



Call for Expression of Interest
for co-financing the preparation of feasibility studies
for CDM projects under the bilateral cooperation agreement
between the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and
the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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1. BACKGROUND

Under the Kyoto protocol and based on the “EU Burden-Sharing” Agreement, Italy has committed itself to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases by 6% during the commitment period 2008-2012 against the base year level.

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is a project-based mechanism under the Kyoto protocol (Article 12). The purpose of the Clean Development Mechanism is to assist Parties not included in Annex I to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in achieving sustainable development and in contributing to the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC, as well as to assist Parties included in Annex I in achieving compliance with their quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol.

Republic of Albania is non-Annex I Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and has ratified the Kyoto Protocol on 16 December 2004. Furthermore, Republic of Albania is making significant efforts to implement all crucial changes in its relevant legislation and institutional structure, to allow for the full implementation of the Kyoto Protocol through the Clean Development Mechanism.

Considering that co-operation in the field of the CDM under Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol will result in an efficient contribution to sustainable development and in the reduction of greenhouse gases emissions, the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Republic of Italy and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania on May 30, 2005 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in order to maintain and enhance bilateral co-operation.

Therefore, in order to implement the Annex I to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania on “Cooperation in the field of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under art 12 of the Kyoto Protocol”, signed on April 17, 2007, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania is now issuing a Call for Expression of Interest to co-finance the preparation of feasibility studies for selected CDM projects in the Republic of Albania.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The present Call for Expression of Interest aims to select Italian companies, possessing the required technical and professional qualifications, to provide them with a non reimbursable co-financing towards the development of a feasibility study (Project Idea Note – PIN and Project Design Document - PDD) in connection with selected CDM projects, as a first step within the CDM development process.

The final objective of the Call is to foster the implementation of selected CDM projects in the Republic of Albania.

Selected projects are the following:

1. DURRES DUMP SITE - GAS RECOVERY AND FLARING
2. ELBASAN DUMP SITE GAS RECOVERY AND FLARING
3. VLORE DUMP SITE GAS RECOVERY AND FLARING
4. SMALL HYDRO POWER PLANT (SHPP) ZALLI I BULQIZES
5. SMALL HYDRO POWER PLANT (SHPP) LURE 1,2,3
6. ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE BALLSH REFINERY OF ARMO (ALBANIAN REFINERY MARKETING OIL COMPANY)
7. ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE STEEL FACTORY IN ELBASAN
8. ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION AREA OF KUCOVA

9. COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (CHP) IN THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL CENTER
10. ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE UNIVERSITY DORMITORY CENTER IN TIRANA
11. REFORESTATION IN KUKES DISTRICT

3. PROCEDURE

The Call for Expression of Interest will be conducted pursuant to the procedure and the criteria set by the Joint Committee established according to Art. 5.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania.

The Call for Expression of Interest is issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania through a restricted procedure.

Applicants are invited to express their interest in preparing a feasibility study for one or more specific CDM project/s, while giving sufficient evidence of their technical and professional capacity and financial / economic solidity.

Applicants may apply jointly, provided the Lead Applicant is clearly identified and information (see below) is submitted for each company applying.

In case of participation as a temporary association of companies or as a not yet formally established consortium, the legal representative of each company shall undertake, in case of selection, respectively to grant full power of legal representation to the Lead Applicant to sign the financing contract on behalf of the temporary association, or to establish the consortium.

The Joint Committee shall review the documentation received from the Applicants and select the companies that best fulfil the conditions set below.

At the end of the evaluation procedure, selected companies shall be invited to draft a technical and economic proposal for the preparation of the feasibility study (PIN and PDD).

The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania (Contract Authority) shall subsequently sign a financing contract with the successful Applicant in order to allocate the assigned co-financing for the preparation of the feasibility study.

The amount shall be disbursed partially after the signature of the financing contract. The balance shall be disbursed following the presentation of the completed feasibility study (PDD), provided the feasibility study is approved by the Contract Authority.

The selected Company/ies shall submit the completed feasibility study (PDD) within 90 days from the signing of the financing contract.

Based on existing agreements between the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania and the site owners for each selected CDM project, company/ies producing the feasibility study are granted a pre-emptive right to negotiate with the site owner towards the implementation of the project within six months from the approval of the feasibility study.

4. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Applicants are required to submit the complete documentation listed below in English (with the exception of official documents, such as certifications and financial statements, which can be enclosed in the language of origin).

Expressions of Interest shall be submitted both in hard copy and in electronic version (CD-ROM).

In case an incomplete application is submitted, the Joint Committee reserves the right to reject the Expression of Interest.

