

Senior Water Resources Management Specialist

Terms of References

Project Title:	<i>Integrated Water Resources Management in Kosovo (IWRM-K)</i>
Post Title:	Senior Water Resources Management Specialist (short-term national expert)
Duty Station:	Program Facilitation Unit based in Pristina
Duration of initial contract:	Up to 40 days until April 2020 (possibility for extension)

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT:

The recently launched *Integrated Water Resources Management in Kosovo (IWRM-K) Program*, funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) stands in its inception phase lasting until April 2020, point in time when the 4-years long implementation phase is planned to start. The Program is implemented by the consortium of Skat Consulting Ltd. (Switzerland) and the Environment Agency Austria, in partnership with other international and national experts providing complementary expertise required for the conceptualization and implementation of the IWRM-K.

The Program undertakes a wide range of national and local level interventions, including: **a)** support to developing institutional capacity of the key water sector stakeholders; **b)** preparation of planning and technical base that informs water resource management; **c)** support to knowledge and skills development of water professionals; and **d)** grants scheme to support priority measures aiming at improving water resources management in river basins. The IWRM-K is implemented in close cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders at national, regional (river basin) and local levels, including the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) with its main constituent agencies (Hydro-meteorological Institute, Environmental Protection Agency, and River Basin District Authority), other ministries, water companies, municipalities, educational institutions, and CSOs/NGOs.

To be able to reach the full-size implementation phase, during the course of the ongoing inception phase, the Program will focus on the following key aspects: **a)** carrying out capacity development needs assessment in the water sector; **b)** formulating the Program Document that will guide future SDC funding; and **c)** mobilizing stakeholders for the upcoming implementation phase.

As part of the inception phase, the Program is currently in a process of assessment of some of the key components of the Kosovo's overall water resources management system, including: **a)** water resources management planning; **b)** monitoring of surface and groundwater resources (quantity and quality); and **c)** water information system and data management. These assessments are based on a comprehensive review of extensive available technical documentation, as well as communication with the key national counterparts within the MESP. This work led by the Environment Agency Austria (EAA) that is expected to result in inputs that will help prioritize Program interventions (to be included in the respective Program Document), as well as define the scope of the main working packages to be launched in the course of the Program's implementation phase.

To ensure proper implementation of the Program activities relating to the key water management related areas defined above, Skat Consulting Ltd. now wishes to hire a short-term national **Senior Water Resources Management Specialist** with previous relevant experience from similar assignments in the context of Kosovo. Her/his main responsibility will be to provide expert support to the relevant experts coming from EAA, as well as the Program team based in Pristina in carrying out the specified assessments, identifying priorities and formulating actions to be considered as part of the Program's implementation stage.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direct supervision of the Program Team Leader, and the programmatic guidance provided by the Environment Agency Austria, the *Senior Water Resources Management Expert* will be responsible for carrying out the following key tasks:

1. Get acquainted with the Program concept, objectives and priorities particularly in relation to water resources management planning and institutions, water monitoring and water information system and data management;
2. Support the efforts for identifying and collecting relevant available technical documentation and data from previous projects/activities in the water sector in Kosovo;
3. Take lead role in the review of collected documentation and data to identify parts relevant to the Program and guide the extensive EAA team (comprising over 15 experts with complementary diverse qualifications) to carry out in-depth assessment of relevant parts;
4. Conduct interviews targeting key beneficiary institutions and Program partners as guided by EAA, and/or provide support to EAA experts during their missions in the country (e.g., in meetings, workshops);
5. Contribute to conceptualization of the relevant Program interventions (to be reflected in the Program Document);
6. Contribute to preparation of reports from the assessments carried out by EAA;
7. Support the assessments of relevant stakeholders in relation to current and required (future) capacity for introduction of a country-wide and river basin-scale IWRM;
8. Take part in relevant workshops/working meetings carried out as part of the Program's inception phase.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

The *Senior Water Resources Management Specialist* will be responsible for producing the following types of outputs (deliverables):

- Brief reports from different assessments as requested by the Program management and EAA;
- Inputs to report/concept paper on proposed activities derived from the assessments (to be included in the Program Document);
- Meeting minutes from interviews with relevant stakeholders.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum university degree (e.g., environment, water resources, engineering, economics or related);
- At least 10 years of experience as a professional/consultant on issues related to water resources management, environment;
- At least 3 years of relevant experience from projects dealing with integrated water resources management or different aspects of water resources management (e.g., monitoring, data management, river basin/water resources management planning, water economics, hydrological analyses, EU Water Framework Directive)
- Proficiency in spoken and written Albanian and English; knowledge of Serbian is an advantage;
- A proactive, energetic, and highly motivated personality.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- *Language/Reporting*

All deliverables/outputs need to be prepared in English and/or Albanian as needed.

- *Timeline and duration of the assignment*

Maximum available time for development of the task is 40 days until the end of the inception phase (April 2020). NOTE: it is important that selected expert is able to start with the assignment immediately considering the urgency of her/his input.

- *Payment schedule*

The payment for the services will be carried out in instalments linked to submission and approval of the deliverables indicated above and the number of expert-days used for each assigned task / produced deliverable.

- *Travel requirements*

The expert is expected to carry out the majority of duties in the Pristina-based Program Facilitation Unit. S/he will be expected to attend Program events (mostly in Pristina) and meet multiple stakeholders for interviews majority of which will also be based in Pristina. All work-related travel has to be included in expert's fee regardless of whether the expert will come from Pristina or another part of Kosovo.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Interested candidates need to submit their application to kosovo@skat.ch by **6 August 2019**. The application needs to comprise the following documents/information:

1. *Cover letter* (summarizing qualifications and relevance for the position based on previous experience, as well as earliest possible availability to start with the assignment);
2. *Most updated professional CV*;
3. *Contacts of at least three persons* for reference checking purposes.
4. *Financial proposal*. The financial proposal must be expressed in the form of an all-inclusive daily fee in EUR (this includes daily expert fee, cost of any work-related travel, communication, any other expenses related to this assignment as well as all taxes).