

Terms of Reference: Life & Fire Safety Specialist

I. BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (MLSP) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) supported by the World Bank undertook the implementation of the Emergency COVID-19 Response Project (ERCPC) to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness.

The Project has the following three components

Component 1 – Emergency COVID-19 Response

- Subcomponent 1.1: Enhancing case detection, confirmation, contact tracing, reporting and monitoring
- Subcomponent 1.2: Health system strengthening
- Subcomponent 1.3: Financing of bonuses for health workers
- Subcomponent 1.4: Vaccine purchasing

Component 2 – Household Support to Enable Social Distancing

- Subcomponent 2.1: Temporary social assistance support
- Subcomponent 2.2: Temporary unemployment insurance support

Component 3. Project Implementation, Communications, Community Engagement, and Monitoring

Component 1: Emergency COVID-19 Response

This component provides immediate support to the Republic of North Macedonia (RNM) to limit the local transmission of COVID-19 through containment strategies. It supports enhancement of case detection capacities through the provision of technical expertise, laboratory equipment and systems to ensure prompt case finding and contact tracing, consistent with WHO guidelines in the Strategic Response Plan. It enables North Macedonia to mobilize surge response capacity through financing the bonuses of health workers in the public sector for a period of nine months – March to November 2021. The bonus is calculated as 5 percent of each eligible worker’s basic salary. This provides compensation for the increased workload, stress, and risks that health and frontline workers in COVID-19 centers, hospitals, diagnostic laboratories and support services – for example, radiology and oxygen administration – have been facing because of the pandemic. The Project will support Vaccine Purchase including for the procurement of any vaccines that meet the WB Vaccine Approval Criteria and any ancillary goods needed to deploy the vaccines (e.g., syringes), if any. A National Vaccine Delivery and Deployment Manual (VDDM) shall be delivered to ensure inclusive, safe, efficient, and effective vaccine deployment. The Project supports purchase of medical equipment for public health institutions and refurbish and equip prioritized public health institutions that are used for immunization, based on a needs assessment. Support will also be provided for limited renovations and purchase of equipment, if needed, to operationalize additional ICU beds, and for medical waste management and disposal systems. It is important to note that the operational and financial landscape of the response is subject

to rapid change; therefore, the planned interventions will be continually assessed against ongoing and emerging needs and adjustments will be

II. SPECIFIC BACKGROUND

Within the ERCP Project 17 modular prefabricated containers were procured and 17 Regional Covid Centers (in the cities of: Bitola, Debar, Resen, Skopje, Gevgelija, Kumanovo, Kavadarci, Strumica, Gostivar, Struga, Kochani, Tetovo, Prilep, Veles, Bitola, Stip, Kichevo and Ohrid), with outpatients and inpatients units were established. In the next period within this project company shall be hired for Preparation of Project design for renovation of vaccine centers and based on the prepared design Renovation of vaccine centers shall be conducted (Self-assessment completed. Need to conduct field visits to the health centers and their regular vaccination points. This will generate the list of prioritized centers and needs).

III. MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The main objective of this assignment is to enable the implemented activities within the ERCP Project to be compliant with the life and fire safety regulations of the RNM, as well as the requirements of an internationally accepted L&FS standard¹ as per requirements of the L&FS Section of the World Bank Group (WBG) Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) General [Guidelines](#).

IV. SPECIFIC TASKS

The specific tasks of the L&FS specialist are mainly connected to two type of activities that needs to be implemented (are implemented) within the project:

- a) Activities related to L&FS measures for mobile COVID 19 centers and preparation of L&FS Master Plan for each COVID 19 center;
 - I. Identify major fire risks associated with the hospitals and the vaccination points, applicable local and international fire codes and national regulatory requirements. To propose L&FS measures for the projects on renovation/reconstruction of the HCFs vaccination points. The suitable L&FS Specialist will provide guidance, review the plans and provide feedback and training to the assigned focal points in each one of the hospitals, will approve the proposed measures prior approval by the Bank. Also, the L&FS Specialist will certify final testing and commissioning of fire protection systems of the reconstructed/renovated/buildings;
 - II. Address the following elements: fire prevention; means of egress; detection and alarm systems; compartmentation; fire suppression and control; emergency and response plan; operation and maintenance of L&FS systems;
 - III. To assess the L&FS risk presented by the oxygen system and propose mitigation measures in line with requirements of WBG General EHS guidelines, and address the risk represented by the oxygen supply system during utilization in the hospital, with

¹ The following "Internationally Accepted Life and Fire Safety Standards" are referenced in the L&FS Guidelines:

- US Life Safety Code (NFPA)
- French Réglementation Incendie [des ERP]
- Standards from: Australia, Canada, South Africa, and United Kingdom

oxygen enriched internal atmosphere in the rooms, and utilization of oxygen in the facilities (fixed system or portable cylinders); Use of the oxygen level detection systems, attention to alarm or supervisory signals from the oxygen detection system and fire alarm system;

