**SERVICE PRIOR INFORMATION NOTICE**

 **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAPACITY SUPPORT TO THE TRANSPORT SECTOR AND EU AQUIS ALIGNMENT IN MONTENEGRO**

**1. Publication reference**

EuropeAid/140039/IH/SER/ME

**2. Procedure**

Restricted

**3. Programme title**

Country Action Programme for Montenegro (2017) – Support to the Transport Sector in Montenegro

**4. Financing**

Financing Agreement concerning the Country Action Programme for Montenegro (2017) under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance IPA II (2014-2020)

**5. Contracting Authority**

Directorate of Public Works, Novaka Miloševa 18, 81000 Podgorica, Montenegro

**6. Nature of contract**

Fee-based

**7. Contract description**

The overall objective of the project of which this services will be a part, are as follows:

To contribute to achieve progress in the EU Integration process of the Montenegrin government within the transport sector by:

i) Ensuring alignment of the national legislation with the EU transport acquis and

ii) Increasing the capacities for its implementation, as well as to improving rail, maritime and inland waterways transport.

The purposes of this contract are as follows:

i) Building the necessary transport sector capacities to improve the regulatory framework and aquis communautaire related activities in order to foster preparations for EU membership within the current accession negotiation process and

ii) Supporting the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the transport sector entities namely the MOTMA and its related bodies for effective management of IPA II funds in programming, design, monitoring , implementation and evaluation tasks.

The Consultant will provide policy and legal advice, and, on specific matters, capacity building support. The project is meant to support the institutions with high quality expertise, advice, coaching, mentoring and training in order to allow the transport institutions from Montenegro to perform their tasks in a more effective and sustainable way. Support to the full alignment with the EU acquis in view of the closing benchmarks is to be achieved.

**8. Indicative budget**

**EUR 3,66 million**

**9. Intended timing of publication of the contract notice**

15 February 2019

**10. Additional information**

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**11. Legal basis[[1]](#footnote-1)**

* Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11th March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II)
* Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action;
* Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 447/2014 of 2nd May 2014 on the specific rules for implementing Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11th March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II).

Please be aware that after the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU, the rules of access to EU procurement procedures of economic operators established in third countries will apply to candidates or tenderers from the United Kingdom depending on the outcome of negotiations. In case such access is not provided by legal provisions in force at the time of contract award, candidates or tenderers from the United Kingdom could be rejected from the procurement procedure.

**Remarks:**

There must be a minimum period of 30 calendar days between the publication of this prior information notice and the publication of the corresponding contract notice.

No applications or requests for information should be sent at this stage.

1. Please state any specificity that might have an impact on rules on participation (such as geographic or thematic or long/short term). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)