The Applicants need to submit the following items:

- a. Cover letter (Attachment I)
- b. General information (Attachment II)
- c. Proof of legal existence - recent extract from a Professional or Trade Register, or equivalent documentation
- d. Declaration on exclusion criteria (Attachment III)
- e. Proof of financial capacity (year-end balance sheets and profit and loss accounts for the past 3 financial years), with summary table for selected indicators over the past 3 years (Attachment IV)
- f. Reference list of key projects carried out by the Applicant (Attachment V)
- g. Resumes (EC format) of the project team members, with summary table (Attachment VI)

If applying for more than one project, the Applicant can provide a single copy of items c., d., e., f.

In case of joint Applications (e.g. consortia), Applicants are required to submit - for each project, in case of application for more than one project - a single Attachment I (cover letter) and a single Attachment VI (Project team members) while supplying separate information under items b., c., d., e., f..

The proposed project team should be the expression of the joint effort of the Applicants.

The Joint Committee may request the Applicants to provide clarifications and/or additional information on the documentation submitted.

5. SUBMISSION OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The deadline for the presentation of the Expressions of Interest is on November 8, 2007.

All documents shall be sent to the address below:

Ministrisë së Mjedisit, Pyjeve dhe Administrimit të Ujrave - The Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania
Climate Change Unit
Rruga e Durrësit 27, Tirana, Albania
With reference: Clean Development Mechanism
To the attention of Odeta Zheku

Any Expression of Interest received after the deadline mentioned will not be considered.

Each Applicant shall be informed in writing of the outcome of the selection process within 6 weeks from the expiration of the deadline for submission.

Step	Timing
Submission of Expression of Interest	Deadline: November 8, 2007
Communication to Applicants	Within 6 weeks from the expiration of the deadline for submission

The Contract Authority will not reimburse any costs incurred by the Applicant for the preparation or the submission of the Expression of Interest.

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants shall be assessed based on the following sets of criteria:

6.1 Exclusion criteria

Proof of registration

According to Article 2 of the Annex I to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania, the Applicants must prove their enrolment in a professional or trade register in the Republic of Italy. The relevant professional and trade registers in Italy are the "Registro della Camera di commercio, industria, agricoltura e artigianato", the "Registro delle commissioni provinciali per l'artigianato" or the "Consiglio nazionale degli ordini professionali". Recent extracts from such registers or equivalent documentation should therefore be submitted.

Applicants failing to do so shall automatically be excluded from participation.

Ineligibility

Any Applicant shall automatically be excluded from participation where that Applicant is unable to fulfil the requirements of Article 45 of Directive 2004/18/EC, and in particular:

- a) is bankrupt or is being wound up, whose affairs are being administered by the court, who has entered into an arrangement with creditors, who has suspended business activities or who is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under national laws and regulations;
- b) is the subject of proceedings for a declaration of bankruptcy, for an order for compulsory winding-up or administration by the court or for an arrangement with creditors or of any other similar proceedings under national laws or regulations;
- c) has been convicted of an offence concerning his professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata;
- d) has been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authorities can justify;
- e) has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions in accordance with the Italian legislation or legal provisions of the country in which he is established;
- f) has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of taxes in accordance with the Italian legislation or with the legal provisions of the country where he is established;

- g) is guilty of serious misrepresentation in supplying or failing to supply the information that may be required under this Call for Expression of Interest on the criteria for qualitative selection.

6.2 Qualitative criteria

Technical and professional capacity

The Applicant should possess proven technical and professional capacity in designing and developing CDM projects..

The technical capacity of the Applicant will be assessed by using indicators such as:

- Key expertise/core business of the Applicant/s, years of operations, permanent technical staff;
- Previous experience of the Applicant/s in similar projects;
- Professional experience of the Applicant/s in the Balkan countries;
- Strength of proposed project team (training, professional qualifications, regional experience, years in the business).

Financial and economic standing

The financial and economic standing of the Applicant will be assessed based on, amongst others, the following indicators:

- Net equity,
- Net assets,
- Total sales,
- EBITDA.

6.3 Additional criteria

A proven interest to invest or to raise investment in the CDM project of interest shall be positively evaluated. Such interest could be expressed e.g. in an official letter or in the Applicant's Board of Directors' minutes.

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

All communications concerning this Call for Expression of Interest shall be forwarded in writing and in English to:

Uljana Kumaraku
Tel/Fax: +355 4 271941
E-mail: uljana.kumaraku@yahoo.it

Details on the CDM project under this Call are available on the web site of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of the Republic of Albania:

www.moe.gov.al clicking on the Menu 'Environmental Projects' 'Project Ideas' (Albanian and English version)

and on the web site of the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Republic of Italy:

www.minambiente.it searching for 'CDM Portfolio Albania' from the search engine on the Home Page (Italian and English versions).

ATTACHMENT I: COVER LETTER

(to be filled out separately for each project, and jointly in case of joint applications)

<Letterhead of Applicant >

Expression of Interest for Preparation of Feasibility Study for CDM Projects

I/we, the undersigned,.....(name), being the legal representative of (name of the lead Applicant) or acting in the name of(specify if consortium, temporary association, etc., with the names of all the partners expressing interest jointly), hereby submit the attached Expression of Interest for evaluation by the Joint Committee.

