



## TERMS OF REFERENCE

<b>Job title:</b>	National Consultant to identify potential beneficiaries for solutions of power generation from renewable energy sources (emergency support)
<b>Duty station:</b>	Chisinau
<b>Reference to the:</b>	“Addressing the impacts of the energy crisis in the Republic of Moldova: Initiating solutions toward energy security and energy poverty” Programme
<b>Payment arrangements:</b>	Lump sum contract (payments linked to satisfactory performance and delivery of outputs)
<b>Contract type:</b>	Individual Contract (IC)
<b>Contract Duration:</b>	July 2022 - October 2022 (30 working days)

### **1. PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS**

The overall objective of the Programme is to assist the Government of Moldova to tackle the current energy crisis and energy poverty in addressing prioritized systemic elements in the energy sector to cope with potential future energy crisis.

Specific objectives are to support the Government of Moldova to:

1. put in place the legal and regulatory framework in the energy sector with mainstreamed social and climate considerations in line with the EU requirements;
2. strengthen the capacities of the energy-related actors and enhancing institutional coordination mechanisms to address and avert risks entailed in recent and potential future energy crisis;
3. increased awareness and communication among the population to adopt the best energy saving practices and measures and to encourage the use of renewables;
4. operationalize nation-wide energy programmes and demonstrate solutions to increase energy affordability in residential and public buildings, targeting specifically the most vulnerable and affected groups of population.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

Moldova is part of the EU's European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) and in the Eastern Partnership framework, which aims at strengthening individual and regional relationships between the EU and countries in its neighborhood. Moldova is also part of the Energy Community Treaty since 2010 and has signed the Association Agreement with EU in June 2014, including the DCFTA which entered into force in 2016. As a follow-up, Moldova is required to ensure transposition of the EU *acquis Communautaire*, which underpins the EU energy legislation on electricity, gas, oil, renewables, energy efficiency and environment. The country has recently synchronized its electricity network with the ENTSO-E to connect to European electricity market.

The energy sector is one of the top priorities for the Government and it is addressed in Government's Plans and a number of policy documents, laws and regulations. The most important are the following: the draft National Development Strategy 2030, the National Energy Strategy 2030, Law on energy, Law on electricity, Law on promoting use of energy from renewable sources, Law on natural gas, Law on energy efficiency, Law on the energy performance of buildings, Law on the labelling of products with energy impact, Law on eco-design requirements for energy-related products, etc., as well as a list of secondary legislation, meant necessary to ensure for the implementation of the primary legislation.

In accordance with the existing strategic planning documents, one of main priorities of the Government is to diversify the energy mix with more renewable energy, which is also fully in line with commitments under the EU Clean Energy for all Europeans packages. Achieving this goal will require significant investment in the medium and long term, but also the country's ability to attract and absorb the funds. The development of renewables, such as wind and solar, will also depend on improving the balancing capabilities of the Moldovan power system and its integration with neighboring countries.

Starting with October 2021, Moldova faced significant crisis in the gas sector, which outlined the need to undertake more actions towards improving energy security of the Republic of Moldova, both in the natural gas and electricity sectors. To enhance security of gas supply, Moldovan authorities are seeking various ways to diversify gas and electricity supply, to strengthen its energy security and enabling a transparent, fully open and well-functioning energy market.

The acute gas supply crisis in Moldova has also been subject of discussions within the Moldova-EU Association Council meeting on October 28, 2021. The EU and Moldova stressed the importance of resilience against any potential efforts by third parties to use energy as a geopolitical lever. The Association Council recalled the importance of continued energy market reform to strengthen competition and transparency in this sector. The EU has urged Moldova to

ensure that the energy sector reform demonstrates full respect of the Energy Community acquis and is in line with the EU Third Energy Package. The EU side confirmed its support to the objective of Moldova for integration into the EU energy system and market, an important step being the recent synchronization of its electricity network with the Continental European Network (CEN).

