**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**for**

**Local Self Government Liaison Officer**

**Background**

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and Agence Française de Développement (AFD) are implementing US$ 300 million Serbia Local Infrastructure and Institutional Development Project (Project). Project implementation is part of wider urban development activities in Republic of Serbia that are based on Sustainable Urban Development Strategy (SUDS) and will apply a holistic approach, where current policies and practices important for overall local infrastructure service delivery will be strengthened through mixture of investments, technical assistance, and capacity building. In order to support and strengthen infrastructure service delivery at the local level, special focus would be on improving mobility in a sustainable manner to increase accessibility to economic and social opportunities.

**Objective**

The objective of the Project is to improve Local self-governments (LSGs) capacity to manage sustainable infrastructure and improve access to economic and social opportunities in climate aware manner. Project consists 3 components:

*Component 1. Climate Smart Mobility* would improve mobility within the LSGs through strengthening system for transport infrastructure service delivery and by supporting transport infrastructure renewal that will increase resilience to natural disaster while reducing emissions of Greenhouse gases (GHGs) and local pollutants. The component will be implemented through two subcomponents:

(i) *Infrastructure renewal* - The majority of investments will be in transport infrastructure reconstruction and rehabilitation, within the existing infrastructure perimeters. The promotion of resilient and inclusive approach and of active mobility and priority for public transport will be integral part of the project design. This sub-component will also finance technical assistance required for the execution of the works including services for design, supervision, technical audit, and road safety audit. All LSGs will get funding for activities eligible for financing under this subcomponent in accordance with predefined formula and in the form of grant transfers and subject of signing the Grant Agreement.

(ii) *Sustainable mobility enhancement* – Activity will strengthen LSGs systems to plan, manage, implement, and operate resilient transport networks that promote patterns of climate smart mobility in sustainable manner. This subcomponent will finance technical assistance, capacity building and demonstration pilots in three main areas:

1. *Improve local road network management and resilience*; Creation of framework for local roads management including guidance on institutional arrangements, policy, standards, maintenance contracting, asset management, resilience and road safety.
2. *Mainstream sustainable and integrated mobility planning*; Creation of approximately 40 gender sensitive Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) with transport management plans for medium and small size LSGs.
3. *Pilot smart mobility solutions through digital technologies*; Creation of proposals for smart mobility contractual modalities in areas such as optimizing public transport services, intelligent transportation systems, real-time information and infrastructure or service sharing schemes.

*Component 2. Strengthening Systems and Capacity for Infrastructure Service Delivery* would improve the effectiveness and sustainability of infrastructure service delivery at the local level through strengthening LSGs’ capacity to implement current planning and Project finance management (PFM) and Public Investment Management (PIM) policies. The component will finance a mixture of technical assistance and capacity building activities focused on:

(i) *Enhanced strategic participatory planning and identification of pipeline projects* that would include climate and resilience considerations into the planning approaches and better integrate them into the capital investment and budget planning process. The subcomponent will finance technical assistance and capacity building in three main areas:

1. *Improve Participatory Planning in Pilot LSGs -* development of critical planning and environmental and climate related strategic documents and corresponding multi-annual and annual budgets.
2. *Identification and Initial Preparation of Future Urban Investment Projects* - urban regeneration and municipal infrastructure projects would be identified, and technical assistance provided for early-stage preparation of future investments.
3. *Mainstream Participatory Approach* - development of Manual for Citizen Participation and E-Government portal extension for informing on the planned infrastructure investments and planned consultations.

(ii) *Strengthened institutions, PFM, access to financing, and capacities* that would ensure institutional improvements in the local PFM and PIM accompany the direct benefits through the provision of funding for the LSGs. The subcomponent will be implemented through set of analytical work, technical assistance, and development of tools, in particular:

1. *Improving access to financing -* Assessment the current local infrastructure financing framework and design of recommendations to improve the LSGs’ ability to raise private capital for infrastructure investments, potentials of green funds, and perspective of the municipal fund scheme;
2. *Strengthening institutions and human capacities* - Review of the currently fragmented institutions and human capital and design of recommendations for consolidated approaches and process simplification
3. *Enhancing the implementation of key country systems for climate aware infrastructure service delivery* - Capacity building and implementation support in areas including: procurement, PFM, PIM, transparency and inclusion, contract management, social and environmental management etc.

*Component 3: Project Implementation Support and Awareness Raising* would establish institutional set up that will enable successful implementation of the project and raise awareness about importance of green transition and sustainable mobility. Activity will support the establishment and maintenance of the strong Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and strengthening of Central Fiduciary Unit (CFU).

