Pursuant to the Law on the Ratification of the Loan Agreement (IBRD Loan No. 9558-HR) between Republic of Croatia and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for financing of the Digital Innovation and Green Technology Project (NN MU No. 9/2023), the Project Implementation Unit publishes the following notice:

Contract Award Notice
Consulting Services – Individual Consultant
Program Evaluation Specialist for Support in the Evaluation of Project Proposals

The Government of Croatia and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) have signed the Loan Agreement (Loan No. 9558-HR) for the Digital Innovation and Green Technology Project (DIGIT) in the amount of EUR 106 million. The Project aims to fill gaps in institutional and other enabling conditions, as well as to support financing for research and innovation. The interventions will build the capacities of institutions to deliver on the digital and green research and innovation agenda, complement and enhance the effectiveness of EU-funded investments and finance digital and green research and innovation. Part of the funds of the Loan are allocated for Consulting Services for an individual Program Evaluation Specialist for Support in the Evaluation of Project Proposals.

Selection of Consultant was carried out as specified in the World Bank's 'Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers' dated November 2020 ('Procurement Regulations'), using the Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants method (paragraphs 7.34 to 7.37), under which a Request for Expressions of Interest was published on the website of the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth.

Under the Project, the Request for Expressions of Interest was published on 24 September 2026, with a deadline for the submission of Expressions of Interest of 7 October 2026. Three Expressions of Interest were received (on 25 and 28 September 2026). Following the evaluation of the qualifications and relevant experience, contract negotiations were held on 14 October 2026 with the Consultant evaluated as having the best qualifications and relevant experience.

Below is information on the Contract Award for the selection procedure in question:

Name and address of the Client
Ministry of Science, Education and Youth, Donje Svetice 38, Zagreb 10000, Croatia
Name and reference number of the contract being awarded, and the selection method used
Ref No: DIGIT-CS-IC-Q118 **Open Competitive Selection of Individual Consultants using Request for Expression of Interest (RfEoI)**

Names of all Consultants that submitted an Expression of Interest	
Consultant's Name	**City and country of the Consultant**
Siniša Opić	Zagreb, Croatia
Ivica Lukić	Osijek, Croatia
Mia Cahun Bronzan	Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Names of all Consultants whose Expression of Interest did not meet the qualification requirements, with the reasons therefor	
Ivica Lukić and Siniša Opić – the submitted documents do not demonstrate a minimum of 5 years of experience in evaluations of research and innovation programs, as required under the Terms of Reference. All three Expressions of Interest received were evaluated.	
Name of the successful Consultant, the final negotiated contract price, the contract duration, and a summary of its scope	
Name of the Successful Consultant:	**Mia Cahun Bronzan**
City and country of the Successful Consultant:	Frankfurt am Main, Germany
The Final negotiated Contract Price (ceiling, gross):	**30.000,00 €** **(200,00 € per working day, maximum of 150 working days)**
The Contract Duration:	12 months (26 October 2026 – 25 October 2027)
Summary of Contract's Scope:	Expert advisory, quality assurance and capacity building support to the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth in the evaluation of project proposals under published calls for proposals. The assignment comprises oversight of the evaluation process, coordination of the pool of evaluation experts, expert input into evaluation methodology, requirements and documentation, quality assurance advice, support to the digitalization of the evaluation process, and capacity building and advisory support to evaluation experts.

Project Contact details:

Ministry of Science, Education and Youth
Digital Innovation and Green Technology Project
Project Implementation Unit
Donje Svetice 38, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

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Webpage: https://digit.mzom.hr/