



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) (For Low-Valued Services)

	DATE: 04 April 2017
	REFERENCE: UNDP Albania

Dear Sir / Madam:

We kindly request you to submit your Proposal for a **"Research Study on Brain Gain, Reversing Brain Drain with Albanian Scientific Diaspora"**.

Please be guided by the form attached hereto as Annex 2, in preparing your Proposal.

Proposals may be submitted on or before **19 April, 2017** via courier mail to the address below:

United Nations Development Programme
"Skenderbej" Street, Gurten Center, 2nd Floor, Tirana, Albania
UNDP Procurement team

Your Proposal must be expressed in the English language, and be valid for a minimum period of one hundred and twenty (120) days.

In the course of preparing your Proposal, it shall remain your responsibility to ensure that it reaches the address above on or before the deadline. Proposals that are received by UNDP after the deadline indicated above, for whatever reason, shall not be considered for evaluation.

Services proposed shall be reviewed and evaluated based on completeness and compliance of the Proposal and responsiveness with the requirements of the RFP and all other annexes providing details of UNDP requirements.

The Proposal that complies with all of the requirements meets all the evaluation criteria and offers the best value for money shall be selected and awarded the contract. Any offer that does not meet the requirements shall be rejected.

Any discrepancy between the unit price and the total price shall be re-computed by UNDP, and the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected. If the Service Provider does not accept the final price based on UNDP's re-computation and correction of errors, its Proposal will be rejected.

No price variation due to escalation, inflation, fluctuation in exchange rates, or any other market factors shall be accepted by UNDP after it has received the Proposal. At the time of Award of Contract or Purchase Order, UNDP reserves the right to vary (increase or decrease) the quantity of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum twenty five per cent (25%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions.

Any Contract or Purchase Order that will be issued as a result of this RFP shall be subject to the General Terms and Conditions attached hereto. The mere act of submission of a Proposal implies that the Service Provider accepts without question the General Terms and Conditions of UNDP, herein attached as Annex 3.

Please be advised that UNDP is not bound to accept any Proposal, nor award a contract or Purchase Order, nor be responsible for any costs associated with a Service Providers preparation and submission of a Proposal, regardless of the outcome or the manner of conducting the selection process.

UNDP's vendor protest procedure is intended to afford an opportunity to appeal for persons or firms not awarded a Purchase Order or Contract in a competitive procurement process. In the event that you believe you have not been fairly treated, you can find detailed information about vendor protest procedures in the following link:

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/procurement/protestandsanctions/>

UNDP encourages every prospective Service Provider to prevent and avoid conflicts of interest, by disclosing to UNDP if you, or any of your affiliates or personnel, were involved in the preparation of the requirements, design, cost estimates, and other information used in this RFP.

UNDP implements a zero tolerance on fraud and other proscribed practices, and is committed to preventing, identifying and addressing all such acts and practices against UNDP, as well as third parties involved in UNDP activities. UNDP expects its Service Providers to adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct found in this link : http://www.un.org/depts/ptd/pdf/conduct_english.pdf

Thank you and we look forward to receiving your Proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Limya Eltayeb
Country Director
04 April 2017

Description of Requirements

Context of the Requirement	Research Study on Brain Gain, Reversing Brain Drain with Albanian Scientific Diaspora
Implementing Partner of UNDP	UNDP
Brief Description of the Required Services ¹	In the last 26 years, the phenomenon of migration has been at the very core of the political, economic and social changes occurring in Albania. By the end of 2011, about 1.4 million people, or about one third of the Albanian population, were estimated to be living abroad, mainly in Greece and Italy. Like other economic and social phenomena, migration has had both positive and negative effects on the development of Albania. In this context, the task of policy makers is to seek to maximize the positive aspects of migration, whilst minimizing negative ones. In the overall context of Albanian migration, there are three major issues that deserve particular attention: remittances and migrant savings, the sustainable return of migrants, and the “brain drain/brain gain” process. Brain drain is one of the most discussed issues related to Albanian migration. During the post-socialist transition large numbers of engineers, veterinary doctors, economic specialists, teachers, doctors, artists, and researchers emigrated from Albania causing a large erosion of human resources. Work by CESS (2006)² suggests that about 40 percent of all university lecturers and scientific, most of them young and trained partly in Europe, have left Albania since 1990. Nearly 66 percent of those Albanians have been known to complete doctorate studies in Western Europe or the US since 1990 have either migrated from Albania after briefly returning or never coming back after graduation. In 2006 CESS estimated that there were around 200 Albanians with a PhD³ that were employed in universities, labs, and scientific institutions as well as in the research departments of corporations of developed countries of the OECD. This pool is focused in a few destination countries (for example, France, UK, USA, Austria, and Germany). For a small country like Albania, this pool of researchers is significant as it represents around a third of the population that has a PhD and about 10 percent of the academic potential of Albania. Other nationals with a PhD are working in line with their professional training. Additional sources suggest that this pool is likely to grow deeper and expand in the future. The number of Albanian students completing university and post-

¹ A detailed TOR may be attached if the information listed in this Annex is not sufficient to fully describe the nature of the work and other details of the requirements.

