



## OPEN CALL

### for Expressing Interest to Join the Mentor and Expert Database of the Science and Technology Park Niš

Science and Technology Park Niš is establishing a centralized database of mentors, experts, evaluators and trainers who may be involved in the implementation of mentoring, advisory, educational, consulting, evaluation and project-related activities.

The call is continuously open, and applications are submitted electronically via an online form.

Science and Technology Park Niš (hereinafter: STP Niš) is launching an initiative to establish a centralized database of mentors and experts in the fields of business, technology, innovation and digital transformation, with the aim of establishing long-term cooperation in providing support services to STP Niš members, startups and technology companies, MSMEs, the public sector and research and development teams, as well as in the implementation of commercial, development, innovation and international projects.

The database of mentors and experts will be used as a platform for the identification, registration and engagement of relevant professionals in various initiatives implemented or supported by STP Niš, independently or in cooperation with domestic and international partners.

By completing the application form, candidates express their interest in being included in the STP Niš database of mentors and experts. Inclusion in the database does not imply automatic engagement, nor an obligation of engagement by STP Niš, but rather the possibility for the candidate to be contacted if a need arises for their profile, experience and area of expertise.

#### 1. Purpose of the Mentor and Expert Database

By establishing this database, STP Niš aims to create a high-quality and reliable network of experts that will enable:

- identification and networking of national and international experts;
- creation of a pool of experts for occasional, mentoring, and project-based engagement;
- improvement of the quality of support provided to STP Niš member companies, startups, MSMEs, the public sector, and research and development teams;
- faster matching of ecosystem needs with relevant knowledge, experience, and expertise.



The mentor and expert database will be used for the implementation of:

- mentoring and advisory activities;
- expert and consulting services;
- evaluation of projects, programs and business ideas;
- trainings, workshops and pilot projects;
- national and international projects and partnerships.

## 2. Who are we Looking for?

The call is intended for experienced professionals, mentors, consultants, representatives of the academic community, entrepreneurs and experts from Serbia and abroad who, through their knowledge and experience, can contribute to the development of innovation, technology entrepreneurship and company competitiveness.

Candidates may apply for one or more areas of expertise and for one or more roles, in accordance with their professional profile, experience and availability.

## 3. Types of potential roles

Role	Description of potential engagement
<b>Mentors</b>	Work with startups, teams, MSMEs and technology companies through individual mentoring sessions, support programs and development activities.
<b>Experts and consultants</b>	Specialized support in specific areas such as technology, digital transformation, AI, cyber-security, business development, legal, IP, finance, internationalization, ESG and others.
<b>Evaluators</b>	Assessment of applications, projects, business ideas, innovation potential, technological maturity, market readiness and the quality of proposed solutions.
<b>Lecturers and trainers</b>	Delivery of workshops, training sessions, bootcamps, thematic sessions, masterclass formats and other educational activities.



#### 4. Areas of Expertise

Candidates may apply in one or more areas of expertise:

##### **Business, Startup and Innovation Development**

- Startup acceleration / pre-acceleration
- Business model development & validation
- Customer discovery & market research
- Product strategy & product-market fit
- Go-to-market, marketing
- Sales & business development
- Fundraising & investment readiness
- Growth & scaling strategies
- Internationalization & export readiness
- Innovation management & open innovation
- Technology commercialization & pilot projects
- Financial planning, budgeting & financial modelling
- Legal, IP & compliance
- ESG & sustainable business
- Team & organizational development

##### **Technological Expertise**

The fields of expertise include standard EU R&D areas according to the FORD classification, including natural sciences, engineering and technology, medical and health sciences, agricultural sciences, social sciences and humanities.

