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Terms of Reference (ToR) for a Short-Term assignment

Technical assistance requested:	One (1) Junior Non-Key Expert in the area of Animal welfare
Project Title:	Policy and Legal Advice Centre (PLAC II), Serbia
Ref:	EuropeAid/137065/DH/SER/RS
Service Contract No.:	(CRIS) 2016/375-724
Main beneficiary:	Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia and the Negotiating Team
Target Beneficiaries:	Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Veterinary Directorate and other relevant stakeholders involved in the protection of animals used for scientific purposes
Content of the assignment:	Running of practical training for members of Ethical Commissions, veterinary inspectors and for the users in application of animal welfare rules in projects experimenting with animals
Budget Line / Expert Category:	Junior Non-Key Expert
Duration of the assignment:	20 WDs for JNKE, spent in the period from March – (tentatively) July 2018

1. Relevant background information

Background information in relation to PLAC II Project:

The scope of PLAC II Project is to provide support to relevant national institutions in charge of alignment of national legal acts with the EU acquis and to contribute to further building of capacities of relevant national structures for successful carrying out of accession negotiations.

The PLAC II Project should achieve two results:

RESULT 1 - Enhanced compatibility of national legislation with EU legislation and its effective implementation,

RESULT 2 - Enhanced capacities of the relevant national structures for successful carrying out of accession negotiations.

In general, the Project aims at fostering the process of accession negotiations of Serbia by supporting the effective alignment of national legislation with the acquis and its implementation and by further building the capacities of involved carriers of the EU integration process in Serbia. After completion of screening process in 2015, Serbian public administration has entered into much more demanding and obliging exercise of accession negotiations, whereby each step and every decision should result in approaching actual membership in the EU. For this scenario to happen in accordance with planned dynamics, preparedness, adequate institutional capacity of public administration with highly competent staff is of crucial importance. In the core period of the negotiations, PLAC II Project shall support domestic line institutions and the negotiating structures both in performance of quality operational work in relation to harmonisation process and in the effective coordination during various stages and phases in the process for different negotiation chapters.



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Background information in relation to Chapter 27: Environment and Climate Change and related to animal welfare:

The Republic of Serbia has adopted the Law on Animal Welfare in June 2009 (OG RS 41/09), transposing provisions of the EU experimental animal welfare legislation, especially Council Directive 86/609/EEC on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States regarding the protection of animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes and partially transposing the provisions of Council Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes. In accordance with the Law on Animal Welfare, new Rulebook on welfare of animals used in experimental and scientific purposes has been drafted.

Some measures envisaged by the Law on Animal Welfare, transposing certain provisions of Directive 2010/63/EU were implemented in practice. One of these measures concerned the establishment on September 23, 2009 of the Ethical Council for the Welfare of Experimental Animals in accordance with Art 23 of the Law on State Administration (OG RS 79/2005) and Art 48 of the Law on Animal Welfare. The Law on Animal Welfare also provides that the Ethical Commission for the Protection of Welfare of Experimental Animals must be established within the research organisations conducting experiments on animals. Also, on the basis of the Law, persons conducting the experiments on animals are being registered. Further on, the Decree on Approval for Conducting of Experiments on Animals, on the basis of the expert opinion of Ethical Commission for the Protection of Experimental Animals is being issued, or in case of specific invasive experiments on animals, on the basis of professional opinion of Ethical Council for Welfare of Experimental Animals.

The Serbia 2016 Report by the European Commission states that in the area of experimental animal welfare “Serbia needs to enhance administrative capacity for implementation”. In the NPAA, it is indicated that in the field of experimental animal welfare, additional changes shall be introduced in the existing legislation with the aim of achieving full transposition of the Directive 2010/63/EU and thus facilitating implementation of EU standards by users, breeders and suppliers.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management received assistance by PLAC II Project in May and June 2017, in drafting of the new Rulebook on the Protection of Animals used for Scientific Purposes. Within the same assistance, the “Recommendations regarding standard operational procedures for performance of retrospective assessments of experiments” and “Recommendations regarding standard operational procedures for performance of veterinary control” in view of the implementation of the Directive 2010/63/EU have been finalised. Further, the members of the Ethical Council and MAFWM – Veterinary Directorate have been acquainted with standard operational procedures for the implementation of the retrospective assessment of experiments and veterinary controls during 1-day WS. At this stage, training has been planned in the application of animal welfare rules in projects experimenting with animals, for strengthening the capacities for the implementation of the animal welfare acquis in practice by respective actors involved.

2. Description of the assignment

2.1 Specific objectives

The specific objective of this assignment is running of practical training for the relevant target groups that carry out experiments on animals in practice or control the application of animal welfare rules in practice, i.e. veterinary inspectors, members of Ethical Commissions and users, in practical application of animal welfare rules stemming from the Council Directive 2010/63/EU on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes and Commission Implementing Decision 2012/707/EU establishing a common format for the submission of the information pursuant to Directive 2010/63/EU.