²From Brain Drain to Brain Gain: Mobilizing Albania's Skilled Diaspora, A policy paper for the government of Albania, UNDP, 2006.

³ Gëdeshi I., Gërmenji E., Highly Skilled Migration from Albania: An Assessment of Current Trends and the Ways Ahead, DRC Migration, Globalisation and Development, January 2008.

university studies in the industrialized countries – masters and doctorate– has also grown progressively during the first decade of 2000s.

In Albania, like in other countries, there is growing interest in the potential to reach out to scientific and other diasporas abroad as a way to tackle the issue of “brain drain.” For example, the Global Commission on International Migration (2005) argued that, “Countries of origin can gain considerable advantage by harnessing the talents and resources of diaspora populations, which have grown significantly in size and scope as a result of the recent expansion of international migration.”

In 2006 the Albanian Government launched a Brain Gain Program with support from the UNDP. It was designed to provide incentive packages for highly qualified migrants to return and work in Albania. This Program, which ended in 2013, resulted in the return of a relatively small group of qualified migrants. The impact of the Brain Gain Program reflects, hence, different preconditions for the highly skilled migrants to physically return, such as economic and political stability of the country, reduced corruption, reforms in universities and research institutes, as well as investments in education and research activities. Even though there has been progress in these areas of Albanian development, the conditions still have not created a favorable environment for return migration making the return option unviable to fight brain drain. Therefore, utilizing the scientific diaspora network created by Albanian academics and researchers abroad provides a better avenue to boost brain gain and to better link it to the constitution and implementation of National strategies and policies.

The newly elected Albanian Government in 2013 is focusing on important reforms in science, university education, medicine, and administration with plans to engage the scientific diaspora in the socio-economic development of the country. Research done on this topic would therefore be timely and helpful to policy makers as it would provide guidelines and suggestions of best practices.

The purpose of this study is to offer to the Albanian government input on the relevant steps and actions that can be undertaken to institutionalize policies promoting “brain gain” in Albania, with a particular focus on the upcoming National Scientific Research Strategy and respective bylaws.

The specific objectives include:

- a. To identify and localize Albanian academics and researchers in developed countries;
- b. To identify main areas of scientific research in Albania and compare them with the research area of the Albanian scientific diaspora;

	c. To create a profile of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora as well as evaluate its potential finding ways to build and strengthen cooperation; d. To set out forms of cooperation between Albanian institutions and academics with researchers living abroad; e. To offer a comparative analyses on the public attitudes of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora with regards to the Higher Education and Scientific Research strategies and policies in Albania. f. To promote policies based on global experience by using the talents and resources of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora to promote the development of the country;
List and Description of Expected Outputs to be Delivered	The analytical work for this project will consist of an analysis of both primary and secondary data. This includes an overview of the available literature, quantitative and qualitative methods. The quantitative and qualitative methods component will include: a) an online survey questionnaire with 500 Albanian academics and researchers working abroad; b) an online semi-structured interviews (Skype interview) with 25 Albanian academics and researchers working abroad (mainly in universities and research institutions); c) semi-structured interviews with 25 officials and experts from Ministry of Education and Sport, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, and other government agencies, different universities and research institutes, and representatives of international organizations; and d) 2 Focus Group discussion (online) with Albanian academics and researchers working abroad. <i>Outputs of the work will include:</i> 1. A Study - based on quantitative (survey questionnaire) and qualitative (interviews and focus groups) techniques – on Albanian Scientific Diaspora; 2. A comparative analysis of the research projects and sectors, didactic methodologies and training courses offered by both Albanian Scientific Diaspora and Albanian higher Education institutions. The analysis should include also the perception and suggestions of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora on the upcoming Law and Strategy on Scientific Research in Albania. 3. A policy paper - that will describe the potential of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora, the potential forms of cooperation with Albanian researchers abroad and conditions that need to be created in Albania for such cooperation. For more detailed information on expected outputs and indicative timelines, please refer to the attached TORs in Annex 4.
Person to Supervise the Work/Performance of the Service Provider	The Research institute/non-governmental organization will work under the supervision of the Deputy Minister of Education and Sports in charge for the implementation of higher education reform in close collaboration with UNDP.

