

United Nations Development Programme



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Research on opportunities to increase export activity of businesses from the Transnistria region of the Republic of Moldova to the EU

RFP No.: RfP-19/01948

Project: Advanced Cross-river Capacities for Trade

Country: Republic of Moldova

Issued on: 26 July 2019

Contents

SECTION 1. LETTER OF INVITATION.....	4
SECTION 2. INSTRUCTION TO BIDDERS	5
A. GENERAL PROVISIONS	5
1. Introduction	5
2. Fraud & Corruption, Gifts and Hospitality	5
3. Eligibility.....	5
4. Conflict of Interests.....	6
B. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS	6
5. General Considerations.....	6
6. Cost of Preparation of Proposal	6
7. Language	6
8. Documents Comprising the Proposal.....	6
9. Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder.....	7
10. Technical Proposal Format and Content	7
11. Financial Proposals	7
12. Proposal Security	7
13. Currencies	8
14. Joint Venture, Consortium or Association	8
15. Only One Proposal	9
16. Proposal Validity Period	9
17. Extension of Proposal Validity Period	9
18. Clarification of Proposal.....	9
19. Amendment of Proposals	9
20. Alternative Proposals	10
21. Pre-Bid Conference	10
C. SUBMISSION AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS	10
22. Submission	10
23. Deadline for Submission of Proposals and Late Proposals.....	11
24. Withdrawal, Substitution, and Modification of Proposals	11
25. Proposal Opening.....	12
D. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS	12
26. Confidentiality.....	12
27. Evaluation of Proposals.....	12
28. Preliminary Examination	12
29. Evaluation of Eligibility and Qualification	12
30. Evaluation of Technical and Financial Proposals.....	13
31. Due Diligence	13
32. Clarification of Proposals	14
33. Responsiveness of Proposal	14
34. Nonconformities, Reparable Errors and Omissions	14
E. AWARD OF CONTRACT.....	15
35. Right to Accept, Reject, Any or All Proposals.....	15
36. Award Criteria	15
37. Debriefing	15
38. Right to Vary Requirements at the Time of Award	15
39. Contract Signature	15
40. Contract Type and General Terms and Conditions	15
41. Performance Security	15
42. Bank Guarantee for Advanced Payment.....	15
43. Liquidated Damages	16
44. Payment Provisions.....	16
45. Vendor Protest.....	16
46. Other Provisions	16
SECTION 3. BID DATA SHEET.....	17

SECTION 4. EVALUATION CRITERIA20

SECTION 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE25

SECTION 6: RETURNABLE BIDDING FORMS / CHECKLIST32

FORM A: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM33

FORM B: BIDDER INFORMATION FORM.....35

FORM C: JOINT VENTURE/CONSORTIUM/ASSOCIATION INFORMATION FORM35

FORM D: QUALIFICATION FORM36

FORM E: FORMAT OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL40

FORM F: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM.....43

FORM G: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL FORM44

FORM H: FORM OF PROPOSAL SECURITY**ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.**

Section 1. Letter of Invitation

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) hereby invites you to submit a Proposal to this Request for Proposal (RFP) for the above-referenced subject.

This RFP includes the following documents and the General Terms and Conditions of Contract which is inserted in the Bid Data Sheet (BDS):

- Section 1: This Letter of Invitation
- Section 2: Instruction to Bidders
- Section 3: Bid Data Sheet (BDS)
- Section 4: Evaluation Criteria
- Section 5: Terms of Reference
- Section 6: Returnable Bidding Forms
 - o Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
 - o Form B: Bidder Information Form
 - o Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information Form
 - o Form D: Qualification Form
 - o Form E: Format of Technical Proposal
 - o Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form
 - o Form G: Financial Proposal Form

If you are interested in submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, please prepare your Proposal in accordance


with the requirements and procedure as set out in this RFP and submit it by the Deadline for Submission of Proposals set out in Bid Data Sheet.

Please acknowledge receipt of this RFP by sending an email to natalia.iachimov@undp.org, indicating whether you intend to submit a Proposal or otherwise. You may also utilize the "Accept Invitation" function in e-Tendering system, where applicable. This will enable you to receive amendments or updates to the RFP. Should you require further clarifications, kindly communicate with the contact person/s identified in the attached Bid Data Sheet as the focal point for queries on this RFP.

UNDP looks forward to receiving your Proposal and thank you in advance for your interest in UNDP procurement opportunities.

Issued by:

Approved by:



Name: Natalia Iachimov

Title: Project Officer

Date: **July 26, 2019**

Name: Denis Suschevici

Title: Head of Procurement and Operational Support Unit

Date: **July 26, 2019**

Section 2. Instruction to Bidders

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS	
1. Introduction	1.1 Bidders shall adhere to all the requirements of this RFP, including any amendments in writing by UNDP. This RFP is conducted in accordance with the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP) on Contracts and Procurement which can be accessed at https://popp.undp.org/SitePages/POPPBSUnit.aspx?TermID=254a9f96-b883-476a-8ef8-e81f93a2b38d
	1.2 Any Proposal submitted will be regarded as an offer by the Bidder and does not constitute or imply the acceptance of the Proposal by UNDP. UNDP is under no obligation to award a contract to any Bidder as a result of this RFP.
	1.3 As part of the bid, it is desired that the Bidder registers at the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM) website (www.ungm.org). The Bidder may still submit a bid even if not registered with the UNGM. However, if the Bidder is selected for contract award, the Bidder must register on the UNGM prior to contract signature.
2. Fraud & Corruption, Gifts and Hospitality	2.1 UNDP strictly enforces a policy of zero tolerance on proscribed practices, including fraud, corruption, collusion, unethical or unprofessional practices, and obstruction of UNDP vendors and requires all bidders/vendors observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process and contract implementation. UNDP's Anti-Fraud Policy can be found at http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/accountability/audit/office_of_audit_andinvestigation.html#anti
	2.2 Bidders/vendors shall not offer gifts or hospitality of any kind to UNDP staff members including recreational trips to sporting or cultural events, theme parks or offers of holidays, transportation, or invitations to extravagant lunches or dinners.
	2.3 In pursuance of this policy, UNDP (a) Shall reject a proposal if it determines that the selected bidder has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question; (b) Shall declare a vendor ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract if at any time it determines that the vendor has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing a UNDP contract.
	2.4 All Bidders must adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct, which may be found at http://www.un.org/depts/ptd/pdf/conduct_english.pdf
3. Eligibility	3.1 A vendor should not be suspended, debarred, or otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization. Vendors are therefore required to disclose to UNDP whether they are subject to any sanction or temporary suspension imposed by these organizations.
	3.2 It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure that its employees, joint venture members, sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/or their employees meet the eligibility requirements as established by UNDP.

4. Conflict of Interests	<p>4.1 Bidders must strictly avoid conflicts with other assignments or their own interests, and act without consideration for future work. Bidders found to have a conflict of interest shall be disqualified. Without limitation on the generality of the above, Bidders, and any of their affiliates, shall be considered to have a conflict of interest with one or more parties in this solicitation process, if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Are or have been associated in the past, with a firm or any of its affiliates which have been engaged by UNDP to provide services for the preparation of the design, specifications, Terms of Reference, cost analysis/estimation, and other documents to be used for the procurement of the goods and services in this selection process; b) Were involved in the preparation and/or design of the programme/project related to the services requested under this RFP; or c) Are found to be in conflict for any other reason, as may be established by, or at the discretion of UNDP. <p>4.2 In the event of any uncertainty in the interpretation of a potential conflict of interest, Bidders must disclose to UNDP, and seek UNDP's confirmation on whether or not such a conflict exists.</p> <p>4.3 Similarly, the Bidders must disclose in their proposal their knowledge of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) If the owners, part-owners, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, of the bidding entity or key personnel are family members of UNDP staff involved in the procurement functions and/or the Government of the country or any Implementing Partner receiving services under this RFP; and b) All other circumstances that could potentially lead to actual or perceived conflict of interest, collusion or unfair competition practices. <p>Failure to disclose such an information may result in the rejection of the proposal or proposals affected by the non-disclosure.</p> <p>4.4 The eligibility of Bidders that are wholly or partly owned by the Government shall be subject to UNDP's further evaluation and review of various factors such as being registered, operated and managed as an independent business entity, the extent of Government ownership/share, receipt of subsidies, mandate and access to information in relation to this RFP, among others. Conditions that may lead to undue advantage against other Bidders may result in the eventual rejection of the Proposal.</p>
B. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS	
5. General Considerations	<p>5.1 In preparing the Proposal, the Bidder is expected to examine the RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested in the RFP may result in rejection of the Proposal.</p> <p>5.2 The Bidder will not be permitted to take advantage of any errors or omissions in the RFP. Should such errors or omissions be discovered, the Bidder must notify the UNDP</p>
6. Cost of Preparation of Proposal	<p>6.1 The Bidder shall bear any and all costs related to the preparation and/or submission of the Proposal, regardless of whether its Proposal was selected or not. UNDP shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the procurement process.</p>
7. Language	<p>7.1 The Proposal, as well as any and all related correspondence exchanged by the Bidder and UNDP, shall be written in the language (s) specified in the BDS.</p>
8. Documents	<p>8.1 The Proposal shall comprise of the following documents:</p>

