



ROMANIA, NATIONAL AGENCY FOR FISCAL ADMINISTRATION Revenue Administration Modernization Project (RAMP)

Question and Answer regarding RAMP/CS/16 – Design Communication Strategy and Develop Public Relations Skills:

Question: In the case of a tenderer member of a wider group, we kindly ask you to clarify if it is accepted for another company, member of the same group, to provide a letter of undertaking to enhance the technical capacity/ qualifications of the tenderer.

Answer: Following your request for clarification registered by NAFA under no. 842452/23.12.2013, on regard to the Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) for the Assignment: **Design Communication Strategy and Develop Public Relations Skills** (RAMP/CS/16), we are informing you the following:

Paragraph 1.15 from the World Bank document "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" from January 2011 states:

"Consultants may associate with each other in the form of a joint venture or of a sub-consultancy agreement to complement their respective areas of expertise, strengthen the technical responsiveness of their proposals and make available bigger pools of experts, provide better approaches and methodologies, and, in some cases, offer lower prices. Such an association may be for the long term (independent of any particular assignment) or for a specific assignment. If the Borrower employs an association in the form of a joint venture, the association shall appoint one of the firms to represent the association; all members of the joint venture, or their representative with a power of attorney, shall sign the contract. All members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire assignment. Once the short list is finalized, and Requests for Proposals (RFP) are issued, any association in the form of joint venture or sub-consultancy among short-listed firms shall be permissible only with the approval of the Borrower".

According to the above provisions, the interested company may associate in one of the forms: joint venture or sub-consultancy (including with a member of the same group), in order to enhance the company's capacity/qualifications.

In the case of the joint venture, the Expressions of Interest should clearly indicate the companies entering into the association to be jointly and severally liable for the entire assignment. Presentation of each member of the association (even if firms/branches of the same group), according to the REOI is needed.

Firms entering into a joint venture are not required to provide their joint venture agreement when they submit their expressions of interest and the proposal, but must have a letter of intent indicating their intent to form a joint venture if awarded the contract.

Also in case of sub-consultancy, in preparing their proposals, consultants are free to choose their subconsultants.