Frequency of Reporting	Monthly
Progress Reporting Requirements	Written communication
Location of work	☒ Ministry of Education and Sports
Expected duration of work	4 months
Target start date	April 2017
Latest completion date	August 2017
Travels Expected	Yes
Special Security Requirements	☐ Security Clearance from UN prior to travelling ☐ Completion of UN's Basic and Advanced Security Training ☐ Comprehensive Travel Insurance ☐ Others N/A
Facilities to be Provided by UNDP (i.e., must be excluded from Price Proposal)	☐ Office space and facilities ☐ Land Transportation ☐ Others N/A
Implementation Schedule indicating breakdown and timing of activities/sub-activities	☒ Required ☐ Not Required
Names and curriculum vitae of individuals who will be involved in completing the services	☒ Required ☐ Not Required
Currency of Proposal	☐ United States Dollars ☐ Euro ☒ Local Currency
Value Added Tax on Price Proposal ⁴	☒ must be inclusive of VAT and other applicable indirect taxes ☐ must be exclusive of VAT and other applicable indirect taxes
Validity Period of Proposals (Counting for the last day of submission of quotes)	☐ 60 days ☐ 90 days ☒ 120 days In exceptional circumstances, UNDP may request the Proposer to extend the validity of the Proposal beyond what has been initially indicated in this RFP. The Proposal shall then confirm the extension in writing, without any modification whatsoever on the Proposal.

⁴ VAT exemption status varies from one country to another. Pls. check whatever is applicable to the UNDP CO/BU requiring the service.

Partial Quotes	☒ Not permitted ☐ Permitted [pls. provide conditions for partial quotes, and ensure that requirements are properly listed to allow partial quotes (e.g., in lots, etc.)]
Payment Terms ⁵	- 20% of payment upon submission of the study outline on Albanian Scientific Diaspora with adopted questionnaire and sample design; - 30% of payment upon submission of the comparative analysis; - 30% of payment upon submission of the policy paper; - 20% of payment upon the presentation in the workshop and the submission of completed outputs in English and Albanian;
Person(s) to review/inspect/ approve outputs/completed services and authorize the disbursement of payment	National Project Director/Deputy Minister of Education and Sports in close collaboration with UNDP.
Type of Contract to be Signed	☐ Purchase Order ☐ Institutional Contract ☒ Contract for Professional Services ☐ Long-Term Agreement ⁶ (if LTA will be signed, specify the document that will trigger the call-off. E.g., PO, etc.) ☐ Other Type of Contract [pls. specify]
Criteria for Contract Award	☐ Lowest Price Quote among technically responsive offers ☒ Highest Combined Score (based on the 70% technical offer and 30% price weight distribution) ☐ Full acceptance of the UNDP Contract General Terms and Conditions (GTC). This is a mandatory criteria and cannot be deleted regardless of the nature of services required. Non acceptance of the GTC may be grounds for the rejection of the Proposal.
Criteria for the Assessment of Proposal	Technical Proposal (70%) ☒ Expertise of the Firm (35%) ☒ Methodology (inclusive of proposed layouts / portal design elements), Its Appropriateness to the Condition and Timeliness of the Implementation Plan (30%) ☒ Management Structure and Qualification of Key Personnel (35%) Financial Proposal (30%) To be computed as a ratio of the Proposal's offer to the lowest price among the proposals received by UNDP.

⁵ UNDP preference is not to pay any amount in advance upon signing of contract. If the Service Provider strictly requires payment in advance, it will be limited only up to 20% of the total price quoted. For any higher percentage, or any amount advanced exceeding \$30,000, UNDP shall require the Service Provider to submit a bank guarantee or bank cheque payable to UNDP, in the same amount as the payment advanced by UNDP to the Service Provider.

⁶ Minimum of one (1) year period and may be extended up to a maximum of three (3) years subject to satisfactory performance evaluation. This RFP may be used for LTAs if the annual purchases will not exceed \$100,000.00.

UNDP will award the contract to:	☒ One and only one Service Provider ☐ One or more Service Providers, depending on the following factors: <i>[Clarify fully how and why will this be achieved. <u>Please do not choose this option without indicating the parameters for awarding to multiple Service Providers</u>]</i>
Annexes to this RFP ⁷	☒ Form for Submission of Proposal (Annex 2) ☒ General Terms and Conditions / Special Conditions (Annex 3) ⁸ ☒ Detailed TOR ☐ Others ⁹ <i>[pls. specify]</i>
Contact Person for Inquiries (Written inquiries only) ¹⁰	UNDP Albanian Procurement Unit procurement.al@undp.org Any delay in UNDP's response shall be not used as a reason for extending the deadline for submission, unless UNDP determines that such an extension is necessary and communicates a new deadline to the Proposers.
Other Information <i>[pls. specify]</i>	N/A

⁷ Where the information is available in the web, a URL for the information may simply be provided.