Comprising the Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder; b) Technical Proposal; c) Financial Proposal; d) Proposal Security, if required by BDS; e) Any attachments and/or appendices to the Proposal.
9. Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder	<p>9.1 The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence of its status as an eligible and qualified vendor, using the Forms provided under Section 6 and providing documents required in those forms. In order to award a contract to a Bidder, its qualifications must be documented to UNDP's satisfaction.</p>
10. Technical Proposal Format and Content	<p>10.1 The Bidder is required to submit a Technical Proposal using the Standard Forms and templates provided in Section 6 of the RFP.</p> <p>10.2 The Technical Proposal shall not include any price or financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information may be declared non-responsive.</p> <p>10.3 Samples of items, when required as per Section 5, shall be provided within the time specified and unless otherwise specified by UNDP, and at no expense to UNDP</p> <p>10.4 When applicable and required as per Section 5, the Bidder shall describe the necessary training programme available for the maintenance and operation of the services and/or equipment offered as well as the cost to the UNDP. Unless otherwise specified, such training as well as training materials shall be provided in the language of the Bid as specified in the BDS.</p>
11. Financial Proposals	<p>11.1 The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Form provided in Section 6 of the RFP. It shall list all major cost components associated with the services, and the detailed breakdown of such costs.</p> <p>11.2 Any output and activities described in the Technical Proposal but not priced in the Financial Proposal, shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items, as well as in the final total price.</p> <p>11.3 Prices and other financial information must not be disclosed in any other place except in the financial proposal.</p>
12. Proposal Security	<p>12.1 A Proposal Security, if required by BDS, shall be provided in the amount and form indicated in the BDS. The Proposal Security shall be valid up to thirty (30) days after the final date of validity of the Proposal.</p> <p>12.2 The Proposal Security shall be included along with the Technical Proposal. If Proposal Security is required by the RFP but is not found along with the Technical Proposal, the Proposal shall be rejected.</p> <p>12.3 If the Proposal Security amount or its validity period is found to be less than what is required by UNDP, UNDP shall reject the Proposal.</p> <p>12.4 In the event an electronic submission is allowed in the BDS, Bidders shall include a copy of the Bid Security in their proposal and the original of the Proposal Security must be sent via courier or hand delivery as per the instructions in BDS.</p> <p>12.5 The Proposal Security may be forfeited by UNDP, and the Proposal rejected, in the event</p> <p>12.6 of any one or combination, of the following conditions:</p>

	<p>a) If the Bidder withdraws its offer during the period of the Proposal Validity specified in the BDS, or;</p> <p>b) In the event that the successful Bidder fails:</p> <p>i. to sign the Contract after UNDP has issued an award; or</p> <p>12.7 to furnish the Performance Security, insurances, or other documents that UNDP may require as a condition precedent to the effectivity of the contract that may be awarded to the Bidder.</p>
13. Currencies	<p>13.1 All prices shall be quoted in the currency or currencies indicated in the BDS. Where Proposals are quoted in different currencies, for the purposes of comparison of all Proposals:</p> <p>a) UNDP will convert the currency quoted in the Proposal into the UNDP preferred currency, in accordance with the prevailing UN operational rate of exchange on the last day of submission of Proposals; and</p> <p>b) In the event that UNDP selects a proposal for award that is quoted in a currency different from the preferred currency in the BDS, UNDP shall reserve the right to award the contract in the currency of UNDP's preference, using the conversion method specified above.</p>
14. Joint Venture, Consortium or Association	<p>14.1 If the Bidder is a group of legal entities that will form or have formed a Joint Venture (JV), Consortium or Association for the Proposal, they shall confirm in their Proposal that : (i) they have designated one party to act as a lead entity, duly vested with authority to legally bind the members of the JV, Consortium or Association jointly and severally, which shall be evidenced by a duly notarized Agreement among the legal entities, and submitted with the Proposal; and (ii) if they are awarded the contract, the contract shall be entered into, by and between UNDP and the designated lead entity, who shall be acting for and on behalf of all the member entities comprising the joint venture.</p> <p>14.2 After the Deadline for Submission of Proposal, the lead entity identified to represent the JV, Consortium or Association shall not be altered without the prior written consent of UNDP.</p> <p>14.3 The lead entity and the member entities of the JV, Consortium or Association shall abide by the provisions of Clause 9 herein in respect of submitting only one proposal.</p> <p>14.4 The description of the organization of the JV, Consortium or Association must clearly define the expected role of each of the entity in the joint venture in delivering the requirements of the RFP, both in the Proposal and the JV, Consortium or Association Agreement. All entities that comprise the JV, Consortium or Association shall be subject to the eligibility and qualification assessment by UNDP.</p> <p>14.5 A JV, Consortium or Association in presenting its track record and experience should clearly differentiate between:</p> <p>a) Those that were undertaken together by the JV, Consortium or Association; and</p> <p>b) Those that were undertaken by the individual entities of the JV, Consortium or Association.</p> <p>14.6 Previous contracts completed by individual experts working privately but who are permanently or were temporarily associated with any of the member firms cannot be claimed as the experience of the JV, Consortium or Association or those of its members, but should only be claimed by the individual experts themselves in their presentation of their individual credentials.</p>

	14.7 JV, Consortium or Associations are encouraged for high value, multi-sectoral requirements when the spectrum of expertise and resources required may not be available within one firm.
15. Only One Proposal	<p>15.1 The Bidder (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one Proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture.</p> <p>15.2 Proposals submitted by two (2) or more Bidders shall all be rejected if they are found to have any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) they have at least one controlling partner, director or shareholder in common; or b) any one of them receive or have received any direct or indirect subsidy from the other/s; or c) they have the same legal representative for purposes of this RFP; or d) they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties, that puts them in a position to have access to information about, or influence on the Proposal of, another Bidder regarding this RFP process; e) they are subcontractors to each other's Proposal, or a subcontractor to one Proposal also submits another Proposal under its name as lead Bidder; or f) some key personnel proposed to be in the team of one Bidder participates in more than one Proposal received for this RFP process. This condition relating to the personnel, does not apply to subcontractors being included in more than one Proposal.
16. Proposal Validity Period	<p>16.1 Proposals shall remain valid for the period specified in the BDS, commencing on the Deadline for Submission of Proposals. A Proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by UNDP and rendered non-responsive.</p> <p>16.2 During the Proposal validity period, the Bidder shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Personnel, the proposed rates and the total price.</p>
17. Extension of Proposal Validity Period	<p>17.1 In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the proposal validity period, UNDP may request Bidders to extend the period of validity of their Proposals. The request and the responses shall be made in writing, and shall be considered integral to the Proposal.</p> <p>17.2 If the Bidder agrees to extend the validity of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal.</p> <p>17.3 The Bidder has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its Proposal, and in which case, such Proposal will not be further evaluated.</p>
18. Clarification of Proposal	<p>18.1 Bidders may request clarifications on any of the RFP documents no later than the date indicated in the BDS. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing in the manner indicated in the BDS. If inquiries are sent other than specified channel, even if they are sent to a UNDP staff member, UNDP shall have no obligation to respond or confirm that the query was officially received.</p> <p>18.2 UNDP will provide the responses to clarifications through the method specified in the BDS.</p> <p>18.3 UNDP shall endeavor to provide responses to clarifications in an expeditious manner, but any delay in such response shall not cause an obligation on the part of UNDP to extend the submission date of the Proposals, unless UNDP deems that such an extension is justified and necessary.</p>
19. Amendment of	19.1 At any time prior to the deadline of Proposal submission, UNDP may for any

