



**EU4MOLDOVA**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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Job title:	National Consultant on Local Economic Development
Duty Station:	Chişinău (with frequent travel to Cahul and Ungheni Municipalities)
Section/Unit:	EU4Moldova: Focal Regions Programme (EU-funded)
Type of Contract:	Individual Contract
Starting Date:	July 2020
Duration of Assignment:	July 2020 – February 2021, up to 70 working days with possibility of extension

### **Job Content**

#### **I. BACKGROUND**

The EU4Moldova: focal regions Programme is based on the European Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action Programme 2018 in favor of the Republic of Moldova and is funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme.

The overall objective of the five-year Programme is to strengthen the economic, territorial and social cohesion in the Republic of Moldova through facilitating inclusive, sustainable and integrated local socio-economic growth and improving the standards of living of the citizens in the pilot micro- regions: Cahul and Ungheni.

To this end, this Programme will address the urban-rural divide and regional disparities, stimulate economic growth and job creation, refurbish and upgrade some social and technical infrastructure in selected pilot micro-regions (smaller towns and villages) while taking into account a gender perspective in the activities of the Programme.

Specific objectives:

1. To strengthen transparency, accountability of local public authorities and citizen participation in local governance processes in the pilot micro-regions.
2. To improve citizens' access to quality public services and utilities in the pilot micro-regions.
3. To create employment opportunities for men and women in the pilot micro-regions and improve the attractiveness of the pilot regions for investors and entrepreneurs,
4. To promote the smart specialization of the economy of the pilot micro regions through the development of the clustering and value chain approach in key economic sectors.

The Programme objectives will be achieved through measures targeted at: (i) capacity building to support the implementation and monitoring of local economic development plans; (ii) civil society engagement in local planning, governance processes and basic social service delivery; (iii) provision of investment funding in support of the creation and/or development of social and technical infrastructure which, combined with the outcomes from interventions (i) and (ii) above, will have an immediate, visible and tangible impact on employment creation, the standard of living of the population in the pilot micro-regions.

**II. SCOPE OF WORK**

To ensure adequate implementation of all planned activities, the Programme is seeking for a National Consultant to provide consistent and comprehensive methodological guidance in implementing of project activities related to local economic development.

The **overall objective** of the National Consultant on Local Economic Development assignment (hereinafter Consultant) is to:

- Provide methodological support in setting up of the Territorial Economic Development Associations (TEDA) in Cahul and Ungheni municipalities.
- Provide methodological support in organizing PACA process in Ungheni and Cahul municipalities.

**III. TASKS AND ESTIMATED WORKLOAD**

The assignment will require the completion of the following tasks:

<p><b>Tasks, Activities &amp; Deliverables</b>  <i>(provision of deliverables of required content and quality is the only criteria for consultant's payment)</i></p>	<p><b>Estimated work volume</b>  <i>(used at the submission stage)</i></p>	<p><b>Tentative timeframe</b>  <i>(subject to coordination/adjustment with EU4MD project team)</i></p>
<p><b>I: Provide methodological support in setting up of the Territorial Economic Development Associations in Cahul and Ungheni municipalities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Provide methodological support in defining the zone of economic interest of target municipalities and road-mapping the process of setting up of TEDA (in partnership with International LED Expert).</li> <li>✓ Organization of induction instructions on LED for the IMC Expert and brief in the methodology of setting up the economic territorial functional areas</li> <li>✓ Methodological supervision of the process of defining the territorial composition Ungheni and Cahul functional economic area.</li> <li>✓ Coaching the local teams in organizing the field missions to targeted LPAs.</li> </ul>	<p>up to 20 working days</p>	
<p><b>Deliverable I: 1st Intermediate Progress Report</b>            Report on methodological guidance of TEDA setting up in Cahul and Ungheni municipalities</p>		<p>By July 15, 2020</p>

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<b>II: Provide methodological support in organizing PACA process in Ungheni and Cahul municipalities.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Support in road-mapping the PACA process in Cahul and Ungheni Municipalities</li> <li>✓ Organize induction methodological instructions for Local Consultants and guidance for International LED Consultant.</li> <li>✓ Methodological supervision and coaching the local teams in organizing the field missions and analytical work related to PACA.</li> <li>✓ Methodological supervision of the process of elaboration of local LED Road Maps for Cahul and Ungheni functional economic areas.</li> <li>✓ Methodological supervision on collection of information on local strengths, unique handicrafts, local specialties, than can be capitalized.</li> </ul>	up to 50 working days	
<b>Deliverable II: 2nd Intermediate Progress Report</b> Report on PACA process initiation		By September 30, 2020
<b>Deliverable II: 3rd Intermediate Progress Report</b> Report on PACA process advancement		By December 10, 2020
<b>Deliverable IV: Final Progress Report</b>		By February 15, 2021
<b>Total number of working days</b>	<b>Up to 70 working days</b>	

**Note:** The indicated tentative timeframe has been estimated as being sufficient/feasible for the envisaged volume of work to be completed successfully and is proposed as a guideline for the duration of the assignment. The provision of the envisaged deliverables approved by the Programme shall be the only criteria for Consultant's work being completed and eligible for payment/s.

All activities under this assignment shall be performed in a gender-sensitive manner and applying human rights-based approach.

**Language of the deliverables:** All deliverables shall be submitted in Romanian language.

## I. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Consultant will work under direct supervision of Project Manager / Local Development and in close cooperation with Project Officers – Coordinators for focal regions. This is a home-based assignment with frequent visits to Cahul and Ungheni municipalities. In-country transportation, will be provided by the Programme and, therefore, shall not be included in the

consolidated financial offer. The meetings of the working team will take place in the Programme office. All the above-listed deliverables shall be endorsed by the Programme Manager within 14 calendar days from their submission.

## **I. PAYMENT FOR PROVIDED SERVICES**

The payment for services will be made in tranches upon submission of deliverables stated in point III above and certification by the Programme Manager that the services were satisfactorily performed.

## **II. QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRED**

The following qualification criteria shall be applied for the selection of the consultant:

### Education:

- University degree in economics, local development or other related field.

### Experience:

- At least 10 years of practical experience in the fields related to local economic development (working with public and private actors)
- At least 7 years of experience in local economic development and working with the relevant multi-stakeholder economic environment in Moldova (*evidence: list of relevant institutions the Consultant has been cooperating with, including the topic and year must be presented together with the application package*).
- Advanced experience related to implementing PACA<sup>1</sup> (Participatory Appraisal of Competitive Advantage) methodology (at least 2 projects/assignments).
- Experience of working with UN agencies and/or international organizations, and/or European/donor funded development projects/programmes will be considered a strong asset.

### Competences:

- Good knowledge of local development context in the applied focal regions;
- Knowledge and skills of MS Office, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint;
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English are required.

### Abilities:

- Demonstrated capacity of team-orientation work, excellent planning and organizational skills;
- Good interpersonal skills, solid judgment/decision making, initiative and creativity;
- Ability to analyse, plan, communicate effectively organize and meet expected results;
- Ability to achieve results and deadlines in a timely manner, maintaining a high standard throughout;

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<sup>1</sup> E.g. [www.mesopartner.com/knowledge-resources/methodologies/paca/](http://www.mesopartner.com/knowledge-resources/methodologies/paca/)

Proven commitment to the core values of the United Nations, in particular, respecting differences of culture, gender, religion, ethnicity, nationality, language, age, HIV status, disability, and sexual orientation, or other status.