

Title	National Consultant -- Afghan Public Procurement System
Organization	Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (MEC)
Duty Station	Kabul, Afghanistan
Duration	7 Months
No. of Jobs	1
Nationality	Afghan
Sex	any
Salary Range	According to organization salary scale
Announcing Date	1 July 2019
Closing Date	8 July 2019
Shift	Full time - Saturday through Wednesday, 08:00AM to 04:30 PM
Experience	Five years of experience in procurement systems; experience with conducting research

General Overview of MEC

In 2010, the Government of the Islamic Republic Afghanistan (GoIRA) 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. MEC was established jointly by the GoIRA and the international community, following the London and Kabul Conferences in January and July 2010, respectively, and by Presidential Decree 61, 2010.

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. MEC focuses on:

- Designing and conducting research to assess corruption vulnerabilities;
- 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 National Consultant will be to support MEC’s Ministry-wide Vulnerability to Corruption Assessment (MVCA) examining the Afghan Public Procurement system in Kabul and selected Provinces. This is an exciting, groundbreaking study on a complex part of the Government. The assessment is being conducted with the cooperation of the National Procurement Authority.

The MVCA will be the first comprehensive analysis of the corruption vulnerabilities across the Afghan National Procurement Authority and other related institutions, including procurement-related laws & policies, services, legal and institutional frameworks, key functions, interaction with the main stakeholders of procurement, human resources systems, complaint handling systems, internal oversight and audit regimes, information management systems, and management and leadership – all with a focus on corruption risks and practical mitigation measures. The MVCA will also look at ways to improve transparency in the procurement system via reducing corruption and enhancing good governance and integrity. The work will involve original research consisting of semi-structured interviews, Focus Group Discussions, direct observations, case studies, and process mapping, as well as desk research and analyses of the institutional arrangements, policies, and legal frameworks that support and underpin the procurement system in Afghanistan.

Duties and Responsibilities

- The Consultant will bring high caliber expertise in procurement systems, best practices, and development of reforms into the project.
- The Consultant will work closely with an International Consultant and support a team of data collectors, including staff from the MEC Secretariat.
- The exact roles of the team members will be decided based upon the experience of the chosen candidates.
- The Consultant will be engaged in data collection and analyses, as well as in the writing and finalization of the MVCA Report on the research (in English).
- The engagement of the National Consultant is expected to be about 150 days in total; the final number of working days will depend on the agreed-upon timeframe and schedule of the International Consultant and MEC team.
- The National Consultant is expected to contribute substantially to the methodology that will accurately assess procurement system vulnerabilities to corruption.
- The National Consultant will assist in development of proposed recommendations to address risks and vulnerabilities identified in the MVCA.
- The National Consultant will not be expected to complete, nor be reimbursed for, any tasks performed outside of his or her expected work-days.
- The format, content, and length of the MVCA can be changed at any time with the approval of the MEC Executive Director.
- The National Consultant will support the International Consultant and team in designing tools to collect information through interviews, document analysis, and the review of qualitative and quantitative data.

Qualifications:

The National Consultant must have the following qualifications:

- University degree in business administration, public administration, public policy, or a related field;
- Five years of experience in procurement systems;
- Knowledge of research methodologies is a significant plus;
- Ability to work in a politicized environment on a highly sensitive topic;
- Ability to effectively work in a team environment in a challenging, multi-cultural and fast-paced setting;
- High quality report writing skills in English.

The National Consultant will report formally to the MVCA project's International Consultant and MEC's 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 with the subject line "Procurement MVCA National Consultant" by July 8th, 2019.