

TWINNING CALL FOR PROPOSALS
issued by the European Commission

Please note that the implementation duration of 24 months is subject to the approval by the Government of Azerbaijan of the Addendum 2 to the Financing Agreement

1. Publication reference: 136-196

2. Programme and Financing source

Title of Twinning project: "Support to the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan for further adherence of the higher education system to the European Higher Education Area" (Twinning ref. AZ/14/ENP/OT/31)

Title of Programme/Financing source: ENPI National Annual Action Programme 2011 for the Republic of Azerbaijan

3. Nature of activities, geographical area and project duration

(a) Nature of activities

The overall objective of this Twinning project is to further develop Azerbaijan's higher education system through integration in the European Higher Education Area. The project purpose is to increase the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Education and other key institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the development of Bologna related policies and the full implementation of the EHEA objectives and reference tools.

The following four Mandatory Results are to be achieved by the end of the project:

- MR 1 The legal and normative framework for HE is reviewed and concrete recommendations for adapting legislation relevant to QA and the HE sections of the AzQF in Azerbaijan are developed;
- MR 2 The coordination & networking capacity of the MoE and relevant stakeholders is enhanced on the basis of good practice examples in the EHEA;
- MR 3 The AzQF sections relevant for higher education are developed in line with the EHEA QF in cooperation with HEIs. A roadmap for the full implementation of the framework in higher education is developed;
- MR 4 Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in HE in Azerbaijan are developed in line with the European Standards and Guidelines for QA and tested with three HE institutions.

(b) Geographical area: Republic of Azerbaijan

Beneficiary institution: Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan

(c) Maximum project duration: 24 months (+ 3 months for the start-up and closure of the project)

4. Overall amount available for this Call for Proposals Euro 1,300,000.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5. Eligibility: Who may apply

Only public administrations and mandated bodies of EU Member States may apply through EU Member State's National Contact Points. Please refer to section 3.3. "Public Administrations and Mandated Bodies" of the Twinning manual of the European Commission (Revision 2012) for further detail.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

6. Provisional notification date of results of the award process

8 December 2014

AWARD CRITERIA

7. Award criteria

Selection and award criteria are mentioned in the evaluation grids annexed to the Twinning Manual 2012 – Update 2013-2014 and annexes (valid for projects circulated from 1st January 2013). See administrative compliance and eligibility grid (annex C6) and evaluation grid (annex C8): <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/tenders/twinning/>

APPLICATION FORMALITIES

8. Twinning proposal and details to be provided

Twining proposals must be submitted to the EU Member States **National Contact Points for Twinning** following the instructions of the **Twining Manual 2012 – Update 2013-2014 and annexes (valid for projects circulated from 1st January 2013)** which must be strictly observed (including the use of the template).

National Contact Points for Twinning will then select one Twinning proposal and submit it to the Contracting Authority within the deadline for applications.

For each application, **one copy** is sent by the e-mail of the National Contact Point.

9. Deadline for applications

Deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the National Contact Points to the Contracting Authority, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Azerbaijan:

24 October 2014, 5 pm (Azerbaijan Standard Time – CET+3)

The deadline for submission of Twinning proposals by the EU Member State Public Administrations to the corresponding National Contact Point is decided by the latter.

Any application received by the Contracting Authority after this deadline will not be considered.

10. Detailed information

Detailed information on this Call for Proposals is contained in the Twinning manual and the specific project fiches, which are available at the European Union Member States **National Contact Points for Twinning**.

The dates envisaged for the evaluation committee meetings are: **24-25 November 2014** (to be finalised upon receipt of technical proposals). Location: *Baku, Azerbaijan*.
