



**Ministry of Spatial Planning and
Environment of Montenegro**



**Ministry of Environment,
Forestry and Water Administration
of Republic of Albania**

**LAKE SKADAR-SHKODER INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROJECT
(LSIEMP)**

Request for Expression of Interest

**Development of Skadar-Shkoder Lake Management Strategy and National
Fishery Management Plans**

I. Background

The Government of Montenegro and Government of Albania have received a GEF Grant, administered by the World Bank, focusing on Strengthening Joint Cooperation for Management of the Lake Skadar-Shkoder Ecosystem. The project complies with the strategy for bilateral cooperation on Skadar-Shkoder Lake defined in the Agreement for the protection and sustainable development of the Skadar-Shkoder Lake, signed by the former Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MTE) of Montenegro (present Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment - MSPE), and by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Water Administration (MEFWA) of the Republic of Albania.

According to the Agreement the two Governments shall work to assure equal and integrated protection for the Skadar-Shkoder Lake, and sustainable development according to the norms and standards of the European Union. The Project Development Objective is to help establish and strengthen institutional mechanisms for transboundary cooperation through joint efforts to improve sustainable management of Skadar-Shkoder Lake. The Global Development Objective is to maintain and enhance the long-term value and environmental services of Skadar-Shkoder Lake and its natural resources.

The Project has three components: Component 1: Capacity Building for Improved Understanding and Joint Management of Lake Skadar-Shkoder, Component 2: Promoting Sustainable Use of Lake Skadar-Shkoder and Component 3: Catalyzing Pollution Reduction Investments.

The Skadar-Shkoder Lake, the largest lake on the Balkan Peninsula in terms of water surface, is on the border between Montenegro and Republic of Albania in the Southern part of the Dinaric Alps. Its drainage area is about 5,500 km² (4,470 km² in Montenegro and 1,030 km² in Albania), and it drains to the southeast through the Buna/Bojana River to the Adriatic. Taking into account natural, biological, landscape and cultural values, the Montenegrin part of the Lake was proclaimed as National Park (IUCN Category II equivalent) in 1983. The National Park (NP) area is administrated by a management unit, incorporating both protection and development roles and responsibilities. Also, since the NP area is rich with unique birds' population (more then 270 bird species, including many migratory and endangered species), the wetland area of the Park was proclaimed as Ramsar site in 1995 (in accordance with Convention of Wetlands,

especially important as migratory birds habitats). In Republic of Albania, the Lake did not have protection regime until 2005 when Shkodra Lake Natural Managed Reserve was established (IUCN Category IV). In 2006, during the occasion of International Wetland Day (2nd February), the territory of Natural Managed Reserve was designated as Ramsar site.

II. Objectives of the assignment

The objective of this assignment is to prepare five-year Skadar-Shkoder Lake Management Strategy, including all relevant aspects for coordinating and sustainable management of the Lake at bi-national level. The Joint Lake Strategy will provide platform for decision making processes, both at level of states of Montenegro and Republic of Albania and inter-states level. It will define joint priorities for protection measures elaboration and implementation, including preservation of the Lake wide important habitats and species, enhancement of joint developing goals with the purpose of sustainable development in main economic sectors (e.g. tourism), preliminarily zoning concept at transboundary level and inter-state Lake management structures improvement (Skadar-Shkoder Lake Commission and Joint Working Groups).

Integral part of the Strategy will focus on most important and challenging socio-economic sector of the Lake – fishery - through development of National Fishery Management Plans (NFMPs) for both Montenegro and Republic of Albania. The NFMPs should share same goal statement and purpose to the extent possible. The NFMP documents will elaborate present state and future perspectives in the fishery sector at national level, with clearly defined Monitoring and Evaluation indicators for implementation of the plan.

III. Qualification of the Consultant:

- Firm with professional capacities and experience in the field of preparation/implementation of management plans for natural ecosystems/protected areas with special attention to the integration and synergies among national, local and community planning systems,
- Experience in sustainable and community-based usage of natural resources (especially exploitation of fish populations and sustainable fishery),
- At least 5 years experience in water management, preferably lake and watershed management, working with local government, lakeside community, NGOs and private sector,
- Knowledge of World Bank and national environmental and access restriction laws and international conventions, as well as relevant EU legislation (e.g. Water Framework Directive),
- Knowledge of Montenegrin and Albanian language and previous regional experience would be assets.

Technical Services Unit (TSU) for World Bank Projects under Ministry of Finance of Montenegro now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Evaluation criteria will be as follows:

- Experience in the field of preparation/implementation of management plans for natural ecosystems/protected areas with special attention to the integration and synergies among national, local and community planning systems

40 points

- Experience in sustainable and community-based usage of natural resources (especially exploitation of fish populations and sustainable fishery) 30 points
- At least 5 years experience in water management, preferably lake and watershed management, working with local government, lakeside community, NGOs and private sector 30 points.

The assignment is expected to be completed in 7 months. It will require 80 professional working days.

A consultant company will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's [Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers](#), (May 2004) Section III point 3.7 (Selection Bases on the Consultants' Qualifications).

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours **09.00 to 17.00 hours local time**.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **October 2nd, 2010**.

**Technical Services Unit (TSU) for World Bank Projects under Ministry of Finance
of Montenegro**

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