

Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Justice
Multi Donor Trust Fund for Justice Sector Support in Serbia

**EXTENSION OF REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCY SERVICES
Grant No. TF 97118**

The Republic of Serbia has received a Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Justice Sector Support (MDTF-JSS) from various donors, jointly executed by the World Bank and the Ministry of Justice and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this grant funds to payments under the contract:

- Senior Legal Advisor- Court Jurisprudence Specialist based in the Supreme Court of Cassation (SCC), ref. no. SER-MDTFJSS-TF097118-IC-CS-15-46.

The services of Senior Legal Advisor- Court Jurisprudence Specialist based in the SCC include technical assistance to the SCC in activities related to the overall harmonization of court practice in accordance to the SCC Court Harmonization Plan, initially drafted in 2014 (<http://www.vk.sud.rs/sites/default/files/attachments/PlanAktivnostiVrhovnogKasacionogSuda.pdf>), and training of designated SCC staff (judicial advisor, judicial assistant and/or judge) to sustain the entire activity regardless of potential future donor-funded intervention. While performing his/her activities, the Consultant will cooperate with the SCC staff such as: Head of the Case-Law Department, Heads of Criminal and Civil Departments and Head of the Department for Protection of the Right to a Trial within Reasonable Time, as well as SCC advisors and other justices involved in implementation of the SCC Court Harmonization Plan. In addition, the Consultant will closely cooperate and coordinate his/her activities with the Heads of Case-Law Departments and designated court staff in all state level courts (Administrative Court, Commercial Appellate, and Misdemeanor Appellate Court), appellate courts and higher courts. The key tasks comprise the following: capacity building of SCC staff engaged in the harmonization of jurisprudence and alignment of case-law, including daily twinning and on-the-job training of judicial advisors to transfer knowledge and skills and to enable the gradual transition of responsibilities for the above tasks to the Court staff; design of activity framework in close coordination with the Chief Justice and heads of departments of the SCC, and prior communication with state level courts' and appellate courts' presidents, analysis of the impacts of activities undertaken by the SCC and other courts in 2014, summarizing them into a report, as well as dissemination of the results achieved to professional and general public (outreach), proposal of measures for horizontal, vertical and specific harmonization (in certain courts – misdemeanor, commercial, or areas – enforcement, non-litigation, etc.); in close cooperation with the Chief Justice and appellate court presidents drafting of the 2015 Joint Meetings Plan (Art. 34 of the Law on Court Organization); in close cooperation with the SCC department heads review and analysis of disputed legal issues in respective legal areas, analysis of the impact of adopted legal standards in first-instance courts and preparation of the report for wide distribution, in close cooperation with Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist analysis of the impacts of adopted legal standards on reduction of backlog of cases in first instance and second instance courts, progressively improvement of the existing case-law data base and investigating of the possibilities to its further expansion to state level courts' and appellate courts' decisions, as well as decisions of relevant international institutions (CJEU case-law, UN Committees, etc.); analysis of legislative framework and recommendations for its improvement to avoid inconsistent decisions in the same or similar legal and factual situations; identification of the training needs and drafting of court practice harmonization training program for judges and court staff; support to the SCC in active and substantial cooperation with international organizations and/or agencies in relation to the harmonization of the jurisprudence.

The Consultant shall be engaged on a contract basis, full time, for a period until 31st of December 2015. The contract may be extended, subject to the performance against the deliverables and extension of MDTF-JSS. The expected contract start date will be October/November, 2015.

For Consultant following is required: advanced degree in law. MA or equivalent in international and/or EU law is desirable; at least 8 years of relevant professional experience; demonstrated knowledge of procedural and substantive criminal and civil law at the national and international level; experience in applying legal expertise to diverse range of complex legal issues and ability to conduct comprehensive legal research are desirable; demonstrated familiarity with the structure/functions/organization of the justice sector in Serbia and key justice sector reform issues in Serbia; prior working experience in a national court is desirable, participation in appeals is an advantage; prior working experience on projects of judicial reform and harmonization of practices of international institutions and European courts with national practice is desirable; demonstrated ability to deliver on-the-job training, including the transfer of knowledge and skills, in a respectful professional manner; ability to work under pressure, with tight deadlines, in a results-driven environment; and excellent written and oral communications skills in English and Serbian, with the ability to prepare notes and summaries at short notice.

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of the Ministry of Justice now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested consultants must provide Cover Letter and CV representing description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and availability of appropriate skills.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the IC procedure set out in the “*Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers*”, published by the World Bank in January 2011.

Interested consultants may obtain further information from the PIU of the MOJ at the address below from 08:00 to 15:00 hours.

Deadline for submission of expressions of interest is extended to October 27, 2015, 12:00 Noon, local time.

Expressions of interest in English language must be delivered to the e-mail address below.

When submitting Expressions of interest please indicate assignment and reference number for which you are applying.

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