REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Republic of North Macedonia**

**Primary Education Improvement Project**

Loan No.: 9182-MK

**Assignment Title: Technical Assistance for Development and Implementation of**

**National Assessment in Primary Education in the Republic of North Macedonia**

**Reference No**.: MK-MES-217819-CS-QCBS/044-21

The Republic of North Macedonia has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Primary Education Improvement Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services for provision of technical assistance for development and implementation of national assessment in primary education in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The consulting services (“the Services”) include technical assistance and logistic support to the Ministry of Education and Science and National Examination Center in establishing the National Assessment Program (NAP) in primary education and provision of quality assurance in all stages of the process. The process of establishing NAP will require developing age-appropriate sample-based assessments initially for primary grades 3 and 5. These will focus on the key enabling skills of basic mathematics (numeracy) and language (that is, languages of instruction). Expected duration of the services is March 2022- February 2026. It is estimated that the work will include 1,200 professional staff-days for the duration of contract.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following websites: *https://e-nabavki.gov.mk/PublicAccess/home.aspx#/international-donor-announcements* and *https://mon.gov.mk/peip*

The Ministry of Education and Science now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

* Previous experience in at least one project in the field of large-scale assessment (international and/or national) in education, including development and implementation of national assessment in education in the last 10 years.
* Previous experience in organizing and implementing large-scale trainings for public servants, government officials will be considered as an advantage.
* Previous experience in the countries of former Yugoslavia will be considered as an advantage.

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” July 2016, revised November 2017, and August 2018 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 08:30 to 16:30.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **3 December 2021.**

**Ministry of Education and Science- Primary Education Improvement Project**

*[Attn: Danijela Maneva, Procurement Specialist*

 *Igor Krstevski, Project Director]*

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