



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

*EuropeAid/138038/DH/SER/RS*

**Terms of Reference Chapter 11, No. 21 Senior Non-key expert on Project Component 1 – IACS databases for Paying Agency Senior Non-Key Expert**

## **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.

The 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 integration 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:



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- 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 support of the expert who will be engaged in the following activities expert's support to and will be engaged in the following Project activities:

Activity 1.1 Supporting Negotiation process for Chapter 11

- Sub Activity 1.1.4 Drafting the Study for the establishment of the Paying Agency

Activity 1.2 Supporting harmonisation with EU acquis for Chapter 11

- Sub Activity 1.2.3 Drafting the Study for the establishment of IACS/LPIS system.
- Sub Activity 1.2.4 Drafting the Study for the establishment of cross compliance controls system

## **5. Main Tasks**

Within the above-mentioned activities the Senior NKE will cooperate with the TL and JNKE, and will implement the following actions:

- In the view of future establishment of IACS, analysis of reports produced by previous projects (in 2018) on existing databases within, or linked with, the Directorate of Agrarian Payments. In particular, the Farm Register, the Animal Identification and Registration, the Land Parcel Identification System; Upgrading and improvement of existing documents in order to propose the best solution in accordance with the new CAP regulations.



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- Conduction of interviews/surveys with the “owners” of the databases (Veterinary Directorate, Treasury Directorate, etc.) in order to enhance between them and the DAP and to further inform relevant stakeholders about the future individual and joint tasks.
- Proposal for integration of the above mentioned databases among them and with other Registers (e.g. aid application database, vineyard register, integrated and organic farming register, etc.);
- Comparison of information and data collected in the existing databases with related information and data collected in existing databases at EU MS level in line with the EU CAP requirements;
- Identification of the potential information and data to be included in the future Farm Register;
- Identification of weakness in the data flow between IACS components;
- Analysis of the national legal framework (Law on Agriculture and Rural Development – part related to Register of Agricultural Households) and proposal for alignment of the existing Law with EU acquis;
- Drafting of the Analysis Report, including the proposed new model of Farm Register in line with EU new 2021-2027 CAP requirements and related integration with other IACS databases;
- Organisation and conduction of a workshop to present, to the Beneficiaries and other relevant stakeholders, the results of the activities;
- Cooperate with TL and other NKE IACS experts in the implementation of activities mentioned in the ToR.

**6. Related Outputs**

- Existing databases within, or linked with, the Directorate of Agrarian Payments, assessed.
- Existing and new needed links among the above mentioned databases with the scope of their integration with other Registers (e.g. aid application database, vineyard register, integrated and organic farming register, etc.) assessed and identified;
- Information and data collected in the existing databases compared with related information and data collected in existing databases at EU MS level in line with the EU CAP requirements;
- Potential information and data, to be included in the future Farm Register, identified;
- Weakness in the data flow between IACS components Identified;
- Based on the existing documents, Analysis Report, including the proposed new model of Farm Register in line with EU new 2021-2027 CAP requirements and related integration with other IACS databases, drafted;
- National legal framework (Law on Agriculture and Rural Development – part related to Register of Agricultural Households) analysed;
- Proposal for the needed amendment of the national legal framework (Law on Agriculture and Rural Development – part related to Register of Agricultural Households), to be aligned with EU acquis, drafted;
- Workshop, to present to the Beneficiaries the results of the activities, organised and conducted;
- Ensured cooperation with TL and other NKE IACS experts in the implementation of activities mentioned in the ToR.



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## 7. Timing and duration of mission/s

The assignment shall be implemented in Belgrade, Serbia, in the period October 2020 to July 2021, up to 25 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' draft timesheet.

## 9. Expert profile

- *Qualifications and skills*
  - University degree in related fields
  - Master degree in Agriculture, Engineer or other discipline that focus in related sector and matter will be an asset;
  - Good command of English; Knowledge of Serbian language will be an asset;
  - Computer literacy (command of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) and the Internet);
  - Excellent communication, presentations and dialogue skills.
- *General professional experience*
  - Minimum 8 years of general postgraduate professional experience;
- *Specific professional experience*
  - Minimum 5 years of relevant specific professional experience in development of IACS databases, preferably in public administrations;
  - Experience in design and development of IACS Farm Register;
  - Experience in integration of databases is an asset;
  - Experience in Candidate Countries is an asset.

## 10. Evaluation of work

The TL/K1 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](mailto:hr@weglobal.org), [tatjana.mihajlov@weglobal.org](mailto:tatjana.mihajlov@weglobal.org) and [Olivera.maric@weglobal.org](mailto:Olivera.maric@weglobal.org) no later than **28<sup>th</sup> October 2020**, titled: "Application for the position – Senior Non-Key Expert on Project Component 1 – IACS databases for Paying Agency SNKE n.21

References must be available on request.

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.