



Terms of References

For the position of

Water management expert

Project name:	River Basin Management and transparency
Location:	R. Albania
Description of the agreement:	Legal and institutional support for CSOs and civil society networks in Albania
Period of duration of agreement/services:	72 effective days in the period of September 2018-September 2020
Application Deadline:	August 17, 2018

Background:

In April 2018, Milieukontakt Macedonia (MKM) in partnership with the Institute for research in Environment and civil engineering and energy (IECE) Macedonia and the Institute of collaboration for integration and development (ICID) Albania, started the project, entitled "River Basin management and transparency". The total duration of the project is 30 months, starting from April 2018, and ending in October 2020. Overall objective of the project is to strengthen CSOs capacities for involvement in the process of development of River Basin Management plans in Albania, thus contribute toward wider public support of RBM Plans.

As it is widely recognized, public engagement must play one of the most important roles in the process of public involvement in the development and implementation of River Basins Management Plans (RBMP). This is also clearly described in the Water Framework Directive (WFD) which is obligatory for Albania and which states that "the success of the WFD relies on close co-operation and coherent action at Community, Member State and local level as well as on information, consultation and involvement of the public". Fact is that Albanian development success depends not only on a private sector and an efficient public sector, but also on a vigorous civic society sector. The link between government and civil society is nowadays crucial for the Albanian development. However, CSOs often lack capacity in some areas of expertise, which means that they are not able to fulfill their expected and desired roles, such as facilitation, information-provision, awareness creation, lobbying and advocacy. CSOs in Albania that are mainly focused on environment, especially water issues need to expand their expertise to water resources management (WRM) with the accent on RBM plans development and implementation.

The participatory approach must secure that different interest groups such as: business community, local or national institutions, media etc. will benefit from the action. The action is mostly directed toward relevant civil society organizations that will show that they are able to demonstrate how the proposed action is compatible with their long-term plans and to demonstrate advocacy skills in development and improvement of public participation, decision making and consultation in designated region or district, either by introducing or re-



enforcing principles of Public Participation to the public. They will also have to set an example by applying a set of accountability and monitoring tools to their current work and practices. The project is designed to ensure identification of all interest parties, recognize their needs, and direct the action toward meeting those needs.

Specific objectives of the Project:

- a) to strengthen CSO's capacities to increase their influence in the working process and outcomes of RBM plans in all stages of their development and implementation;
- b) to strengthen CSOs capacities for involvement in characterization of the River Basin Districts in Albania for data collection, information and experiences sharing, identification of conflicts and establishing common understanding as well as for active involvement in development of the Programme of Measures;
- c) to support CSO's advocacy work for improving public participation, information exchange, consultation, decision-making, creation of awareness and promotion of environmental issues related to development, update and implementation of RBM plans, and
- d) to raise public awareness related to the key environmental issues and problems that affect the aquatic environment and the promote new ways to address them.

Scope of work

The position is to provide a common understanding in regard to the planning process, to provide guidelines by explaining the requirements in regards to the implementation steps and stages of river basin management planning and by analyzing the possibilities the Directive offers. The contractor/expert shall:

1. Familiarize him/herself with the relevant information related to the project activities;
2. Collect data and cooperate with other involved experts in the explanation of legal and institutional framework in water sector and links it to relevant sectors, national authorities for EWFD implementation;
3. Develop a Report on the waterbodies in Albania, including information on:
 - 3.1. Classification of the Albanian waterbodies;
 - 3.2. Clear geographical sorting of the waterbodies in accordance to the watersheds they belong to;
 - 3.3. Usage of the waterbodies in Albania for economic and other activities;
 - 3.4. Provide a review of pressures and impacts being foundation of RBMP;
4. Develop a Manual (and Assessment Report) on how to determine which water bodies are likely to be at risk of not reaching good ecological status due to experienced pressures, given the due date in accordance to the EWFD;
5. Based on the developed Report on Albanian waterbodies and the Manuel to develop a list of activities and precautions to be undertaken before and during an implementation of a RBMT, including ecological and biological aspects.
 - 4.1. Collect previously obtained data regarding the ecological status of certain water bodies in Albania, for which there have been conducted investigations based on the practices described in the EWFD and synthesise them.



- 4.2. Provide overview of the methodologies used in the past in the determination of the ecological status in different waterbodies in Albania, including lentic and lotic ecosystems.
- 4.3. Suggest better and quicker implementation and methodologies which should be accepted and applied during the RMP preparations, based on the premises of the EWFD.
6. Contribute to the preparation of the SWOT analyses;
7. Contribute to the development of the Consultation Toolbox and Consultation Framework;
8. In cooperation with other experts engaged on the project to develop draft agenda for on-site trainings and summer school activities;
9. In cooperation with other experts engaged on the project to develop training curricula for onsite trainings and summer school participants. Curricula to contain subjects related to water quality analyses; and
10. Contractor/expert to participate in project events when requested.

Deliverables:

The contractor/expert will deliver the following:

1. Report on the Albanian waterbodies;
2. Manual on how to determine which water bodies are likely to be at risk of not reaching good ecological status due to experienced pressures based on the requirements of the WFD;
3. List of precautions and activities to be undertaken during and before the implementation of the RBMTs in Albania, including information on the already obtained results, methodologies used and suggestions for quicker and better implementation of certain methodologies in the process of monitoring throughout this process;
4. Agenda for summer school and onsite trainings, and
5. Training curricula for summer school training programme and on-site trainings.

6. Required Qualifications and Experience:

General professional experience

- Minimum 5 years of working experience in the field of water quality and aquatic ecosystems analyses

Specific professional experience

- Experience in implementation of at least 2 projects with duration of at least 6 months related with water quality or another relevant field;
- Experience in training/on-the job support/workshops and consultation process.

Civil servants and other staff currently employed by public administrations of the beneficiary country are not eligible to apply as experts.

Experts must be independent and free from conflicts of interest in the responsibilities defined by the Terms of Reference.



Qualifications

- University degree in Biology, water management, Ecology or another relevant field;
- Fluency in written and spoken English;
- Knowledge of Albanian language is an asset

Competencies

- Is up to date of new developments and concepts in the Water management legislation and EU water framework directives;
- Extensive experience in the field of water quality and aquatic systems analyses;
- Good ICT skills;
- Works with communities and a positive, constructive attitude;
- Demonstrates good oral and written communication skills, and
- Results orientation

Project language:

Working language of the project is English

Time frame

The consultant shall be scheduled to work from September 2018 until September 2020, for up to 72 days. The working time will be documented in the respective time sheet (see Annex 1.).

Payments

The daily fee is 95 EUR including personal income tax.

How to apply?

Send an e-mail with your CV, Reference list, letter of interest along with the financial offer for the engagement to the e-mail address: info@mkm.mk using the subject line: Senior institutional Expert. Deadline for submissions of documents is August 17, 2018 (Friday), 17.00 a.m. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: info@mkm.mk
Only the e-mails sent during three (3) days upon the announcement of the vacancy will be replied to.