

## Call for Research Proposals from Serbia

### General

The Regional Research Promotion Programme (RRPP) Western Balkans launched in 2007 and funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), aims at establishing and strengthening research capacities in the area of social sciences in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia. For this purpose funding is provided for research projects conducted by researchers from the region.

The RRPP Management, hosted at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, now launches a call for proposals, open to researchers from and resident in Serbia. The research topics to be submitted should be relevant to transition themes, and they should address and deal with specific issues at stake. Furthermore, the proposals must fit into the regional umbrella topic “Political, Social and Economic Change in the Western Balkans” and the research topic defined specifically for Serbia: “Governance, Social Change and Information Society”. The RRPP Website contains information on its partners in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Macedonia as well as details on research projects already approved.

The budget made available per project will be Swiss Francs (CHF) 25'000 maximum for one year. Submitting several applications is possible, but the evaluation will consider the difference in topics and approaches.

### Submission

The official application form must be used to submit research proposals by the deadline of Monday, 12 April 2010. The first page of this form is to be signed and scanned. All documents (application form, CVs, annexes, etc.) need to be submitted as one PDF file to the RRPP Management at: [office@rrpp-westernbalkans.net](mailto:office@rrpp-westernbalkans.net). For any queries or additional information, please use the same address.

### Evaluation criteria

The following criteria will be applied to assess the submissions for research projects:

- scientific quality (most important are the elaboration of research question, methods and research plan);
- relevance and link to the umbrella topics;
- feasibility;
- regional dimension (cooperation and networking);
- coherence of proposed topic with research already conducted at home institution;
- scientific competence of the applicants;
- implication of both younger and female researchers.

### Selection timeframe

The evaluation process will take place in the following steps:

- 12 April 2010: Deadline to submit research proposals
- End of June 2010: Final decision of the Scientific and Steering Boards
- July 2010: Start of approved research projects