

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Date: **21 October 2021**

Country: Republic of Moldova

Description of the assignment: National Consultant to support development of climate change mainstreaming recommendations for energy sector's policies, strategies and programmes

Project name: EU4Climate

Period of assignment/services: October 2021 – February 2022 (up to 33 working days)

Proposals should be submitted **online by pressing the "Apply Online" button**, no later than 5 November 2021 16:30 (Moldova local time).

Requests for **clarification only** must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail: ana-maria.manole@undp.org. UNDP will respond 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 applicants.

1. PROJECT GOAL AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The goal of EU4Climate Project¹ is to contribute to climate change mitigation & adaptation and the development towards a low-emissions and climate-resilient economy in line with the Paris Agreement² in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

To realize this project goal, the following results should be achieved:

- Result 1:** Updated nationally determined contributions communicated to the UNFCCC;
- Result 2:** Improved inter-institutional awareness and coordination at political and technical level of the Paris Agreement and the corresponding national commitments;
- Result 3:** Established or strengthened MRV systems, with countries getting on track with Paris Agreement transparency requirements;
- Result 4:** Advanced alignment with EU climate acquis as provided by bilateral agreements with EU and in the context of Energy Community Treaty on climate matters;
- Result 5:** Establishment of concrete sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement in each of the Eastern Partners;
- Result 6:** Increased mobilization of climate finance;
- Result 7:** Enhanced adaptation planning.

¹ <<https://www.md.undp.org/content/moldova/en/home/projects/eu-4-climate.html>>.

² Decision 1/CP.21 'Adopting of the Paris Agreement' <<https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/10a01.pdf>>

2. BACKGROUND

The Republic of Moldova's INDC (NDC1) was submitted on 25 September 2015³. According to it, The Republic of Moldova intends to achieve an economy-wide unconditional target of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 64-67 per cent below its 1990 level in 2030 and to make best efforts to reduce its emissions by 67 per cent. The reduction commitment expressed above could be increased up to 78 per cent below 1990 level conditional to, a global agreement addressing important topics including low-cost financial resources, technology transfer, and technical cooperation, accessible to all at a scale commensurate to the challenge of global climate change. To achieve at the national level the Moldova's NDC targets, the Low emissions development Strategy by 2030 and the Action Plan for its implementation (LEDS 2030) were adopted by the Government⁴. The Strategy plans the low emission development for the following sectors: energy, transport, building, industry, agriculture, forestry and waste.

The decision 1/CP.21 requests those Parties whose intended nationally determined contribution pursuant to decision 1/CP.20 contains a time frame up to 2030 to communicate or update by 2020 these contributions and to do so every five years thereafter pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement.

Thus, Ministry of Environment presented, on March 2020, to the Secretariat of the UNFCCC the second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2) of the Republic of Moldova⁵. According to it, Republic of Moldova intends to achieve more ambitious targets than in its NDC1. The country's new economy-wide unconditional target is to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 70 per cent below its 1990 level in 2030, instead of 64-67 per cent as committed in NDC1. As to the new economy-wide conditional target, instead of 78 per cent as committed in NDC1, the reduction commitment expressed above could be increased in NDC2 up to 88 per cent below 1990 level, provided a global agreement addressing important topics including low-cost financial resources, technology transfer, and technical cooperation, accessible to all at a scale commensurate to the challenge of global climate change, is insured. The Republic of Moldova has included in its updated NDC the adaptation component in line with Articles 2.1 and 7.1 of the Paris Agreement and Katowice Rulebook (COP 24). According to it, the adaptation priority sectors are agriculture, water resources, forestry, human health, transport and energy. Following, the LEDS 2030 was updated. This activity was conducted with the support of the EU4Climate project and on 17 June the updated LEDS 2030 was presented within a public event.

