

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS)**

Republic of Serbia

The Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project (SRSM)

Project ID No. P170868

Assignment Title: Individual Consultant (part time) – Railway Asset Management Specialist

Reference No.: SER-SRSM-IC-CS-22-40-2

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) launched the Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA) to support the Government of Serbia (GoS) in continuation of institutional, physical and operational modernization of the railway sector in an integrated manner through providing financial support to Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project as part of the Multiphase Programmatic Approach to be implemented in three overlapping phases over the ten-year period.

For the purpose of financing Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project, Phase 1 of the MPA, IBRD and the Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD), jointly, granted to the Republic of Serbia EUR 102 million loan to support enhancing the efficiency and safety of existing railway assets and improving governance and institutional capacity of the railway sector.

The Railway Asset Management Specialist will be responsible for the following duties:

- Coordination of development and implementation of the all aspects of RI-AMS within the project and required system(s), ensuring its compliance with specific standards, laws and Client requirements;
- Assisting and providing expert advice in the collection, supplementation, systematization and integration of current and new data basis for rail assets inventory for the optimal use of RI-AMS;
- Providing expert advice on the improvement of current monitoring techniques and providing support in the implementation of investments in upgrading current condition-monitoring vehicles and in the procurement of other suitable condition-monitoring devices and equipment;
- Providing expert advice on the improvement of the current scope of maintenance programs and other planning documents for the maintenance of rail infrastructure assets;
- Participating in drafting and identifying any gaps, incompleteness or failings in technical specification and tender documents for the above-listed subcomponents and recommend remedial actions;
- Assisting in the implementation of Project activities related to IRS and SMS through the introduction/implementation of new technologies, system design development and maintenance;
- Liaise with the Central Fiduciary Unit (CFU) and PIU regarding technical inputs needed to prepare Bidding Documents, Technical Specifications, Requests for Proposals, Terms of Reference, Monitoring Reports etc.
- Active participation and assistance during the tender preparation, processing, evaluation and selection;
- Review and evaluate contractors'/consultants' technical documentation and schedule;
- Ensuring compliance of the projects with relevant national, WB and EU regulations/procedures;
- Assessment of potential risks and proposal of relevant mitigation measures;
- Any other task assigned by the Head of the PIU.

The Railway Asset Management Specialist of the PIT should possess the following knowledge, experience, skills and competencies:

- Advanced degree or minimum 5-year university degree in civil engineering, transport engineering, mechanical engineering or similar;
- Minimum 10 years of general professional experience in the railway sector;
- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in developing and/or implementing railway asset management systems;
- Excellent knowledge and practice of the regulations and technical directives applicable to the maintenance, and renewal of railway infrastructure assets, maintenance machinery and rail track condition monitoring equipment and vehicles;
- Experience working on IFI or EU projects will be an advantage;
- Knowledge of local (regional) language will be an advantage;
- Good knowledge of the English language;
- Computer skills: AutoCAD, Word, Excel, scheduling tools (e.g., MS Project or similar);
- Project Management with multiple stakeholders will be an advantage.

The assignment is part-time and estimated that the Consultant's total input would be 350 days over the Contract period, i.e. until December 31, 2026. The Consultant should be available to commence no later than one month after the contract signature. The consultant shall not be engaged more than 48 hours per week cumulatively for this assignment plus any other additional assignments/contracts.

The detailed Terms of Reference for the above referenced consulting services is posted on the website of the Ministry of Construction, Transportation and Infrastructure (MCTI) <https://mgsi.gov.rs/cir/dokumenti/serbia-railway-sector-modernization-project-srsm-individualni-konsultanti-piu-i-pit>

The CFU of the Ministry of Finance 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 (scanned diplomas to be sent with CV).

The evaluation criteria for each assignment:

- Qualifications and General experience (30 Points)
- Specific Experience relevant to the Assignment (70 Points)

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.16 and 3.17 of the **World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers – Procurement in Investment Project Financing Goods, World, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services**, July 2016, revised November 2017, August 2018 and November 2020 ("the Regulations") setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the *Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants* as set out in the Regulations.

Interested consultants may obtain further information from the CFU at the address below from 09:00 to 15:00 hours.

Expressions of interest **in English language** must be delivered to the e-mail address below by **August 25, 2023, 12:00 Noon**, local time.