The following domains are particularly relevant:

##### **A. Natural Sciences**

- Physics / Materials Science
- Chemistry & Chemical Engineering
- Environmental Science / Climate Technologies
- Life Sciences / Biotechnology



## B. Engineering & Technology

- Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (AI/ML)
- Data Science & Big Data Analytics
- Cybersecurity & Trusted Systems
- Cloud / Edge Computing / High-Performance Computing
- Robotics & Automation
- Internet of Things (IoT) / Embedded Systems
- Industry 4.0 / Smart Manufacturing
- Digital Twins & Simulation
- Photonics / Optical Systems
- Advanced Materials & Nanotechnology

## C. Medical & Health Sciences

- Digital Health / eHealth
- Biomedicine / Bioinformatics / Genomics

## D. Agricultural Sciences

- AgriTech / Precision Agriculture
- FoodTech / Biotech in agriculture

## E. Social Sciences

- GovTech / E-governance
- Socio-economic research for innovation
- Policy & regulatory impact analysis

## F. Humanities

- Digital culture & heritage
- Ethical, legal & societal aspects of technology (Responsible R&I, Ethics in AI)

## 5. Benefits for Experts

By being included in the STP Niš database of mentors and experts, candidates gain the opportunity to:

- actively contribute to the development of the innovation and technology ecosystem;
- cooperate with startups, technology companies, MSMEs, institutions and research and development teams;
- be involved in national and international projects;
- enhance their professional visibility through STP Niš activities and partner networks;



- establish long-term, flexible and market-based cooperation.

## 6. Cooperation Model

Inclusion in the STP Niš mentor and expert database does not constitute an obligation of engagement, does not imply automatic engagement, and does not establish an employment relationship with STP Niš

Experts will be hired as needed, in accordance with:

- the needs of STP Niš members, projects and activities;
- the expert's professional profile;
- the nature of the specific engagement;
- the available financial framework;
- defined terms of cooperation.

Possible cooperation models include:

- ad-hoc expert engagement;
- project-based engagement;
- mentoring engagement;
- framework / call-off contracts.

All potential engagements will be implemented under clearly defined terms and in compliance with applicable conflict-of-interest rules.

## 7. Review of Applications and Criteria

STP Niš reserves the right to review the submitted applications in accordance with its internal criteria related to quality, relevance of experience and the needs of the innovation ecosystem.

When reviewing applications, the following may be taken into particular consideration:

- relevant professional experience and proven results in the candidate's area of expertise;
- experience in working with startups, MSMEs, technology companies or research and development teams;
- experience in mentoring, consulting, evaluation, training, projects or innovation commercialization;
- understanding of the needs of the innovation ecosystem;



- availability for occasional, flexible, online, hybrid or project-based engagements;
- alignment of the candidate's profile with the strategic priorities, programs and ongoing activities of STP Niš.

Inclusion in the database does not create any right to engagement. STP Niš reserves the right not to contact all applicants and to engage experts solely in accordance with the needs of its members, programs and projects, strategic priorities and available financial resources.

## 8. How to Apply

Interested candidates should submit their application electronically by completing the online expression of interest form. The form is available [here](#).

The form requires candidates to provide basic information about their professional profile, relevant experience and areas of expertise.

The call is open constantly, and submitted applications will be reviewed successively, in accordance with the needs of STP Niš and ongoing activities.

For additional information, please contact us at: [info@ntp.rs](mailto:info@ntp.rs)

## 9. Note on data processing

Data submitted through the application form will be used exclusively for the purpose of recording, reviewing and potentially engaging candidates within the STP Niš mentor and expert database. STP Niš will process the submitted data in accordance with regulations governing personal data protection.

*Candidates confirm by submitting their application that they are aware of the purpose of data processing and that they are providing their data for the purpose of assessing their potential inclusion in the STP Niš database of mentors and experts.*

## 10. Final Notes

This public call is a call for expressions of interest and does not create any obligation for STP Niš to enter into an agreement, engage a candidate, or provide any form of cooperation.

Any individual cooperation, should it take place, will be subject to a separate agreement, contract or other appropriate legal basis, in accordance with applicable regulations, internal procedures, and the rules of the specific program or project.