

Questions and Answers (High Level Advisers' 2016-2018)

HLA Programme

How is the HLA programme to Moldova integrated in the overall EU programming for the ENI area? And through which budget will it be financed?

The current High Level Advisers' programme is funded in the framework of the ENI bilateral assistance programmes between EU and Moldova.

HLA vs Twinning

What is the funding source of the project?

The financing of this project comes from the ENI bilateral assistance. Twinning is funded from the same source whereas TAIEX is funded from the regional programmes envelope.

What is the difference between High Level Advisers and Resident Twinning Advisers?

There is no link or similarity between the HLA Programme and Twinning. The HLA Programme will provide mainly strategic advice at policy level, while Twinning intervenes in more technical areas through projects meant to reach concrete mandatory results.

Are these opportunities open to professionals from Twinning Mandated Bodies only?

There is no link or similarity between the HLA Programme and Twinning, therefore any reference to Mandated Bodies is irrelevant

Who will manage the project and the High Level Advisers?

The EU Delegation to Moldova will manage the HLA programme, with the active support of DG NEAR.

HLA Profiles (Private vs Public Expertise)

Please clarify the requirements regarding the experience in public or private administration.

All experts are expected to have a solid experience acquired within public administrations. Some exceptions apply, namely in the case of the High Level Adviser for Communication, where experience in the private sector might prevail on that earned in a public administration. In general however, the HLA Programme aims at mobilising persons with strong experience in the public domain.

Is it correct that the advisers need to be in active public service at the moment of their application or must have worked in public service until max. 2 years ago?

No. They might be private consultants at the moment, but with a solid public background.

Can retired experts apply as well?

Yes, as long as the general and specific requirements are met. Twinning rules are not applicable for the case of the HLA Programme.

HLA Working Conditions

By whom and how the High Level Advisers will be hired?

The selected candidate will be hired by a consultancy company having been awarded a service contract by the EU Delegation to Moldova for the purpose of ensuring the logistic support of the Programme. The gross amount paid monthly to the High Level Adviser will be between 10,000 and 12,000 euros; an extra amount will be added as a lump sum for one return plane ticket per year to the home country of the expert. The consultancy company will take out a health insurance for the HLA. The HLA will have to comply with tax requirements applying in his/her country of fiscal residence.

What is the duration of contracts and how can they be extended?

Contracts will be signed for a duration of one year, renewable up to three years (which is the maximum duration of the Programme). Before the end of each year, the contribution to the achievements of policy goals will be assessed by the main stakeholders and, in case of a positive appraisal, the contract may be renewed.

What will be the role and profiles of HLA Assistants?

HLA Assistants will be contracted by the consultancy company and there is a specific budgetary allocation for them separated from the budgetary allocation for the High Level Advisers. The selection process will take into account the opinion of the HLA concerned, to ensure that the selected candidate enjoys his/her full trust. The HLA Assistant will combine the tasks of personal assistant and language assistant. The HLA Assistant will work full time for the Programme.

Will the advisers be posted in Moldova for the whole period or only travel to Chisinau for single missions?

The advisers are supposed to be based full time in Chisinau. Work patterns, including possible leaves of absence, will be regulated in the individual Service Contracts to be signed with the consultancy company.

What will be the fiscal situation of the High Level Advisers?

The fiscal situation of High Level Advisers will be determined by their fiscal residence and according to the applicable national legislation.

Diplomatic Status

The High Level Advisers must have diplomatic or service passport issued by an EU Member State?

No. Diplomatic Status will be granted on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2009 between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova. The EU Delegation to Moldova will start the necessary proceedings with the Moldovan authorities. The HLA will be granted the status pertaining to the rank of 'Technical Staff'.

Applications

Regarding applications, are we correct in assuming that applications are via the submission of a CV and perhaps a cover letter, or is there an application form?

Applications should include the CV of the expert, accompanied by a cover note indicating the position that is applied for and, possibly, some motivational considerations.

Multiple Applications

Can one expert apply for more than one position? If yes, can interest for more than one position be expressed in one single application?

Yes, one expert can apply for more than one position, with the understanding that he/she can be selected only as HLA for one specific job. The application can refer to more than one position, but the cover note should clearly and separately clarify the reasons why the applicant considers he/she has the qualifications to cover each of the positions considered.