

I. Service required

Local consultant required: New MA-level Program in Arts and Cultural Resource Management – 11 months contract

Area of Assignment: Culture and Heritage for Social and Economic Development

Department: UN Country Office, Albania

Reports to: UNESCO NPO, in coordination with Programme Coordinator

Expected Starting date: 30 March 2009

Current Grade:
Approved Grade:
Position Classified by:
Classification Approved by:

II. Organizational Context

Albania has been described as the last secret of Europe. Almost unknown internationally, its rich and diverse cultural heritage is undervalued within the country, much of it having been suppressed or neglected during the long years of isolation. Today's reality is very different: two current, and three potential, UNESCO World Heritage Sites are complemented by extremely valuable intangible cultural heritage, which testify to the meeting of different peoples and civilizations, and a history of harmonious coexistence over nearly three millennia.

This peaceful multicultural coexistence presents Albania with a unique opportunity: to utilize its culture as an instrument in shaping its new national identity, as its government, economy and people move away from isolation to a greater participation on the world's stage. This identity is central to social and economic renewal and growth, both at home and abroad. As the image of Albania returns to a more stable and positive one, Albania's diverse heritage can be exploited for not just social and economic development, but for human development as well. However, fundamental changes still need to occur at all levels of government and society for Albania's new national identity to be recognized as interrelated with culture. Most importantly, there is a lack of awareness of how culture can be used as a tool for sustainable development, and conversely, how such development can be used as a catalyst for culture.

Project Summary:

The Joint Programme "Culture and Heritage for Social and Economic Development" was primarily designed to achieve outcomes derived from the national priorities of Albania that are consistent with

the Millennium Development Goals and the One UN programme, approved by the Albanian Government in October 2007. Sectoral priorities for culture and culture-related issues in Albania focus predominantly on rehabilitating cultural monuments, with a secondary priority for leveraging Albania's culture as a tourist attraction. Joint programme outcomes were designed to expand these two concerns to meet wider development objectives.

As the lead agency in charge of culture in Albania, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sports is the primary implementing partner for this joint programme of activities between UNDP and UNESCO. Other national government bodies, such as the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, the Institute of Cultural Monuments and the National Tourism Organization, will be involved as implementing partners. Other actors, such as civil society organizations, universities, municipalities and the private sector, will also contribute towards the achievement of these joint programme outcomes.

The proposed joint programme was built upon five achievable results, and based on national, sub-national and sectoral priorities for culture and development:

1. Achieve a transparent and accountable government, developing and implementing effective national policies on culture and cultural-related issues
2. Create an enabling environment to ensure people's access to cultural heritage and participation in cultural heritage decision-making at the local, regional and national levels
3. Increase capacities to manage, preserve and present cultural heritage and cultural industries in an efficient, transparent, accountable and equitable manner
4. Assure an increased role of cultural heritage in social and economic opportunities and in engaging community participation in regional and local development strategies
5. Promote an increased awareness of Albania's cultural heritage internationally as a means to promote cultural understanding and religious tolerance

The establishment of an MA – level program in Cultural Heritage Resource Management (Activity 3.2.2) is considered to be an important and challenging activity contributing to the third priority. The post-graduate level coursework in CRM will augment the educational opportunities in the country for the practitioners to expand their knowledge and skills, and will enable Albania to remain current with the global best practices. The MA-level program will be incepted in cooperation with the existing academic and research institutions and accredited in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and Science. This is essential for ensuring there is a legacy developed of qualified experts in cultural resource management, policy planning and management for the future of Albania.

In order to accelerate progress on this activity, the UNESCO Office in Venice, through its Antenna Office in Tirana, will be hiring a local consultant to work as an MA-Level Program Coordinator on the project. This person will assist UNESCO's National Professional Officer and the CHSED Joint Programme by following up with and accomplishing the goals foreseen in the framework of this activity.