The Project will be managed by the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure (MCTI) through a PIU, supported by the CFU in the Ministry of Finance (MoF), the employees in the LSGs officially assigned to the project, and the Project Steering Committee. The PIU will be responsible for the overall management of the Project, and it will provide full technical support and guidance to the LSGs in selecting, preparing, reviewing, supervising, and managing investments. The CFU will be responsible for fiduciary issues like the financial management of the Project, will support the PIU in approving procurement related documents, and will support the LSGs to implement procurement procedures, including procurement capacity development. LSGs will be responsible for full project life cycle – from prioritization, preparation, procurement to management and supervision. The Project Steering Committee will consist of the representatives of respective ministries and project partners and will overview the implementation of the Project, facilitate policy dialog and inter-ministerial cooperation, help resolving any bottlenecks that might be experienced, and adopt annual progress reports

**Scope of Work**

Consultant will be responsible for providing administrative support to ensure efficient operation of the PIU. Supports will be provided through a variety of tasks related to organization and communication with beneficiaries (Local authorities). Responsible for confidential and time sensitive material.

The scope of work of the Local Self Government LiaisonOfficer shall include, but not be limited to the following

* Support in preparation of overall management activities for Component 1- *Component 1. Climate Smart Mobility* ;
* Support in organizing and scheduling meetings and appointments with LSG s ;
* Support in preparation of documents for meetings and field visits during implementation of LSG s sub projects ;
* Draft Minutes of the meetings , workshops and visits of LSG s ;
* Keep up-to-date and prepare for archiving all documentation relevant to Component 1. Climate Smart Mobility ;
* Communication and responding to LSG s regarding technical issues during implementation ofComponent 1. Climate Smart Mobility ;
* Support Head of PIU and Deputy Head of PIU in correspondence with LSG s regarding collection of project documentation;
* Support in monthly update of LSG s project implementation underComponent 1. Climate Smart Mobility ;
* Produce and distribute correspondence memos, letters and forms;
* Preparing drafts of internal documents relevant for the Project Component 1. Climate Smart Mobility;
* Perform other duties in support of Project preparation and implementation as required by the Head of PIU

**Reporting requirements**

The Consultant will work under supervision of and report to the Head of PIU .

**Knowledge, experience, skills and competencies**

* Advanced university degree (Masters degree or equivalent) in architecture, traffic engineering, civil engineering, mining and geology
* At least 7 years of professional experience in similar position ;
* At least 5 years of professional experience in work with local authorities ;
* Experience in administration, data base and archiving will be considered as an advantage ;
* Experience in cooperation, correspondence and communication with local authorities will be considered as an advantage;
* Excellent communication and data manipulation skills;
* Excellent time management skills and ability to multi-task and prioritize work;
* Attention to detail and problem solving skills;
* Knowledge of computer, office software and web-based applications use;
* Ability to function within a team, deliver when working under pressure and within changing circumstances;
* Strong organizational and planning skills;
* Excellent knowledge of written and spoken Serbian and English;
* Prior working experience with or for public institutions will be considered as an advantage

**Length of the assignment**

The Consultant shall provide part time services up to 11 working days per month for the life of the project, i.e. until November 30, 2028, with a probationary period of six (6) months

The Consultant shall deliver all the expected outputs at the daily rate that will be dependent on the qualifications, as well as approved project budget.

The Consultant shall not be engaged more than 48 hours per week cumulatively for this assignment plus any other additional assignments/contracts.

**Facilities to be provided by the Client**

MCTI will provide the Consultant with suitable office space and office equipment (PC, telephone, internet connection, etc.) and access to office services as required.

**Confidentiality**

The Consultant undertakes to maintain confidentiality on all information that is not in the public domain and shall not be involved in another assignment that represents a conflict of interest to the prevailing assignment.

**Selection of Consultant**

The Consultant will be selected applying Open competition method.

The Consultant is eligible and his selection does not create any conflict of interest as provided in the Bank`s Procurement Regulations.

Women candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

**The evaluation criteria for this assignment are:**

•             Specific Experience relevant to the Assignment                                  (50) Points

•             Qualifications and Competence relevant to the Assignment           (50) Points

The applicable remuneration will be established considering the market range for similar assignment and previous candidate remuneration for similar services. During the negotiation of the contract the successful candidate is expected to provide evidence for previous remuneration level (copies of contracts, pay slip, etc.