By doing so I/we apply for co-financing towards the preparation of the Feasibility Study for the **CDM Project**(title) in the Republic of Albania.

The present Expression of Interest contains the following documents:

Number	Item	Included (yes/no)
<i>Required material</i>		
1.	General information	
2.	Proof of legal existence	
3.	Declaration on exclusion criteria	
4.	Financial statements and financial information summary	
5.	Reference list	
6.	Project team members	
<i>Additional material (please specify)</i>		

I/we hereby certify that the information and the documents provided are true and completely accurate.

(In case of joint application without a formal consortium)

In case of a successful application, the Partners bind themselves to establish the proposed consortium or to grant the Lead Applicant full power of legal representation before the signature of the financing contract with the Contract Authority.

Organization (Lead Applicant):.....

Name of legal representative:.....

Signature:.....

Date:

Organization (Partner) :

Name of legal representative:.....

Signature

Date:

ATTACHMENT II: GENERAL INFORMATION

(to be filled out separately for each project, and by each partner in case of joint application)

<p>Company information:</p> <p>Name:.....</p> <p>Postal address, zip code + city, country:</p> <p>Website URL (if any):</p> <p>Year of establishment:.....</p> <p>Short description of key expertise / core business:</p> <p>Title of the project for which the Applicant expresses interest to be co-financed for the preparation of feasibility study:</p> <p>Name of the experts from the Company that shall be engaged in the preparation of the feasibility study:</p> <p>Contact details:</p> <p>Contact person:.. Mr. /Mrs</p> <p>Position in the company:</p> <p>Telephone / Fax / Email:</p> <p>Bank details</p> <p>Account holder</p> <p>Account number:</p> <p>Bank name and postal address:</p> <p>.....</p>

ATTACHMENT III: DECLARATION ON EXCLUSION CRITERIA

(to be filled out separately by each partner in case of joint application)

The Undersigned(name), being the legal representative of(name of the Company) hereby acknowledges that(name of the Company) shall automatically be excluded from participation if :

- a) is bankrupt or is being wound up, whose affairs are being administered by the court, who has entered into an arrangement with creditors, who has suspended business activities or who is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under national laws and regulations;
- b) is the subject of proceedings for a declaration of bankruptcy, for an order for compulsory winding-up or administration by the court or for an arrangement with creditors or of any other similar proceedings under national laws or regulations;
- c) has been convicted of an offence concerning his professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata;
- d) has been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authorities can justify;
- e) has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions in accordance with the Italian legislation or legal provisions of the country in which he is established;
- f) has not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of taxes in accordance with the Italian legislation or with the legal provisions of the country where he is established;
- g) is guilty of serious misrepresentation in supplying or failing to supply the information that may be required under this Call for Expression of Interest on the criteria for qualitative selection.

The undersigned as legal representative of(name of Company), herewith declares that none of the above exclusion criteria applies to(name of Company).

Upon request of the Contracting Authority,(name of Company), will provide documentation proving that none of the above exclusion criteria applies.

Company:.....

Name of legal representative:

Signature

Date:

ATTACHMENT IV: FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUMMARY

(to be filled out separately by each partner in case of joint application)

Name of the Company:

Years	2004	2005	2006
Net equity			
Net assets (Next fixed assets + Net working capital)			
Total sales			
EBITDA (Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization)			
Average full-time workforce <i>Of which, technical staff</i>			

Are the annual accounts audited? Yes / No

Note: Pls. attach year-end complete financial statements (balance sheets and profit and loss accounts) for the past 3 financial years

ATTACHMENT V: REFERENCE LIST

(to be filled out separately by each partner in case of joint application)

Name of the Company:

Project title	Country	Duration (from month/year to month/year)	Funded by	Short description of the project	Role performed (Lead, partner..)	Number of staff involved	Main expertise involved

ATTACHMENT VI: RESUME OF THE PROJECT TEAM MEMBER

(to be filled out separately for each project, and jointly in case of joint application)

Project Title:

	Company (if applicable)	Key qualification(s)	Years of relevant experience	Experience in the Balkans (Yes/No)
Team Leader				
Expert I				
Expert II				
Expert III				
Expert IV				
Expert V				
....				
...				

Note: Pls. attach Curriculum Vitae in EC format.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/framework_contract/ams451/documents/cv_en.doc

TABLE I: EVALUATION CRITERIA

Total number of points = 100	
Criterion	Max score of points
Strength of the proposed project team	40
Experience of the Applicant/s in similar projects	30
Economic and financial standing of the Applicant/s	15
Proven interest in investing in the CDM project	10
Experience of the Applicant/s in the Balkan countries	5