

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE SERVICES OF FORESTRY RECREATION RESEARCH CONSULTANT AZE/C/IC/5

As an Implementing Organization of the EU financed ENPI East FLEG II Regional Program "Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) in the European Neighborhood Policy East Countries and Russia" (www.enpi-fleg.org), the World Bank is announcing an opening for Forestry recreation research consultant to develop issues ensuring the assessment, , conduction of analytical study and research of the recreational capacity and potential for the development of eco tourism at the territories and potential impact of the unsustainable recreation on the forest ecosystems; Preparation of the pilot concept of sustainable recreational principles at the Forest territories; Conduction of two pilot activities on management planing of recreation and tourism on the basis of the pilot forest territories of Azerbaijan; Dissemination of information to the stakeholders and media through the round table and workshop.

About the Program: The ENPI FLEG program supports governments, civil society, and the private sector in participating countries in the development of sound and sustainable forest management practices, including the reducing the incidence of illegal forestry activities. Participating countries include Azerbaijan, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine. This program is funded by the European Union and is being implemented by the World Bank, WWF and IUCN.

Description: The purpose of the assignment is to provide technological support to the program activities aiming at rising of public awareness and improved access to information and better public participation in the FLEG-related field. Specifically, the Consultant will be responsible for the fulfilment of the following tasks:

- (i) Identify possibilities for harmonization of the current institutional and governance framework in the forest sector of Azerbaijan related to sustainable recreation and tourism in forest areas with the best international practices. Identify and assess any environmental and social risks, if any, which might be associated with the introduction of new institutional and governance improvements;
- (ii) Assess the needs of the stakeholders in the forest and tourism sectors regarding the forest environmental tourism, management and strengthening of institutional capacity. In order to facilitate a comprehensive assessment, the consultant will hold meetings and consultations with respective stakeholders, and study past and traditional models of sustainable tourism management practices employed in the forest sector;
- (iii) Undertake analysis of the economic and social impact of inefficient, unsustainable recreation and tourism carried out in the forest areas as well as the associated environmental impacts and identify all potential challenges and effects on the forest ecosystem;
- (iv) Summarize all the findings and recommendations in a report which should be presented and widely discussed with all relevant stakeholders, and then finalized with incorporation of the feedback from those consulted;

- (v) Prepare the Pilot Concept of Tourism Development in the forest territories which should address minimizing negative impact of unsustainable tourism practices on the forest ecosystems;
- (vi) Develop tourism and recreation management plan for the two local forestry enterprises of the pilot forest region with the involvement of all stakeholders and local communities.

The results of the assignment will be presented as follows:

- the Report summarizing the findings and recommendations of tasks (i) through (iii) above – in 12 weeks after the commencement of the assignment;
- the Draft Pilot Concept of Tourism – in 20 weeks after the commencement of the assignment;
- the Recreation Management Plan – in 33 weeks after the commencement of the assignment.

Stakeholders' consultations will be carried out through round table discussions, workshops, and seminars, both in Baku and in selected districts, advised by the ENPI East FLEG II WB Program Coordinator. The list of stakeholders should be proposed by the Consultant and advised and agreed with the ENPI East FLEG II WB Program Coordinator and Programs Focal Point.

The following specific qualifications shall be met:

- Master's degree in, Forest and Natural resource management or other related subject;
- At least 6 years of progressive experience in the area of research on forest management , environmental tourism management or in other related fields;
- Extensive knowledge and understanding of the current issues of Forest management and governance in Azerbaijan and ENPI East Countries and Russia as well as knowledge and acquaintance with governmental structures and other stakeholders;
- Strong interpersonal and communications skills;
- Proven training and mentoring skills;
- Good command in English, fluency in both spoken and written Azerbaijani and Russian;
- Comprehension of information systems and software.

Location: Baku, Azerbaijan

Duration: 11 month starting from February 5, 2013

Application process: Applications should be emailed to: azer.garayev@enpi-fleg.org and should include a CV and References (please use forms provided)

Deadline: WB is seeking to fill this position as soon as possible; the final deadline for submitting applications is **January 20, 2013**. Short-listed candidates only will be invited for an interview.