



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## **Matra Pre-Accession Training on Rule of Law (MATRA PATROL)**

**Strengthening government institutional capacity in the  
area of the Rule of Law**

**10 day training programme on the subject**

# **Public Procurement**

**for a total of 25 civil servants from the following countries:**

**Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro,  
Serbia and Turkey**

**4 – 14 October 2015**

**The Hague, the Netherlands**

**Developed and delivered by: Ecorys Academy**

**[www.ecorysacademy.com](http://www.ecorysacademy.com)**

**Financed by: The Netherlands Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

**This training programme is one of a series of eight individual training  
programmes being delivered per year in the period 2012-2015**

## **Core Information**

### **This training on Public Procurement is intended for:**

Senior civil servants of all (semi) governmental organisations and charged with or involved in public procurement in their respective countries are invited to apply. Key figures will be selected who are capable of delivering a valuable contribution to this process and in a position to apply and make sustainable the newly gained knowledge and insights in their respective organisations.

The maximum number of participants is 25. The total will represent a balance in the number of participants from the individual countries.

### **Objectives:**

The general aim of this training programme is to stimulate and support the government of the Netherlands' policy on European integration. This is achieved through aiding and promoting institutional capacity building in the fields of *Rule of Law* within the government organisations in the target countries by sharing the necessary knowledge and skills with policy advisors, members of the judiciary and other civil servants working in the justice sector and helping them to lead and inspire the modernisation of the judicial systems of their home countries building from the Dutch experience (*strict and fair*).

The secondary objective of the training is the creation of networks among the participants and between the participants and the (guest) lecturers and relevant government departments in order to promote the transfer of knowledge and the strengthening of local expertise in the various areas of policy; to stimulate collaboration amongst participants and participants and lecturers; to promote the development of sustainable, national and transnational networks of experts, enabling the local experts, possibly together with consortium partners, to train new experts in the region (Train the trainer).

<b>Eligible countries:</b>	Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.
<b>Application deadline:</b>	2 August 2015
<b>Training period:</b>	4 – 14 October 2015
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Programme Costs:</b>	The Netherlands Government will provide full fellowships to selected participants. Each fellowship will cover the cost of international travel (economy), board and lodging, visa and insurance, tuition fees, lecture materials and excursions.
<b>Location:</b>	The Hague, the Netherlands
<b>Training venue:</b>	<a href="http://www.asser.nl">T.M.C. Asser Instituut</a> R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, 2517 JN The Hague <a href="http://www.asser.nl">www.asser.nl</a>
<b>Hotel accommodation:</b>	Hotel Court Garden, The Hague <a href="http://www.hotelcourgarden.nl">www.hotelcourgarden.nl</a>

## **Introduction**

Reform of the judiciary in the target countries is one of the most delicate political criteria to which these countries must adhere to in order to become a member of the European Union. An important component of this reform concerns the public procurement of works, goods and services. Central to the strengthening of *Rule of Law* in the target countries are reforms that strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of public expenditures. Public procurement contributes to this goal by improving competition, increasing transparency and reducing corruption. Obtaining insight into both the legal framework for public procurement as well as the methods to guide actual procurements are essential for improving the public procurement practice.

## **Training programme goal**

The Public Procurement training programme aims to provide participants with insights into various aspects that compound the public procurement process. As such, attention will be placed on the legal framework governing European public procurement, preparation of the procurements, contract management and change management. Special attention is given to negotiation with contractors, with exercises to train the newly acquired skills, and the combat against corruption, including good practices in the field of anti-corruption. Furthermore, emphasis will be given to the procurement of works as the procurements with the highest value involved. This includes both a course in the specifics of tendering of works as well as study visits to obtain the experience of tendering of works from both a contracting authority and the contractors.

## **Approach**

The training programme will have a practical and interactive character. This is in line with the objective to share knowledge and strengthen the co-operation between the civil servants and magistrates of the participating countries.

## **Training programme structure**

The programme will stimulate much participant interaction and is built around three balanced, mutually supportive and integrated components, namely:

- Theory
- Practical Skills
- Study visits/Social programme

On completion of the training, participants will:

- Have insight in the best practices for public procurement;
- Know how the Dutch public procurement system works in practice;
- Be able to use the acquired knowledge and best practices as a source of inspiration for dealing with challenges related to improving the public procurement in their own countries;
- Be trained in the practical application of specific subjects and in a number of needed practical skills;
- Have had the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences;
- Have had the opportunity to create new professional cross-border networking relations.

## Topics and lecturers

Topics of the training cover a wide range of aspects related to procurement:

- The European legal framework;
- Procurement across Europe;
- Procurement strategy and market analysis;
- Procurement and corruption.

All programme lecturers are carefully selected and have extensive experience in the field of training. They have an open eye for differences in national systems and have a thorough understanding of, and practical experience in the problems the participants face at home.

For example, guest-lecturers and visit in the 2012 training included representatives from:

- BIZOB, the procurement agency of southern Netherlands;
- Various national Ministries;
- Pianoo, the Dutch expertise centre for public procurement.

## Admission Requirements

Important points on which the selection of participants will largely be based are:

- The applicant must be a professional working at a (semi) governmental organisation;
- The applicant should clearly demonstrate an immediate need for this specific training;
- The applicant should have experience with the current judicial practices and the many aspects of the judicial (legal) reform in his/her country;
- The applicant should command a good level of spoken and written English;
- The applicant should be highly motivated and enthusiastic;
- The applicant should be comfortable sharing his/her knowledge with fellow participants (solo presentation during the programme will be required);
- The applicant should have at least 3 years of working experience and preferably be in a decision-making function;
- Signed letter of recommendation of current employer.

## How to Apply

Please read the [admission requirements](#) carefully. Applicants who satisfy all of the requirements may proceed to complete the [application form](#). Qualified applicants must obtain permission to attend this training programme and need to submit a signed letter of recommendation from their current employer/superior.

Applications should be submitted **before 2 August 2015**.

Only fully documented applications will be considered. Admission will be on a merit and competitive basis. The applicants will be selected by the applicant's National Government and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the applicants' country. Staff at the Embassy will also assist with visa requirements where applicable.

Successfully uploaded applications will receive an automatic e-mail confirmation. Please contact [matrapatrol@asser.nl](mailto:matrapatrol@asser.nl) if you have not received an automatic e-mail within one hour. Applicants will be informed of the result of their application some three to four weeks before commencement of the training programme.

## **Information and training programme organisation**

### **Ecorys Academy**

The Ecorys Academy is the specialised training institute of Ecorys. Under the umbrella of the Ecorys Academy, our experts and specialists from our extensive international network, deliver training courses worldwide. Our training offer, that can be delivered as open subscription, embedded and tailor made, consists of courses about amongst others: Public Procurement, Cost Benefit Analysis, Instrument for pre-Accession (IPA), Structural Funds, Impact Assessment, Scenario-Analysis, Public Finance Management, Evaluation methods, EU funds management, European Public Affairs and European/International negotiation techniques.

For more information, see: [www.ecorysacademy.com](http://www.ecorysacademy.com)

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