III. Tasks / Key Results Expected	Working relations	Time (wd)
<p>The MA- Level Program local consultant will be in charge of the activities/steps foreseen in the framework of the establishment of the MA-Level Programme on Culture Resource Management in Albania to best meet the current and perspective needs of the Albanian authorities. S/he will closely cooperate and feed relevant information to the CHSED Joint Programme team. The position may be extended</p>	<p>Reports directly to UNESCO, in collaboration with the CHSED Joint Programme team.</p>	

<p>depending on emerging needs of the project.</p> <p>TASK 1: Collect relevant information on the higher education system in Albania and other western countries and conduct a background study. This will involve meeting with officials of the line ministries and relevant institutions, collecting and consulting various documents in Albanian and English, and provide recommendations as to the most effective and feasible approach for the establishment of the MA-Level program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Propose an outline for the background study that will be approved by the CHSED Joint Programme. B) Gather the necessary information and write a draft of the background study (including study of the existing programs, courses, human resources; identification of the best CRM practices in Europe and USA; and a new proposal on programme/curriculum best reflecting the current and the perspective needs of the Albanian authorities) and share with CHSED Joint Programme team members for comments. C) Provide recommendations on the most effective and appropriate options/approaches (building up an Albanian MA Program vs. twinning up with a European accredited MA Program); the program sustainability (business - plan) etc. D) Make an assessment for possible international academic cooperation. <p>TASK 2: Conduct a background study of the legal framework on the higher education system in Albania; the implications of the Bologna process etc. in line with the option that will be agreed upon for further follow-up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Identify the legal procedure or application process for the establishment of a MA-Level Program B) Identify the stakeholders and the Ministry and the academic level that need to be involved in such a process C) Identify the indicative timeframe for such a program to be accredited and opened for student enrollment. <p>TASK 3: Prepare the Application in compliance with the requirements foreseen in the Higher Education Law for the accreditation of the MA-level Program. Follow-up with accreditation process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Put together the application and submit it to MOES B) Perform other tasks related to the finalization of the formal recognition of the MA-level Program. <p>TASK 4: Inform and formally report to the UNESCO NPO and the CHSED Joint Program team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Prepare monthly reports on the proceedings, bottlenecks, accomplishments, steps further etc. (including but not restricted to follow-up research and meetings and regular updates on activity progress). <p>Approximate timeline of deliverables and payment for services: Task 1: 15 April 2009 – 15 working days</p>		<p>15</p> <p>10</p> <p>8</p> <p>7</p>
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Task 2: 30 June 2009 – 10 working days Task 3: 20 October 2009 – 8 working days Task 4: 30 January 2009 – 7 working days Total contracted time is 40 working days over 11 months .		
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IV. Main Competencies

- Sound understanding of Albania’s vision on cultural policies;
- Demonstrated understanding of international standards of Cultural management;
- Demonstrated understanding of international systems, networks in Higher Education;
- Demonstrated familiarity with the Albanian higher education system, relevant legal framework and networks;
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to synthesize complex information and explain/present it in a logical and consistent manner;
- Superior reporting skills;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- Resourcefulness, initiative, and maturity of judgment;
- Ability to establish effective working relations in a multicultural environment;
- Demonstrated capacity-building and facilitation skills;
- Fluent in Albanian and English;
- Excellent computer/information systems skills.

V. Recruitment Qualifications

Education:	Master’s level in Education, History, Archeology, Art History, Albanology, Culture Management or similar field. A Ph.D. would be preferable.
Experience:	10 years of relevant working experience in university or academic institutions; experience in culture management; ideal candidate also has experience working with international consultancy missions
Language Requirements:	Excellent spoken and written English

VII. How to apply

Applications (Letter of Intent, CV, support documents in English) shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope or package, clearly labeled, and lodged via registered mail or courier by 23 March 2009, 5:00 p.m. (Albania Local Time), at the following address:

**REF: Culture Resource Management MA-Level Program
‘Culture and Heritage for Social and Economic Development’
MDG-F UNESCO-UNDP Joint Program**

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