⁸ Service Providers are alerted that non-acceptance of the terms of the General Terms and Conditions (GTC) may be grounds for disqualification from this procurement process.

⁹ A more detailed Terms of Reference in addition to the contents of this RFP may be attached hereto.

¹⁰ This contact person and address is officially designated by UNDP. If inquiries are sent to other person/s or address/es, even if they are UNDP staff, UNDP shall have no obligation to respond nor can UNDP confirm that the query was received.

FORM FOR SUBMITTING SERVICE PROVIDER'S PROPOSAL¹¹

(This Form must be submitted only using the Service Provider's Official Letterhead/Stationery¹²)

[insert: Location].

[insert: Date]

To: [insert: Name and Address of UNDP focal point]

Dear Sir/Madam:

We, the undersigned, hereby offer to render the following services to UNDP in conformity with the requirements defined in the RFP dated [specify date] , and all of its attachments, as well as the provisions of the UNDP General Contract Terms and Conditions :

A. Qualifications of the Service Provider

The Service Provider must describe and explain how and why they are the best entity that can deliver the requirements of UNDP by indicating the following :

- a) *Profile – describing the nature of business, field of expertise, licenses, certifications, accreditations;*
- b) *Business Licenses – Registration Papers, Tax Payment Certification, etc.*
- c) *Latest Audited Financial Statement – income statement and balance sheet to indicate Its financial stability, liquidity, credit standing, and market reputation, etc. ;*
- d) *Track Record – list of clients for similar services as those required by UNDP, indicating description of contract scope, contract duration, contract value, contract references;*
- e) *Certificates and Accreditation – including Quality Certificates, Patent Registrations, Environmental Sustainability Certificates, etc.*
- f) *Written Self-Declaration that the company is not in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 List, UN Procurement Division List or Other UN Ineligibility List.*

B. Proposed Methodology for the Completion of Services

The Service Provider must describe how it will address/deliver the demands of the RFP; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics, reporting conditions and quality assurance mechanisms that will be put in place, while demonstrating that the proposed methodology will be appropriate to the local conditions and context of the work.

¹¹ This serves as a guide to the Service Provider in preparing the Proposal.

¹² Official Letterhead/Stationery must indicate contact details – addresses, email, phone and fax numbers – for verification purposes

C. Qualifications of Key Personnel

If required by the RFP, the Service Provider must provide :

- a) *Names and qualifications of the key personnel that will perform the services indicating who is Team Leader, who are supporting, etc.;*
- b) *CVs demonstrating qualifications must be submitted if required by the RFP; and*
- c) *Written confirmation from each personnel that they are available for the entire duration of the contract.*

D. Cost Breakdown per Deliverable*

	Deliverables <i>[list them as referred to in the RFP]</i>	Percentage of Total Price <i>(Weight for payment)</i>	Price <i>(Lump Sum, All Inclusive)</i>
1	Deliverable 1		
2	Deliverable 2		
3			
	Total	100%	

**This shall be the basis of the payment tranches*

E. Cost Breakdown by Cost Component *[This is only an Example]:*

Description of Activity	Remuneration per Unit of Time	Total Period of Engagement	No. of Personnel	Total Rate
I. Personnel Services				
1. Services from Home Office				
a. Expertise 1				
b. Expertise 2				
2. Services from Field Offices				
a. Expertise 1				
b. Expertise 2				
3. Services from Overseas				
a. Expertise 1				
b. Expertise 2				
II. Out of Pocket Expenses				
1. Travel Costs				
2. Daily Allowance				
3. Communications				
4. Reproduction				
5. Equipment Lease				
6. Others				
III. Other Related Costs				

*[Name and Signature of the Service Provider's
Authorized Person]
[Designation]
[Date]*

General Terms and Conditions for Services

1.0 LEGAL STATUS:

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of UNDP or the United Nations.

2.0 SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS:

The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to UNDP in connection with the performance of its services under this Contract. The Contractor shall refrain from any action that may adversely affect UNDP or the United Nations and shall fulfill its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of UNDP.

3.0 CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES:

The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under this Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of this Contract, respect the local customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

4.0 ASSIGNMENT:

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of this Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under this Contract except with the prior written consent of UNDP.

5.0 SUB-CONTRACTING:

In the event the Contractor requires the services of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval and clearance of UNDP for all sub-contractors. The approval of UNDP of a sub-contractor shall not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations under this Contract. The terms of any sub-contract shall be subject to and conform to the provisions of this Contract.

6.0 OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT:

The Contractor warrants that no official of UNDP or the United Nations has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from this Contract or the award thereof. The Contractor agrees that breach of this provision is a breach of an essential term of this Contract.

