SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION SUPPORT PROJECT (SDISP)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

**COORDINATOR FOR vet**

1. Background

The Skills Development and Innovation Support Project (SDISP) development objective is to improve transparency of resource allocation and promote accountability in higher education, enhance the relevance of secondary technical vocational education, and support innovation capacity in North Macedonia.

The Project would support the Government of North Macedonia’s initiatives geared to:

* increase graduates’ competitiveness on a regional and international level;
* increase labor market relevance of graduates’ skills;
* make innovation a source of productivity improvement, competitiveness, increased exportability of goods, and sustained economic growth; and
* increase universities and private enterprises engagement in, and their benefit from, R&D efforts and technology adoption opportunities.

The Project would support interventions which foster education and skills relevant to the job market, and enhance the innovation capacity and activity of firms in Macedonia. It will also address key missing elements of the Macedonian innovation system and ailing aspects of the research sector that are likely to be vital for improving the competitiveness of the enterprise sector and Macedonia’s longer term economic growth prospects. It will also help improve absorption of EU funds earmarked for innovation activities.

The Project’s direct beneficiaries include around students , teaching and management staff from technical vocational education and training institutions who would receive a new curriculum and practical training facilities, as well as training on management, planning, and process improvement capacity ; students and staff of universities, research institutions and enterprises will benefit from: (i) the implementation of quality assurance mechanisms and financing reform in higher education (HE);(ii) grants promoting R&D and innovation;and (iii) technology commercialization, global know-how absorption, and industry- university collaboration).

1. Scope of services

The Consultant is responsible for:

* Active contribution to implementation of the project components and sub-components and ensure that all necessary technical and procedural inputs are provided in a timely manner to ensure smooth project implementation;
* Coordination of the activities related to the modernization of Secondary Technical Vocational Education and Training system
* Coordination of the activities related to the upgrade of equipment for school-based practical training that is procured with the project funds;
* Coordination of the activities related to the execution of the grant program for school – industry collaboration;
* Providing support in timely collection of the data related to the TVET component outcomes and outputs and provide narrative for the second component to the draft Implementation and Results Completion Report.
* Coordination of collaboration between schools and employers;
* Preparation of plans of action with periodic revision to insure Project success and tailoring project activities as per the needs of relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries;
* Any other activities in correlation with the implementation of the SDIS Project
1. Reporting obligations

The Consultant shall report to the SDIS Project Director. Upon request by the Project Director and/or Minister of Education and Science the Consultant shall provide progress reports for the implementation of the Project activities.

IV. Consultant’s Qualifications

* University level degree in education, law, economics or other related quantitative discipline;
* At least 5 years of previous professional experience; Experience in policy making environment and knowledge of policy shaping mechanisms as well as in coordination or implementation of similar projects will be considered as an advantage;
* Excellent computer skills, particularly Microsoft Office Suite;
* Excellent interpersonal communication skills, demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with clients, and ability to liaise tactfully as a member of a multicultural team.
* Strong analytical and problem solving skills;
* Fluent in Macedonian and English language

V. Contract arrangements

- The Contract shall be time-based. The Consultant shall provide full time services for the period ending 30 April 2021. The contract may be extended subject to satisfactory performance of the consultant and business needs of the Client.

- Payment shall be made through an intermediary agency for copyrights and other intellectual rights to the Consultant’s bank account.

- This is a full-time appointment for which the Consultant is required to work a minimum of forty hours a week under a work schedule determined by the Project Director. National holidays are non-working days. Reimbursement for overtime work, as may be requested from time to time by the Project Director, is included in the monthly remuneration fee. For each full month of work the Consultant will accumulate 2 (two) days of annual leave. Annual leave should be used within the duration of this Contract.

- The selection method will be Selection of Individual Consultant in accordance with “Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by the World Bank Borrowers“(January 2011).