According to Moldova's National Inventory Report 1990-2016 (sources of data used in quantifying the reference points for Moldova's Updated NDC), in 2016, about 72.7 per cent of the national net direct GHG emissions originated from the Energy Sector, being the most important source of total national direct GHG emissions. Other relevant direct GHG sources were represented by Agriculture Sector (17.8 per cent of the total), Waste Sector (10.7 per cent of the total) and IPPU Sector (5.6 per cent of the total).

Moldova's LEDS 2030 establishes a GHG reduction target from the energy sector of 74% as unconditional scenario and 82% conditioned, compared to 1990. Thus, the energy sector is the one with the most ambitious GHG reduction targets. Achieving this target demands climate change mainstreaming into development policies, plans and programmes.

According to LEDS 2030, Moldova identified energy as a key sector for implementation of its NDC1. The enhancement of energy efficiency across key economic sectors, the adoption of clean energy technologies and shifting to renewable energies to decrease dependence on imported fossil fuels is part of the NDC and LEDS 2030. NDC2 also identify increased access energy as a means of adaptation and vulnerability reduction.

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https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Republic%20of%20Moldova%20First/INDC_Republic_of_Moldova_25.09.2015.pdf

⁴ https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=98493&lang=ro

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https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Republic%20of%20Moldova%20First/MD_Updated_NDC_final_version_EN.pdf

Republic of Moldova adhered to the Energy Community Treaty in 2009 (Law No. 117 as of 23.12.2009 on adherence of the Republic of Moldova to the Energy Community Treaty)⁶. According to it, Republic of Moldova is subject to all the obligations imposed on the Parties by the Treaty, by all decisions and procedural acts adopted in the context of the application of the Treaty.

The Energy Community Ministerial Council adopted the Recommendation 2018/1/IMC-EnG on preparing for the development of integrated national energy and climate plans by the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community. The Recommendation adopted is not legally binding, therefore does not impose obligations on Contracting Parties and it does not establish any deadline. However, as indicated in Article 5 of the Recommendation, the preparation of national plans should be an iterative and dynamic process starting in 2018. The Policy Guidelines (PG 03/2018) on the development of NECPs state that these integrated national plans should cover the period from 2021 to 2030 and lay down the pathway to achieve targets set for 2030 regarding the increase of renewable energy in overall energy consumption, increased energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Further, the NECPs should also include a perspective until 2050 in order to ensure consistency with long-term relevant policy objectives at EU, UNFCCC and Energy Community level. According to the Policy Guidelines, Contracting Parties are requested to submit their final NECPs to the Secretariat by the end of 2020. European legislative base for the elaboration of the NECP is the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action⁷. At the national level, in the Republic of Moldova, leading institution for this process is Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development (MoIRD)). MoIRD benefited from the EU funded project “Support to the modernization of the energy sector on the Republic of Moldova (STARS)”, which helps the Government of the Republic of Moldova with experts’ consultation for developing its NECP.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The objectives of the assignment are:

- 1) To provide support to the hired international consultant to conduct a review and analysis of the national policies, legal and regulatory framework in the energy sector in order to make recommendations for the incorporation of climate change considerations into the respective sector planning processes.
- 2) To contribute to the development of the guidance document on consolidation of climate and energy planning processes.

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

I. Education:

- Master’s degree or equivalent in Engineering, Energy, Environmental Management, Climate Change Policies Development and Strategic Planning or other related fields is required.

II. Experience:

- At least 5 years of professional in the field of energy and/or climate change;
- At least 3 years of working experience in the institutional consultancy on energy and/or climate change related issues;
- Experience in similar positions in UNDP, UNEP, WB and/or EU-funded project or other international organization would be an asset.

III. Competencies:

- Strong understanding of climate change mainstreaming into sectoral policies issue;
- Strong knowledge of Moldova’s climate and energy related commitments under the UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, Association Agreement RM-EU and Energy Community Treaty;
- Strong analytical skills demonstrated by previous assignments;

⁶ https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=3445&lang=ro

⁷ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2018.328.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2018:328:FULL

- Strong interpersonal and communication skills (verbal and written), demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Ability to work with government and non-government entities, private sector and other civil society stakeholders including academia, demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Ability to work under pressure and stressful situations, and to meet tight deadlines, demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Fluency in English and Romanian languages.