7.0 INDEMNIFICATION:

The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, UNDP, its officials, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents or sub-contractors, in the performance of this Contract. This

provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants or sub-contractors. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.

8.0 INSURANCE AND LIABILITIES TO THIRD PARTIES:

- 8.1** The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of this Contract.
- 8.2** The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or the equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with this Contract.
- 8.3** The Contractor shall also provide and thereafter maintain liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death or bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising from or in connection with the provision of services under this Contract or the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees or sub-contractors performing work or services in connection with this Contract.
- 8.4** Except for the workmen's compensation insurance, the insurance policies under this Article shall:
 - 8.4.1** Name UNDP as additional insured;
 - 8.4.2** Include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's rights to the insurance carrier against the UNDP;
 - 8.4.3** Provide that the UNDP shall receive thirty (30) days written notice from the insurers prior to any cancellation or change of coverage.
- 8.5** The Contractor shall, upon request, provide the UNDP with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article.

9.0 ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS:

The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with the UNDP against any monies due or to become due for any work done or materials furnished under this Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

10.0 TITLE TO EQUIPMENT:

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP shall rest with UNDP and any such equipment shall be returned to UNDP at the conclusion of this Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor. Such equipment, when returned to UNDP, shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear. The Contractor shall be liable to compensate UNDP for equipment determined to be damaged or degraded beyond normal wear and tear.

11.0 COPYRIGHT, PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS:

- 11.1** Except as is otherwise expressly provided in writing in the Contract, the UNDP shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including, but not limited to, patents, copyrights, and trademarks, with regard to products, processes, inventions, ideas, know-how, or documents and other materials which the Contractor has developed for the UNDP under the Contract and which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of, or during the course of, the performance of the Contract, and the Contractor

acknowledges and agrees that such products, documents and other materials constitute works made for hire for the UNDP.

- 11.2 To the extent that any such intellectual property or other proprietary rights consist of any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor: (i) that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or (ii) that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract, the UNDP does not and shall not claim any ownership interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to the UNDP a perpetual license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.
- 11.3 At the request of the UNDP; the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring or licensing them to the UNDP in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law and of the Contract.
- 11.4 Subject to the foregoing provisions, all maps, drawings, photographs, mosaics, plans, reports, estimates, recommendations, documents, and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be the property of the UNDP, shall be made available for use or inspection by the UNDP at reasonable times and in reasonable places, shall be treated as confidential, and shall be delivered only to UNDP authorized officials on completion of work under the Contract.

12.0 USE OF NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF UNDP OR THE UNITED NATIONS:

The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public the fact that it is a Contractor with UNDP, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of UNDP or THE United Nations, or any abbreviation of the name of UNDP or United Nations in connection with its business or otherwise.

13.0 CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Information and data that is considered proprietary by either Party and that is delivered or disclosed by one Party ("Discloser") to the other Party ("Recipient") during the course of performance of the Contract, and that is designated as confidential ("Information"), shall be held in confidence by that Party and shall be handled as follows:

- 13.1 The recipient ("Recipient") of such information shall:
 - 13.1.1 use the same care and discretion to avoid disclosure, publication or dissemination of the Discloser's Information as it uses with its own similar information that it does not wish to disclose, publish or disseminate; and,
 - 13.1.2 use the Discloser's Information solely for the purpose for which it was disclosed.
- 13.2 Provided that the Recipient has a written agreement with the following persons or entities requiring them to treat the Information confidential in accordance with the Contract and this Article 13, the Recipient may disclose Information to:
 - 13.2.1 any other party with the Discloser's prior written consent; and,
 - 13.2.2 the Recipient's employees, officials, representatives and agents who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, and employees officials, representatives and agents of any legal entity that it controls controls it, or with which it is under common control, who have a need to know such Information

for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, provided that, for these purposes a controlled legal entity means:

13.2.2.1 a corporate entity in which the Party owns or otherwise controls, whether directly or indirectly, over fifty percent (50%) of voting shares thereof; or,

13.2.2.2 any entity over which the Party exercises effective managerial control; or,

13.2.2.3 for the UNDP, an affiliated Fund such as UNCDF, UNIFEM and UNV.

- 13.3** The Contractor may disclose Information to the extent required by law, provided that, subject to and without any waiver of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, the Contractor will give the UNDP sufficient prior notice of a request for the disclosure of Information in order to allow the UNDP to have a reasonable opportunity to take protective measures or such other action as may be appropriate before any such disclosure is made.
- 13.4** The UNDP may disclose Information to the extent as required pursuant to the Charter of the UN, resolutions or regulations of the General Assembly, or rules promulgated by the Secretary-General.
- 13.5** The Recipient shall not be precluded from disclosing Information that is obtained by the Recipient from a third party without restriction, is disclosed by the Discloser to a third party without any obligation of confidentiality, is previously known by the Recipient, or at any time is developed by the Recipient completely independently of any disclosures hereunder.
- 13.6** These obligations and restrictions of confidentiality shall be effective during the term of the Contract, including any extension thereof, and, unless otherwise provided in the Contract, shall remain effective following any termination of the Contract.

