

TERMS OF REFERENCE

for Consulting Services (Individual Consultant)

Specialist in the formation of state orders for the most important scientific and technical (experimental) developments and scientific-technical products

Contract №. MOES-C3-05-SUP-IC-10

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 activities, as well as developing innovation activities, is strengthening cooperation with foreign donors, programs, and international technical assistance projects.

Creating conditions for higher education institutions to carry out applied research within the framework of the state order for the most important scientific and technical (experimental) developments and scientific-technical products will enable the modernization of research infrastructure, attract additional funding for R&D, and build strong partnerships with potential manufacturers of scientific-technical products.

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

This task is aimed at assisting the Ministry of Education and Science in strengthening international cooperation, managing transformation, and supporting the preparation of regulations and other documents in the fields of science, innovation, and technology transfer. These efforts are focused on developing collaboration with international partners to enhance the capacity of higher education institutions to carry out applied research, as well as activating innovation activities, stimulating cooperation between higher education institutions and business entities to facilitate technology transfer, commercialize scientific results, and attract private investments for the development of the higher education network.

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 the scientific and technological needs of government authorities, enterprises, and other clients to identify priority areas for inclusion in the state order, assessing the importance and relevance of proposed scientific and technological developments in line with national interests and the strategy for the development of the economy and science, to strengthen the capacity of higher education institutions to conduct applied research;
- Identification of key scientific and technological tasks to be implemented within the framework of the state order, including defining priority areas for research and development (R&D) and preparing technical assignments;
- Coordination of work with other government agencies, higher education institutions, research organizations, and private companies involved in the execution of state orders;
- Preparation of regular reports and analytical materials for presentation to management and government authorities regarding the status of state order implementation and the evaluation of the results of scientific and technical developments and their impact on the economy and the country's innovation development;
- Preparation of proposals and legislative acts for the creation of a network of centers of excellence based on or involving higher education institutions, with the aim of providing access to advanced research infrastructure and offering students, postgraduate students, and doctoral candidates the opportunity to create and test their own ideas using high-tech equipment;
- Development of mechanisms to attract additional sources of funding for the implementation of important scientific and technological projects by higher education institutions (including through international grants and private investments);
- Preparation of the concept, search for funding, and development of the legal and regulatory framework for the implementation of a project to create pilot technology transfer centers with the participation of higher education institutions, which ensure the commercialization of research results and the implementation of advanced technologies in key sectors of the economy;
- Conducting information campaigns to raise public and scientific-technical awareness about the importance of the state order, its priorities, and results;
- 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, physics, chemistry, or other related fields.
- Experience in research experience in science and technology fields, scientific-technical development, innovation activities, and innovation ecosystem development, — at least 5 years.
- Proficiency in English.
- Proficiency in Ukrainian.
- High level of proficiency in core office software (Microsoft Office, Google Workspace), ability to use specialized project management tools (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
- Understanding the principles of forming scientific-technical programs, financing R&D (research and development) and R&D works, as well as the commercialization of research results.
- Understanding the issues related to the establishment and development of innovation ecosystems, as well as building a network of innovation infrastructure.
- Knowledge of the principles of cooperation between higher education institutions (HEIs) and businesses, experience in technology transfer and commercialization of intellectual property.
- Ability to work with documents and technical specifications, prepare analytical materials, reports, and proposals for government bodies and partners.

■ Experience in technology transfer, commercialization of scientific results, and export/import of science-intensive technologies.

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

VII. 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 Cc: serhiy.artemenko@uiherp.org; oleksandr.radchenko@uiherp.org indicating the email subject: «P171050: MOES-C3-05-SUP-IC-10: [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.