



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Job title:	Climate Change Consultant to support the project “Promotion of climate change and disaster risk reduction solutions in the water and civil protection sectors for enhanced rural resilience”
Duty station:	Chisinau, Moldova
Reference to the project:	“Promotion of climate change and disaster risk reduction solutions in the water and civil protection sectors for enhanced rural resilience”
Contract type:	Individual Contract (IC)
Expected duration of the assignment:	June 2019 – November 2019, 40 days
Starting date:	June 2019

I. Background

Considering its economic structure and geographic features, Moldova is highly vulnerable to climate change and is exposed to disasters due to hydrometeorological phenomena and natural hazards. While drought and floods are among top hydro-meteorological hazards caused by extreme weather and climate events, due to the current and projected abnormal high temperatures leading to water scarcity, the incidence of forest fires is increasingly posing a threat to natural ecosystems, the agricultural system and human settlements.

Such high exposure is due to the country’s dependence on rain-fed agricultural production which is tied to climate, making it the most vulnerable of all economic sectors. This is primarily due to the shortage of water for agricultural needs and limited resources and capacities to plan and put in place water storage facilities for irrigation needs in rural communities of Moldova, especially, since climate projections show larger rainfall events in the future, which could supply such facilities.

Climate scenarios also indicate the country is strongly trending towards becoming more arid. Unfortunately, rural communities experience a capacity deficit in terms of fire prevention, preparedness and timely response, mainly due to the liquidation of over 400 equipped and capacitated firefighting units. It resulted in increased response time and lower awareness of fire risks by the rural population, subsequently leading to considerable increase in loss of life, property and affected ecosystems. It is widely accepted that rural women are disproportionately affected by fires due to them being mostly engaged in cooking in unsafe cook stoves and collection of firewood in ecosystems that might be at high risk of fires.

Against this background, the project aims to increase resilience and adaptive capacities of rural communities to climate change and disasters through improved water storage infrastructures and disasters risk reduction measures. The project is supporting implementation of climate-smart water management solutions for agriculture, flood management, fire prevention and expansion of community-based rescue/firefighting teams in rural communities of Moldova with the purpose of reducing the exposure and vulnerability of the rural communities to climate change and disaster risks. The project will be implemented over a period of 36 months and the activities are clustered around 2 major outputs intended to produce impact in 5 districts of Moldova, in the Central (Hincesti, Criuleni and Ungheni districts) and Southern (Leova and Cantemir) regions.

The expected **impact** of the project is: **improved resilience of rural communities’ livelihoods in the face of climate change**

The **overall project outcome** is **strengthened local policies, capacities and infrastructure, which enable climate and disaster resilient development at the community level.**

Projects outputs are as follows:

Output 1 - Adaptation interventions in the water sector for agricultural purposes and flood management demonstrated and local climate change related policy frameworks in place in a selected number of districts.

Output 2 - Community-level climate and disaster management capacities improved for risk reduction, prevention and timely response.

Under the 1st output, 2 major activities will be implemented: *1.1. Mainstream climate change adaptation and disaster risk management priorities into local development planning frameworks* with intention to widely involve various stakeholders ranging from the private sector to vulnerable groups (out of which 50% will be women) into policy development and decision-making over priorities that affect their well-being; and *1.2. Piloting of water storage infrastructures in 5 districts of the country to enhance adaptation to climate change in the water and agricultural sectors* by providing grants to at least 15 farmers, including women, to put in place climate-smart water systems, such as, for instance, water storage basins.

Under the 2nd output, 2 major activities will be implemented: *2.1 Establish community-based rescue and firefighting brigades in the most vulnerable and risk exposed districts of the country*, which are considered an instrument for resilient community development that will cover a radius of up to 10-20 km and a maximum intervention time of 15 minutes; and *2.2 Conduct capacity development for climate and disaster response local teams and raise awareness towards building a culture of safer living* in order to ensure that the performance of the climate and disaster response local teams in the target communities reaches its full capacity and that the local population have an enhanced understanding of the response patterns in case of disasters.

The benefits of the project will materialize through increased water availability for resilient livelihoods, reduced exposure to disaster and fire risks for 55 villages (approximately 58,714 people, including 39 300 women), where 990 households (2930 people) are identified as socially and economically vulnerable.

For the purpose of this project and the definition of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES), as vulnerable groups and individuals are defined people with diminished capacity to anticipate, cope with, resist and recover from the impact of a natural or man-made hazard. Those include: 1st Group – Persons who are alone and/or sick that are tied to bed and cared for by social assistants; 2nd Group – Poor families with many children and families without one or both parents; and, 3rd Group – Old persons with limited mobility.

II. Scope of work and expected outputs

The overall objective of the assignment is to ensure a climate responsive approach throughout the implementation of the first component of the project, more specifically of Activity 1.2. Piloting water storage infrastructures in 5 districts to enhance adaptation to climate change in the water and agriculture sectors.

The Individual Consultant will carry out climate analysis in the 5 districts of the project, with focus on historical water availability and future projections of temperatures and precipitation.

The Consultant will work under close guidance of the Environmental Specialist leading the preparation of the Environment Impact Assessment, Sustainability and Risk Management Plan (EIASRMP). The climate analysis prepared by the Consultant will feed into the EIASRMP.