Proposals	<p>reason, such as in response to a clarification requested by a Bidder, modify the RFP in the form of an amendment to the RFP. Amendments will be made available to all prospective bidders.</p> <p>19.2 If the amendment is substantial, UNDP may extend the Deadline for submission of proposal to give the Bidders reasonable time to incorporate the amendment into their Proposals.</p>
20. Alternative Proposals	<p>20.1 Unless otherwise specified in the BDS, alternative proposals shall not be considered. If submission of alternative proposal is allowed by BDS, a Bidder may submit an alternative proposal, but only if it also submits a proposal conforming to the RFP requirements. UNDP shall only consider the alternative proposal offered by the Bidder whose conforming proposal ranked the highest as per the specified evaluation method. Where the conditions for its acceptance are met, or justifications are clearly established, UNDP reserves the right to award a contract based on an alternative proposal.</p> <p>20.2 If multiple/alternative proposals are being submitted, they must be clearly marked as "Main Proposal" and "Alternative Proposal"</p>
21. Pre-Bid Conference	<p>21.1 When appropriate, a Bidder's conference will be conducted at the date, time and location specified in the BDS. All Bidders are encouraged to attend. Non-attendance, however, shall not result in disqualification of an interested Bidder. Minutes of the Bidder's conference will be disseminated on the procurement website and shared by email or on the e-Tendering platform as specified in the BDS. No verbal statement made during the conference shall modify the terms and conditions of the RFP, unless specifically incorporated in the Minutes of the Bidder's Conference or issued/posted as an amendment to RFP.</p>
C. SUBMISSION AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS	
22. Submission	<p>22.1 The Bidder shall submit a duly signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with the requirements in the BDS. The submission shall be in the manner specified in the BDS.</p> <p>22.2 The Proposal shall be signed by the Bidder or person(s) duly authorized to commit the Bidder. The authorization shall be communicated through a document evidencing such authorization issued by the legal representative of the bidding entity, or a Power of Attorney, accompanying the Proposal.</p> <p>22.3 Bidders must be aware that the mere act of submission of a Proposal, in and of itself, implies that the Bidder fully accepts the UNDP General Contract Terms and Conditions.</p>
Hard copy (manual) submission	<p>22.4 Hard copy (manual) submission by courier or hand delivery allowed or specified in the BDS shall be governed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The signed Proposal shall be marked "Original", and its copies marked "Copy" as appropriate. The number of copies is indicated in the BDS. All copies shall be made from the signed original only. If there are discrepancies between the original and the copies, the original shall prevail. b) The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal envelopes MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE and each of them must be submitted sealed individually and clearly marked on the outside as either "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL" or "FINANCIAL PROPOSAL", as appropriate. Each envelope SHALL clearly indicate the name of the Bidder. The outer envelopes shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bear the name and address of the bidder;

	<p>ii. Be addressed to UNDP as specified in the BDS</p> <p>iii. Bear a warning that states <i>"Not to be opened before the time and date for proposal opening"</i> as specified in the BDS.</p> <p>If the envelopes and packages with the Proposal are not sealed and marked as required, UNDP shall assume no responsibility for the misplacement, loss, or premature opening of the Proposal.</p> <p>22.5 Email submission, if allowed or specified in the BDS, shall be governed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Electronic files that form part of the proposal must be in accordance with the format and requirements indicated in BDS; b) The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE. The financial proposal shall be encrypted with different passwords and clearly labelled. The files must be sent to the dedicated email address specified in the BDS. c) The password for opening the Financial Proposal should be provided only upon request of UNDP. UNDP will request password only from bidders whose Technical Proposal has been found to be technically responsive. Failure to provide correct password may result in the proposal being rejected. <p>22.6 Electronic submission through eTendering, if allowed or specified in the BDS, shall be governed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Electronic files that form part of the proposal must be in accordance with the format and requirements indicated in BDS; b) The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE and each of them must be uploaded individually and clearly labelled. d) The Financial Proposal file must be encrypted with a password so that it cannot be opened nor viewed until the password is provided. The password for opening the Financial Proposal should be provided only upon request of UNDP. UNDP will request password only from bidders whose technical proposal has been found to be technically responsive. Failure to provide the correct password may result in the proposal being rejected. c) Documents which are required to be in original form (e.g. Bid Security, etc.) must be sent via courier or hand delivery as per the instructions in BDS. d) Detailed instructions on how to submit, modify or cancel a bid in the eTendering system are provided in the eTendering system Bidder User Guide and Instructional videos available on this link: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/procurement/business/procurement-notices/resources/
<p>Email Submission</p>	
<p>eTendering submission</p>	
<p>23. Deadline for Submission of Proposals and Late Proposals</p>	<p>23.1 Complete Proposals must be received by UNDP in the manner, and no later than the date and time, specified in the BDS. UNDP shall only recognize the date and time that the bid was received by UNDP</p> <p>23.2 UNDP shall not consider any Proposal that is submitted after the deadline for the submission of Proposals.</p>
<p>24. Withdrawal, Substitution, and</p>	<p>24.1 A Bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal after it has been submitted at any time prior to the deadline for submission.</p>

Modification of Proposals	<p>24.2 Manual and Email submissions: A bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal by sending a written notice to UNDP, duly signed by an authorized representative, and shall include a copy of the authorization (or a Power of Attorney). The corresponding substitution or modification of the Proposal, if any, must accompany the respective written notice. All notices must be submitted in the same manner as specified for submission of proposals, by clearly marking them as "WITHDRAWAL" "SUBSTITUTION," or "MODIFICATION"</p> <p>24.3 eTendering: A Bidder may withdraw, substitute or modify its Proposal by Canceling, Editing, and re-submitting the proposal directly in the system. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to properly follow the system instructions, duly edit and submit a substitution or modification of the Proposal as needed. Detailed instructions on how to cancel or modify a Proposal directly in the system are provided in Bidder User Guide and Instructional videos.</p> <p>24.4 Proposals requested to be withdrawn shall be returned unopened to the Bidders (only for manual submissions), except if the bid is withdrawn after the bid has been opened</p>
25. Proposal Opening	<p>25.1 There is no public bid opening for RFPs. UNDP shall open the Proposals in the presence of an ad-hoc committee formed by UNDP, consisting of at least two (2) members. In the case of e-Tendering submission, bidders will receive an automatic notification once their proposal is opened.</p>
D. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS	
26. Confidentiality	<p>26.1 Information relating to the examination, evaluation, and comparison of Proposals, and the recommendation of contract award, shall not be disclosed to Bidders or any other persons not officially concerned with such process, even after publication of the contract award.</p> <p>26.2 Any effort by a Bidder or anyone on behalf of the Bidder to influence UNDP in the examination, evaluation and comparison of the Proposals or contract award decisions may, at UNDP's decision, result in the rejection of its Proposal and may be subject to the application of prevailing UNDP's vendor sanctions procedures.</p>
27. Evaluation of Proposals	<p>27.1 The Bidder is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as permitted under Clause 24 of this RFP. UNDP will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.</p> <p>27.2 Evaluation of proposals is made of the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Preliminary Examination b) Minimum Eligibility and Qualification (if pre-qualification is not done) c) Evaluation of Technical Proposals d) Evaluation of Financial Proposals
28. Preliminary Examination	<p>28.1 UNDP shall examine the Proposals to determine whether they are complete with respect to minimum documentary requirements, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the Proposals are generally in order, among other indicators that may be used at this stage. UNDP reserves the right to reject any Proposal at this stage.</p>
29. Evaluation of Eligibility and Qualification	<p>29.1 Eligibility and Qualification of the Bidder will be evaluated against the Minimum Eligibility/Qualification requirements specified in the Section 4 (Evaluation Criteria).</p> <p>29.2 In general terms, vendors that meet the following criteria may be considered qualified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) They are not included in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 Committee's

	<p>list of terrorists and terrorist financiers, and in UNDP's ineligible vendors' list;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) They have a good financial standing and have access to adequate financial resources to perform the contract and all existing commercial commitments, c) They have the necessary similar experience, technical expertise, production capacity where applicable, quality certifications, quality assurance procedures and other resources applicable to the provision of the services required; d) They are able to comply fully with UNDP General Terms and Conditions of Contract; e) They do not have a consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the Bidder; and f) They have a record of timely and satisfactory performance with their clients.
30. Evaluation of Technical and Financial Proposals	<p>30.1 The evaluation team shall review and evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and other RFP documents, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in the Section 4 (Evaluation Criteria). A Proposal shall be rendered non-responsive at the technical evaluation stage if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the BDS. When necessary and if stated in the BDS, UNDP may invite technically responsive bidders for a presentation related to their technical proposals. The conditions for the presentation shall be provided in the bid document where required.</p> <p>30.2 In the second stage, only the Financial Proposals of those Bidders who achieve the minimum technical score will be opened for evaluation. The Financial Proposals corresponding to Technical Proposals that were rendered non-responsive shall remain unopened, and, in the case of manual submission, be returned to the Bidder unopened. For emailed Proposals and e-tendering submissions, UNDP will not request for the password of the Financial Proposals of bidders whose Technical Proposal were found not responsive.</p> <p>30.3 The evaluation method that applies for this RFP shall be as indicated in the BDS, which may be either of two (2) possible methods, as follows: (a) the lowest priced method which selects the lowest evaluated financial proposal of the technically responsive Bidders; or (b) the combined scoring method which will be based on a combination of the technical and financial score.</p> <p>30.4 When the BDS specifies a combined scoring method, the formula for the rating of the Proposals will be as follows:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><u>Rating the Technical Proposal (TP):</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TP Rating = (Total Score Obtained by the Offer / Max. Obtainable Score for TP) x 100</p> <p><u>Rating the Financial Proposal (FP):</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">FP Rating = (Lowest Priced Offer / Price of the Offer Being Reviewed) x 100</p> <p><u>Total Combined Score:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Combined Score = (TP Rating) x (Weight of TP, e.g. 60%) + (FP Rating) x (Weight of FP, e.g., 40%)</p> </div>
31. Due Diligence	<p>31.1 UNDP reserves the right to undertake a due diligence exercise, also called post qualification, aimed at determining to its satisfaction, the validity of the information provided by the Bidder. Such exercise shall be fully documented</p>

