

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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

#### **Science Development Consultant in the Context of European Integration**

Contract No. MOES-C3-05-SUP-IC-12

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 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

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 the restoration of scientific activity is strengthening cooperation with foreign donors, programs, and international technical assistance projects. The adaptation of the best European practices in research management and infrastructure will enable Ukraine to create an effective model for the development of science in higher education institutions and research organizations, which will meet modern global challenges and contribute to the country's economic recovery.

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 the chosen universities.

The MoES is now seeking advisory support to develop 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 assignment aims to provide expert and advisory support to the MoES in harmonizing national legislation on scientific and research activities with European standards, facilitating Ukraine's integration into the European Research Area, and enhancing the participation of Ukrainian research institutions in international programs and initiatives, including the EU Framework Programs for Research and Innovation, the Eureka program, and research infrastructure consortia.

## **III. SCOPE OF SERVICES**

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

- Providing consultations on the development of subordinate acts following amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Scientific and Scientific-Technical Activities" regarding research infrastructure.

- Analyzing European legislation related to the European Research Area in order to prepare proposals for aligning it with Ukrainian legislation.
- Performing tasks related to the preparation of the project and subsequent implementation of the steps outlined in the approved Roadmap for Ukraine's Integration into the European Research Area for 2025-2027.
- Assisting the MoES in strengthening coordination to ensure Ukraine's participation in the EU Framework Programs for Research and Innovation (Horizon Europe and subsequent framework programs): developing work programs; communication with program representatives; drafting the strategic plan for the 10th Framework Program.
- Providing proposals and contributing to the implementation of measures to enhance Ukraine's participation in the International Scientific and Technological Innovation Program Eureka.
- Studying the EU experience in organizing ERIC research infrastructure consortia and providing advisory support to the MoES in integrating Ukrainian research infrastructure into these consortia.
- Preparing proposals for the integration of research infrastructures into international research infrastructure networks, including digital ones.
- Supporting the implementation of UIHERP, including the integration component of Ukraine into the European Research Area.
- 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 and time sheets.

#### **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):

- At least a Master's degree in a relevant field, with a preference for education in international law;
- Knowledge of Ukrainian legislation in the field of scientific activity;

- At least 5 years of experience in higher education or science;
- Fluent in English;
- Fluency in Ukrainian;
- Experienced PC user, with knowledge and practical skills in using modern software tools.

*Desirable qualifications and competencies that provide the advantage:*

- Experience in cooperation with Ukrainian and international government bodies and non-governmental organizations;
- Experience of undertaking or leading science research projects at higher education institutions or research institute;
- Experience in working on donor-funded or internationally funded projects;
- Practical knowledge of the current state of higher education in Ukraine and science infrastructure;
- Experience in implementing international scientific projects;
- Experience in preparing analytical documents based on disparate information;
- Experience in analyzing EU legislation.

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, 2026 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.

## **VIII. APPLICATION PACKAGE**

Interested persons should submit their CVs in Ukrainian and English at the following email addresses: [oleksandr.radchenko@uiherp.org](mailto:oleksandr.radchenko@uiherp.org) Cc: [serhiy.artemenko@uiherp.org](mailto:serhiy.artemenko@uiherp.org) indicating the email subject: «P171050: MOES-C3-05-SUP-IC-12: [NAME]».

The deadline for submission of the documents is \_\_:00 local time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

If the Consultant fails to provide CVs in both languages (English and Ukrainian), the Client reserves the right to reject the Consultant's application.