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Country: Macedonia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of

Institution: World Bank

Sector: Education / Training

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Loan N°./Financing: IBRD 83320

Project: Skills Development and Innovation Support Project (SDISP)

Title: General Procurement Notice (GPN)

Project ID: P128378

Republic of Macedonia
Skills Development and Innovation Support Project (SDISP)
Ministry of Education and Science
Loan No.8332-MK
Project ID No. P128378

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia has received financing in the amount of US\$ 24,000,000 equivalent from the World Bank toward the cost of the Skills Development and Innovation Support Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, related services and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The project will include the following components:

1. Improving Transparency of Higher Education

This component will have three main sets of activities, all targeted toward improving both the transparency and efficiency of the quality assurance and finance mechanisms in the higher education sector: (i) institutional strengthening and stronger quality assurance in higher education; (ii) reforming the higher education financing model; and (iii) establishing a centralized office to foster mission-oriented research and university-industry collaboration.

Amongst others, the following activities will be financed under this component: Development and Implementation of Data Base for Monitoring the Operation and Outputs of the Tertiary Education and for Administering the Common Admission System (ICB procedure), Assessment of Funding Model Options and Preparation of Funding Model and Formula and Implementation Plan (QCBS procedure), Technical assistance to the National transfer of technology office (Individual Consultant), Procurement of equipment for the NTTO (ICB procedure) etc.

2. Modernization of Secondary Technical Vocational Education and Training: This component would finance activities targeted toward building the foundation of a modern and efficient secondary TVET system that is characterized by delayed tracking of students into vocational pathway, increased relevance of the standards and curriculum for the labor market and improved mechanisms for school-industry collaboration. These changes are expected to lead to the transformation of the secondary TVET from the narrow occupational to a more general and broader technical education and eventually to result in greater labor market relevance and transferability of skills, and increased flexibility in secondary TVET provision.

Amongst others, the following activities will be financed under this component of the project: Development and Design of the Concept for Secondary TVET (QCBS procedure), Training of School Teachers and Managers to Support Implementation of the Reformed Secondary TVET Curricula and procurement of equipment for Secondary TVET School Training Centers (ICB procedure) etc.

3. Improving the Innovative Capacity of Enterprises and Collaboration with Research Organizations: This component is focused on supporting the efforts of the FYR Macedonia Fund for Innovation and Technological Development (FITD) to build the institutional capacity to stimulate innovative activities, and piloting financial instruments to support innovation and technological development in the enterprise sector. It is organized around two sub-components.

The following activities will be financed under this component: Hiring of a resident advisor for capacity building of the FITD (Individual consultant) as well as financial instruments to support and stimulate the innovation activities of Macedonian companies that are to be provided through the FITD.

4. Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation: This component would finance the activities in two sub-components to: (i) ensure effective administration and implementation of the Bank-financed project; and (ii) develop and put in place an effective M&E system.

The following activities will be financed under this component: Long-Term External Promotional Campaign for the SDIS Project Reforms, hiring of local consultants

and development of software for Skills Observatory etc.

Detailed description about the project is provided in the Project Appraisal Document (PAD), which is a public document posted on the external website of the World Bank (www.worldbank.org) and on the website of the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) (www.mon.gov.mk). A detailed project procurement plan, listing all goods, non-consulting and consulting contracts to be financed from the Loan proceeds is also published on the external website of the World Bank (www.worldbank.org) and on the website of the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) (www.mon.gov.mk)

Procurement of contracts financed by the World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011)*, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines. Consulting services will be selected in accordance with the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011)*.

Specific procurement notices for contracts to be bid under the World Bank's international competitive bidding (ICB) procedures and Requests for Expression of Interest (REoI) for contracts for consultancy services will be announced, as they become available, in UN Development Business online and in at least one newspaper of national circulation in the country and on the website of the Ministry of Education and Science (MOES). All Terms of References (TORs) for consultancy service contracts will be published on the website of MOES.

Interested eligible bidders who wish to be included on the mailing list to receive information about announcements of invitations to bid under ICB procedures, and interested consultants who wish to receive a copy of advertisement requesting expressions of interest for consultancy contracts, or those requiring additional information, may contact by e-mail the person in charge indicated below. The contact details are as follows:

Ministry of Education and Science
Ms. Danijela Maneva
Sv. Kiril i Metodij no. 54
1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia
Tel: 0038971395617
E-mail: [danijela.maneva@mon.gov.mk](mailto:danjela.maneva@mon.gov.mk)
Web site: www.mon.gov.mk