	<p>and may include, but need not be limited to, all or any combination of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Verification of accuracy, correctness and authenticity of information provided by the Bidder; b) Validation of extent of compliance to the RFP requirements and evaluation criteria based on what has so far been found by the evaluation team; c) Inquiry and reference checking with Government entities with jurisdiction on the Bidder, or with previous clients, or any other entity that may have done business with the Bidder; d) Inquiry and reference checking with previous clients on the performance on on-going or contracts completed, including physical inspections of previous works, as necessary; e) Physical inspection of the Bidder's offices, branches or other places where business transpires, with or without notice to the Bidder; f) Other means that UNDP may deem appropriate, at any stage within the selection process, prior to awarding the contract.
32. Clarification of Proposals	<p>32.1 To assist in the examination, evaluation and comparison of Proposals, UNDP may, at its discretion, ask any Bidder for a clarification of its Proposal.</p> <p>32.2 UNDP's request for clarification and the response shall be in writing and no change in the prices or substance of the Proposal shall be sought, offered, or permitted, except to provide clarification, and confirm the correction of any arithmetic errors discovered by UNDP in the evaluation of the Proposals, in accordance with RFP.</p> <p>32.3 Any unsolicited clarification submitted by a Bidder in respect to its Proposal, which is not a response to a request by UNDP, shall not be considered during the review and evaluation of the Proposals.</p>
33. Responsiveness of Proposal	<p>33.1 UNDP's determination of a Proposal's responsiveness will be based on the contents of the Proposal itself. A substantially responsive Proposal is one that conforms to all the terms, conditions, TOR and other requirements of the RFP without material deviation, reservation, or omission.</p> <p>33.2 If a Proposal is not substantially responsive, it shall be rejected by UNDP and may not subsequently be made responsive by the Bidder by correction of the material deviation, reservation, or omission.</p>
34. Nonconformities, Repairable Errors and Omissions	<p>34.1 Provided that a Proposal is substantially responsive, UNDP may waive any non-conformities or omissions in the Proposal that, in the opinion of UNDP, do not constitute a material deviation.</p> <p>34.2 UNDP may request the Bidder to submit the necessary information or documentation, within a reasonable period of time, to rectify nonmaterial nonconformities or omissions in the Proposal related to documentation requirements. Such omission shall not be related to any aspect of the price of the Proposal. Failure of the Bidder to comply with the request may result in the rejection of its Proposal.</p> <p>34.3 For Financial Proposal that has been opened, UNDP shall check and correct arithmetical errors as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the line item total that is obtained by multiplying the unit price by the quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the line item total shall be corrected, unless in the opinion of UNDP there is an obvious misplacement of the decimal point in the unit price; in which case the line item total as quoted shall govern and the unit price shall be corrected;

	<p>b) if there is an error in a total corresponding to the addition or subtraction of subtotals, the subtotals shall prevail and the total shall be corrected; and</p> <p>c) if there is a discrepancy between words and figures, the amount in words shall prevail, unless the amount expressed in words is related to an arithmetic error, in which case the amount in figures shall prevail.</p> <p>34.4 If the Bidder does not accept the correction of errors made by UNDP, its Proposal shall be rejected.</p>
E. AWARD OF CONTRACT	
35. Right to Accept, Reject, Any or All Proposals	35.1 UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any Proposal, to render any or all of the Proposals as non-responsive, and to reject all Proposals at any time prior to award of contract, without incurring any liability, or obligation to inform the affected Bidder(s) of the grounds for UNDP's action. UNDP shall not be obliged to award the contract to the lowest priced offer.
36. Award Criteria	36.1 Prior to expiration of the proposal validity, UNDP shall award the contract to the qualified Bidder based on the award criteria indicated in the BDS.
37. Debriefing	37.1 In the event that a Bidder is unsuccessful, the Bidder may request a debriefing from UNDP. The purpose of the debriefing is to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Bidder's submission, in order to assist the Bidder in improving its future proposals for UNDP procurement opportunities. The content of other proposals and how they compare to the Bidder's submission shall not be discussed.
38. Right to Vary Requirements at the Time of Award	38.1 At the time of award of Contract, UNDP reserves the right to vary the quantity of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum twenty-five per cent (25%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions.
39. Contract Signature	39.1 Within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the Contract, the successful Bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to UNDP. Failure to do so may constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award, and forfeiture of the Proposal Security, if any, and on which event, UNDP may award the Contract to the Second Ranked Bidder or call for new Proposals.
40. Contract Type and General Terms and Conditions	40.1 The types of Contract to be signed and the applicable UNDP Contract General Terms and Conditions, as specified in BDS, can be accessed at http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html
41. Performance Security	41.1 40.1 A performance security, if required in BDS, shall be provided in the amount specified in BDS and form available at https://popp.undp.org/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PSU_Solicitation_Performance%20Guarantee%20Form.docx&action=default within fifteen (15) days of the contract signature by both parties. Where a performance security is required, the receipt of the performance security by UNDP shall be a condition for rendering the contract effective.
42. Bank Guarantee for Advanced Payment	42.1 Except when the interests of UNDP so require, it is UNDP's preference to make no advance payment(s) (i.e., payments without having received any outputs). If an advance payment is allowed as per BDS, and exceeds 20% of the total contract price, or USD 30,000, whichever is less, the Bidder shall submit a Bank

	<p>Guarantee in the full amount of the advance payment in the form available at https://popp.undp.org/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PSU_Contract%20Management%20Payment%20and%20Taxes_Advanced%20Payment%20Guarantee%20Form.docx&action=default</p>
43. Liquidated Damages	<p>43.1 If specified in BDS, UNDP shall apply Liquidated Damages resulting from the Contractor's delays or breach of its obligations as per the Contract.</p>
44. Payment Provisions	<p>44.1 Payment will be made only upon UNDP's acceptance of the work performed. The terms of payment shall be within thirty (30) days, after receipt of invoice and certification of acceptance of work issued by the proper authority in UNDP with direct supervision of the Contractor. Payment will be effected by bank transfer in the currency of contract.</p>
45. Vendor Protest	<p>45.1 UNDP's vendor protest procedure provides an opportunity for appeal to those persons or firms not awarded a contract through a competitive procurement process. In the event that a Bidder believes that it was not treated fairly, the following link provides further details regarding UNDP vendor protest procedures: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/protest-and-sanctions.html</p>
46. Other Provisions	<p>46.1 In the event that the Bidder offers a lower price to the host Government (e.g. General Services Administration (GSA) of the federal government of the United States of America) for similar services, UNDP shall be entitled to same lower price. The UNDP General Terms and Conditions shall have precedence.</p> <p>46.2 UNDP is entitled to receive the same pricing offered by the same Contractor in contracts with the United Nations and/or its Agencies. The UNDP General Terms and Conditions shall have precedence.</p> <p>46.3 The United Nations has established restrictions on employment of (former) UN staff who have been involved in the procurement process as per bulletin ST/SGB/2006/15 http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=ST/SGB/2006/15&referer</p>

Section 3. Bid Data Sheet

The following data for the services to be procured shall complement, supplement, or amend the provisions in the Request for Proposals. In the case of a conflict between the Instructions to Bidders, the Data Sheet, and other annexes or references attached to the Data Sheet, the provisions in the Data Sheet shall prevail.

