

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Date: 19 November 2021

Country: Republic of Moldova

Description of the assignment: 2 National Consultant to support the elaboration of the electoral education and democratic processes curriculum and course in the selected universities and faculties and promotion of the electoral education and democratic processes curriculum and course in the academic year.

Period of assignment/ services: January - March 2022 (60 working days)

Contract type: Individual Contract (IC)

Proposals should be submitted **online by pressing the "Apply Online" button**, no later than **07th of December 2021, 16:00 Moldova Local time (GMT+2)**.

Requests for **clarification only** must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail: Mihail.tanase@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. BACKGROUND

Electoral support and capacity development are part of UNDP's democratic governance assistance worldwide, through which UNDP helps nations build democratic frameworks to improve representation, accountability, and transparency for the benefit of citizens.

UNDP has a long-standing partnership with the Central Electoral Commission (CEC), Ministry of Education and Research and the Center for Continuous Electoral Training (CCET) aiming at advancing the electoral education and democratic electoral processes in Moldova. This partnership, which spans over 10 years, resulted in the establishment of strong professional institutions, development of a modern State Automated Information System "Elections" (SAISE), the enhancement of the State Register of Voters' accuracy and the design and implementation of effective long-term civic and voter and citizens education instruments.

Throughout the last electoral cycles, CEC and CCET demonstrated a high level of capacity in organizing the Presidential, Parliamentary Elections and General Local Elections. Despite the challenges and persistent financial limitations faced by the institutions, due to the continuous UNDP's support, the CEC and the CCET delivered "well-administered elections" as attested by OSCE/ODIHR Observation Missions.

Since 2017, the Project "Enhancing democracy in Moldova through inclusive and transparent elections" supports the Central Electoral Commission to enhance the transparency and inclusiveness of the electoral process in Moldova by ensuring a more independent and credible electoral administration and better informed and pro-active citizens. Successively, on 1st of August 2020, the second phase of the Project "Enhancing Democracy in Moldova through Inclusive and Transparent Elections – EDMITE" has started. The overall goal of the Project is to achieve an enhanced integrity, transparency, and inclusiveness of the electoral process in Moldova by ensuring a more independent and credible electoral administration and better informed and pro-active citizens. Hence, the project has an outward-oriented approach, focusing on the electoral process and all relevant actors (CEC, CCET, ministries and government agencies, educational institutions, civil society).

One of the Project's objectives is to enhance the civic education on electoral subjects and participation of citizens in the electoral process. Youth forms more than 31% of the electorate in the country and the ones that are socially active are also

University students, they have also the potential to bring the change and contribute to the broadening of the knowledge and raising awareness of the society.

In this sense, the UNDP Project aims to support 3 Universities across the country to conceptualize, design, and implement an electoral curriculum and course, aimed at promoting the electoral education and democratic processes among students. Based on existing collaboration agreements, the project will intend to cooperate with the following universities: Alecu Russo University from Balti, Comrat State University, Bogdan Petriceicu Hasdeu State University from Cahul and Moldova State University from Chisinau. Assisted with the support of the Center for Continuous Electoral Training, the curriculum and course on electoral education and democratic processes will be administered by the universities in which it will be rolled out with guidance from the Center for Continuous Electoral Training and the project team.

2. SCOPE OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ANALYTICAL WORK

The general objective of the assignment is to develop a university education curriculum aimed at promoting electoral education and democratic processes.

The assignment is aimed to be implemented in two stages. The second stage will be subject to additional funding approval and confirmation of the assignments under the second stage will be confirmed separately after the fulfillment of the first stage. Specific objectives will include:

During the first implementation stage (January-March 2022):

- conducting a needs assessment for the current University educational programs in three Universities on the incorporation of Electoral Education curricula or mainstreaming of the elements of the Electoral module in existing University educational programs.
- designing of the education curriculum and course on electoral education and democratic processes for students and support throughout all the needed design and development phases.

During the second implementation stage subject to additional funding approval (April – November 2022)

- elaboration of the university course on electoral education and democratic processes for students and support in piloting the curricula and course.

For the purposes of this assignment, the 2 national consultants will collaborate with the principal national consultant (Team Leader) and the international consultant contracted by the UNDP Project. The 2 national consultants will act as team associates, broadly collaborating with the principal national consultant. The 2 national consultants will be assigned to work in distinct universities, always coordinating their actions with the principal national consultant (and the Project team if required) and jointly performing and contributing for the general submission of the main deliverables. The 2 National Consultants (national consultants or depending on the context – the consultant) will provide expertise and coordination support for the implementation of the assignment. For the realization of the assignment the 2 consultants will undertake premises visits to the assigned university / faculty aiming to engage with the university's teachers, students, and faculty staff members. In case of covid restrictions, the 2 consultants will continue to engage staff and people by setting and conducting consultation meetings via ICT tools and communication platforms (online and via phone).

Note: for the purposes of the assignment, it is suggested that the consultant conducts on-site assessments and interviews with the representatives and staff of the relevant selected university and faculties, teachers, students.

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

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Academic Qualifications:

- Master's degree in education or other relevant fields (Social Science, Law, Journalism, Political Science, Public Administration, other relevant).