In order to achieve the stated objective, the Consultant will have the following responsibilities:

- Review the background information relevant to the project, such as, but not limited to, the project document, social and environmental assessment and checklist, environmental appraisal, etc. and propose a sound methodology for climate analysis in 5 pilot districts and/or sites selected following the Call for Expression of Interest for farmers for establishment/rehabilitation of water storage infrastructures.
- Ensure support in terms of climate-related data, research and analysis for the preparation of relevant chapters in the Environmental Impact Assessment & Risk Management and Sustainability Plan (EIARMSP) of the Project with reference to the 5 pilot districts and to the overall best practices and experience of response to water shortage due to climate change impacts.

- Advise on climate change related aspects (adaptation and mitigation) during operationalization of the water storage infrastructures support scheme. Investigate climatic conditions in the pilot districts of the project/selected sites by analyzing climatological data from the nearest reliable meteorological stations. Establish historical trends of critical climatological factors. Use standard statistical procedures and report on effective rainfall, minimum and maximum temperatures, humidity, wind and sunshine hours. Establish historical trends in water availability and future projections of temperatures and precipitation in the 5 pilot districts/selected sites.
- Undertake field visits to the selected 5 pilot districts associated with the Call for Expression of Interest as well as with data collection.
- Provide inputs to the Call for Expression of Interest for farmers for establishment/rehabilitation of water storage infrastructures.
- Provide support to the project team to enhance climate focus in the Project Logframe Matrix in line with the recommendations of the donor.
- Ensure compliance with all corporate rules and regulations of UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, more specifically climate change safeguards.
- Respond to requests for inputs from UNDP and beneficiary institutions with respect to the climate aspects of the Project.
- Prepare periodical reports on relevant activities and contribute to Project reporting on matters related to climate.
- Undertake any other related tasks requested on an ad hoc basis.

III. Deliverables and Timeframe

No.	Deliverables	Tentative timeframe/deadline
1.	Inception Report chapter containing the methodology to address the assignment and timeline prepared and approved by Lead Consultant of Environmental Impact Assessment and Project Manager.	July-August 2019
2.	Inputs to the development of the EIARMSP methodology by providing data and information on climate change impact and risks assessment – separate chapter within EIARMSP.	June-July 2019
3.	Climate-related data, research and analysis conducted in support to the Environmental Impact Assessment & Risk Management and Sustainability Plan of the Project (EIARMSP) for the 5 pilot districts and to the overall best practices and experience of response to water shortage due to climate change impacts ensured.	June-July 2019
4.	Contribution to the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) (as integral part of EIARMSP) by providing description of measures to reduce GHG emissions during the construction and operational phases of the water storage facilities – separate chapter within EMP.	November 2019
5.	Inputs for revision of the Project Logframe Matrix provided in consultation with the Environment Lead Consultant.	August-September 2019
6.	Final Report on accomplished assignment endorsed by Lead Consultant for Environmental Impact Assessment and approved by Project Manager.	November 2019

All documentation related to the assignment will be in English. Before submission of the deliverables, the consultant will discuss the draft documents with the parties involved (e.g. General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, UNDP and other stakeholders) so that final products reflect their comments. UNDP is not required to provide any physical facility for the work of the IC. However, depending to the availability of physical facilities (e.g. working space, printer, telephone lines, internet connection etc.) and at the discretion of the UNDP such facilities may be provided at the disposal of the IC.

This is a part-time consultancy. The timeframe for the work of consultant is planned for June 2019 – November 2019.

Management Arrangements: The consultant will work under the guidance of CC and DRR Project Manager and the Environment Lead Consultant.

Financial arrangements: Payments will be disbursed in several instalments, upon submission and approval of deliverables, and certification by UNDP Moldova Project Manager that the services have been satisfactorily performed.

IV. Qualifications and skills required:

- I. Academic Qualifications:
 - University degree in environment studies, and with expertise in climate studies.
- II. Experience and knowledge:
 - At least 5 years of progressively responsible professional experience working on climate responsive programming in development programs/projects.
 - At least 3 years of experience in climate research and analysis, including analyzing historical data and building forecasts.
 - At least 3 years of experience developing methodologies for assessing climate change impact and risks and best practices to mitigate water shortage due to climate change impacts.
 - Experience of working at community level.
- III. Competencies:
 - Excellent written communication skills, with analytic capacity and ability to synthesize project outputs and relevant findings for the preparation of analytical documents.
 - Capacity to build strong relationships with beneficiaries, to focus on impact and results and to respond positively to feedback.
 - Comfortable working as part of a team to add value to collective results.
 - Knowledge of Romanian or Russian languages, a good level of understanding and spoken English is required for this assignment.
- IV. Personal qualities:
 - Proven commitment to the core values of the United Nations, in particular, for differences of culture, gender, religion, ethnicity, nationality, language, age, HIV status, disability, and sexual orientation, or other status.

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.

V. Documents to be included when submitting the proposals:

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

1. Proposal:
 - Providing a brief information on each of the above qualifications, item by item and a brief methodology on how they will approach and conduct the work.
2. Financial proposal (in USD), specifying a fee per day and total requested amount including all related costs, e.g. fees, per diems, travel costs, phone calls etc.
3. Up-to-date CV with at least 3 names for a reference check.
 - Offeror's letter to UNDP confirming interest and availability for the individual contractor (IC) assignment.