Under these circumstances, the Government of Moldova will be assisted to tackle the current energy crisis and energy poverty and addressing prioritized systemic elements in the energy sector to cope with potential future energy crisis. In partnership with EU, UNDP Moldova will therefore, support the Government of Moldova:

- To tackle the current energy crisis and energy poverty, and addressing prioritized systemic elements in the energy sector to cope with potential future energy crisis
- To support the Government of Moldova in building its capacities towards strengthening the national energy security, as well as in improving the legal and regulatory framework and operationalizing specific rapid large-scale interventions to tackle energy poverty and support most vulnerable and affected groups of population and businesses.

The Programme duration is envisaged between 2022- 2023 with support from Foreign Policy Instrument (herewith FPI) of EU. In this context, UNDP Moldova is seeking to recruit a Local Consultant to support identification of the potential beneficiaries of photovoltaic systems among the medical institutions.

The initiative aims to help the beneficiary medical institutions to reduce their bills on electricity by applying the net metering mechanism. The intervention will consist in installation of the photovoltaic systems of about 200 kW power each for three medical institutions. Installation of photovoltaic systems according to the net metering scheme will allow the beneficiary medical institutions to save significant amount of energy and ensure a higher level of security. The saved money will be possible to be used for improving the quality of provided health services.

In the same context, the project aims to provide support to other six public institutions in development of the feasibility studies for adoption of integrated renewable solutions. The studies will facilitate the efforts of the beneficiary institutions in identification of the potential investments for the identified solutions.

### **3. SCOPE OF THE WORK, DUTIES AND RESPOSIBILITIES**

Under this action, the Consultant will provide support in identification of the potential beneficiaries of photovoltaic systems among the medical institutions. The expected number of beneficiary buildings is three, but it will be specified during the preparatory phase of the call.

The Consultant is expected to perform the following tasks:

1. Support the FPI team to prepare the documents for the Expression of Interest procedure (application form, announcement etc.) for identification of the potential beneficiaries of photovoltaic systems (PVC systems) among the medical institutions. The application form will include as minimum information about energy consumption of the institution, technical information about the buildings, the number of beneficiaries etc. in order to select the most suitable institutions.
2. Evaluation of the applications and on site. The evaluation will be performed based on a set of transparent criteria agreed in advance together with the project team and key stakeholders.
3. Support the FPI team to prepare the documents for the expression of interest procedure (application form, announcement etc.) for identification of the potential beneficiaries of the feasibility studies for adoption of integrated renewable solutions. The application form will include as minimum information about energy consumption of the institution, technical information about the buildings, the number of beneficiaries etc.
4. Evaluation of the applications for feasibility studies. The evaluation will be performed based on a set of transparent criteria agreed in advance together with the project team and key stakeholders.
5. To participate occasionally in the consultation meetings between the FPI team with the relevant stakeholders (MIRD, hospitals etc.).
6. Any other support requested by the Programme manager and Team leader for identification of the potential beneficiaries.

#### 4. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES AND TENTATIVE TIMEFRAME

The assignment will require the completion of the following tasks:

No.	Deliverables	Tentative timeframe
1	Provide support to the Project in designing and launch of the Calls of Expression of Interest for PVC Systems among medical institutions and feasibility studies  <b>Deliverables:</b> Draft "Call of Expression of Interest" concept, announcement, and respective application package ( <i>up to 5 working days</i> )	July-August 2022
2	Provide support to the project for identification and selection of the final beneficiaries for PVC Systems among medical institutions	August-September 2022