- IV. Develop and use a set of L&FS objectives and L&FS related performance indicators of each temporary hospital and the vaccination points;
- V. Maintain records and documentation of L&FS related issues, describing design and operational measures to be adopted to achieve the L&FS objectives and indicators, and to address the abovementioned L&FS elements and identified L&FS risks;
- VI. Maintain updated floor plans, architectural drawings, and equipment and facility specifications;
- VII. Report the compliance with the requirements of L&FS codes and standards as required in the L&FS section of the WBG EHS General Guidelines;
- VIII. Develop corrective Action Plans with a time frame for implementation, as necessary;
- IX. The specialist will prepare a Fire Safety documentation which will contain detailed information on the systems installed in the HCF, including: as-built plans of the systems, data sheets of all components, list of necessary spare parts, supplier list, system certificates, fire safety design documentation
- X. To organize appropriate staff trainings on usage and maintenance of fire protection devices and oxygen supply systems and detection systems;
- XI. Maintenance and test plan for all fire protection system;
- XII. During the operational phase of COVID 19 centers, the L&FS Specialist will prepare the L&FS Master Plan with fire/oxygen management measures and will perform periodic audits of the centers against the requirements of the approved L&FS Master Plan, including the operational status of the L&FS systems;
- XIII. Procedure to manage changes in the mobile COVID 19 centers: The L&FS Specialist will review and approve changes made to the facilities, including architectural and layout modifications, addition of large equipment or systems, air conditioning systems, new hazards, procedures, etc.

b) L&FS activities in design phase of the planned projects for renovation/reconstruction of vaccination points.

- i. In the design phase, the designers should propose L&FS measures for the projects on renovation/reconstruction of the HCFs vaccination points. The L&FS Specialist will provide guidance, review the plans, provide feedback and approve the measures presented by the designer. Where gaps have been identified in the Fire protection “Elaborate”, she/he should specify corrective actions to be taken to address the gaps;
- ii. L&FS Audit of vaccination points. Once the renovation/reconstruction of the vaccination points is completed, the L&FS Specialist will conduct the post-construction audit to verify that all proposed L&FS measures within the design have been implemented according the national legislation and WB EHS General Guidance (including fire safety). Where gaps have been identified, she/he should specify corrective actions to be taken to address the gaps. The L&FS Specialist will certify final testing and commissioning of fire protection system of the reconstructed/renovated buildings.

V. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The Consultant should poses the following qualification requirements:

- (i) B.Sc. of technical science;
- (ii) License for design or supervision of fire safety systems issued by the Chamber of Engineers;
- (iii) Should be specialized in design of fire safety systems for buildings, installations and facilities.
- (iv) Minimum 2 years experience in design/master plan preparation and post-construction audit experience/supervision practice based on internationally recognized L&FS codes.
- (v) Minimum 2 years experiences in working with projects in the Republic of North Macedonia, based on local (or equivalent) L&FS requirements.
- (vi) Understands the requirements of the L&FS section of the WBG EHS General Guidelines, IFC guidelines.

Selection method and contract: The selection method is Individual Consultant Selection and the contract shall be Time based according to the World Bank Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers – Procurement in IPF of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, (Regulations) dated July 1, 2016 (revised in November 2017 and August 2018) dated July 1, 2016 (revised in November 2017 and August 2018), www.worldbank.org.

VI. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

The Specialist shall regularly debrief the Project Manager, the Minister of Health and Minister of Labour and Social Policy, on the progress in respect to the contract obligations performed.

The main aspects into the reports will be:

- Identified fire and oxygen risks and possible impacts at each visited Covid-19 center/vaccination point;
- Noticed non-compliances related to L&FS requirements according the national legislation and WB and international best practices;
- Proposed measures for reduce the current risks and possible impacts and to improve the L&FS standards at the containers/buildings;
- Provided instructions to the Management of the Covid-19 centers/vaccination points to implement the proposed measures, approval to be issued by authorized institutions and to get all necessary permits/approvals on time; All approvals and permits should be review of the L&FS specialist and present into the report;
- Timeframe to be define for implementation of all measures and actions required to solve the non-compliances;
- Present the current non-compliances with photos (status before applied measures).

After the closure of all non-compliances, the Debrief will be prepared to elaborate that based on a site visit, phone conversation, documents submitted, photos received, the all actions and measures have been completed.

VII. DURATION OF ASSIGNMENT

The Specialist will work under a time-based contract. The assignment will be full time, working 8 hours a day on the regular business days in North Macedonia. The contract duration shall be until June 30, 2022 with a possibility of extending the contract based on satisfactory performance and business needs of the Client.