BDS No.	Ref. to Section.2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
1	7	Language of the Proposal	English
2		Submitting Proposals for Parts or sub-parts of the TOR (partial bids)	Not Allowed
3	20	Alternative Proposals	Shall not be considered
4	21	Pre-proposal conference	Will not be conducted
5	10	Proposal Validity Period	90 days
6	14	Bid Security	Not Required
7	41	Advanced Payment upon signing of contract	Not Allowed
8	42	Liquidated Damages	Will be imposed as follows: Percentage of contract price per day of delay: 0.5% Max. number of days of delay 10 working days, after which UNDP may terminate the contract.
9	40	Performance Security	Not Required
10	18	Currency of Proposal	United States Dollar
11	31	Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications/ questions	3 days before the submission deadline

12	31	Contact Details for submitting clarifications/questions	Focal Person in UNDP: Natalia Iachimov, Project Officer/Business Development Address: 29, Sfatul Tariistr, 3rd floor, off. 301A. E-mail address: natalia.iachimov@undp.org
13	18, 19 and 21	Manner of Disseminating Supplemental Information to the RFP and responses/clarifications to queries	Posted directly to eTendering
14	23	Deadline for Submission	8 August 2019; 12:00 p.m. (Moldovan Time) For eTendering submission - as indicated in eTendering system. Note that system time zone is in EST/EDT (New York) time zone.
14	22	Allowable Manner of Submitting Proposals	<input type="checkbox"/> Courier/Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Submission by email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e-Tendering
15	22	Proposal Submission Address	https://etendering.partneragencies.org <u>BU Code MDA10 and Event ID number: 0000004125</u>
16	22	Electronic submission (email or eTendering) requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Format: PDF files only File names must be maximum 60 characters long and must not contain any letter or special character other than from Latin alphabet/keyboard. All files must be free of viruses and not corrupted. Password for financial proposal must not be provided to UNDP until requested by UNDP.
17	27 36	Evaluation Method for the Award of Contract	Combined Scoring Method, using the 60%-40% distribution for technical and financial proposals respectively The minimum technical score required to pass is 70%.
18		Expected date for commencement of Contract	September 3, 2019
19		Maximum expected duration of contract	Until December 2019
20	35	UNDP will award the contract to:	One Proposer Only
21	39	Type of Contract	Contract for Goods and Services for UNDP

			http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html
22	39	UNDP Contract Terms and Conditions that will apply	UNDP General Terms and Conditions for Mixed Goods and Services http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html
23		Other Information Related to the RFP	

Section 4. Evaluation Criteria

Preliminary Examination Criteria

Proposals will be examined to determine whether they are complete and submitted in accordance with RFP requirements as per below criteria on a Yes/No basis:

- Appropriate signatures
- Power of Attorney
- Minimum documents provided
- Technical and Financial Proposals submitted separately
- Bid Validity
- Bid Security submitted as per RFP requirements with compliant validity period

Minimum Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

Eligibility and Qualification will be evaluated on Pass/Fail basis.

If the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association, each member should meet minimum criteria, unless otherwise specified in the criterion.

Subject	Criteria	Document Submission requirement
ELIGIBILITY		
Legal Status	Vendor is a legally registered entity.	Form B: Bidder Information Form
Eligibility	Vendor is not suspended, nor debarred, nor otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization in accordance with RfP clause 3.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
Conflict of Interest	No conflicts of interest in accordance with RfP clause 4.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
Bankruptcy	Not declared bankruptcy, not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against the vendor that could impair its operations in the foreseeable future.	Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form
QUALIFICATION		
Eligibility criteria for applying organizations	Legal entity officially registered on the right or left bank of the Nistru river	Form D: Qualification Form
	Active on the market for at least 5 years, with proven experience in conducting economic/market research	Form D: Qualification Form
	Demonstrated institutional capacity to conduct the research and produce a paper, with at least 5 contracts successfully delivered	Form D: Qualification Form
Eligibility criteria for the Task Manager	Master's degree or equivalent (5 years of University studies) in sociology and related sciences	Form D: Qualification Form
	At least 5 years of progressive experience in supervising/team leading of comprehensive surveys and research, planning activities	Form D: Qualification Form

	Previous experience in conducting specialized economic/analytical research projects, quantitative surveys design and implementation. Experience in developing methodologies	Form D: Qualification Form
	Proficiency in Romanian, Russian and English	Form D: Qualification Form

Technical Evaluation Criteria

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Points Obtainable
1.	Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience	350
2.	Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan	350
3.	Key Personnel qualifications and professional background	300
	Total	1000

Section 1. Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience		Points obtainable
1.1	Reputation of Organization and Staff Credibility / Reliability / Industry Standing	20
1.2	General Organizational Capability which is likely to affect implementation: (General Organizational Capability which is likely to affect implementation: - Project financing capacity (availability of financial resources to cover costs related to the assignment prior to the payment for the delivered services) - (no – 0 pts, yes - 10 pts) - Extent to which any work would be subcontracted (subcontracting carries additional risks which may affect project implementation, but properly done it offers a chance to access specialized skills) - (yes – 0pts, no -10 pts)	20
1.3	Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Moldova's right and left bank economies: - proved experience in dealing with economic development related projects on the right bank (<i>for at least 5 years – 15 points, each additional year 5 points, max. 30 points</i>); - proved experience in dealing with economic development related projects on the left bank (<i>for at least 5 years – 15 points, each additional year 5 points, max. 30 points</i>).	60
1.4	Demonstrated expertise in DCFTA application in Moldova. Demonstrated expertise in DCFTA application on the left bank will be considered an asset: - successfully implemented at least 2 projects (researches) related to application of DCFTA in Moldova (<i>20 pts, 10 points for each additional project, max. 40 points</i>); - successfully implemented project (research) related to the application of DCFTA in the Transnistria region (<i>30 points</i>).	70
1.5	Possess available experienced and qualified team of experts with sociological backgrounds and experience in designing and implementing economic researches. Capacity to involve adequate quantity of trained and qualified staff (own human resources or attracted), including a network of local operators if proposed methodology includes data collection processes, to respond effectively to the ToRs requirements. (<i>at least 2 full time experts – 20 pts, each additional -20 pts, max. – 60 pts</i>)	60

1.6	Previous experience in working for major programmes and capacity to properly manage a contract funded by international development organizations (<i>each assignment – 10 pts, up to max. 50 pts</i>);	50
1.7	Previous experience in dealing with or current partnerships/cooperation agreements/joint projects with business associations, business service providers, enterprises from the Transnistria region and/or academics: - Joint projects on economic research with business associations, business service providers (<i>each assignment - 10 pts, up to max. 30 pts</i>); - Joint projects on economic research with enterprises from the Transnistria region and/or academics (<i>each assignment - 5 pts, up to max. 10 pts</i>); - Experience in working with national actors as public authorities, ministries, others (<i>each assignment – 5 pts, up to max. 10 pts</i>).	50
1.8	Gender equality and diversity commitments: • Appointment of women to managerial positions in the team (10 pts) • Overall gender balance in the team (5 pts) • Diversity within the team: people from minority, vulnerable or marginalized groups are part of the team (5 pts)	20
Total Section 1		350

Section 2. Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan		Points obtainable
2.1	Conceptual framework is appropriate for the task, and corresponds to the project environment and focus area – economic development.	150
2.2	Important aspects of the task are addressed in detail and different components of the project adequately weighted relative to one another.	100
2.3	The proposed research methodology is relevant and representative for the final scope.	50
2.4	Presentation is clear, the sequence of activities and the planning is logical, realistic and promise efficient implementation to the project.	50
Total Section 2		350

Section 3. Management Structure and Key Personnel		Points obtainable
3.1	Qualifications of key personnel proposed	
3.1 a	Task Manager	150
	Master's degree or equivalent (5 years of University studies) in economy, sociology and related sciences (<i>Master – 10 pts, PhD – 20 pts</i>)	20
	Professional experience in the area of conducting economic or analytical research in other related issues (<i>5 assignments – 20 pts; each additional assignment - 5 pts, up to max. 80 pts</i>)	80
	Experience in working with business communities from both banks is an advantage (<i>each assignment - 20 pts, up to max. 40 pts</i>)	40

3.1 b	Team of Key Experts (minimum 2 experts)		150
	Master's degree or equivalent (5 years of University studies) in economics, sociology and related sciences (<i>Master – 10 pts, PhD – 20 pts</i>)	20	
	Progressive experience in conducting economic research, sociological surveys, quantitative surveys, including design and implementation (<i>at least one assignment – 20 pts; each additional assignment – 20 pts, up to max. 60 pts</i>)	60	
	Previous experience in conducting specialized economic researches on DCFTA related issues (<i>at least one assignment - 20 pts, each additional 10 points, up to 40 pts</i>)	40	
	Experience in working with government/public institutions/organizations is an advantage. (<i>each assignment - 10 pts, up to max. 20 pts</i>)	20	
	Language Qualifications (fluency in Romanian, English, Russian: Romanian – 4 pts; Russian – 3 pts.; English – 3 pts; up to 10 pts)	10	
Total Section 3			300

Section 5. Terms of Reference

Research on opportunities to increase export activity of businesses from the Transnistria region of the Republic of Moldova to the EU

Project title: Advanced Cross-river Capacities for Trade (AdTrade)

Duration period: August 2019 – October 2019

I. BACKGROUND

The “frozen conflict” situation in Transnistria, a region that accounts for one third of the country’s total industrial production and almost the entire energy production, has led to a decrease in living standard and its economy has not being able to fully benefit from the opportunities provided by the assistance offered to Moldova. For instance, the development opportunities offered by the Association Agreement, signed by Moldova with the EU, as well as the DCFTA arrangements, are significantly out of reach for the region’s economy. The Transnistria’s SME community, be it in traditional agricultural sector or in other emerging industries (IT, tourism, crafts), has the potential to grow, launch new products and services and export once they are ready. For the moment, most small and medium enterprises on the left bank are not ready to trade and so their share in the external regional trade is negligible.

