

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **for Consulting Services (Individual Consultant)**

#### **Specialist in Public-Private Partnership and Interaction between Higher Education Institutions and the Real Economy Sector**

Contract № MOES-C3-05-SUP-IC-09

Ukraine Improving Higher Education for Results Project  
World Bank Loan No. 9238-UA

## **I. BACKGROUND**

Ukraine and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD; the World Bank) have signed Loan Agreement No. 9238-UA in the amount of US\$200 million for the Project

“Ukraine Improving Higher Education for Results” (hereinafter referred to as the Project).

The Project is implemented in Ukraine by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MoES) with the support of the World Bank Group. The Project implementation period is 2021-2026.

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to improve efficiency, conditions for quality, and transparency in the higher education system of Ukraine.

The Project includes six parts:

- Part 1: Sector-Wide Improvements to Governance, Financing, Quality, and Transparency;
- Part 2: Alliances/Partnerships for Improved Efficiency and Quality;
- Part 3: Capacity Building and Education Environment Enhancement;
- Part 4: Project Management, Monitoring & Evaluation
- Part 5: Support to Academic Scholarships under MOES and Social Scholarships under MOSP for Higher Education Students
- Part 6: Contingent Emergency Response (CERC)

The Project supports two categories of expenditures: (i) traditional investments in goods, works, and services, for which disbursements are made against eligible expenditures, and (ii) defined performance-based conditions (PBCs), for which disbursements are also made against eligible expenditures conditional on the achievement of the PBCs as defined in the Loan Agreement and Project Operational Manual.

More detailed information is given at the link <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P171050>

The full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation in 2022 significantly impacted Ukraine's economy and all its sectors, including education and science. As a result of the military actions on our territory, approximately 15% of the scientific infrastructure was damaged, and about 10% of scientists were forced to relocate. About half of the scientist-migrants left Ukraine. Some higher education institutions were forced to relocate to safer regions of the country (from Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Luhansk, and Kherson regions) along with their staff.

Until 2022, Ukraine's government spending on science support accounted for only 0.14-0.17% of GDP, significantly lower than the European average and ten times less than the level specified by the Law of Ukraine on Scientific and Scientific-Technical Activities. This underfunding also impacted the quality of higher education, disrupting the vital link between higher education and science.

The MoES is currently facing the challenging task of rebuilding Ukraine's scientific infrastructure, preserving human capital, and, in particular, bringing back Ukrainian scientists from other countries. Preserving the scientific sector is critically important for Ukraine's future, as it forms the foundation for restoring the country's human capital and economy.

A key decision for restoring scientific activity is strengthening public-private partnerships and the interaction between higher education institutions and the real economy sector.

Parts 2 and 3 of the project are designed to assist selected higher education institutions in improving the research and educational environment by providing research equipment to selected universities.

The MoES is now seeking consulting support for developing the foundation for the restoration and development of science and research in Ukrainian higher education institutions.

The Consultant will be contracted through competitive selection in line with Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Sep 2023. This Terms of References defines the purpose, Scope and duration of consulting services and qualification requirements for the Consultant.

## **II. OBJECTIVE**

The goal of the activity is to improve the regulatory framework in the field of innovation and technology transfer in Ukraine, harmonize it with EU legislation, stimulate public-private partnerships in the scientific sector, create effective mechanisms for the commercialization of scientific developments, and integrate new technologies into the production processes of enterprises.

## **III. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The Scope of services to be provided by the Consultant shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Analysis of EU legislation in the field of innovation and technology transfer with the aim of developing proposals for its implementation into Ukrainian legislation;
- Analysis and research of public-private partnership opportunities in the field of science to develop and launch a financial instrument to stimulate business demand for R&D results based on public-private partnership principles;

- Development of the regulatory framework for conducting a competitive selection process to provide co-financing financial support for joint research and development projects between businesses and higher education institutions, aimed at creating partnerships between science, business, and the government, integrating new technologies into the production processes of enterprises, which will enhance their competitiveness in both local and international markets;
- Development of an updated version of the draft law "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine Regarding the Promotion of Technology Transfer Activities" ;
- Studying the EU experience regarding the functioning of technology transfer centers and opportunities for cooperation with Ukrainian higher education institutions;
- Preparation of the concept, seeking funding, and developing the regulatory framework for the implementation of a project to establish pilot technology transfer centers involving higher education institutions, which will ensure the commercialization of research results and the implementation of advanced technologies in key sectors of the economy;
- Participate in the creation and/or modernization of research infrastructure and establish links with business based on public-private partnerships for the Centers of Excellence outlined in Part 3 of the project.
- Development of the regulatory framework and ensuring the launch of the Applied Research Agency;
- Execution of other assignments and activities related to the project implementation within his/her competence upon request of the Project Coordinator(s), Deputy Minister for higher education, and the Project Manager - Lead of a group of consultants.

#### **IV. REPORTING**

The consultant will report to the Project Coordinator, the Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine responsible for science and innovation, and will act under their supervision.

The Consultant shall submit monthly reports in hard copy. The reports shall include a description of the Consultant's services during the reporting period.

#### **V. PROVIDED RESOURCES**

The MoES shall provide the Consultant with the information necessary to carry out his/her assignment in a timely manner.

#### **VI. QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum requirements (mandatory):

- Master's degree in economics, management, law, engineering, or other related fields
- At least 5 years of experience in public-private partnerships, economic development, scientific and technological development, innovation activities, or project management
- Fluent in English

- Fluent in Ukrainian
- High proficiency in standard office software (Microsoft Office, Google Workspace), ability to use specialized project management software (e.g., MS Project, Asana, Trello) and data analysis tools (Excel, Power BI).

*Desirable qualifications and competencies that provide the advantage:*

- Experience in collaborating with Ukrainian and international government bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations
- Experience working on projects funded by donors or international organizations
- Project management skills, including the development of financial models, strategies, and action plans
- Knowledge of the principles of cooperation between universities and businesses, with experience in technology transfer and intellectual property commercialization
- Understanding of national and international regulatory frameworks regarding public-private partnerships, innovation, scientific and technological development, and commercialization of research results
- Ability to conduct market analysis, develop cooperation strategies, and business plans for public-private partnership projects

The MoES may invite the most qualified candidates for an interview to clarify the information provided in the respective resumes.

## **VII. PERIOD AND LOCATION**

The Consultant shall provide his/her services until December 31, 2025 with the possibility to extend the contract.

The Consultant shall provide services on a full-time basis.

The services are planned to be rendered in Kyiv, Ukraine.

It is expected that the Consultant may provide the Services remotely with mandatory presence upon request to be in the premises of MoES.

The terms of the contract and working conditions are subject to negotiation.

## **VIII. APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Interested persons should submit their CVs in Ukrainian and English at the following email addresses: [kateryna.kovtun@mon.gov.ua](mailto:kateryna.kovtun@mon.gov.ua) Cc: [serhiy.artemenko@uiherp.org](mailto:serhiy.artemenko@uiherp.org); [oleksandr.radchenko@uiherp.org](mailto:oleksandr.radchenko@uiherp.org) indicating the email subject: «P171050: MOES-C3-05-SUP-IC-09: [NAME]».

The deadline for submission of the documents is 11:00 local time on April 24, 2025.

If the Consultant fails to provide CVs in both languages, the Client reserves the right to reject the Consultant's application.