



PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES- FIRMS SELECTION)**

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

SERBIA RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROJECT

Grant No. EC TF 019226

Assignment Title: Intellectual Property (IP) Law Firm

The Republic of Serbia has received financing for a Grant from European Union Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA), administered by the World Bank (WB) toward the cost of the Serbia Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer Project (Project) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

Objective of the Assignment

The Technology Transfer Facility (TTF) will provide commercialization advice services and access to a commercialization fund for improving technological readiness of R&D projects. It is envisaged that a portion of R&D projects disclosed to the TTF will be eligible to receive financial support. The objectives of the assignment is to assist TTF Awardees (inventors in public academic R&D institutions whose inventions have been competitively selected to receive commercialization support by the TTF) in all aspects of intellectual property (IP) protection, including but not limited to, drafting patent and other IP applications, filing before the national and international authorities, prosecution for all existing and potential IP in the portfolio of Innovation Fund (IF). Depending on the innovation, the TTF may provide consulting and suggestions on intellectual property rights (IPR) protection strategy, IP valuation, etc., on a case by case basis.

Experience and Qualifications

The consulting firm (Consultant) must have the following qualifications:

- **Company**

The Consultant shall be an entity providing legal services and consulting services in the field of IP law;

- **Key staff (KS)**

The Consultant shall have capacity to provide qualified and experienced team of 3 - 5 KS members that will work on this assignment (qualifications of KS will be jointly taken into consideration i.e. qualifications of KS as a group will be evaluated) as follows:

- at least 5 years of experience in the Republic of Serbia providing legal support and consulting services for clients in both public and private sector in IP according to Serbian law;
- at least 10- 15 years of general legal experience for at least one of the KS members;
- at least 5 years of experience in representing clients before national and international IP authorities for at least one of the KS members;
- at least 5 years of experience of patent applications drafting, filing and prosecution, in the technical fields of mechanical engineering and/or electrical engineering;
- at least 5 years of experience of patent applications drafting, filing and prosecution, in the field of life science;
- at least one of the KS members must have authorization for representation before the Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Serbia as well as before the European Patent Office;
- expertise and 1-2 years of experience in forms of IP other than patents (trademarks, copyrights, geographical indications, designs);
- IP litigation experience, though not required, would be a plus;
- IP forensics experience, though not required, would be a plus;

- IP licensing and patent landscaping experience, though not required, would be a plus;
- While strength in IP matters mentioned above would be key consideration, a rich blend of experience in commercial (business) law and IP law are highly desirable.

Timing and Duration

The assignment is envisaged to start in March/April 2016, subject to publishing the TTF Call for Proposals by the IF, and last until the expected Project closing date, January 31, 2018. The need for Consultant's expertise will be continuous and the Consultant can expect to be engaged 220 man days within the period of assignment.

The IF now invites eligible IP Law Firms to indicate their interest in providing the services.

The IP Law Firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011 Revised July 2014.](#)

Interested and eligible IP Law Firm for this position should send Expression of Interest in English by e-mail to the contact information listed below.

Expressions of interest from eligible firms/ joint ventures (consortia) should specify the following relevant information:

- (i) Short introduction of the firm/joint venture (consortium);
- (ii) Core business and years in business;
- (iii) Qualifications in the field of the assignment (in case of a "joint venture (consortia)", such evidence is required for all members of the "joint venture (consortia)", while in case of a sub-consultancy, it is required only for the leading firm);
- (iv) Technical and managerial organization of the firm;
- (v) General qualifications and number of relevant key staff.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers January 2011 Revised July 2014., setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Expressions of interest must be delivered by March 7, 2016, 12:00 Noon, local time in electronic format to the following e-mail: ljljana.krejovic@inovacionifond.rs; Cc: office@inovacionifond.rs

Contact:

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