Experience:

- At least 3 (three) years of demonstrated teaching, academic and/or coordination experience within the high education cycle (university level: bachelor's degree, master's degree courses, or PHD).

- At least two (2) analytical documents elaborated for the education curriculum models and course in the universities and faculties (*examples should be explicitly detailed in his/her CV*).

Competencies:

- Demonstrated experience in developing academia books, articles, research, and assessments (reference/links to be included in the application package).
- Previous demonstrated experience in the design and delivery of lectures, trainings, workshops, or education seminars, as well as moderating/facilitating public events will be a strong advantage.
- Previous assignments related to electoral/democratic processes education is a strong advantage.
- Previous experience of work with UNDP, ISFED and/or other development partners is an advantage
- Strong knowledge in using IT tools (Microsoft package, Mac package) is required.
- Fluency in Romanian and Russian language (verbal and written) is a must. Knowledge of English will be considered as an advantage for the purpose of the assignment.

Personal qualities:

- Proven commitment to the core values of the United Nations, in particular respecting differences of culture, gender, religion, ethnicity, language, age, HIV status, disability, and sexual orientation, or other status.
- Excellent research, analytical and writing skills.
- Responsibility, creativity, flexibility and punctuality, ability to meet deadlines and prioritize multiple tasks.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and diplomatic skills, as well as the ability to communicate effectively with all stakeholders and to present ideas clearly and effectively.

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.

4. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS

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

- ✓ Offeror's letter confirming interest and availability for the Individual Contractor assignment.
- ✓ Technical proposal (*including brief description of experience, approach, and methodology for the completion of the assignment*).
- ✓ Financial proposal (in USD, specifying a total requested amount per working day and per deliverable, including all related costs, e.g. fees, phone calls, etc. The financial proposal will detail the daily fee, travel expenses and per diems quoted in separate line items).
- ✓ Personal updated CV.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

Lump sum contracts

The financial proposal shall specify a total lump sum amount, and payment terms around specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) deliverables. Payment will be made upon the successful completion of the tasks assigned and submission of the assessment report. Payments are based upon output, i.e. upon delivery of the services specified in the TOR. To assist the requesting unit in the comparison of financial proposals the financial proposal shall include a breakdown of this lump sum amount (including fee, taxes, communication costs, travel, per diems, and number of anticipated working days).

Travel

All envisaged local travel costs must be included in the financial proposal.

This includes all travel to join duty station.

No international travel is envisaged under this assignment.

6. EVALUATION

Initially, the 2 National Consultants will be short-listed based on the following **minimum qualification criteria**:

- Master's degree in education or other relevant fields (Social Science, Law, Journalism, Political Science, Public Administration, other relevant).
- At least 3 (three) years of demonstrated teaching, academic and/or coordination experience within the high education cycle (university level: bachelor's degree, master's degree courses, or PHD).
- At least two (2) analytical documents elaborated for the education curriculum models and course in universities and faculties (examples should be explicitly detailed in his/her CV).

Individuals who passed the minimum qualification criteria will be short-listed and will pass

Cumulative analysis:

The award of the contract shall be made to the 2 (two) Individual Consultants 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
<u>Technical</u>		
Master's degree in education or other relevant fields (Social Science, Law, Journalism, Political Science, Public Administration, other relevant).	Master's degree or above – 20 pts., PhD – 30 pts.	30
At least 3 (three) years of demonstrated teaching, academic and/or coordination experience within the high education cycle (university level: bachelor's degree, master's degree courses, or PHD).	(3 years – max. 35 pts, each additional year – 5 pts, up to max. 60 pts)	60
At least two (2) analytical documents elaborated for the education curriculum models and course in universities and faculties (examples should be explicitly detailed in his/her CV).	(2 assignments – 30 pts., each additional assignment – 10 points; up to max. 50 pts.)	50
Demonstrated experience in developing academia books, articles, research, and assessments (reference/links to be included in the application package).	(each assignment – 5 points; up to max. 35 pts.)	35
Previous demonstrated experience in the design and delivery of lectures, trainings, workshops, or education seminars, as well as moderating/facilitating public events would be a strong advantage.	(each assignment – 5 points; up to max. 35 pts.)	35
Previous assignments related to electoral/democratic processes education is a strong advantage.	(each assignment – 10 points; up to max. 30 pts.)	30
Previous experience of work with UNDP, ISFED and/or other development partners is an advantage	(each assignment – 5 points; up to max. 30pts.)	30

Fluency in Romanian and Russian language (verbal and written) is a must. Knowledge of English will be considered as an advantage for the purpose of the assignment.	Fluency in Romanian - <i>10 pts</i> , Russian – <i>10pts</i> , English - <i>10 pts</i> ;	30
Maximum Total Technical Scoring		300
<u>Financial</u>		
Evaluation of submitted financial offers will be done based on the following formula: $S = F_{min} / F * 200$ S – score received on financial evaluation. F_{min} – the lowest financial offer out of all the submitted offers qualified over the technical evaluation round. F – financial offer under consideration		200

Winning candidate

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

ANNEXES:

ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR)

ANNEX 2 – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS