Capacity building for the alignment with the acquis in the area of, agriculture, rural development, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy

EuropeanAid/138038/DH/SER/RS

The Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Water Management

Terms of Reference Chapter 11, No 4A

Junior Non-Key Expert on Project Component 1 – CAP Paying Agency IACS – LPIS Junior Experts
NKE 4A

1. Project Background

The overall objective of the project is to improve the capacity of the MAFWM to manage the process of integration with the EU policies in the agriculture and rural development.

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) constitute the main legislation body of the Common Agricultural Policy could be transposed directly to the candidate countries. Their correct administrative application is crucial for the functioning of the Common Agricultural Policy and the EU internal market. The EU legislation from Chapter 11 may have a significant impact on the current policy support to agriculture in the Republic of Serbia.

Through the implementation of Component 1, this project supports the MAFWM, and other bodies, stakeholders involved in the EU accession process with support in transposition of acquis and preparations for implementation of EU Common Agriculture Policy and associated acquis. The project shall provide high quality expertise to the EU integration process in the Republic of Serbia for Chapter 11.

The project will have two-fold approach: (1) provide support to coordination and managing the process (2) provide technical (content-oriented) support end expertise on demand to the relevant structures in the MAFWM and other institutions.

Component 1. Strengthened capacity to effectively administer and implement alignment of the Serbian agriculture and rural development with the Common Agricultural Policy in the process of EU accession (Chapter 11).

Accession negotiations in Chapter 11 focus amongst others on market organisation, quality policy, organic policy, direct payments and rural development.

Chapter 11 covers a large number of binding rules, many of which are directly applicable.

The proper application of these rules and their effective enforcement and control by an efficient public administration are essential for the functioning of the CAP.

Implementation, management and control of the CAP require the creation, modification and/or strengthening of appropriate administrative structures (e.g. Paying Agency and Integrated Administrative and Control System (IACS)). In some cases, the acquis sets out detailed specifications
for the required administrative structures.

Through this contract, the Contractor should assist beneficiary in following activities related to Chapter 11 (Agriculture and Rural Development).

The results forecasted in the project in the current development are the following:

- Result 1.1 Assistance to MAFWM and other relevant stakeholders in preparation for – and in support of accession negotiations pertaining to chapter 11 (Agriculture and Rural Development) provided.
- Result 1.2 Support to the ongoing process of harmonization of national legislation with EU acquis in agriculture and rural development.
- Result 1.3 Institutional and administrative capacity is upgraded and strengthened so as to be fully capable to implement EU acquis on agriculture and rural development by the date of accession.
- Result 1.4 Communication Strategy and Communication Plan for accession negotiation process in Chapter 11 is prepared and implemented, including but not limited to training, development of communication tools and implementation of the awareness campaign.

2. **Reference document**

Terms of Reference of the Project: EuropeAid/138038/DH/SER/RS Capacity building for the alignment with the acquis in the area of agriculture and rural development.

3. **Terms of Reference Relevance**

This mission will be carried out in the framework of the project activities as described in the Terms of Reference, Project Proposal and Implementation plan.

The present assignment will contribute to the achievement of Component 1 by providing expertise and supporting the beneficiary institutions to build up well-functioning process of transposition of EU acquis related to Chapter 11.

4. **Assignment objective(s)**

In this respect the project needs the expert’s support to and will be engaged in the following Project activities:

1.1.4.1 Prepare IACS Feasibility Report;
1.1.4.2 Finalize IACS-LPIS Master Plan;
1.2.3.2 Preparation of Terms of reference for the establishment of IACS in Serbia (Developing procedures and training LPIS users/operators (country wide);
5. **Main Tasks**

Within the above-mentioned activities the Junior NKE will cooperate and assist the TL and the Senior NKE to implement the following activities:

- Collect relevant materials and documentation (including previous project docs) and perform interviews to analyze of the state of play in relation to organization of payments related to Paying Agency System, including the existing legislation;
- Perform interviews and collect relevant documentation to finalize IACS Feasibility Report and contribute to preparation of IACS – LPIS Master Plan;
- Perform interviews and collect relevant documentation to definition of the future activities for the IACS/LPIS projects;
- Prepare Terms of reference for the establishment of IACS in Serbia (Developing procedures and training LPIS users/operators (country wide), purchase of hardware and other equipment, software IACS components (except LPIS, FR, I & R));
- Assist TL and relevant NKE in the implementation of the TOR.

6. **Related Outputs**

- Relevant materials and documentation to analyze of the state of play in relation to organization of payments related to Paying Agency System, including previous projects documents and the existing legislation collected and interview performed;
- Collect docs and perform Interview to contribute to the Drafting IACS Feasibility Report ensured;
- Collect docs and perform Interview to define and Draft future IACS _ LPIS Master Plan ensured;
- Prepared draft of Terms of reference for the establishment of IACS in Serbia (Developing procedures and training LPIS users/operators prepared, technical specification for hardware and other equipment including development of the software regarding the IACS components (except LPIS, FR, I&R));
- Assistance to the TL and relevant NKE in the relevant activities mentioned in the ToR ensured;
- Coordination with the TL in regular basis ensured.

7. **Timing and duration of mission/s**

The assignment shall be implemented in Belgrade, Serbia, in the period September 2019 to Jun 2020. up to 40 working days. The number of days is subject to extension as needed.


8. Reporting

The expert will deliver monthly reports in the English language on every last workday of the month she/he worked, with attached all written deliverables. The report will be attached to the expert’s draft timesheet.

9. Expert profile

- **Qualifications and skills**
  - University degree in related fields
  - Master degree in Law (preferably European Law) Agricultural Economy or other discipline that focus in related sector and matter will be an asset
  - Good command of English;
  - Computer literacy (command of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) and the Internet);

- **General professional experience**
  - Minimum 5 years of general postgraduate professional experience

- **Specific professional experience**
  - Minimum 3 years of relevant specific professional experience, in the field related to IACS / LPIS
  - More years of experience is considered as asset;
  - Good Understanding on implementation the EU acquis, Chapter 11;
  - Excellent communication, presentations and dialogue skills;
  - Excellent organizational planning and writing skills;
  - Ability to work in international environment.
  - Speaking local language is an asset

10. Evaluation of work

The KE 1, TL and the Beneficiary’s representative, will assess the expert’s performance.

11. Application

Application letter and EU format CV, both in English, must be submitted by e-mail to hr@weglobal.org and Olivera.maric@weglobal.org no later 23rd August 2019, titled: “Application for the position – Junior Non-Key Expert on Project Component 1 – CAP Paying Agency IACS – LPIS Junior Experts NKE 4A

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

The Project is an equal opportunity employer, in respect of the principles of good governance, sustainable development and gender equality.

All applications will be considered strictly confidential.

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