14.0 FORCE MAJEURE; OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS

- 14.1** In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the UNDP, of such occurrence or change if the Contractor is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract. The Contractor shall also notify the UNDP of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event that interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of this Contract. On receipt of the notice required under this Article, the UNDP shall take such action as, in its sole discretion; it considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the Contractor of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform its obligations under this Contract.
- 14.2** If the Contractor is rendered permanently unable, wholly, or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract, the UNDP shall have the right to suspend or terminate this Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 15, "Termination", except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.
- 14.3** Force majeure as used in this Article means acts of God, war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, or other acts of a similar nature or force.
- 14.4** The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to any obligations under the Contract that the Contractor must perform in or for any areas in which the UNDP is engaged in, preparing to engage in, or disengaging from any peacekeeping, humanitarian or similar operations, any delays or failure to perform such obligations arising from or relating to harsh conditions within such areas or to any incidents of civil unrest occurring in such areas shall not, in and of itself, constitute force majeure under the Contract..

15.0 TERMINATION

- 15.1** Either party may terminate this Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) days notice, in writing, to the other party. The initiation of arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16.2 ("Arbitration"), below, shall not be deemed a termination of this Contract.
- 15.2** UNDP reserves the right to terminate without cause this Contract at any time upon 15 days prior written notice to the Contractor, in which case UNDP shall reimburse the Contractor for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.
- 15.3** In the event of any termination by UNDP under this Article, no payment shall be due from UNDP to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of this Contract.
- 15.4** Should the Contractor be adjudged bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, the UNDP may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have under the terms of these conditions, terminate this Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform the UNDP of the occurrence of any of the above events.

16.0 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

- 16.1 Amicable Settlement:** The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules then obtaining, or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the parties.
- 16.2 Arbitration:** Any dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of the Contract or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof, unless settled amicably under Article 16.1, above, within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's written request for such amicable settlement, shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining. The decisions of the arbitral tribunal shall be based on general principles of international commercial law. For all evidentiary questions, the arbitral tribunal shall be guided by the Supplementary Rules Governing the Presentation and Reception of Evidence in International Commercial Arbitration of the International Bar Association, 28 May 1983 edition. The arbitral tribunal shall be empowered to order the return or destruction of goods or any property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, order the termination of the Contract, or order that any other protective measures be taken with respect to the goods, services or any other property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, as appropriate, all in accordance with the authority of the arbitral tribunal pursuant to Article 26 ("Interim Measures of Protection") and Article 32 ("Form and Effect of the Award") of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. In addition, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, the arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award interest in excess of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") then prevailing, and any such interest shall be simple interest only. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such dispute, controversy, or claim.

17.0 PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES:

Nothing in or relating to this Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs.

18.0 TAX EXEMPTION

18.1 Section 7 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations provides, inter alia that the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs, is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs duties and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognize the United Nations exemption from such taxes, duties or charges, the Contractor shall immediately consult with the UNDP to determine a mutually acceptable procedure.

18.2 Accordingly, the Contractor authorizes UNDP to deduct from the Contractor's invoice any amount representing such taxes, duties or charges, unless the Contractor has consulted with the UNDP before the payment thereof and the UNDP has, in each instance, specifically authorized the Contractor to pay such taxes, duties or charges under protest. In that event, the Contractor shall provide the UNDP with written evidence that payment of such taxes, duties or charges has been made and appropriately authorized.

19.0 CHILD LABOUR

19.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, nor any of its suppliers is engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including Article 32 thereof, which, inter alia, requires that a child shall be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

19.2 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to UNDP.

20.0 MINES:

20.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it nor any of its suppliers is actively and directly engaged in patent activities, development, assembly, production, trade or manufacture of mines or in such activities in respect of components primarily utilized in the manufacture of Mines. The term "Mines" means those devices defined in Article 2, Paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of Protocol II annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 1980.

20.2 Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind of UNDP.

21.0 OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW:

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of this Contract.

