

## CONSULTANT SERVICES PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Date: 04 May 2018

**Country:** Republic of Moldova

**Description of the assignment:** national consultant to provide technical advice to the Government of the Republic of Moldova on the implementation of gender equality principles in the public finance management system (based at the Ministry of Finance/MoF)

**Project name:** UN Women Moldova

**Period of assignment/services:** Up to 60 work days within a 5 months assignment

**Proposals** should be submitted **on-line** no later than **25 MAY 2018, 23:59 local time**.

Requests for clarification only must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail [irina.cozma@unwomen.org](mailto:irina.cozma@unwomen.org).

Please notice that this address is for information requests only, please do not send or copy your application package to this address.

UN Women staff will respond in writing or by standard electronic mail and will send written copies of the response, including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry, to all consultants.

### BACKGROUND

UN Women, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. Placing women's rights at the center of all its efforts, the UN Women leads and coordinates the United Nations system efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world.

UN Women's presence in the Republic of Moldova has evolved from being a project-based office in 2007 to a Country Office with fully delegated authority as of 2015. The work of UN Women in Moldova is guided by its [new Country Strategic Note for 2018-2022](#), aligned with the [Republic of Moldova–United Nations Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018–2022](#), the [Global Strategic Plan of UN Women for 2018-2021](#), the National Strategy on Gender Equality for 2017-2021 (NSGE), and aims to contribute to the gender-responsive implementation of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

The newly approved UN Women Strategy for Moldova 2018-2022 focuses on three main areas: 1/strengthening women's participation in politics and decision making, 2/economic empowerment of women and 3/ending violence against women and girls. To achieve progress under these areas, UN Women works with variety of national and international partners and as part of different national and regional initiatives. Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) is integrated in the current Strategic Note for 2018-2022 under the "Women lead, participate and benefit equally from governance system" Outcome, and is meant to contribute to increased capacities of the public institutions to analyze and improve policies, regulations, and budgets to fulfill gender equality commitments.

Under the GRB area of intervention, the NSGE will focus on development, piloting and institutionalizing of GRB tools (gender sensitive indicators, expenditure strategies and concepts) and building capacity of relevant central and local government staff on gender equality and support for development of ministries' gender sensitive sectorial action plans. Since 2011, UN Women, with the financial support of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), has been implementing the regional project "Promoting Gender Responsive Policies in South-East Europe and the Republic of Moldova" covering Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYR Macedonia) and the Republic of Moldova (Regional GRB Project). Its overall goal

is to support the advancement of implementation of national and international commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment in line with national Sustainable Development Goals priority targets.

UN Women Moldova invested in building expertise on GRB at all levels of the public administration and provided support for elaboration of GRB courses at the post-graduate level, creating an academic platform for GRB research, and developing a series of knowledge products on GRB. Workshops and study visits gave the opportunity to women Members of Parliament, Ministry of Finance (MoF) and Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (MoHLSP) representatives, university professors, students in finance/economics and local public administration officials to learn from their peers in other countries and international experts.

UN Women Moldova and MoF, with the financial support of ADA, have intensified the collaboration in mainstreaming of gender equality priorities and objectives in policy and budget preparation and budget execution processes, based on the results achieved and lessons learnt from GRB initiatives implemented in Moldova and other CEE countries, as well as recommendations of the members of the Advisory Board of the Regional GRP Project.

In January 2018 the Ministry of Finance created the Gender Equality Coordination Group (GECG)<sup>1</sup> which includes 8 members, representing the following divisions of the MoF: Sectoral Budget Policies; Tax and Customs Policy; Wage Policies and Monitoring of Personnel in Budget Sector; Policy Analysis, Monitoring and Evaluation; Sectoral Budget Policies; and Institutional Management. The GECG is chaired by a MoF State Secretary.

## **RATIONALE**

Moldova introduced a Program Based Budgeting (PBB) for Central Public Authorities starting with the 2014 budget, Local Public Authorities Level II with the 2015 budget and Local Public Authorities Level I, starting with the 2016 budget. The implementation of the PBB system revealed certain shortcomings that have kept the PBB process from unfolding its full potential and effectively contributing to budget planning and resource allocation.

In 2018, the MoF has decided to undertake a review of the PBB system aimed at rationalizing and improving the functionality of the system. Thus, the MoF is open to expert consultancy support to assist the staff of the MoF with gender mainstreaming and ensuring synchronicities between PBB and GRB initiatives.

In this context, UN Women, in consultation with MoF, plans to hire a local consultant to provide support to the MoF on integrating gender equality and gender sensitive budgeting principles in national budgeting processes.

## **2. SCOPE OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED WORK**

The selected national consultant will provide direct technical assistance to the MoF on the review and rationalization of the PBB system. The national consultant will also advise the Gender Equality Coordination Group (GECG) members and other structures across the MoF in adopting principles of gender equality in the public finance management system, commitments under the Public Financial Management Strategy 2013-2020 (PFM), National Strategy on Gender Equality 2017-2021 and other sectorial and cross-cutting strategies, aiming at improving gender equality of public budgeting, revenues and expenditures.

*For detailed information, please refer to Annex 1- Terms of Reference.*

## **3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

### Education:

- Advanced degree in finance and economics.
- Other formal education relevant for the assignment is an asset.

### Experience:

- Minimum 5 years of relevant professional experience in public finance system;

---

<sup>1</sup> MoF Order No. 16, of 19 January 2018 that abrogates the MoF Order No. 184 dated 20 December 2013.

- Minimum 5 years of proven experience working/collaborating with central and local public authorities in assisting/supporting drafting policy recommendations/ policy reports or coordinating activities;
- Minimum 2 years of proven work experience in the area of social protection, gender equality, human rights and development;
- Minimum 3 years of experience in working with international organizations (successful experience in working with UN agencies is an asset)

Language skills:

Fluency in verbal & written Romanian and English. Working knowledge of Russian will be considered an asset.

#### **4. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS**

Interested candidates are invited to submit their online applications by **25 May 2018** with the following documents.

- Duly filled Personal History Form PHF11/CV;
- Letter of Intent to include a brief overview about which of your previous experiences makes you the most suitable candidate for the advertised position;
- Financial proposal (in MDL) - specifying an all-inclusive fixed total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs as per template provided.

#### **5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL**

The financial proposal shall include a breakdown of the lump sum amount (daily rate and number of anticipated working days). Please see Annex I: Price Proposal Guideline and Template and Annex II: Price Proposal Submission Form.

#### **6. TRAVEL**

UN Women will not cover transportation cost within Chisinau.

#### **7. EVALUATION**

For detailed evaluation procedures please refer to Annex 1- Terms of Reference

#### **ANNEX**

##### **ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR)**

##### **ANNEX 2 – CONDITIONS OF SERVICE - CONSULTANT**