

## Development of System for Management of Cohesion Policy

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**Terms of Reference for Assignment of a Senior Non-Key  
Expert for Energy Efficiency  
on IPA III Multiannual Programming, Window 3, Thematic Priority 2:  
Transport, digital economy and society, and energy  
*Sector: Energy***

### 1. Background

This assignment shall be carried out within the framework of the project “Development of the System for the Management of Cohesion Policy” financed by European Union under IPA III, having as Project Partner and Main Beneficiary the Ministry of European Integration (MEI).

The overall objective is to prepare the Serbian public administration for the effective implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Republic of Serbia. The purpose of the contract is to set up and enhance the capacities of all relevant stakeholders for timely and efficient preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects supported by Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund.

The results to be achieved by the Contractor are as follows:

**Result 1:** Legal and institutional framework for the implementation of EU Cohesion Policy in place.

**Result 2: Relevant planning and programming documents for IPA III multi-annual programming prepared.**

**Result 3:** Capacities of institutions and bodies nominated for preparation / implementation of multi-annual Operational Programmes under IPA with a view of their future role under Cohesion Policy, as well as partners and potential beneficiaries at national level, and as appropriate at sub-national level, increased via Capacity Building programmes.

The Project started on 11 July 2019 and shall last until 10 July 2024. Support to achievement of Result 2 shall accommodate the new approach by the European Commission aiming at accelerating convergence of the current IPA structures to the management and control systems established in EU Member States that benefit from Cohesion Policy funds, through the preparation and implementation of **Operational Programmes (OPs) under IPA III in the period 2024-2027**.

It is predicted that preparation and management of Operational Programmes under the indirect management with the Republic of Serbia method of implementation shall contribute to improving the level of preparedness for Chapter 22 “Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments”. Policy-wise, Operational Programmes can also provide a significant contribution to deliver the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans (EIP) and the Green Agenda, which both aim at reinvigorating the economies of the Western Balkans through investments and support to competitiveness and inclusive growth, sustainable connectivity, and the twin green and digital transition. In this context, Operational Programmes provide a multi-year fiscally framed plan for investments, with a predictable implementation of a pipeline of flagship projects in the medium

term, which is mirroring the programming process by EU Member States under the EU Cohesion Policy.

One of the Flagships in the EIP is Flagship 6 – **Renovation Wave, by which the** Commission proposes to expand the “**EU renovation wave**” to the Western Balkans.

The building sector accounts for over 40% of total energy consumption<sup>1</sup> in the Western Balkans. Renovating public and private buildings to meet minimal energy performance standards can make a very significant contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; improve the living standards of citizens, as well as their health. A building renovation wave implemented with the help of the Energy Community will assist the Western Balkans in decarbonisation of public and private building stock, with a strong emphasis on digitalisation and taking into account energy poverty. The EU together with international financing institutions, will support the efforts of the Western Balkans partners to triple the current renovation rate and energy savings in existing buildings and achieving nearly-zero energy and emission standard in new buildings.

**The Contracting Authority** for the above-mentioned project is the **EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia (EUD)**. The Service Contractor is **GIZ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in consortium with Mott MacDonald, Archidata and Ismeri**.

The contribution of the Expert shall be primarily framed by the Commission guidelines/instructions and annotated template on finalisation of Operational Programmes and supporting documents under IPA III for the period 2021-2027, and any updates of these documents which are eventually communicated by the Commission during the assignment.

## 2. Description of the Assignment

The objective of this assignment is to support the the Managing Authority, Project Beneficiary (MEI), Sector’s Serbian Institutions which may include local self-governments in preparation of supporting documents, Operational identification sheets (OIS) and Major Project Application (MPA) for the projects in energy sector. The expert shall provide backstopping on all technical issues and provide advice to the beneficiaries. The selected Expert will be responsible for the following tasks:

- 1) Support the Project Beneficiary (MEI), the Policy Body/Bodies and sectoral structures (Sector’s Serbian Institutions which may include local self-governments and shall include the Managing Authority and Intermediate Bodies for Policy Management), and the EUD, in reviewing, and evaluating the quality of data gathered for investment programmed under OP 2024-27 in the energy sector;
- 2) Review technical specifications, cost estimates, and timelines for programmed projects.
- 3) Outline and agree with EUD, MEI and the Serbian institutions in the sector in reference (Energy Efficiency in residential, Public Buildings and District heating and Renewable Energy Sources) the detailed contents of the deliverables to be prepared under the assignment, reflecting the European Commission’s guidance/instructions and templates.
- 4) Support the Sector’s Serbian Institutions with the preparation of the sectoral contributions mentioned above, as well as OIS(s) and MPA(s)

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Energy Community Secretariat - WB6 Energy Transition Tracker, June 2021:  
[file:///C:/Users/valer/Downloads/EnC\\_WB6\\_ETT3\\_062021.pdf](file:///C:/Users/valer/Downloads/EnC_WB6_ETT3_062021.pdf)

The Expert shall prepare brief monthly reports which describe the work that was conducted, its results, and put forward recommendations that can be made to the Beneficiary from the expert's perspective. Monthly reports prepared by using the Project template, will be submitted to the Key Expert 2 and the Team Leader.

### **3. Expert profile**

#### **Expert for Energy Efficiency**

##### **Required Qualifications and Skills**

- University Degree in Engineering (Master/PhD).
- Fluency in both written and spoken English, Serbian an advantage.
- Advanced Computer literacy (MS Office including Excel, PowerPoint, Internet).
- Very good organisational, coordination and reporting skills.

##### **General Professional Experience**

Min. 10 years relevant professional experience.

- Experience in EU programming.
- Knowledge of the EU Cohesion Policy and/or Instrument for Pre-Accession framework.

##### **Specific Professional Experience**

Min.2 years of specific experience in:

- Realisation and monitoring of energy efficiency measures and introduction of renewables in heating and cooling systems likewise in electricity production
- Solar plants, solar collectors, heat pumps in retrofitting the residential and public buildings
- Knowledge of Energy Community Decarbonisation Roadmap for Contracting Parties and Clean energy for all Europeans package.

Expert is expected to provide insights on how OP thematic priorities best fit to actions defined in appropriate pillars of Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for Western Balkans (Climate, energy, mobility and Depollution pillars).

### **3. Location, duration, (provisional) start/end date**

Location: the expert will be working in Belgrade, Serbia, at Project Office and other locations in Belgrade. Missions outside Belgrade could also prove necessary – these shall have to be pre-authorised by the Team Leader and the Contracting Authority.

Starting/ending date: April 2024/July 2024.

Total number of working days: up to 30.

No work during week-ends allowed, except if duly authorised by the Contracting Authority.