The overall objective of the project is that men and women on both banks of the Nistru River have better livelihoods and living conditions, due to improved cross-river cooperation to access the opportunities offered by Moldova’s external trade arrangements, contributing to an environment of trust and cooperation across the river. The project will envisage provision of methodological and practical assistance in establishing long-term trade links and promotion of export; support to existing and creation of new MSME and, and as a result, creation of new jobs, in particular for vulnerable groups

These goals will be achieved through support to cross-river exchange of information, knowledge, experience and understanding of the opportunities provided by DCFTA to companies from the Transnistria region. Activities will also include learning from the successful experience of businesses from Eastern and Central Europe.

The main objectives of the Project are:

1. Improved cross-river exchange of information, knowledge, experience and understanding of the opportunities provided by DCFTA to companies from the Transnistria region.
2. Increased export activity of the business community from the Transnistria region as a result of better export promotion capacities and access to cross-river export support opportunities.
3. Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises across the Nistru river, in particular those led by women and benefitting vulnerable groups, are enabled to produce more competitive products.

The selected proposer will be tasked with producing a research paper to support Objective #2.

The produced research paper will be further used for selection of beneficiaries of assistance that will be provided to achieve Objective #2.

II. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The main objective of this assignment is to identify and propose ways to diversify the structure of exports from the Transnistria region by assessing comparative advantages of enterprises from the left bank and their prospects for various forms of cooperation between right and left bank businesses. The above will be implemented by conducting a research and producing a guidebook. As such, the assignment will have two separate deliverables.

Deliverable 1:

Produce a research that would reveal the comparative advantages of enterprises from the left bank and realistically assess competitiveness of their products on the EU markets. Particular emphasis will be made on assessing the potential benefits of and the prospects for various forms of cooperation between right and left bank businesses, in particular exporters of food and agricultural products. Moreover, the research should identify and propose ways to diversify the structure of exports from the Transnistria region.

The main role of the study is to help achieving increased export activity of the business community from the Transnistria region.

The study will answer to the following questions:

1. Which categories of goods and services are currently underrepresented in the structure of export from the Transnistrian region;
2. Realistic macro- and micro-economic strategies to diversify exports from the Transnistrian region;
3. Which sectors of the region's economy have the potential to increase exports to the EU;
4. What are these sectors/companies lacking to increase exports under DCFTA, and a list of such companies;
5. Which forms of cooperation between right and left bank businesses, and in which sectors of the economy, would help increase exports under DCFTA;
6. What would be the incentives for such cooperation to be established.

The selected proposer will:

- A. Develop and present for approval the methodology of research;
- B. Develop and present for approval detailed work plan and calendar of planned activities;
- C. Compile and coordinate with the Project Manager a list of sources of data collection;
- D. Conduct the research, including work in the field and in the office;
- E. Draft the research in English and Russian languages.

Deliverable 2:

Produce a guidebook for exporters from the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova to the EU by providing detailed necessary information regarding relevant legal and regulatory requirements to current and potential exporters from the left bank.

More specifically, the selected proposer will assess existing legal and regulatory framework related to exports to the European Union under Moldova-EU DCFTA as they apply to companies based in the Transnistrian region. This will be done by analyzing existing information and conducting relevant interviews. The selected proposer will also assess availability of such information in Russian and based on the findings will draft a detailed guide in Russian for Transnistria-based exporters.

III. KEY ACTIVITIES

The main objective identified at *II. Objectives and scope of work* shall be met through the above listed activities that will include, but will not be limited to the following:

Deliverable 1:

1. **Methodology development:** prepare list of methods and types of data to be used and their justification, present the concept, the structure and the working language of the future research paper.
2. **Detailed work plan and calendar of planned activities:** develop detailed plan of activities against deadlines, including clear breakdown by types of activities – field work/office work.
3. **Data collection:** based on proposed and approved methodology the Contractor will coordinate with the Project Manager the list of individuals and/or entities to be interviewed, and/or other sources of data collection.
4. **Research:** including by undertaking field visits and conducting interviews/surveys, collection of open source data, etc.
5. **Drafting:** the research paper will have to be delivered in English and Russian. Under *Activity 1. Methodology development* the Contractor will notify the Project Manager about the primary/working language of the research and whether the translation would be done inhouse. In case translation will be outsourced, the Contractor will coordinate with the Project Manager the translation service provider or run selection process jointly with the Project Manager.

Deliverable 2:

1. Conduct **comprehensive research** of the following (1) existing legal and regulatory framework related to exports to the European Union under Moldova-EU DCFTA; (2) specific requirements and/or benefits concerning Transnistria-based companies;
2. **Assess availability** of above information open source and in Russian, including, if needed, by interviewing relevant actors in Transnistria;
3. Produce **Exporter's Guide:** draft a user-friendly detailed guide in Russian describing step-by-step procedure of exporting from Transnistria to the EU, including registration of company, certification of products and customs clearance procedures.

NOTE: The selected proposer may, and will be encouraged to, use same or similar set of interviewees for both deliverables.

IV. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Milestones and deliverables	Timeframe
Deliverable 1	
1. Develop and present for approval the methodology of research	
1.1. Narrative presentation of the general methodological approach (up to 3000 characters) 1.2. List of methods of data collection 1.3. Structure (tentative table of contents) and working language <i>2 working days after the signing of contract</i>	2 workdays
2. Develop and present for approval detailed work plan and calendar of planned activities	
Detailed calendar plan of activities <i>5 working days after the signing of contract</i>	2 workdays
3. Compile and coordinate with the Project Manager a list of sources of data collection	

Approved list of sources of data <i>5 working days after the signing of contract</i>	1 workday
4. Conduct the research, including work in the field and in the office	
Weekly progress reports <i>20 working days after the signing of contract</i>	15 workdays
5. Draft the research	
Research paper <i>30 working days after the signing of contract</i>	10 workdays
6. Translation (if applicable)	
Translation into English/Russian (if the case) <i>35 working days after the signing of contract</i>	5 workdays
Deliverable 2	
7. Research existing legal and regulatory framework related to exports to the European Union under Moldova-EU DCFTA. Research specific requirements and/or benefits concerning Transnistria-based companies.	
1st narrative report up to 5 pages <i>5 working days after the signing of contract</i>	5 workdays
8. Assess availability of above information open source and in Russian, including by interviewing relevant actors in Transnistria (1 interview with business association, 2 SMEs, 2 farming companies)	
2nd narrative report up to 3 pages <i>10 working days after the signing of contract</i>	5 workdays
9. Produce Exporter's Guide	
Final report of the findings incorporating all comments and suggestions <i>25 working days after the signing of contract</i>	15 workdays

All written deliverables should be agreed with UNDP and be provided in English, hard and electronic copy.

The selected Service Provider is expected to work in a close cooperation with the national counterparts in close coordination with the team of **AdTrade project** (AdTrade Project Manager and AdTrade Project Officer). Communication will be conducted via email, SKYPE and phone.

V. PROPOSAL

The technical proposal must include:

- Inter alia;
- Cover letter;
- Outline of proposed methodological approach;
- Sample(s) of previous similar or comparable researches produced by the proposer;
- Resumes of expert(s) and other personnel who will be involved in the activities, with clear description of distribution of roles in the team.

Beside the technical proposal following documents shall be provided:

- constituent and legal documents available;
- list of economic researches conducted in the last 5 years;
- recommendations from customers;
- latest Audited Financial Statement (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) including Auditor's Report for the past 3 years (quick ratio formula could be applied)

The financial proposal must contain detailed breakdown of personnel, administrative and logistical expenses.

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

Performance evaluation - Contractor's performance will be evaluated against such criteria as: timeliness, responsibility, initiative, communication, accuracy, and quality of the products delivered. All reports must be provided in English, electronically.

VI. ELIGIBILITY and EVALUATION CRITERIA

Interested organizations and involved staff should consider below eligibility and evaluation criteria:

Eligibility criteria for applying organizations (minimum qualification requirements)

- Legal entity officially registered on the right or left bank of the Nistru river;
- Active on the market for at least 5 years, with proven experience in conducting economic/market research;
- Demonstrated institutional capacity to conduct the research and produce a paper, with at least 5 contracts successfully delivered.

