**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**(CONSULTANT SERVICES – SELECTION OF FIRMS)**

COUNTRY: KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

PROJECT NAME: DEVELOPING OF REGULATORY, SUPERVISORY AND SHARIA FRAMEWORK FOR ISLAMIC BANKING IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

SECTOR(S): ISLAMIC BANKING AND FINANCE

CONSULTING SERVICES *FOR CAPACITY BUILDING.*

MODE OF FINANCING: ISDBI GRANT

FINANCING NO. KGZ-1018

The National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic (hereinafter the NBKR) has received from the Islamic Development Bank (hereinafter the IsDB) a technical assistance (TA) for developing of regulatory, supervisory and sharia framework for Islamic banking in the Kyrgyz Republic and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consultant services.

One of the objectives of the mentioned TA is to assist National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic in building capacity and providing specialized training for NBKR officials, financial and credit organizations’ staff involved in Islamic financing and Shariah board members on following topics:

* **Group 1 NBKR Staff**: monetary policy instruments and supervision of financial and credit organizations, with the involvement of Central Bank experts, to exchange experience and share the practice of supervision of Islamic financial and credit organizations;
* **Group 2 Financial and credit organizations staff**: Islamic banking products and the practice of their implementation;
* **Group 3 Members of the Sharia Boards of financial and credit organizations:** the practical work conduct of the Sharia Board, issues and features of the fatwas.

This project comes at the right time given the importance of having duly educated professionals, who will contribute immensely to the further development of Islamic banking and finance in the Kyrgyz Republic. It is planned to conduct online and offline trainings for abovementioned three groups of specialists and appoint/assign an international education provider, specialized in conducting tailor-made trainings in the area of Islamic banking and finance. International education providers, preferably established under Central Banks or international standard setting bodies, are to submit their proposals to develop the training program and conduct online, offline trainings for proposed groups.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest or can be obtained at the address given below.

NBKR now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the listed services in the draft ToR. Interested Consultants must provide specific information that demonstrates that they are fully qualified to perform the services (availability of appropriate experience and skillful staff confirmed by brochures, description of similar assignments in analogous conditions, etc.) including expertise in developing similar training packages as well as working/establishment under Central Banks.

**The shortlisting criteria / sub-criteria are:**

(a) The Consultant should demonstrate having experience in providing training and capacity building programs on the mentioned topics in the TOR for at least ten (10) years. Knowledge of Kyrgyz Republic and its financial sector is an added advantage.

(b) Proven record of successful similar training programs (at least 3 in the past 5 years) for the benefit of a country’s central bank, ministries, or related Government bodies.

(c) The firm should demonstrate having technical and managerial capabilities to successfully execute the assignment through a brief presentation of the firm’s management structure and number of permanent staff.

(d) The firm should demonstrate capabilities and experience in delivering the expectations outlined in the TOR.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Paragraphs, 1.23, and 1.24 of the Guidelines for Procurement of Consultant Services under Islamic Development Bank Project Financing (the “Procurement Guidelines”), setting forth IsDB’s policy on conflict of interest: <https://www.isdb.org/project-procurement/sites/pproc/files/documents/PPR%20Guidelines-Consultants-ENG.pdf>

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) method as set out in the Procurement Guidelines.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours; **8:30 to 16:30 hours** Kyrgyz Local Time.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by date 26**th February 2024**.

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