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

Contact:	E-mail:	Address:
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To:	zorica.petrovic@mfin.gov.rs Ms. Zorica Petrović Procurement Specialist	Ministry of Finance Central Fiduciary Unit 3-5 Sremska St 11000 Belgrade, Serbia
Cc:	liljana.dzuver@mfin.gov.rs larisa.puzovic@mgsi.gov.rs	Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 765 2587

Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project
TERMS OF REFERENCE
for
Railway Asset Management Specialist

Background

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) launched the Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA) to support the Government of Serbia in the continuation of institutional, physical and operational modernization of the railway sector in an integrated manner by providing financial support to Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project as part of the Multiphase Programmatic Approach to be implemented in three overlapping phases over the ten years.

For financing Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project, Phase 1 of the MPA, IBRD and the Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD) jointly granted to the Republic of Serbia EUR 102 million loan to support enhancing the efficiency and safety of existing railway assets and improve governance and institutional capacity of the railway sector.

The Project includes the following components:

- Component 1: Infrastructure Investments and Asset Management: Sub-Component 1.1: Reliable and Safe Railway Infrastructure (track rehabilitation, level crossings, railway station “Prokop”, Bogojevo station bypass, measurement stations), Sub-Component 1.2: Technical Documentation for the Phase 2, Sub-Component 1.3: Asset Management
- Component 2: Institutional Strengthening and Project Management: Sub-Component 2.1: Sectoral Governance, Sub-Component 2.2: Human capital, Sub-Component 2.3: Project Management and Citizen Engagement
- Component 3: Railway Modernization Enablers: Sub-Component 3.1: Intelligent Railway Systems (ITS) and Safety Management System (SMS), Sub-Component 3.2: Integrated Territorial Development and Sub-Component 3.3: Modal Shift

The Project will be managed by the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure (MoCTI) through the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) supplemented by the Project Implementation Teams (PITs) in Railway Directorate (RD) and railway companies, respectively, Serbian Railway Infrastructure (IZS), Serbia Voz (SV) and Serbia Cargo (SC). PITs will act as subordinate implementing agencies and provide technical support for specific Project subcomponents or activities of the MPA that pertain to their area of expertise. Primary responsibility for Project execution lies on PIU, which will ensure that the Project development objectives are met.

The Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure (the Client) intends to engage a highly qualified consultant (individual expert) to provide the required services more closely described below. The successful candidate will work closely with the Serbian Railway Infrastructure (IZS), the Client and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that the investments in railway infrastructure within the Project are managed efficiently, both technically and in compliance with the objectives of the Project Appraisal Document

(PAD), the Loan Agreement, Credit Facility Agreement and the Project Operations Manual. The consultant, always aligned with the Head of the PIU and in collaboration with the other PIT and PIU staff, shall interact and liaise with contractors, consultants, World Bank, AFD, and others relevant for the successful completion of the tasks. He/she will closely monitor the implementation of the activities to coordinate the inputs from the different actors, ensure excellent technical execution, quickly address design challenges and efficiently react to unexpected developments. The main challenge is ensuring that works, goods and services are satisfactorily completed on time, within budget, aligned with the contractual requirements and coherently across components.

General information

Individual Consultant Title: **Railway Asset Management Specialist** of the PIT to support railway infrastructure investments in the Republic of Serbia, Serbia Railway Sector Modernization Project. The Consultant shall report to the Head of the PIU, linked to the MoCTI of the Republic of Serbia.

Position in organization

Immediate superior: Head of the Project Implementation Unit

Main position objective

Generally, the Consultant will support IZS to implement investments and activities specified as part the Component 1: “Infrastructure Investments and Asset Management”, respectively Sub-component 1.3. Asset Management and Component 3: Railway Modernization Enablers related to the Sub-component 3.1 Intelligent Railway System (IRS) and Safety Management System (SMS).

Component 1 focuses on improving the quality and safety of railway infrastructure and enhancing rail asset management practices. The quality of the railway network will be improved through targeted renewal interventions and the preparation of technical documentation for the investments in subsequent phases of the Program. Railway safety will be enhanced through track renewal and upgrading railway crossings throughout Serbia.

Sub-Component 1.3 supports the rollout of a specialized Railway Infrastructure Asset Management System (RI-AMS) as IZS’s standard tool for planning and decision-making related to the maintenance and renewal of railway infrastructure (M&R). This subcomponent includes contracting the firm for Technical Advisory on preparing Technical Specifications for the procurement and implementation of a RI – AMS as well as procurement and customization of RI-AMS within IZS and procurement of accompanying hardware, if there is a need, and annual maintenance and support fees, which depend on supplier’s licensing policy. The introduction and establishment of RI-AMS will be financed to assist IZS in managing railway infrastructure assets and make tangible savings within the domain of railway infrastructure M&R, as well as raise the overall M&R work performance and management quality to the level of the developed railways.

