

## INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Date: **7 July 2022**

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**Country:** Republic of Moldova

**Description of the assignment:** National Consultant in Health sector for Developing Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability Assessment Guiding Materials

**Project name:** NAP-2: Advancing Moldova's National Climate Change Adaptation Planning Project

**Period of assignment/services:** July 2022 – April 2024 (48 working days)

**Contract type:** Individual Contract (IC)

Proposals should be submitted online by pressing the "Apply Online" button, no later than **14 July 2022**.

Requests for **clarification only** must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail: [pavel.gavrilita@undp.org](mailto:pavel.gavrilita@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.

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### I. BACKGROUND

Climate change is already profoundly impacting the conditions for resource availability and agricultural activities. Over the last decade, Moldova has experienced a number of extreme events, such as droughts and major floods, along with the incremental effects caused by increased mean temperature, and the uneven distribution of precipitation through the year, which have had negative consequences on the country's economy, and its population well-being and health. Severe droughts are recurring more frequently causing significant economic losses. The increasing scope and intensity of extreme events has also resulted in increased frequencies of high-risk situations. By 2050, an increase of 2–3°C in the average temperature, an additional 32 days that exceed the current maximum temperature by 10%, and an additional 12 days with zero precipitation are projected.

The Government sees the National Adaptation Planning (NAP) process as key to achieving the adaptation objectives outlined in its 2014 Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Republic of

Moldova, and its 2020 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), as well as the continued mainstreaming of climate change considerations into its policies and budgeting processes. This project supports the Government in advancing the second cycle of its National Adaptation Planning process (known as NAP-2). The outcomes of the NAP-2 national adaptation planning processes, are:

- **Outcome 1:** To strengthen and operationalize the national steering mechanism for climate change adaptation (CCA);
- **Outcome 2:** To improve the long-term capacity on planning and implementation of adaptation actions through CCA technologies;
- **Outcome 3:** To improve the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation through the increased alignment of national development priorities, in five priority sectors (forestry, health, energy, water and transport).

The project will contribute to UNDAF, 2018-2022 outcome #3 (the people of Moldova, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from enhanced environmental governance, energy security, sustainable management of natural resources, and climate and disaster resilient development). Additionally, the project will contribute to the UNDP Country Programme Output 3.3 (National and sub-national governments have improved capacities to integrate resilience to climate change and disasters into development plans and practices to reduce population's vulnerability). Other than that, the project will contribute to the National Development Strategy "Moldova 2030" through ensuring resilience to climate change by reducing risks related to climate change and by facilitating adaptation in priority sectors - agriculture, water resources, health, forestry, energy and transport.

The preliminary work under the first cycle of the NAP (known as NAP-1) supported the development of a NAP as a process, conceptualizing and developing its elements, including the national steering mechanism, and laid the groundwork for long-term adaptation planning. Despite the good progress made, significant gaps remain in the integration of climate change considerations into many of the development policies of the national priority sectors and their associated budget priorities. National appropriations for CCA remain limited.

The NAP-2 goals are being achieved in two parallel implementation tracks. The first track implemented by UNDP expands and deepens the national approach developed under NAP-1 and strengthens synergies both vertically, at different levels of governance, and horizontally, between the sectors affected by climate change to reduce duplication of efforts, pool scarce resources for effective use, and ensure a coherent and comprehensive approach to the integration of CCA responses into development planning. The second track focuses on adaptation in the agriculture sector and is being concurrently implemented under the auspices of FAO.

The National Designated Authority has coordinated with the UNDP and the FAO country offices to ensure the complementarity and congruency of the activities and exchange, as appropriate. By its very nature, NAP-2 will facilitate integration of CCA into existing strategies, policies and programmes and establish a strong foundation for the integration of methods, tools and information systems in day-to-day planning activities to effectively inform decision-makers on the climate risks, and to enable the informed formulation of resilient projects and financing strategies.

Climate change impact and vulnerability (CCIV) assessments are a key element of the national adaptation policy cycle, as they provide crucial information for the development, implementation and revision of adaptation policies and measures, including national adaptation strategies (NASs) and national adaptation plans (NAPs).

In the Republic of Moldova, CCIV assessments at sector, sub-sector and local levels were part of adaptation-related projects implemented by development partners, including Moldova's Third and Fourth National Communications to UNFCCC and conducted at the expert level. They varied depending on the objectives and scopes of the project, applied methodology and use of the outputs of these assessments. Governmental agencies, particularly ministries, were involved in the consultation process of the outcomes of these assessments, expressing their opinions mostly based on their daily experience. However, ministerial staff, including that of key adaptation priority sectors (health, forestry, water, energy, transport) had little involvement in the CCIV assessment itself and, therefore, rarely expressed their opinion regarding the appropriateness and usefulness of applied approaches and methodologies and their coherence with adaptation and development planning. This situation led to institutional capacity gaps regarding the understanding of various levels of vulnerabilities, particularly their in-depth complexity, and the use of this information for adaptation planning, including the development of responsive strategic documents and the identification of concrete adaptation measures responsive to these vulnerabilities. These gaps have been identified in several climate-related surveys of institutional capacity assessments of line ministries of Moldova, including those of NAP-1 and NAP-2.

