



INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Date: **28 April 2022**

Country: Republic of Moldova

Description of the assignment: National Consultant on Analysis of Export of Goods Subject to CBAM regulation from the Republic of Moldova to the EU

Project name: EU4Climate

Period of assignment/services: May-July 2022 (up to 25 working days)

Proposals should be submitted **online by pressing the "Apply Online" button**, no later than **9 May 16:30 (Moldova local time).**

Requests for **clarification only** must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail: ana-maria.manole@undp.org. UNDP will respond by standard electronic mail and will send written copies of the response, including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry, to all applicants.

1. PROJECT GOAL AND EXPECTED RESULTS

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

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

- Result 1:** Finalized or up-dated nationally determined contributions communicated to the UNFCCC;
- Result 2:** Improved inter-institutional awareness and coordination at political and technical level of the Paris Agreement and the corresponding national commitments;
- Result 3:** Established or strengthened MRV systems, with countries getting on track with Paris Agreement transparency requirements;
- Result 4:** Advanced alignment with EU climate acquis as provided by bilateral agreements with EU and in the context of Energy Community Treaty on climate matters that are not covered by the EU4Energy programme;
- Result 5:** Establishment of concrete sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement in each of the Eastern Partners;
- Result 6:** Increased mobilization of climate finance;
- Result 7:** Enhanced adaptation planning.

2. BACKGROUND

The EU is at the forefront of international efforts to fight climate change. The European Green Deal sets out a clear path towards realizing the EU's ambitious target of a 55% reduction in carbon emissions compared to 1990 levels by 2030, and to become a climate-neutral continent by 2050.

As the EU raises its own climate ambition and less stringent environmental and climate policies prevail in non-EU countries, there is a strong risk of so-called “carbon leakage” – i.e. companies based in the EU could move carbon-intensive production abroad to take advantage of lax standards, or EU products could be replaced by more carbon-intensive imports. Such carbon leakage can shift emissions outside of Europe and therefore seriously undermine EU and global climate efforts.

The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) will equalize the price of carbon between domestic products and imports and ensure that the EU's climate objectives are not undermined by production relocating to countries with less ambitious policies.

CBAM is a climate measure that should prevent the risk of carbon leakage and support the EU's increased ambition on climate mitigation, while ensuring WTO compatibility.

Designed in compliance with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules and other international obligations of the EU, the CBAM system will work as follows: EU importers will buy carbon certificates corresponding to the carbon price that would have been paid, had the goods been produced under the EU's carbon pricing rules. Conversely, once a non-EU producer can show that they have already paid a price for the carbon used in the production of the imported goods in a third country, the corresponding cost can be fully deducted for the EU importer. The CBAM will help reduce the risk of carbon leakage by encouraging producers in non-EU countries to green their production processes.

To provide businesses and other countries with legal certainty and stability, CBAM will be phased in gradually and will initially apply only to a selected number of goods at high risk of carbon leakage: iron and steel, cement, fertiliser, aluminium and electricity generation. A reporting system will apply as from 2023 for those products with the objective of facilitating a smooth roll out and to facilitate dialogue with third countries, and importers will start paying a financial adjustment in 2026.

Imports of goods from all non-EU countries will be covered by the CBAM. That said, certain third countries who participate in the ETS or have an emission trading system linked to the Union's will be excluded from the mechanism (this is the case for members of the European Economic Area and Switzerland).

CBAM will be applied to electricity generated in and imported from countries that wish to integrate their electricity markets with the EU until such a point that those electricity markets are fully integrated. At that point, and under strict conditions linked to their implementation of certain obligations and commitments, these countries could be exempted from the mechanism. If that is the case, the EU will revisit any exemptions granted in 2030, at which point those partners should have put in place the decarbonisation measures they have committed to, and an emissions trading system equivalent to the EU's

As CBAM aims to encourage cleaner production processes, the EU also stands ready to work with low and middle income countries towards the decarbonisation of their manufacturing industries. The Union will also support less developed countries with the necessary technical assistance. To provide businesses and other countries with legal certainty and stability, the CBAM will be phased in gradually and will initially apply only to a selected number of goods at high risk of carbon leakage.

For details, please refer to the Terms of Reference.

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

The objective of the assignment is to provide support to the Government of the Republic of Moldova in analysis of vulnerability of its industry and energy sector to CBAM regulation of the EU, by performing the following tasks:

1. to analyze retrospective (2017-2021) and projected (till 2030) structure of export of goods from the Republic of Moldova to the EU subject to CBAM regulation;
2. to identify the most vulnerable categories of goods exported by the Republic of Moldova to the EU subject to CBAM regulation;

3. to provide support to the hired international consultant to develop a roadmap with recommendations for mitigation of impact of CBAM regulation on the economy of the Republic of Moldova;
4. to conduct public consultations with stakeholders on impact of CBAM regulation on the economy of the Republic of Moldova and identify key actions needed to mitigate it (concept&agenda of the event, tentative LoP, invitation letter presentations,).

