

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

<u>Ouestions and Answers</u> regarding RAMP/CS/2 – Development of NAFA's Analytical Capacity- Request for Expressions of Interest:

<u>*Q1*</u>: Regarding short listing criteria - qualification and experience of the consultant - could you please clarify if an interested consultant which is part of a Network of companies can use similar experience of companies included in the Network based on undertaking statement or, if in order to use the similar experience, there will be need of an association between the members of the Network?

<u>Answer Q1:</u> Following your request for clarification regarding the Request for Expressions of Interest for Revenue Administration Modernization Project (RAMP), project ID P130202, Loan no: 8261 - RO; Assignment Development of NAFA's Analytical Capacity, Reference number - RAMP/CS/2, in which you were asking us if a Statement of undertaking from another company in a network of firms would be considered in order to account the experience of another company in the network as experience of the company submitting the Expression of Interest, based on the provisions of the World Bank document "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" from January 2011, paragraph 1.15, we are informing you of the following:

"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"

Based on the above mentioned paragraph and on the general provisions of the World Bank document "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" the interested company which will submit the Expression of Interest will be evaluated only on its own qualification and experience. At this stage if a company seeks to enhance its qualification and experience by using the support of another company, the companies may form a joint venture. In this case the Expressions of Interest should clearly indicate the lead partner and the fact that all members shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire assignment.

<u>Q2:</u> We have read the request for EOI document. It is written that: The consultant should confirm availability of appropriate skills among staff to perform the assignment (please note that CVs of individual experts are not required to be submitted at this stage of the selection procedure). My question is: in order to confirm the availability, do you have a standard template or how do we proceed?

Answer Q2: Following your clarification request, regarding the RAMP/CS/2 Request for Expressions of Interest, we can indeed confirm the fact that CV's of individual experts are not required to be submitted at this stage of the selection procedure. According to the World Bank document "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" from January 2011, paragraph 2.5, we are informing you of the following:

"REOIs shall at a minimum include the following information applicable to the assignment: required qualifications and experience of the firm, but not individual experts' bio data;..."

For this stage of the selection procedure there is no standard form or template to be filled and submitted together with the Expressions of Interest, the interested Consultant only being required to confirm the availability of appropriate skills among staff and provide the minimum necessary information for the Beneficiary to properly evaluate this criterion.

<u>*Q3:*</u> We wish to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the above mentioned opportunity. However, the notice requires all EOIs must be delivered in written form and we are concerned that we will be unable to deliver in written form by this deadline.

Whilst we will still aim to deliver our EOI in written form to Bucharest by the due date, we wondered whether it was possible to send an electronic version of our EOI as a back-up to ensure it reaches you.

<u>Answer Q3</u>: Based on the published form of Request for Expressions of Interest (REoI) for RAMP/CS/2 - Development of NAFA's Analytical Capacity we can confirm our request that Expressions of Interest must be delivered in a written form, in sealed covers, within the mentioned deadline of October 15, 2013.

If you do not have the time to submit the written form of the Expressions of Interest by the above mentioned deadline and you decide to send it electronically, we can assure you that the request will be properly recorded and presented to the Evaluation Committee, together with all the other Expressions of Interest.

We would also like to draw your attention on the provisions of the World Bank document "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" from January 2011, paragraph 2.5, specifying: "The late submission of a response to an REoI shall not be a cause for its rejection unless the Borrower has already prepared a short list, based on received EOI's..."