22.0 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION:

- 22.1** The Contractor shall take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse of anyone by it or by any of its employees or any other persons who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract. For these purposes, sexual activity with any person less than eighteen years of age, regardless of any laws relating to consent, shall constitute the sexual exploitation and abuse of such person. In addition, the Contractor shall refrain from, and shall take all appropriate measures to prohibit its employees or other persons engaged by it from, exchanging any money, goods, services, offers of employment or other things of value, for sexual favors or activities, or from engaging in any sexual activities that are exploitive or degrading to any person. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the provisions hereof constitute an essential term of the Contract and that any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.
- 22.2** The UNDP shall not apply the foregoing standard relating to age in any case in which the Contractor's personnel or any other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract is married to the person less than the age of eighteen years with whom sexual activity has occurred and in which such marriage is recognized as valid under the laws of the country of citizenship of such Contractor's personnel or such other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract.

23.0 AUTHORITY TO MODIFY:

Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP, only the UNDP Authorized Official possesses the authority to agree on behalf of UNDP to any modification of or change in this Contract, to a waiver of any of its provisions or to any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor. Accordingly, no modification or change in this Contract shall be valid and enforceable against UNDP unless provided by an amendment to this Contract signed by the Contractor and jointly by the UNDP Authorized Official.

Terms of Reference

Gain Back the Brain, Reversing Brain Drain with Albanian Scientific Diaspora

I. Background

In the last 26 years, the phenomenon of migration has been at the very core of the political, economic and social changes occurring in Albania. By the end of 2011, about 1.4 million people, or about one third of the Albanian population, were estimated to be living abroad, mainly in Greece and Italy. Like other economic and social phenomena, migration has had both positive and negative effects on the development of Albania. In this context, the task of policy makers is to seek to maximize the positive aspects of migration, whilst minimizing negative ones. In the overall context of Albanian migration, there are three major issues that deserve particular attention: remittances and migrant savings, the sustainable return of migrants, and the “brain drain/brain gain” process.

Brain drain is one of the most discussed issues related to Albanian migration. During the post-socialist transition large numbers of engineers, veterinary doctors, economic specialists, teachers, doctors, artists, and researchers emigrated from Albania causing a large erosion of human resources. Work by CESS (2006)¹³ suggests that about 40 percent of all university lecturers and scientific, most of them young and trained partly in Europe, have left Albania since 1990. Nearly 66 percent of those Albanians have been known to complete doctorate studies in Western Europe or the US since 1990 have either migrated from Albania after briefly returning or never coming back after graduation.

In 2006 CESS estimated that there were around 200 Albanians with a PhD¹⁴ that were employed in universities, labs, and scientific institutions as well as in the research departments of corporations of developed countries of the OECD. This pool is focused in a few destination countries (for example, France, UK, USA, Austria, and Germany). For a small country like Albania, this pool of researchers is significant as it represents around a third of the population that has a PhD and about 10 percent of the academic potential of Albania. Other nationals with a PhD are working in line with their professional training. Additional sources suggest that this pool is likely to grow deeper and expand in the future. The number of Albanian students completing university and post-university studies in the industrialized countries – masters and doctorate– has also grown progressively during the first decade of 2000s.

In Albania, like in other countries, there is growing interest in the potential to reach out to scientific and other diasporas abroad as a way to tackle the issue of “brain drain.” For example, the Global Commission on International Migration (2005) argued that, “Countries of origin can gain considerable advantage by harnessing the talents and resources of diaspora populations, which have grown significantly in size and scope as a result of the recent expansion of international migration.”

¹³From Brain Drain to Brain Gain: Mobilizing Albania’s Skilled Diaspora, A policy paper for the government of Albania, UNDP, 2006.

¹⁴ Gëdeshi I., Gërmenji E., Highly Skilled Migration from Albania: An Assessment of Current Trends and the Ways Ahead, DRC Migration, Globalisation and Development, January 2008.

Historically, attempts to counter the loss of human capital due to brain drain have focused on two options: the return option and the diaspora option (UNESCO, 1999). The return option refers to policies that are designed to require an individual who studies abroad to return back to their home country through migration restrictions. The other more advanced option is to take advantage of the diaspora abroad and use the associations to promote development remotely. Using these networks that these researchers and academics have created abroad is an excellent way to mobilize cooperation and promote development. This is an important and necessary option in the world where online interaction is king. Examples of networks created through the Arab Scientists and Technologist Abroad, the Latin American Association of Scientists, and the Networks of Diasporas in Engineering and Science through the US Department of State all work towards promoting brain gain policies.

In 2006 the Albanian Government launched a Brain Gain Program with support from the UNDP. It was designed to provide incentive packages for highly qualified migrants to return and work in Albania. This Program, which ended in 2013, resulted in the return of a relatively small group of qualified migrants. The impact of the Brain Gain Program reflects, hence, different preconditions for the highly skilled migrants to physically return, such as economic and political stability of the country, reduced corruption, reforms in universities and research institutes, as well as investments in education and research activities. Even though there has been progress in these areas of Albanian development, the conditions still have not created a favorable environment for return migration making the return option unviable to fight brain drain. Therefore, utilizing the scientific diaspora network created by Albanian academics and researchers abroad provides a better avenue to boost brain gain and to better link it to the constitution and implementation of National strategies and policies.