	<p><b>Deliverables:</b> On-site appraisal reports, final applicants' evaluation report (<i>up to 10 working days</i>)</p>	
3	<p>Provide support to the Project in designing and launch of the Calls of Expression of Interest in feasibility studies for adoption of integrated renewable solutions</p> <p><b>Deliverables:</b> Draft "Call of Expression of Interest" concept, announcement, and respective application package (<i>up to 5 working days</i>)</p>	July-August 2022
4	<p>Provide support to the Project in designing and launch of the Calls of Expression of Interest in feasibility studies</p> <p><b>Deliverables:</b> <i>Final applicants' evaluation report (up to 5 working days)</i></p>	August- September 2022
5	<p>Conduct/participate in the consultation meetings between the FPI team with the relevant stakeholders (MIRD, hospitals etc.) and other ad-hoc support to the Project team</p> <p><b>Deliverables:</b> Final report and presentation on implementation of solutions of power generation from renewable energy sources (<i>up to 5 working days</i>)</p>	September - October 2022

**Note:** Deliverables and the final timeline can be amended or specified for the purpose of the assignment.

## 5. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The National Consultant will work under direct supervision of the Team Leader–Component 4 of the FPI Programme. Overall supervision of the assignment will be the responsibility of the FPI Programme Manager. The Consultant has the responsibility of participating in all relevant working meetings with the project team at least twice per week. The estimated duration of a meeting is 2 hours.

This is a part-time consultancy. It is expected that the Consultant begins the assignment in July 2022 and completes it in October 2022.

**Performance evaluation:** The Consultant's performance will be evaluated against such criteria as timeliness, responsibility, initiative, communication, accuracy, and quality of the products delivered.

**Language of the deliverables:** All communications and deliverables related to the assignment will be in English and/or Romanian, as communicated prior by the Team Leader/Programme Manager.

## **6. QUALIFICATION AND SKILLS REQUIRED**

### **I. Academic Qualifications:**

- University degree (Bachelor's or Master's degree) in engineering, economics, environment, energy, or other closely related fields.

### **II. Knowledge and Experience:**

- At least 5 years of working/hands-on experience in energy sector;
- At least 3 years of relevant professional experience of engagement with a large variety of stakeholders (central public authorities, CSO, private sector, etc.);
- Extensive experience in working on similar projects related to the use of solar energy (photovoltaic systems) is an advantage;
- Extensive experience in evaluation of applications for calls of project proposals;
- Extensive knowledge of the country's energy profile;
- Previous experience in development assistance or related work for a donor organization, development partners, UN Agencies.

### **III. Competencies and language requirements:**

- High level of responsibility and proven organization capacities;
- Excellent facilitation and public presentation skills;
- Excellent negotiation, leadership, and diplomatic skills;
- Ability to achieve results and deadlines in a timely manner, maintaining a high standard throughout.
- Proven commitment to the core values of the United Nations respecting differences of culture, gender, religion, ethnicity, nationality, language, age, HIV status, disability, and sexual orientation, or other status.
- Proficiency in Romanian and Russian, good knowledge of English.
- Computer proficiency, including knowledge of MS Office products (Word, Excel, Power Point) and electronic communication platforms such as Microsoft Teams, ZOOM, Google meet;

The United Nations in 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.

#### **7. PAYMENT MODALITIES**

The consultant will organize and facilitate the implementation of all activities as described above. His/her payment will be lump sum amount based, disbursed in several instalments, upon submission and approval of deliverables and certification by Programme Manager that the services have been satisfactorily performed.

#### **8. APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applicants shall submit the following documents:

- Offeror's Letter confirming Interest and Availability, including financial offer, according to Annex 2;
- CV, including information about experience in similar assignments with at least 3 references;
- Proposal, explaining why he/she is most suitable for the assignment, including past experience in similar assignments, providing a brief information on above qualifications, and brief methodology on how he/she will approach and conduct the work.

#### **Important notice:**

The applicants who have the statute of Government Official / Public Servant prior to appointment will be asked to submit the following documentation:

- a no-objection letter in respect of the applicant received from the Government, and;
- the applicant is certified in writing by the Government to be on official leave without pay for the entire duration of the Individual Contract.

A retired government official is not considered in this case a government official, and as such, may be contracted.

#### **9. ANNEXES TO THE TOR**

Annex 1 - Individual Consultant General Terms and Conditions

Annex 2 - Offeror's letter confirming interest and availability, including a financial proposal (template).