2.2 Requested services

The Junior NKE is expected to provide the following services:

- a) To prepare suitable training material for practical training for members of Ethical Commissions, veterinary inspectors and for the users, i.e. scientists and experimental project leaders on the application of the relevant provisions of the Directive 2010/63/EU regarding project application, non-technical summary, project evaluation and retrospective assessments, research alternatives, severity assessment framework, ethical assessments and on the reporting in accordance with the Commission Implementing Decision 2012/707/EU;
- b) To deliver training to the representatives of Ethical Commissions, veterinary inspectors and users organised in groups on the subjects under (a) and in accordance with the training plan established and at the location agreed with the MAFWM, Veterinary Directorate.

2.3 Outputs

The Junior NKE is expected to provide the following outputs:

- Training material that is suitable and practical for members of Ethical Commissions, veterinary inspectors and for the users, i.e. scientists and experimental project leaders on the application of the relevant provisions of the Directive 2010/63/EU regarding project application, non-technical summary, project evaluation and retrospective assessments, research alternatives, severity assessment framework, ethical assessments and on the reporting in accordance with the Commission Implementing Decision 2012/707/EU;
- Delivery of practical training in a laboratory during two 1-day training events, organised for 20 veterinary inspectors (split to two groups);
- Delivery of training for the targeted members of Ethical Commissions (approximately 46 members in total); training shall consist of 1-day joint introduction and of three 1-day practical training in a laboratory (for participants split to three groups);
- Delivery of training for approximately 80 users in total (i.e. scientists and experimental project leaders) on the application of the relevant provisions of the Directive 2010/63/EU regarding project application, non-technical summary, project evaluation and retrospective assessments, research alternatives, severity assessment framework, ethical assessments and on the reporting in accordance with the Commission Implementing Decision 2012/707/EU. Training shall consist of 1-day joint introduction and of seven 1-day practical training organised in a laboratory (for participants split to seven groups).

2.4 Reporting

The NKE shall provide the following reports by using the templates of the Project:

- Brief Mission Report with description of activities and outputs provided, at the end of each mission under this assignment,
- Final Mission Report, no later than 1 week after completion of tasks under this assignment. This report will include description of all activities and outputs provided by the NKE in the context of this assignment.

Submission of reports:

- Draft Mission Report shall be submitted to the Team Leader of the Project for review and comments at the end of the mission.
- Final version of the Final Mission Report prepared in the relevant quality shall be submitted to the Team Leader of the Project for review, comments and final approval. The report shall be signed by the NKE and the Team Leader responsible for endorsing the Report.



- The report and all prepared documents shall be submitted in hard copy and electronic version to the Team Leader of the Project.

2.5 Specifics

The NKE shall work under the guidance and follow the instructions of the Team Leader. The NKE shall collaborate with the Project team, other experts involved and representatives of beneficiary institutions and national structures, as relevant.

The NKE's activities and outputs mentioned above may be adjusted by the Team Leader at any stage in the implementation of the Project, depending on the evolving needs of the Project and main beneficiaries. Each of the short-term mission, its timing and duration shall be agreed with the Team Leader prior to each mission.

2.6 Final use of intervention and perspectives for the future

By training of respective target groups involved in projects experimenting with animals on the application of EU animal welfare acquis in practice, Serbia will strengthen its implementing capacities and better prepare for the practical application of the EU acquis. No other technical assistance to MAFWM is planned in the area of animal welfare.

3. Expert input

3.1 Total working days

20 working days (WDs) in total have been planned for this assignment

3.2 Period of the assignment

March – (tentatively) July 2018

3.3 Starting day

It is expected that the work will be performed during several missions in the period from March until tentatively, July 2018 and starting at the earliest, from 5 March 2018 onwards. However, exact starting date will be agreed at a later stage.

3.4 Location/Place of assignment

The NKE has to deliver 100% of the input in Belgrade, Serbia.

3.5 Working language

English

4. Expert Profile

4.1 Qualifications and skills (25 points)

- University degree (where university degree has been awarded on completion of three years' study in university or equivalent institution) in Natural Sciences, Veterinary or similar, relevant to the assignment
- Proficiency in English language
- Computer literacy (MS Office applications)

4.2 General professional experience (25 points)

- Minimum 5 years of postgraduate professional experience in the veterinary area



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4.3 *Specific professional experience (50 points)*

- Proven professional scientific experience in implementing projects experimenting with animals at which procedures set forward by Directive 2010/63/EU have been applied
- Previous professional experience with projects' evaluations and retrospective assessments would be an asset

5. Applications

Applications (EU format CV and application letter, both in English) need to be submitted by e-mail to SEPLAC@altairasesores.es no later than 17:00 hrs, **26 January 2018**, titled: **"Application for the position - Junior NKE in the area of Animal welfare"**.

References must be available on request. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

The Project is an equal opportunity employer.
All applications will be considered strictly confidential.

Advertised post is not available to civil servants or other officials of the public administration in the beneficiary country, Serbia.

For more information, please contact Project Manager at Altair Asesores S.L.: m.garcia@altairasesores.es / Tel. +34 91 3952798