



Terms of references

Project Reference: "Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into Moldova territorial planning policies and land-use practices"

Job Title: National consultant for development of the Methodological guidelines for impact evaluation used during the forest and pasture management planning.

Type of Contract:	Individual Contract (IC)
Assignment type:	National consultant
Section/Unit:	Environment and Energy Cluster
Duty Station:	Chisinau (Moldova)
Languages required:	Romanian, English
Starting Date:	15 October 2018
Duration of Assignment:	50 Working days from 15 October 2018 until 31 December 2018
Payment arrangements:	Lump sum contract (payments linked to satisfactory performance and delivery of outputs)
Evaluation method:	Desk review; interview of shortlisted candidates may be added

I. BACKGROUND

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), acting as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), is providing assistance to the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova in implementation of the GEF Medium Sized Project (MSP) "Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Moldova's Territorial Planning Policies and Land-Use Practices" (BD mainstreaming project).

Despite the Government's reform efforts, the spatial/territorial planning framework is facing two types of barriers: (i) inadequate planning and enforcement framework and (ii) inadequate demonstrated experiences in spatial planning and biodiversity-compatible land management practices.

Against this background, the BD mainstreaming Project will be addressing the gaps in land planning and enforcement systems through development of relevant regulations, standards and legislation to accommodate biodiversity conservation objectives while the gap of limited coordination across sectors will be addressed by establishing a multi-stakeholder committee which will ensure a unified approach in the development, implementation and enforcement of land-use plans from the different ministries and departments. In addition, a monitoring system will be emplaced among the various regulatory agencies, assigning responsibilities based on comparative advantage, in order to evaluate acceptable limits of change in biodiversity-important areas. The gap of inadequate demonstrated experiences in spatial planning and biodiversity-compatible land management practices will be tackled through development and testing of biodiversity-compatible district spatial (land-use) plans in 2 districts of Moldova, relying on cross-sectoral working groups, GIS technologies for biodiversity mapping, identification of sites of conflict between biodiversity and human activities and others.

Overall, the objective of the project is to mainstream biodiversity conservation priorities into Moldova's territorial planning policies and land-use practices through two components – the first will focus on modifying the land use planning and enforcement system so that it addresses biodiversity loss, and the second will demonstrate methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity on communal lands outside PAs.

II. OBJECTIVES

The contractor is expected to develop the Methodological guidelines for impact evaluation used during the forest and pasture management planning and making a detailed impact evaluation of the implemented activities in the framework of the UNDP/GEF BD mainstreaming project.

The contractor will report directly to the project manager of the BD mainstreaming project and will work with all other involved national consultants.

III. OUTPUTS AND TASKS

- A. Development of the detailed methodology and indicators for forest and pasture management planning impact for people wellbeing, economic development and environment. Impact evaluation methodology should be based on existing best practices in domain and available data. Consult the methodology with relevant stakeholders during a max. one day workshop in Chisinau.
- B. Based on developed methodology, perform an impact evaluation of the forest and pasture management planning activities performed in one of the districts covered by the UNDP/GEF Biodiversity mainstreaming project.
- C. Development of the Methodological guidelines for impact evaluation used for forest and pasture management planning. The Methodological Guide will be divided in several modules according to the proposed below structure. The final content will be discussed in the inception phase of the assignment.
 1. Introduction (brief description of the purpose, the objectives of the Guide, the results of forestry and pastoral management works and impact evaluation methodology).
 2. Normative and legal framework for the performing the forestry and pasture management planning activities (legislative acts, normative acts, technical norms etc.).

3. Technological procedures regarding the execution of the forestry and pasture management activities.
 - 3.1. Organizational aspects of forestry and pastoral management activities (Executors/beneficiaries' obligations, stages of works, optimal terms for works, etc.).
 - 3.2. Technical aspects and technologies on performing forestry and pasture management activities (brief description of the technical operations foreseen by the forestry and pasture management activities, functional zoning, the basis of forestry and pasture management activities, etc.).
 - 3.3. Products resulting from the execution of the forestry and pastoral management activities [list of products (forestry and pasture management plans, parcel descriptions, maps etc.).
4. Endorsments and technical control in the execution of forestry and pasture management activities.
5. The process of approval and implementation of the forestry and pasture management activities (conferences I and II on the forestry and pasture management activities, examination at the Scientific Technical Council, approval by the local council, implementation, etc.).
6. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of forestry and pasture management activities (periodicity, control areas, review of management activities, etc.).
7. Impact evaluation of the forestry and pasture management plan.
8. Examples of forestry and pasture management activities and obtained results (general aspects regarding the volumes of forestry and community pastures management works, concrete examples with design data within the project area and beyond (Orhei National Park, Sorooca/Stefan Voda districts etc.).
9. Conclusions, lessons learned, recommendations.

Annexes

- Table of Impact Evaluation Indicators
- Example of impact assessment based on activities within UNDP project „Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into Moldova’s territorial planning policies and land use practices“
- Structure and content of forest management plan.
- Structure and content of pasture management plan.

IV. SCHEDULE AND DELIVERABLES

The assignment should be carried out within a period of October 2018 – December 2018, not exceeding 50 working days.

No.	Deliverable	Deadline and workload
1	Detailed methodology and indicators for forest and pasture management planning impact evaluation developed and tested in one of the target districts	October 30, 2018 15 working days
2	Draft version of the Methodological guidelines for impact evaluation used during the forest and pasture management planning	November 30, 2018 21 working days
3	Final version of the Methodological guidelines for impact evaluation used during the forest and pasture management planning	December 15, 2018 14 working days

Deliverables can be amended or specified for the purpose of the assignment.

V. QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Academic qualifications:

- Master's Degree in forestry, environment or other relevant fields

Experience:

- At least three years of proven experience in development and implementation of the forest and/or pasture management plans.
- At least three years of proven experience in environment/social/economic impact evaluation (biodiversity in particular if any).
- At least three years of proven experience in working with central and local public authorities.
- Experience in similar activities with UNDP and/or other international projects are a strong advantage.
- Ability and demonstrated success to work in a team, to effectively organize it, and to motivate its members and other project counterparts to effectively work towards the project's objective and expected outcomes;
- Excellent communication, analytical, facilitation and presentation skills;
- Excellent computer literacy (Word, Excel, Internet, Power Point);

Language skills

- Proficiency (verbal and written) in Romanian; working level of Russian or English will be an asset;

VI. PAYMENT MODALITIES

The consultant will organize and facilitate the implementation of all project advisory activities as described above; his/her payment will be lump sum amount based, disbursed in instalments upon satisfactory performance and approval of deliverables.

I. APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants shall submit the following four documents:

Required

- ☒ Offeror's Letter confirming Interest and Availability;
- ☒ Curium Vitae including information about past experience in similar assignments and contact details for referees;
- ☒ Brief description of approach to work/technical proposal of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment, and a proposed methodology on how they will approach and complete the assignment.

Incomplete applications not considered.

If an applicant is employed by an organization/company/institution, and he/she expects his/her employer to charge a management fee in the process of releasing him/her to UNDP under Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA), the applicant must indicate at this point, and ensure that all such costs are duly incorporated in the financial proposal submitted to UNDP.

VII. ANNEXES TO THE TOR

Annex 1- Individual Consultant General Terms and Conditions

Annex 2- Financial proposal template

Annex 3 - Offeror's Letter confirming Interest and Availability.