

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

ALBANIA

Project: Western Balkans Trade and Transport Facilitation Project Using the Multiphase Programmatic Approach

Loan No.: IBRD-89330-AL

Assignment Title: “Environment, Social and Citizen Engagement Specialist”

Reference No.: WBTTF-ALB-411D-1

The Government of Albania (GoA) has received financing from the World Bank for the Western Balkans Trade and Transport Facilitation project (WBTTFP). The project is part of the first phase of the joint Program for the Western Balkans countries, which intends to facilitate the achievement of their governments’ goal of reducing trade costs and increasing transport efficiency through a longer-term, adaptive, and continuous engagement. Phase 1 includes Albania, North Macedonia, and Serbia. Phase 2 includes Montenegro, and future phases may include Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo,

The project follows an integrated approach including three connected dimensions, to help reduce trade costs and increase transport efficiency in the Western Balkans. These include measures aimed at: (i) Facilitating cross- border movement of goods, (ii) enhancing transport efficiency and predictability; and (iii) enhancing market access for trade in services and investments.

The main objective is to plan, implement, monitor and control all Project’s environmental and social activities by components, in close cooperation with the PIU’s staff and other stakeholder agencies as described in the POM.

The Consultant will support the MEKI in preparation of environmental and social due diligence documentation for the overall Project, as per Project’s ESMF. This basic document facilitates screening, assessment, and management of environmental and social issues for activities / subprojects during Project implementation, while considering and ensuring compliance with the national regulation and relevant ESF Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) for this Project. These include:

- ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts.
- ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions.
- ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management.
- ESS4 Community Health.
- ESS5 Involuntary Resettlement.
- ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure.

This assignment is expected to commence in September 2024, and is expected to terminate upon in December 2025, and renewable subject to satisfactory performance.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment are attached to this request for expressions of interest or can be found at the following website <https://financa.gov.al/>.

The Ministry of Finance now invites eligible Individual Consultants (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The consultant should have:

- Graduate/Advanced Degree Masters’ Degree) in Environmental Sciences, Social, Natural Resources Management, related discipline.
- Minimum of 5 years of relevant professional experience, including applied experience in Environmental & Social risk management in investment projects (international and local).
- Experience in at least 2 international funded projects related to grants for research and/or commercial activities would be an advantage.
- Experience in at least 2 internationally funded projects in the field of environmental and/or social protection.
- Knowledge of international good practice for management of E&S risks, including World Bank ESF/Safeguard’s policies and International Finance Corporation (IFC) Sustainability Framework and supporting documents such as Guidance Notes.
- Previous experience with World Bank-funded projects as an environmental and social reviewer and an understanding of their requirements would be an advantage.
- No obstacles for traveling within Albania for various field trips.
- Good analytical skills, ability to think strategically, analyze and synthesize diverse qualitative and quantitative environmentally/socially related data and information.
- Excellent spoken and written Albanian and English.
- Computer skills, including word processing and spreadsheets.

The criteria to be used for selecting the successful Consultant will be the following:

- (i) General Qualifications (30 points);
- (ii) Adequacy for the assignment (60 points);
- (iii) Knowledge of required languages & other skills (10 points).

The service will be selected under the provisions of the “World Bank Procurement Regulations for Borrowers under Investment Project Financing” dated July 1, 2016, revised on November 2017 and August 2018, based on the method of Selection of Individual Consultants (IC) on Time - Based Assignment.

Expressions of interest (CV, Cover letter and documentary evidence for fulfilling the qualifications) must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person, by mail or electronically by e-mail within 10th of September 2024.

Mrs. Veronika KORKAJ, General Director
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