

The Government of Albania, through the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MIE), intends to procure railway passenger transport services under a Public Service Contract (PSC).

The envisaged contract will initially cover a base service package with an estimated annual volume of approximately 1 million train-kilometers. Subject to future network developments and operational requirements, the service scope may be expanded by up to approximately 4 million additional train-kilometers per year.

The base services are expected to be operated on the modernized standard-gauge (1435 mm) railway line connecting Tirana, Durrës, and Tirana International Airport, including intermediate stations. Potential future extensions may include passenger services on the Vorë–Hani i Hotit and Durrës–Rrogozhinë–Pogradec railway corridors, subject to the completion of the relevant infrastructure investments and commissioning of the respective lines.

The duration of the Public Service Contract is expected to be between ten (10) and fifteen (15) years. Public service obligations arising from the contract shall be financed, in whole or in part, through public service compensation provided by the Competent Authority in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory framework.

The selected operator will be responsible for sourcing, mobilizing and maintaining an adequate fleet of rolling stock necessary for the delivery of the contracted services.

Prior to launching the procurement procedure, the Competent Authority intends to undertake a market consultation exercise to engage with potential operators and obtain feedback on the proposed service model and procurement approach. Following the completion of the market consultation, the Competent Authority reserves the right to determine the most appropriate procurement procedure.

Interested operators are invited to submit an Expression of Interest within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of publication of this notice. Expressions of Interest should include a brief company profile containing, at a minimum, the following information:

- Annual passenger train-kilometers operated during each of the preceding five years;
- Country or countries in which the services were performed;
- Types of rolling stock currently operated;
- Rolling stock ownership and availability arrangements (owned, leased, provided by a competent authority, or other arrangements);
- Maintenance arrangements for rolling stock (in-house maintenance, subcontracted to the manufacturer, or subcontracted to another third party).

Operators expressing interest will be invited to participate in an introductory workshop, during which additional information on the project will be presented and participants will have the opportunity to raise questions and provide feedback. Date and details of this workshop will be published on MIE website once decided.

Further information regarding the project, including detailed requirements for the submission of Expressions of Interest, may be obtained through the dedicated project webpage and by contacting the Competent Authority at the coordinates indicated below.