Request for Expressions of Interest for

"International Consultant for Development of Early Childhood Education and Care Funding Formula"

(ref no. MK/SSIP # 2.2.17)

Republic of North Macedonia Social Services Improvement Project (SSIP) IBRD Loan No. 8902-MK Project ID No. P162246

Republic of North Macedonia has received loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract no.: MK/SSIP # 2.2.17 for hiring International Consultant for Development of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Funding Formula.

The objective of this assignment is to develop an ECEC funding formula as an important condition for the fiscally sustainable expansion of ECEC coverage and for improving the teaching quality in the ECEC system. The development and implementation of a per child funding formula should allow for a transparent and more equitable way of distributing resources and would overcome issues of efficiency, but also of equity and quality. The aim of this activity is to allow for sustainable expansion of ECEC enrollment in preschool education, as well as to increase ECEC opportunities for poor families.

The detailed TOR (Terms of reference) for the assignment is posted on the website of the Ministry at www.mtsp.gov.mk (http://www.mtsp.gov.mk/proekt-za-podobruvanje-na-socijalnite-uslugi.nspx)

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (Curriculum vitae on English language, references, etc.).

The qualification criteria are:

- Bachelor's degree in economy, mathematics, education, public administration, or other relevant field; Masters or PhD preferred;
- Extensive experience (minimum 10 years) related to the financial analysis in the public sector with particular expertise in the area of fiscal decentralization;
- Prior experience with the ECEC policy reform issues and systems in South East Europe or similar country contexts;
- Experience in Early Childhood Development, policy development, research and analysis related to ECEC;
- Extensive experience related to costing and fiscal analysis;

- Excellent knowledge of English.

Selection method and contract: The selection method is Individual Consultant Selection and the contract shall be Lump Sum according to the World Bank Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers – Procurement in IPF of Goods, Works, NonConsulting and Consulting Services, (Regulations) issued in July 2016, revised November 2017, www.worldbank.org

Interested consultants may obtain further information from 09:00 to 16:00 hours at the following contact details: Maja Bundaleski, SSIP Procurement assistant, Tel: ++ 389 (0)2 3296 807; E-mail: maja.bundaleski@mtsp.gov.mk.

Expressions of interest should be delivered by mail on the following mail address: maja.bundaleski@mtsp.gov.mk

Final date for submission of expression of interest is October 12, 2020