Eligibility criteria for the Task Manager (minimum qualification requirements)

- Master's degree or equivalent (5 years of University studies) in sociology and related sciences;
- At least 5 years of progressive experience in supervising/team leading of comprehensive surveys and research, planning activities;
- Previous experience in conducting specialized economic/analytical research projects, quantitative surveys design and implementation. Experience in developing methodologies;
- Proficiency in Romanian, Russian and English.

Evaluation criteria:

Summary of Technical Proposal Evaluation Forms		Score Weight	Points Obtainable
1.	Bidder's qualification, capacity and experience	35%	350
2.	Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan	35%	350
3.	Key Personnel qualifications and professional background	30%	300
Total			1000

Applying organization

- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of Moldova's right and left bank economies;
- Demonstrated expertise in DCFTA application in Moldova (demonstrated expertise in DCFTA application on the left bank will be considered an asset);
- Possess available experienced and qualified team of experts with sociological backgrounds and experience in designing and implementing economic researches. Capacity to involve adequate quantity of trained and qualified staff (own human resources or attracted), including a network of local operators if proposed methodology includes data collection processes, to respond effectively to the ToRs requirements;

- Previous experience in working for major programmes and capacity to properly manage a contract funded by international development organizations.
- Previous experience in dealing with or current partnerships/cooperation agreements/joint projects with academics, business associations, business service providers and/or enterprises from the Transnistria region.

Methodology

- Conceptual framework is appropriate for the task, and corresponds to the project environment and focus area – economic development;
- Important aspects of the task are addressed in detail and different components of the project adequately weighted relative to one another;
- The proposed research methodology is relevant and representative for the final scope;
- Presentation is clear, the sequence of activities and the planning is logical, realistic and promise efficient implementation to the project.

Involved personnel key experts / staff and professional background (minimum two experts)

- Master's degree or equivalent in economy, sociology and related sciences;
- Experience in the area of conducting economic or analytical research in other relevant areas;
- Experience in conducting specialized economic researches on DCFTA related issues;
- Experience in working with government/public institutions/organizations is an advantage;
- Experience in working with business communities from both banks is an advantage;
- Language Qualifications (fluency in Romanian, English, Russian).

VII. SCOPE OF BID PRICE AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The contract price will be a fixed output-based price regardless of extension of contract duration specified above. The unit prices in the financial offer shall be exclusive of VAT. Payments will be made in tranches per the schedule below.

Schedule of Payments

The payments to the Contractor will be disbursed within 5 days after completion of respective tasks by the Contractor, unless stipulated otherwise in the Schedule below.

	Activity	Instalment	Payment due upon completion of output
Deliverable 1			
1, 2 & 3.	Develop and present for approval the methodology of research; Develop and present for approval detailed work plan and calendar of planned activities; Compile and coordinate with the Project Manager a list of sources of data collection;	10%	Approval of methodology of research by the Project Manager; Approval of work and calendar plans and of the list of sources of data collection by the Project Manager

4.	Conduct the research, including work in the field and in the office	15%	Approval of the final weekly progress report by the Project Manager
5.	Produce final research paper	35%	Approval of research paper by the Project Manager
Deliverable 2			
1&2	<p>Research existing legal and regulatory framework related to exports to the European Union under Moldova-EU DCFTA. Research specific requirements and/or benefits concerning Transnistria-based companies;</p> <p>Assess availability of above information open source and in Russian, including by interviewing relevant actors in Transnistria (1 interview with business association, 2 SMEs, 2 farming companies);</p>	10%	Approval of 1 st and 2 nd narrative report by the Project Manager
3.	Produce Exporter's Guide.	30%	Approval of the guidebook and of the final narrative report

Section 6: Returnable Bidding Forms / Checklist

This form serves as a checklist for preparation of your Proposal. Please complete the Returnable Bidding Forms in accordance with the instructions in the forms and return them as part of your Proposal submission. No alteration to format of forms shall be permitted and no substitution shall be accepted.

Before submitting your Proposal, please ensure compliance with the Proposal Submission instructions of the BDS 22.

Technical Proposal Envelope:

Have you duly completed all the Returnable Bidding Forms?	
▪ Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form B: Bidder Information Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/ Association Information Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form D: Qualification Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form E: Format of Technical Proposal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you provided the required documents to establish compliance with the evaluation criteria in Section 4?	<input type="checkbox"/>

Financial Proposal Envelope

(Must be submitted in a separate sealed envelope/password protected email)

▪ Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form G: Financial Proposal Form	<input type="checkbox"/>

Form A: Technical Proposal Submission Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	RfP - 19/01948		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for **Research on opportunities to increase export activity of businesses from the Transnistria region of the Republic of Moldova to the EU** in accordance with your Request for Proposal No. RfP-19/01948 and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and our Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

We hereby declare that our firm, its affiliates or subsidiaries or employees, including any JV/Consortium /Association members or subcontractors or suppliers for any part of the contract:

- a) is not under procurement prohibition by the United Nations, including but not limited to prohibitions derived from the Compendium of United Nations Security Council Sanctions Lists;
- b) have not been suspended, debarred, sanctioned or otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization;
- c) have no conflict of interest in accordance with Instruction to Bidders Clause 4;
- d) do not employ, or anticipate employing, any person(s) who is, or has been a UN staff member within the last year, if said UN staff member has or had prior professional dealings with our firm in his/her capacity as UN staff member within the last three years of service with the UN (in accordance with UN post-employment restrictions published in ST/SGB/2006/15);
- e) have not declared bankruptcy, are not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against them that could impair their operations in the foreseeable future;
- f) undertake not to engage in proscribed practices, including but not limited to corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, obstruction, or any other unethical practice, with the UN or any other party, and to conduct business in a manner that averts any financial, operational, reputational or other undue risk to the UN and we embrace the principles of the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct and adhere to the principles of the United Nations Global Compact.

We declare that all the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misinterpretation or misrepresentation contained in this Proposal may lead to our disqualification and/or sanctioning by the UNDP.

We offer to provide services in conformity with the Bidding documents, including the UNDP General Conditions of Contract and in accordance with the Terms of Reference

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Bid Data Sheet.

We understand and recognize that you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

I, the undersigned, certify that I am duly authorized by [Insert Name of Bidder] to sign this Proposal and bind it should UNDP accept this Proposal.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

[Stamp with official stamp of the Bidder]

Form B: Bidder Information Form

Legal name of Bidder	[Complete]
Legal address	[Complete]
Year of registration	[Complete]
Bidder's Authorized Representative Information	Name and Title: [Complete] Telephone numbers: [Complete] Email: [Complete]
Are you a UNGM registered vendor?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, [insert UGNM vendor number]
Are you a UNDP vendor?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, [insert UNDP vendor number]
Countries of operation	[Complete]
No. of full-time employees	[Complete]
Quality Assurance Certification (e.g. ISO 9000 or Equivalent) (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	[Complete]
Does your Company hold any accreditation such as ISO 14001 related to the environment? (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	[Complete]
Does your Company have a written Statement of its Environmental Policy? (If yes, provide a Copy)	[Complete]
Contact person UNDP may contact for requests for clarification during Proposal evaluation	Name and Title: [Complete] Telephone numbers: [Complete] Email: [Complete]
Please attach the following documents:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Company profile, which should not exceed fifteen (15) pages; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical proposal, constituent and legal documents available, list of economic researches conducted in the last 5 years, recommendations from customers and income Statement and Balance Sheet including Auditor's Report for the past 3 years (if the case) as described in Section 5: Terms of Reference.

Form C: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	RfP-19/01948		

To be completed and returned with your Proposal if the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association.

No	Name of Partner and contact information (address, telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail address)	Proposed proportion of responsibilities (in %) and type of services to be performed
1	[Complete]	[Complete]
2	[Complete]	[Complete]
3	[Complete]	[Complete]

Name of leading partner (with authority to bind the JV, Consortium, Association during the RFP process and, in the event a Contract is awarded, during contract execution)	[Complete]
--	------------

We have attached a copy of the below document signed by every partner, which details the likely legal structure of and the confirmation of joint and severable liability of the members of the said joint venture:

☐ Letter of intent to form a joint venture **OR** ☐ JV/Consortium/Association agreement

We hereby confirm that if the contract is awarded, all parties of the Joint Venture/Consortium/Association shall be jointly and severally liable to UNDP for the fulfillment of the provisions of the Contract.

Name of partner: _____ Name of partner: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Name of partner: _____ Name of partner: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Form D: Qualification Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	RfP-19/01948		

If JV/Consortium/Association, to be completed by each partner.