The UNDP Moldova is committed to workforce diversity. Women, persons with disabilities, Roma and other ethnic or religious minorities, persons living with HIV, as well as refugees and other non-citizens legally entitled to work in the Republic of Moldova, are particularly encouraged to apply.

5. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

1. Proposal, explaining why he/she is most suitable for the work, including past experience in similar assignments, providing a brief information on above qualifications and methodology on how he/she will approach and conduct the work (if applicable).
3. **OFFEROR'S LETTER TO UNDP CONFIRMING INTEREST AND AVAILABILITY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTOR (IC) ASSIGNMENT**
4. CV and/or the duly filled in and signed Personal History Form (P11), and at least three names for a reference check.

6. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

The financial proposal will specify the daily fee, travel expenses and per diems quoted in separate line items, and payments are made to the Individual Consultant based on the number of days worked.

Travel

All envisaged travel costs must be included in the financial proposal. This includes all travel to join duty station/repatriation travel. In general, UNDP should not accept travel costs exceeding those of an economy class ticket. Should the IC wish to travel on a higher class he/she should do so using their own resources.

In the case of unforeseeable travel, payment of travel costs including tickets, lodging and terminal expenses should be agreed upon, between the respective business unit and Individual Consultant, prior to travel and will be reimbursed.

7. EVALUATION

- Master's degree or equivalent in Environmental Engineering, Environmental Management, Energy, Climate Change Policies Development and Strategic Planning or other related fields is required;
 - At least 5 years of professional in the field of energy and/or climate change;
 - At least 3 years of working experience in the institutional consultancy on energy and/or climate change related issues.

The short-listed individual consultants will be further evaluated based on the following methodology:

Cumulative analysis

The award of the contract shall be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

- a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
- b) having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.

- Technical Criteria weight – 60% (300 pts);
- Financial Criteria weight – 40% (200 pts).

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 70% score of the technical evaluation (at least 210 points) would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
Technical		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's degree or equivalent in Environmental Engineering, Energy, Environmental Management, Climate Change Policies Development and Strategic Planning or other related fields 	(Bachelor – 0 pts. Master – 30 pts. PhD- 40 pts)	40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of experience in climate change and/or energy sectors 	(5 years – max. 30 pts, more than 5 years – up to 45 pts, 5 pts – for each additional year)	45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 years of working experience in the institutional consultancy on energy and/or climate change related issues 	(3 years – max. 35 pts, more than 3 years – up to 45 pts, 5 pts – for each additional year)	45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview 	30 pts. - Experience of work within UNDP, UNEP, WB and/or EU-funded project or other international organization; 40 pts - Strong understanding of climate change mainstreaming into sectoral policies issue; 50 pts. - Strong knowledge of Moldova's climate and energy related commitments under the UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, Association Agreement RM-EU and Energy Community Treaty; 40 pts. - Competences.	160
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belonging to the group(s) under-represented in the UN Moldova and/or the area of assignment* 	(no – 0 pts., to one group – 5 pts., to two or more groups – 10 pts.)	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum Total Technical Scoring 		300
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial 		
<p>Evaluation of submitted financial offers will be done based on the following formula: $S = F_{min} / F * 200$ S – score received on financial evaluation; Fmin – the lowest financial offer out of all the submitted offers qualified over the technical evaluation round;</p>	200	

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> F – financial offer under consideration. 		

* Under-represented group in the area of assignment are women. Under-represented groups in UN Moldova are persons with disabilities, LGBTI, ethnic and linguistic minorities, especially ethnic Gagauzians, Bulgarians, Roma, Jews, people of African descent, people living with HIV, religious minorities, especially Muslim women, refugees, and other non-citizens.

Winning candidate

The winning candidate will be the candidate, who has accumulated the highest aggregated score (technical scoring + financial scoring).

8. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCES

ANNEX 2 – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS