

Request for Expression of Interest

Country: Kosovo

Project ID: P164555

World Bank Credit Name: Real Estate Cadaster & Geospatial Infrastructure Project

Contract Identification No.: XK-KCA-102906-CS-INDV

Developing NSDI Strategy in the Republic of Kosovo (Contract Ref. number XK-KCA-102906-CS-INDV)

Background information

The Government of Kosovo (GoK) has received a Credit from the World Bank Group's International Development Association (IDA) in the amount of EUR 14.60 million to finance the Real Estate Cadaster & Geospatial Infrastructure Project (REGIP), which is expected to be implemented within a five-year period. REGIP aims to assist the GoK to increase the transparency and quality of land administration and geospatial data and services. The Kosovo Cadastral Agency (KCA) is the implementing agency for REGIP, under which a Project Implementation Units (PIU) has been established. The PIU will be responsible for day-to-day project implementation and for providing specific technical oversight to project activities. The PIU is responsible for all fiduciary aspects, such as procurement, financial management, monitoring and evaluation, and safeguards under REGIP.

The Components of the project are Component A - Policy, Legal and Institutional Support; Component B - Cadastre Modernization; Component C - ICT and Geospatial Infrastructure and Component D - Project Management, Capacity Building, Public Outreach, and Monitoring & Evaluation.

Component C (ICT and Geospatial Infrastructure) has the objective of supporting the implementation of the Information Technology Strategy of the KCA and the strategy of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) in the Republic of Kosovo. These strategies were drafted within the earlier Real Estate Cadastre and Registration Project (RECAP). Both strategy papers show the vision for: (a) further simplification of business processes, (b) increased data standardization and access to data that would improve the efficiency of staff and offices, (c) increased transparency and accountability; (d) equal access to information; (e) increase the use of geospatial data and services for the development of new products and services; and (f) minimize opportunities for corrupt practices.

Both strategies will also provide gender statistics and disaggregated data for evidence-based decision-making and support the resource governance monitoring process towards achieving the 2030 agenda. This will provide new opportunities for the Government, Municipalities, Non-Governmental Organizations, the Academia and the Private Sector to develop innovative new services and products.

For the KCA IT strategy, Component C will invest in the further development of the Kosovo Cadastral Land Information System with a Service Oriented Architecture (KCLIS-SOA) to support the simplification of business processes, implementation of legal changes and institutional reform during the project period, development of electronic services, greater interoperability with other government systems and registers through *e-Gateway*, technical assistance for quality assurance, quality control and cyber security improvement, hardware supply and technical training. The component will also support the updating of the Information Technology Strategy to cover the next five (5) years and the development and implementation of an archive and document management strategy and an action plan. The component will develop a standard for digital archiving, data digitization as well as the development of e-services from the central digital archive.

The NSDI strategy prepared under RECAP was completed in 2015 but not implemented at that time. Under Component C, investments will be made in technical assistance to update and then support the implementation of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure Strategy, which will improve the availability and quality of services in the country and ensure that agencies and the private sector have a way to share information, work together and build new products and services.

The component aims to increase the capacity of KCA to manage IT systems and further implementation of NSDI over next five (5) years and create a new sustainable business model for further development and maintenance of IT systems.

Objectives and main research questions

The purpose of this assignment is to develop the NSDI strategy, for the period 2023-2028 and also train KCA staff members to become specialists of SDI. An individual consultant will be appointed to carry out this task.

The consultant and the (to be trained) KCA staff member(s) will work closely with the key stakeholders within the NSDI community to define the strategic direction, rationale, governance structure, outreach, capacity building, and implementation roadmap for the Kosovo NSDI. In addition, the consultant will work with KCA management staff, international and local advisors to meet the set objectives. The NSDI strategy drafted for the period 2015-2020 could not be implemented because the law on NSDI was not approved by the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo, which is already entered into force. For the most effective implementation of this law it is necessary to develop the new Strategy for NSDI for the next 5 years 2023-2028.

The objectives of the NSDI Strategy are to transform the way spatial data is shared within Kosovo so it may underpin national social and economic development to the benefit of all. An incremental and sustainable implementation path is needed so stakeholders move from the current state of disparate GIS systems to an integrated and harmonized infrastructure for sharing spatial data.

The scope of work for develop the NSDI Strategy in the Republic of Kosovo are indicated under the Terms of Reference (TOR) for this assignment. The TOR can be found at KCA website link: <http://www.kca-ks.org/vend-pune>

Required experience and qualifications

- a) The consultant should have a minimum Master's degree in Computer Science, Information Systems, Geomatics, Geography, Spatial Planning or a related field
- b) The consultant must have international experience (more than two countries) in working as a NSDI expert, particularly in the domains of developing NSDI Strategies, NSDI Training, and NSDI Roadmap definition with at least 10 years of experiences in NSDI-related projects.
- c) The consultant should provide evidence of a proven track record in providing strategic advice for NSDIs with supporting evidence of developing successful NSDI strategies (for evidence, the consultant must provide reference / contact details for at least two such projects)
- d) The consultant should demonstrate familiarity with EEU INSPIRE Directive together with specific evidence of how this knowledge has been applied to the development of NSDI strategies (evidence may be demonstrated by involvement in relevant projects / research programmes, specific NSDI initiatives, etc.).
- e) Proven experience in the applying EU INSPIRE directive in the context of NSDI technical architecture and the legal aspects affecting data exchange, intellectual property protection and copyright.
- f) Finally, the consultant shall be fluent in English while knowledge of Albanian language would be an asset.

Time-schedule and level of effort

The project is envisaged to require sixty (60) man-days of effort to be completed within an elapsed period of six (6) months. Within these 60 man-days includes twenty (20) man-day as field work. It is the intention to start the project in October 2022 and to finalize it in March 2023.

The consultant will work under the direct supervision of the KCA/PIU, while the draft of the updated and supplemented of the NSDI Strategy in the Republic of Kosovo will be commented by World Bank.

Selection process:

Experienced and qualified individuals will be selected according to the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers' (the Regulations), issued in July 2016, and

revised November 2017 and August 2018, based on an open call for Individual Consultants (IC) Selection.

Evaluation Criteria:

The consultant will be selected based on:

- General Qualifications (20%)
- Relevant work experience in the domains of NSDI Strategy development (40%)
- Relevant work experience in the application of the EU INSPIRE Directive (25%)
- Training experience in the domain of NSDI (15%)

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours: 08:00 - 16:00 hrs (Monday to Friday)

Expression of interest may be submitted to the below stated address until **31 August, 2022 time 14:00 hrs (local time)**.

Kosovo Cadastral Agency

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