Historical Contract Non-Performance

☐ Contract non-performance did not occur for the last 3 years

☐ Contract(s) not performed for the last 3 years

Year	Non- performed portion of contract	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount (current value in US\$)
		Name of Client: Address of Client: Reason(s) for non-performance:	

Litigation History (including pending litigation)

☐ No litigation history for the last 3 years

☐ Litigation History as indicated below

Year of dispute	Amount in dispute (in US\$)	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount (current value in US\$)
		Name of Client: Address of Client: Matter in dispute: Party who initiated the dispute: Status of dispute: Party awarded if resolved:	

Previous Relevant Experience

Please list only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the last 3 years.

List only those assignments for which the Bidder was legally contracted or sub-contracted by the Client as a company or was one of the Consortium/JV partners. Assignments completed by the Bidder’s individual experts working privately or through other firms cannot be claimed as the relevant experience of the Bidder, or that of the Bidder’s partners or sub-consultants, but can be claimed by the Experts themselves in their CVs.

The Bidder should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience by presenting copies of relevant documents and references if so requested by UNDP.

Project name & Country of Assignment	Client & Reference Contact Details	Contract Value	Period of activity and status	Types of activities undertaken

Bidders may also attach their own Project Data Sheets with more details for assignments above.

☐ Attached are the Statements of Satisfactory Performance from the Top 3 (three) Clients or more.

Financial Standing

Annual Turnover for the last 3 years	Year	USD
	Year	USD
	Year	USD
Latest Credit Rating (if any), indicate the source		

Financial information (in US\$ equivalent)	Historic information for the last 3 years		
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	<i>Information from Balance Sheet</i>		
Total Assets (TA)			
Total Liabilities (TL)			
Current Assets (CA)			
Current Liabilities (CL)			
	<i>Information from Income Statement</i>		
Total / Gross Revenue (TR)			
Profits Before Taxes (PBT)			
Net Profit			
Current Ratio			

☐ Attached are copies of the audited financial statements (balance sheets, including all related notes, and income statements) for the years required above complying with the following condition:

- a) Must reflect the financial situation of the Bidder or party to a JV, and not sister or parent companies;
- b) Historic financial statements must be audited by a certified public accountant;

- c) Historic financial statements must correspond to accounting periods already completed and audited. No statements for partial periods shall be accepted.

Form E: Format of Technical Proposal

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	RfP-19/01948		

The Bidder's proposal should be organized to follow this format of Technical Proposal. Where the bidder is presented with a requirement or asked to use a specific approach, the bidder must not only state its acceptance, but also describe how it intends to comply with the requirements. Where a descriptive response is requested, failure to provide the same will be viewed as non-responsive.

SECTION 1: Bidder's qualification, capacity and expertise

- 1.1 Brief description of the organization, including the year and country of incorporation, and types of activities undertaken.
- 1.2 General organizational capability which is likely to affect implementation: management structure, financial stability and project financing capacity, project management controls, extent to which any work would be subcontracted (if so, provide details).
- 1.3 Relevance of specialized knowledge and experience on similar engagements done in the region/country.
- 1.4 Quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures.
- 1.5 Organization's commitment to sustainability.

SECTION 2: Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan

This section should demonstrate the bidder's responsiveness to the TOR by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed and demonstrating how the proposed approach and methodology meets or exceeds the requirements. All important aspects should be addressed in sufficient detail and different components of the project should be adequately weighted relative to one another.

- 2.1 A detailed description of the approach and methodology for how the Bidder will achieve the Terms of Reference of the project, keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions and project environment. Details how the different service elements shall be organized, controlled and delivered.
- 2.2 The methodology shall also include details of the Bidder's internal technical and quality assurance review mechanisms.
- 2.3 Explain whether any work would be subcontracted, to whom, how much percentage of the work, the rationale for such, and the roles of the proposed sub-contractors and how everyone will function as a team.
- 2.4 Description of available performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools; how they shall be adopted and used for a specific requirement.
- 2.5 Implementation plan including a Gantt Chart or Project Schedule indicating the detailed sequence of activities that will be undertaken and their corresponding timing.
- 2.6 Demonstrate how you plan to integrate sustainability measures in the execution of the contract.
- 2.7 Any other comments or information regarding the project approach and methodology that will be adopted.

SECTION 2A: Bidder's Comments and Suggestions on the Terms of Reference

Provide comments and suggestions on the Terms of Reference, or additional services that will be rendered beyond the requirements of the TOR, if any.

SECTION 3: Management Structure and Key Personnel

- 3.1 Describe the overall management approach toward planning and implementing the project. Include an organization chart for the management of the project describing the relationship of key positions and designations. Provide a spreadsheet to show the activities of each personnel and the time allocated for his/her involvement.
- 3.2 Provide CVs for key personnel that will be provided to support the implementation of this project using the format below. CVs should demonstrate qualifications in areas relevant to the Scope of Services.

Format for CV of Proposed Key Personnel

Name of Personnel	[Insert]
Position for this assignment	[Insert]
Nationality	[Insert]
Language proficiency	[Insert]
Education/ Qualifications	<i>[Summarize college/university and other specialized education of personnel member, giving names of schools, dates attended, and degrees/qualifications obtained.]</i>
	[Insert]
Professional certifications	<i>[Provide details of professional certifications relevant to the scope of services]</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name of institution: [Insert] ▪ Date of certification: [Insert]
Employment Record/ Experience	<i>[List all positions held by personnel (starting with present position, list in reverse order), giving dates, names of employing organization, title of position held and location of employment. For experience in last five years, detail the type of activities performed, degree of responsibilities, location of assignments and any other information or professional experience considered pertinent for this assignment.]</i>
	[Insert]
References	<i>[Provide names, addresses, phone and email contact information for two (2) references]</i>
	Reference 1: [Insert] Reference 2: [Insert]

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, these data correctly describe my qualifications, my experiences, and other relevant information about myself.

Signature of Personnel

Date (Day/Month/Year)

Form F: Financial Proposal Submission Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	RfP-19/01948		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for **Research on opportunities to increase export activity of businesses from the Transnistria region of the Republic of Moldova to the EU** in accordance with your Request for Proposal No. RfP-19/01948 and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and our Financial Proposal sealed under a separate envelope.

Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [Insert amount in words and figures].

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Bid Data Sheet.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____
Signature: _____

[Stamp with official stamp of the Bidder]

Form G: Financial Proposal Form

Name of Bidder:	[Insert Name of Bidder]	Date:	Select date
RFP reference:	RfP-19/01948		

The Bidder is required to prepare the Financial Proposal following the below format and submit it in an envelope separate from the Technical Proposal as indicated in the Instruction to Bidders. Any Financial information provided in the Technical Proposal shall lead to Bidder’s disqualification.

The Financial Proposal should align with the requirements in the Terms of Reference and the Bidder’s Technical Proposal.

Currency of the proposal: [Insert Currency]

Table 1: Summary of Overall Prices

	Amount(s)
Professional Fees (from Table 2)	
Other Costs (from Table 3)	
Total Amount of Financial Proposal	

Table 2: Breakdown of Professional Fees

Name	Position	Fee Rate	No. of Days/months/ hours	Total Amount
		A	B	C=A+B
In-Country				
Home Based				
Subtotal Professional Fees:				

Table 3: Breakdown of Other Costs

Description	UOM	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Amount
International flights	Trip			

Subsistence allowance	Day			
Miscellaneous travel expenses	Trip			
Local transportation costs	Lump Sum			
Out-of-Pocket Expenses				
Other Costs: (please specify)				
Subtotal Other Costs:				

Table 4: Breakdown of Price per Deliverable/Activity

Deliverable/ Activity description	Time (person days)	Professional Fees	Other Costs	Total
Deliverable 1				
1. Develop and present for approval the methodology of research				
1.1 Narrative presentation of the general methodological approach (up to 3000 characters)				
1.2 List of methods of data collection				
1.3 Structure (tentative table of contents) and working language				
2. Develop and present for approval detailed work plan and calendar of planned activities				
Detailed calendar plan of activities				
3. Compile and coordinate with the Project Manager a list of sources of data collection				
Approved list of sources of data				
4. Conduct the research, including work in the field and in the office				
Weekly progress reports				
5. Draft the research				
Research paper				
6. Translation (if applicable)				
Translation into English/Russian (if the case)				
Deliverable 2				
7. Research existing legal and regulatory framework related to exports to the European Union under Moldova-EU DCFTA. Research specific requirements and/or benefits concerning Transnistria-based companies.				
1st narrative report up to 5 pages				

8. Assess availability of above information open source and in Russian, including by interviewing relevant actors in Transnistria (1 interview with business association, 2 SMEs, 2 farming companies)				
2nd narrative report up to 3 pages				
9. Produce Exporter's Guide				
Final report of the findings incorporating all comments and suggestions				