Component 3, Railway Modernization Enablers, finances measures for strengthening the enabling environment for the railway sector through selected innovations. In Serbia, t

information technologies in railway transport is still in its infancy. The Government of the Republic of Serbia would like to introduce new approaches proven to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and safety.

Subcomponent 3.1 IRS and SMS; This subcomponent will support (i) the initiation of structured planning of IRSs and (ii) the improvements of SMS in the railway sector.

Implementing targeted system initiatives such as Intelligent Railways, Safety Management, and Asset Management goes hand-in-hand with EU standards. It promotes the modernization of human capacity and organizational change toward a culture of putting customers at the center of the organization's activities. The new asset management system will facilitate the efficient maintenance and use of infrastructure, mitigating emissions through longer asset life cycles. The asset management cycle will also be adapted to the requirements of the changing climate, e.g. more frequent tamping of track ballast. The Consultant will be responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of the required system(s), ensuring its compliance with specific standards, laws and Client requirements and that it is within defined timeframes and budgets.

Principle responsibilities

The Railway Asset Management Specialist will be responsible for the following duties:

- Coordination of development and implementation of the all aspects of RI-AMS within the project and required system(s), ensuring its compliance with specific standards, laws and Client requirements;
- Assisting and providing expert advice in the collection, supplementation, systematization and integration of current and new data basis for rail assets inventory for the optimal use of RI-AMS;
- Providing expert advice on the improvement of current monitoring techniques and providing support in the implementation of investments in upgrading current condition-monitoring vehicles and in the procurement of other suitable condition-monitoring devices and equipment;
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- Participating in drafting and identifying any gaps, incompleteness or failings in technical specification and tender documents for the above-listed subcomponents and recommend remedial actions;
- Assisting in the implementation of Project activities related to IRS and SMS through the introduction/implementation of new technologies, system design development and maintenance;
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- Active participation and assistance during the tender preparation, processing, evaluation and selection;
- Review and evaluate contractors'/consultants' technical documentation and schedule;

- Ensuring compliance of the projects with relevant national, WB and EU regulations/procedures;
- Assessment of potential risks and proposal of relevant mitigation measures;
- Any other task assigned by the Head of the PIU.

Reporting requirements

The Consultant will provide Monthly Progress Reports within 5 (five) days after the end of the month for which the report is due. The report should contain at least the following:

- List of meetings held with a brief description of objectives and conclusions;
- The status of progress, problems encountered, corrective actions needed, the rationale for actions and
- any further comments relevant to the reporting period.

The Consultant shall prepare ad-hoc reports on any significant issues raised during Project implementation at the Head of the PIU, Client or Bank's request.

Knowledge, experience, skills and competencies

- Advanced degree or minimum 5-year university degree in civil engineering, transport engineering, mechanical engineering or similar;
- Minimum 10 years of general professional experience in the railway sector;
- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in developing and/or implementing railway asset management systems;
- Excellent knowledge and practice of the regulations and technical directives applicable to the maintenance, and renewal of railway infrastructure assets, maintenance machinery and rail track condition monitoring equipment and vehicles;
- Experience working on IFI or EU projects will be an advantage;
- Knowledge of local (regional) language will be an advantage;
- Good knowledge of the English language;
- Computer skills: AutoCAD, Word, Excel, scheduling tools (e.g., MS Project or similar);
- Project Management with multiple stakeholders will be an advantage.

Length of the assignment

The assignment is part-time and estimated that the Consultant's total input would be 350 days over the Contract period, i.e. until December 31, 2026. The Consultant should be available to commence no later than one month after the contract signature.

Facilities to be provided by the Client

The Client will be responsible for the provision of the following:

- Fully equipped office space, with access to the Internet, local telephone line, printing, photocopying and document binding;
- Access to necessary documents; and

- Where the Consultant is required to travel to the site or elsewhere by the Client's instruction, the Client will bear transportation costs.

Confidentiality

The Consultant undertakes to maintain confidentiality on all information, not in the public domain and shall not be involved in another assignment representing a conflict of interest to the prevailing assignment.

Selection of Consultant

The Consultant will be selected by applying the Open competitive method.

The candidates will be evaluated by applying the following evaluation criteria:

- Qualifications and General experience (30 Points)
- Specific Experience relevant to the Assignment (70 Points)

The Consultant is eligible, and his selection does not create any conflict of interest as provided in the Bank's Procurement Regulations.