



MONTENEGRO
Ministry of Education

Consulting Services: **Individual Consultant**
Loan No. **8118-0 ME**
Reference No. **MNE-HERIC-81180-IC-CS-15-2.2.2.2.2**

Request for Expressions of Interest
for
External Evaluator of proposals for the National Excellence Scholarship
Programme for Master studies (3 positions)

This request for expressions of interest follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in *Development Business* on May 03, 2012.

Montenegro has received a loan in the amount of 12.00 million EUR (equivalent to US\$ 15.98 million) from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for the “Higher Education and Research for Innovation and Competitiveness” (HERIC) project.

Ministry of Education intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan towards payment for External Evaluator of proposals for the National Excellence Scholarship Programme for Master studies (3 positions).

The purpose of the National Excellence Scholarship Programme is to build research capacities by awarding scholarships for Masters, PhD and postdoctoral studies at recognized higher education institutions abroad. For this scholarship programme Montenegro allocates a significant amount of funds, in total amount of 1,26 M € (0,63 M€ for Masters scholarships and 0,63 M€ for PhD and Postdoc scholarships). The Ministry of Education has been implementing the Masters Studies Scholarship Programme, and the Ministry of Science PhD and Postdoc Studies Scholarship Programme.

It is envisioned that the selected external evaluator will perform the following activities:

- Review the Masters Scholarship Applications, in accordance with the Programme Management Handbook description and preparation of individual evaluation reports;
- In addition to the individual evaluation reports, jointly with other Panel members, to prepare a final evaluation report for each candidate (summary of individual evaluations), with joint comments and final scoring, which will be submitted by the Ministry to the each candidate as feedback information; and
- Reaching a consensus on the final ranking of the candidates and make recommendations to the Ministry of Education for the selection of the proposals for financing.

It is expected that the selected advisor will take up his/her work by middle July 2015. The work will be completed by middle September 2015.

Ministry of Education, through the HERIC PMT and Technical Service Unit, now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (CV, brochures, description

of similar assignments performed, experience in similar conditions, etc.). Individual consultants may be offered through firms or other organizations, but the qualifications of the individual consultant will be the basis of selection.

Qualification criteria are:

- At least 5 years of the work experience;
- Master or PhD degree will be an advantage;
- Proven extensive experience in international peer review, especially on the EC scholarship and fellowship programmes;
- Capability to evaluate proposals across a wide range of disciplines; and
- Fluency in English and Montenegrin/Serbian/Bosnian/or Croatian.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below from 9-15 hours local time.

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*](#) (edition January 2011) ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Individual Consultant (IC) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **June 26, 2015, 15,00h** local time.

EoI should be submitted Via E-mail and must clearly indicate project name, subject number and sender details.

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Technical Service Unit
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