The newly elected Albanian Government in 2013 is focusing on important reforms in science, university education, medicine, and administration with plans to engage the scientific diaspora in the socio-economic development of the country. Research done on this topic would therefore be timely and helpful to policy makers as it would provide guidelines and suggestions of best practices.

II. Objectives

The purpose of this study is to offer to the Albanian government input on the relevant steps and actions that can be undertaken to institutionalize policies promoting “brain gain” in Albania, with a particular focus on the upcoming National Scientific Research Strategy and respective bylaws.

The specific objectives include:

- To identify and localize Albanian academics and researchers in developed countries;
- To identify main areas of scientific research in Albania and compare them with the research area of the Albanian scientific diaspora;
- To create a profile of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora as well as evaluate its potential finding ways to build and strengthen cooperation;
- To set out forms of cooperation between Albanian institutions and academics with researchers living abroad;
- To offer a comparative analyses on the public attitudes of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora with regards to the Higher Education and Scientific Research strategies and policies in Albania.

- To promote policies based on global experience by using the talents and resources of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora to promote the development of the country.

The primary audience for the project is the Government of Albania, Albanian universities and researches institutes, NGOs, civil society, and international organizations.

III. Methodology

The analytical work for this project will consist of an analysis of both primary and secondary data. This includes an overview of the available literature, quantitative and qualitative methods. The quantitative and qualitative methods component will include: a) an online survey questionnaire with 500 Albanian academics and researchers working abroad; b) an online semi-structured interviews (Skype interview) with 25 Albanian academics and researchers working abroad (mainly in universities and research institutions); c) semi-structured interviews with 25 officials and experts from Ministry of Education and Sport, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, and other government agencies, different universities and research institutes, and representatives of international organizations; and d) 2 Focus Group discussion (online) with Albanian academics and researchers working abroad.

IV. Outputs

This project will have the following main outputs:

- 1) **A study** - based on quantitative (survey questionnaire) and qualitative (interviews and focus groups) techniques – on Albanian Scientific Diaspora. By means of this study the profile of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora will be created. The profile of Scientific Diaspora will include demographic data (gender, age, marital status, etc) geographic distribution, areas of study in sciences, scientific titles and country of employment, social capital, the chances to return in motherland as well as the will to cooperate with university and scientific institutions in Albania. The study will target mainly the Albanian Scientific Diaspora in natural & engineering sciences (not exhaustively, medicine, engineering, biology, agriculture, urban development, architecture, ICT, etc), since the share of graduates and post-graduates in Albania in these sciences is comparatively lower to the share of graduates and post-graduates in social sciences and humanities;
- 2) **A comparative analysis** of the research projects and sectors, didactic methodologies and training courses offered by both Albanian Scientific Diaspora and Albanian higher Education institutions. The analysis should include also the perception and suggestions of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora on the upcoming Law and Strategy on Scientific Research in Albania;
- 3) **A policy paper** - that will describe the potential of the Albanian Scientific Diaspora, the potential forms of cooperation with Albanian researchers abroad and conditions that need to be created in Albania for such cooperation.

V. Profiles and qualifications

A civil society organization with the following characteristics will be contracted for this assignment:

- At least 20 years of experience in research projects in the field of migration;

- Consolidated experience in brain drain/brain gain research projects funded by international development partners in Albania;

Team of experts

For the completion of this work, the entity should make available the following team of 5 experts with the following requirements for the key ones:

Team Leader

The team leader will be the interface of the NGO with the Ministry of Education and Sports and UNDP. S/he will also be in charge for *the profiling and mapping of the diaspora* (Output 1). S/he should display the following characteristics:

- At least a PhD degree in a relevant field;
- At least 15 years of experience in migration research in Albania;
- At least 10 years of experience in brain drain/brain gain research projects;

Key expert Output 2 – practical identification of diaspora's contribution:

- At least a PhD degree in a relevant field;
- Consolidated experience in the third cycle of studies;
- Consolidated experience in quality assurance of Higher Education Programs;

Key expert Output 3 – policy paper:

- At least a PhD degree in relevant field;
- At least 15 years of experience in migration research;
- At least 10 years of experience in policy-related migration research projects;

Two other experts will be required to assist in the completion of Output 1 and 2.

Work will need to be completed over a period of maximum 4 months from contract signature. Outputs will be disseminated through the mass media and a workshop will be held for representatives of different ministries, universities and research institutes, representatives of NGOs, civil society and international organizations. Provisions for these activities and arrangements have to be made in the proposal.