

<b>Title</b>	International Consultant for Afghanistan Electoral System VCA
<b>Organization</b>	Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC)
<b>Duty Station</b>	Kabul with travel to provinces
<b>Duration</b>	3 - 4 Months (60 – 80 working days)
<b>No. of Jobs</b>	1
<b>Nationality</b>	International
<b>Sex</b>	Any
<b>Salary Range</b>	According to Organization salary scale
<b>Announcing Date</b>	March 26 -2018
<b>Closing Date</b>	April 09 -2018
<b>Shift</b>	Full time- Saturday through Wednesday, 08:00AM to 04:30 PM
<b>Experience</b>	A minimum of five years of experience in conducting research

### **General Overview of MEC**

In 2010, the Government of the Islamic Republic Afghanistan (GIROA) invited the international community to form the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC), to provide anti-corruption policy advice, and monitor and evaluate progress against specific anti-corruption benchmarks. The MEC was established jointly by the GIROA and the international community, following the London and Kabul Conferences in January and July 2010, respectively, and by Presidential Decree 61, 2010.

The MEC is an independent agency, and is not subject to direction from either the Afghan government or from the international community. Following the London Conference, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan invited the international community to form a joint Afghan-International monitoring and evaluation committee. On September 18, 2016, the Afghan president issued Presidential Decree No. 115. This changed the legal status, duties, scope of activities and authorities of the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee which abrogates all previous Presidential Decrees. The MEC focuses on:

- Developing anti-corruption recommendations;
- Monitoring and evaluating the anti-corruption efforts of the Afghan government and the international community; and
- Reporting on a regular basis to the President, Parliament, and people of Afghanistan, as well as to the international community about the state of the fight against corruption.

### **Job Summary:**

The primary responsibility of the International Consultant will be conducting a study on Afghanistan Electoral System in Kabul and selected provinces. This is an exciting, ground-breaking study on a difficult but crucial topic. The analysis is being conducted with the full support of Electoral Commissions Authorities.

This study will explore and analyses areas vulnerable to corruption in the Independent Election Commission (IEC), Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC), and in the processes before, during, and after elections. The Analysis will mostly contain textual and data analysis, semi-structured interviews, but will also involve analysis of the institutional, policy and legal arrangements of the institutions in question.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

- The Consultant will work closely with MEC Secretariat staff and will lead the project.
- The project will take place between April and July 2018. The Consultant will be required to be present in Kabul.
- Upon arrival in Kabul, the Consultant will review assembled documentation and conduct an initial

analysis – in conjunction with the relevant institutions (IEC, ECC) and MEC – to determine the scope, detailed methodology, required resources and work plan of the project, within the first two weeks.

- The consultant will act as the domain expert supporting the team in doing the work – much of which will be interviews and focus groups – collating the results, analyzing their meaning and presenting the findings.
- The Consultant will not be expected to complete, nor be reimbursed for, any tasks performed outside of his or her expected work-days unless agreed by supervisor.
- The final number of working days will likely range from 60 -80 working days depending on the agreed-upon timeframe and schedule of the Consultant, supporting consultants, and MEC Team.
- The format, content, and length of the Special Report can be changed at any time with the approval of the MEC Executive Director.
- Refining the scope of the project by designing a research methodology that will deliver satisfactory results on assessment of the institutions in question (IEC, ECC).
- Assigning data-collection, report-writing, and any other tasks to the MEC Officers working on this project.
- Designing tools (e.g. questionnaires, etc.) to collect information from ECs staff and other stakeholders via interviews, document analysis, and review of quantitative data.
- The consultant will guide and work with the MEC team to collect data for the project.
- The consultant will provide capacity building for the MEC team responsible for this project.
- Over the final months, the Consultant will finalize – as the primary author – the Report (in English, and with accompanying recommendations) that MEC will issue.

#### **Project outline**

A detailed project outline will be available for successful candidate after being hired.

#### **Deliverables:**

- 1) Review of scoping study of this project and present his/her recommendations within 2 working days
- 2) Formulating a Research Methodology for the assessment and a detailed work plan within 8 working days after arrival in Kabul containing, amongst others:
  - Literature review
  - Qualitative and Quantitative data collection methodology
  - Data analysis methodologies. Design of interview questionnaires
  - Sample selection - Identify key stakeholders (entities, individuals & donor)
  - Identifying provincial sample selection
  - Ethical Assurance measures of research validity and reliability
- 3) Interim Report at the end of the interview and data analysis phases, after 30 working days
- 4) Follow up to explain the report and the findings with the ECs, donors and other stakeholders by end of Mid-May 2018.
- 5) Final Report, with recommendations to be submitted to MEC Committee for approval by Mid-June 2018.

#### **Qualifications:**

The Consultant must have the following qualifications:

- University degree in Political Science, Law, Governance or a related field;
- A minimum of 5 years of experience in the electoral system, governance and democracy or related field;
- Research and written reports focusing on large sectors or ministries, with a prior record of professional publications;

- Prior international experience, preferably in conflict or post-conflict environments, with a preference for experience in Afghanistan;
- Knowledge of internationally accepted norms and standards in anti-corruption;
- Ability to effectively lead a team in a challenging, multi-cultural and fast-paced environment;
- Ability to work in a politicized environment on a highly sensitive topic
- Native-level oral and written English required, including the ability to write sophisticated reports in English;
- Dari and/or Pashto language skills are not essential, but would be a desirable asset.

The Consultant will report to MEC's Executive Director and Technical Director.

**How to Apply**

Candidates can apply for the position by sending their cover letter and CV in one PDF or Microsoft Word document, named in the following way: "LAST\_NAME\_first\_name.pdf" or "LAST\_NAME\_first\_name.doc." Supplementary documents - degrees, certificates, etc. - should not be sent at this time. The single PDF or Word file should be emailed to [jobs@mec.af](mailto:jobs@mec.af) with the subject line "International Consultant for Afghanistan Electoral System VCA" by 09 April, 2018.