">Amount in currency</th> <th data-bbox="1013 813 1206 875">Exchange rate<sup>2</sup></th> <th data-bbox="1206 813 1386 875">Amount in EUR</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="627 875 820 913">2018</td> <td data-bbox="820 875 1013 913"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 875 1206 913"></td> <td data-bbox="1206 875 1386 913"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="627 913 820 952">2019</td> <td data-bbox="820 913 1013 952"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 913 1206 952"></td> <td data-bbox="1206 913 1386 952"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="627 952 820 990">2020</td> <td data-bbox="820 952 1013 990"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 952 1206 990"></td> <td data-bbox="1206 952 1386 990"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="627 990 820 1028">2021</td> <td data-bbox="820 990 1013 1028"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 990 1206 1028"></td> <td data-bbox="1206 990 1386 1028"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="627 1028 820 1066">2022</td> <td data-bbox="820 1028 1013 1066"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 1028 1206 1066"></td> <td data-bbox="1206 1028 1386 1066"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="627 1066 820 1144">Average Annual Turnover</td> <td data-bbox="820 1066 1013 1144"></td> <td data-bbox="1013 1066 1206 1144"></td> <td data-bbox="1206 1066 1386 1144"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Annual Turnover</b>				Year	Amount in currency	Exchange rate <sup>2</sup>	Amount in EUR	2018				2019				2020				2021				2022				Average Annual Turnover			
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• Experience of consultant specific to the South-East Europe region <sup>3</sup>																																	

<sup>2</sup> The exchange rate should be the rate established by the National Bank of Moldova as of 1st of July of each referred year.

<sup>3</sup> "Experience of consultant specific to the South-East Europe region" refers to experience gained by the consultant in the successful completion of assignments of similar nature and complexity in South-East Europe countries.

**Table 2. Consultant's Experience Form**

Project No.: ____ of 10	
Project name:	Value of the Contract: Value of the services provided by your firm:
Country: Location within the country:	Start date (month/year): Completion date (month/year):
Name of Client:	Duration of Project (months): Procurement procedure: (e.g. IFIs', where applied)
Funding source:	No. of professional staff provided by the firm: No. of person-months of professional staff provided by the firm:
Name of associated Consultants:	No. of professional staff provided by affiliate companies: No. of person-months of professional staff provided
Contractual role of the firm(s):	Name of senior professional staff and functions performed:
Narrative description of Project:	
Description of actual services provided by your staff within the Project:	
Detailed description of the actual services provided by associate companies:	