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

I.Education:

- Master degree or equivalent in economics, or international law, or engineering, or environmental management, or business administration, or other related field;

II.Experience:

- At least 5 years of proven professional experience in economic research, statistics research, import-export data analysis;
- At least 5 years of proven professional experience in writing analytical reports, articles or implementation of consultancy projects aimed at analysis of the foreign trade of the Republic of Moldova and/or EU member states.
- Experience in providing economic consultancy services to UNDP or other international organizations/international financial institutions within the projects implemented in the Republic of Moldova is an asset.

III.Competencies:

- Excellent knowledge of the national and international foreign trade statistics data sources and data bases, foreign trade regulations;
- Excellent knowledge of the current structure of the industry and power sector of the Republic of Moldova (key market players, nomenclature of goods manufactured/exported);
- Knowledge of the national environmental protection legislation, climate change issues in the context of the Republic of Moldova and of CBAM/EU ETS regulations is an asset;
- Strong analytical and report-writing skills demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, ability to work in a team, demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Ability to work with Government's representatives;
- Fluency in Romanian and good working knowledge of English.

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

5. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS

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

1. Proposal, explaining why he/she is most suitable for the work, including past experience in similar assignments, providing a brief information on above qualifications and methodology on how he/she will approach and conduct the work (if applicable).
2. **OFFEROR'S LETTER TO UNDP CONFIRMING INTEREST AND AVAILABILITY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTOR (IC) ASSIGNMENT**, including Financial Proposal in USD as per Annex 2;
3. CV with at least three names for a reference check.

6. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

The financial proposal shall specify a total lump sum amount, and payment terms around specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) deliverables (i.e. whether payments fall in installments or upon

completion of the entire contract). Payments are based upon output, i.e. upon delivery of the services specified in the TOR. In order to assist the requesting unit in the comparison of financial proposals, the financial proposal will include a breakdown of this lump sum amount (including fees, taxes, communication, and number of anticipated working days).

Travel

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

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

7. EVALUATION

Initially, individual consultants will be short-listed based on the following minimum qualification criteria:

- Master degree or equivalent in economics, or international law, or engineering, or environmental management, or business administration, or other related field;
- At least 5 years of proven professional experience in economic research, statistics research, import-export data analysis;
- At least 5 years of proven professional experience in writing analytical reports, articles or implementation of consultancy projects aimed at analysis of the foreign trade of the Republic of Moldova and/or EU member states.

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

Cumulative analysis

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

- a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
 - b) having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.
- Technical Criteria weight – 60% (300 pts);
 - Financial Criteria weight – 40% (200 pts).

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

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
<u>Technical</u>		
• Master degree or equivalent in economics, or international law, or engineering, or environmental management, or business administration, or other related field	(Bachelor – 0 pts. Master – 20 pts. PhD- 30 pts)	30
• At least 5 years of proven professional experience in economic research, statistics research, import-export data analysis	(5 years – 40 pts, more than 5 years – up to 50 pts, 5 pts – for each additional year)	50

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 years of proven professional experience in writing analytical reports, articles or implementation of consultancy projects aimed at analysis of the foreign trade of the Republic of Moldova and/or EU member states 	(5 years – 40 pts, more than 5 years – up to 50 pts, 5 pts – for each additional year)	50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interview 	<p>45 pts. – Excellent knowledge of the national and international foreign trade statistics data sources and data bases, foreign trade regulations (limited knowledge – up to 10 pts; satisfactory – up to 25 pts; extensive – up to 45 pts);</p> <p>45 pts. - Excellent knowledge of the current structure of the industry and power sector of the Republic of Moldova (key market players, nomenclature of goods manufactured/exported) (limited knowledge – up to 10 pts; satisfactory – up to 25 pts; extensive – up to 45 pts);</p> <p>40 pts. - Knowledge of the national environmental protection legislation, climate change issues in the context of the Republic of Moldova and of CBAM/EU ETS regulations is an asset (limited knowledge – up to 10 pts; satisfactory – up to 25 pts; extensive – up to 45 pts);</p> <p>30 pts. – other competences: Communication skills – Yes - 10 pts, No – 0 pts.; Ability to work with government representatives – Yes - 10 pts, No – 0 pts.; Fluency in Romanian and good working knowledge of English - 5 pts per each</p>	160
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belonging to the group(s) under-represented in the UN Moldova and/or the area of assignment* 	(no – 0 pts., to one group – 5 pts., to two or more groups – 10 pts.)	10
Maximum Total Technical Scoring		300

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
Financial		
Evaluation of submitted financial offers will be done based on the following formula: $S = F_{min} / F * 200$ S – score received on financial evaluation; Fmin – the lowest financial offer out of all the submitted offers qualified over the technical evaluation round; F – financial offer under consideration.		200

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

Winning candidate

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

8. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCES

ANNEX 2 – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ANNEX 3 – Template of Offeror's Letter to UNDP confirming interest and availability for the Individual Contractor (IC)