To overcome this institutional capacity issue, the NAP-2 Project provides opportunities to technical staff of government (and non-government) agencies and decision makers to enhance their ability to understand climate impact, risks and vulnerabilities from sectoral perspectives and identify adaptation response at sector level to increase climate resilience of sectoral development outcomes. The sectoral approach can significantly support national level or cross-cutting sectoral CCIV assessments to identify overall/systemic climate-related vulnerabilities and risks with the perspective to reduce the vulnerability of people, places, and livelihoods to climate variability and change.

At the same time, considering the urgency of strengthening climate action at the ground level, it is important that local level administration, NGOs, and experts be able to apply methodological approaches relevant to this level and correctly identify climate risks and vulnerabilities (including their various underlying drivers) for local climate change adaptation planning and implementation. Therefore, within this assignment, these needs will be addressed by developing a framework of CCIV assessment at the local level as part of the guidelines/manual.

In this context, the Project will contract a National Consultant with experience in sectoral climate change adaptation of key sector (health) to undertake the assignment with the below-described objectives, tasks and deliverables.

## **2. SCOPE OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ANALYTICAL WORK**

The objective of the assignment is to contribute to the institutional capacity building of the Republic of Moldova governmental (and non-governmental) agencies dealing with climate change adaptation planning and implementation through the development of climate change impact and vulnerability (CCIV) assessment guidelines/manual as a tool providing tutorial in a sound and detailed assessment of vulnerability to climate change of key priority sectors of Moldova to support the improvement of climate adaptation strategic planning, implementation, M&E framework, and other climate-related areas. The guiding material should effectively support the integration of climate adaptation considerations into development planning processes at the national and sectoral level, along with that of sub-sectoral and spatial levels (district and/or community). The guidelines should be the basis for establishing a standardized approach to CCIV assessment, addressing the needs of health sector.

Under this assignment, on-site training programmes aligned with CCIV guidelines/manual approaches, including socio-economic assessment and valuation methodologies, will be delivered for sectoral planners, central and local public authorities, sectoral experts, researchers, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders. The outcome of these trainings shall substantiate and enhance climate-resilient, sustainable development planning at all levels of governance.

### **Specific tasks.**

The NC is responsible, first and foremost, for providing information at sector and subsector levels to support the development of CCIV assessment guidelines. In addition, they will support the International Consultants (ICs) and Project Team in exploring the readiness of organisations' (companies, firms) and sector to work under the EU ISOs framework on climate impact assessment and providing relevant recommendations. NC will support two ICs, one who is focusing on Sectoral Level and the other one is focusing on Organizational Level. NC have the overall responsibility to provide inputs, information, and support for health sector to the ICs in developing guiding materials for sectoral planners of line ministries and provide comprehensive training to governmental staff to ensure that CCIV is appropriately supported on the technical and administrative sides, and for non-governmental agencies and practitioners with potential to be involved in CCIV assessments. The NC will also support the ICs in engaging with relevant stakeholders throughout the assignment, consult the versions of produced deliverables, address stakeholders' concerns, incorporate their recommendations, and contribute to translations of written documents and spoken communication.

The NC shall contribute with sector and subsector level information to the overview of existing impact assessments in Moldova, with identification of gaps and needs to assess climate impacts under the existing climate scenarios for Moldova.

The NC shall provide needed support to ICs in producing gender-responsive, sector-level guidelines or manuals on climate impact and vulnerability assessments that would be addressed from sectoral perspectives and tailored to the needs of the health sector of Moldova. They shall contribute with sector-specific information to the content of guidelines through:

- undertaking analysis of sector climate-related policy framework, with emphasis on adaptation;

- identifying policy and regulatory gaps for establishing a unified standardized approach of CCIV assessment at the sector level;
- providing information on sectoral administrative structure and organization, services delivered, with an emphasis on those related to climate change, socio-economic aspects, and mapping of sector stakeholders with services related to climate change;
- providing information on planning cycles at sector level and modalities to mainstream the approach of CCIV assessment, with emphasis on adaptation policies and actions.

In support of ICs tasks, the NC shall:

- provide information on climate-related hazards, past (disasters) and potential climate impact at the sector level, including on sector and organizational systems, processes, value chains, assets, exposure, vulnerability and adaptation profile;
- contribute to incorporation of climate perspectives into sectoral and organizational CCIV assessment, liaising with sectoral representatives to agree on the time horizon of CCIV assessments;
- provide support to ICs in developing a dedicated chapter on the framework for risk assessment at the local level, to understand and assess localized climate risks and integrating effective, context-appropriate responses to improve resilience, including local-level adaptation measures.

The NC shall contribute to structuring the training modules on CCIV assessment based on the content of the produced Guide. With IC support, develop sectoral and organizational questionnaires to confirm training needs, stakeholder and local perspectives, and implementation barriers for integrating CCIV assessments and adaptation in sectoral planning, and lead the administration of capacity-building surveys.

Contribute to the design and delivery of group exercises that the training participants will need to carry out with case specific CCIV assessment approaches to ensure adequate risk management measures. Support IC in developing at least one formal Teaching Case Study at sector and organizational level for the health sector, 3 interactive exercises, and one capstone training activity. Contribute to the formulation of training modules into a programme on CCIV assessment.

Contribute to establishing a standardized approach to CCIV assessment, addressing the needs of key health sector of Moldova. The NC shall identify the most appropriate modality of approval (ministerial order, Government Decision, other) of formulated standards.

Under the leadership of ICs, the NC shall contribute to exploring the opportunity to apply CCIV assessment at the organizational level and the readiness of the sector's companies/organizations to adopt and work under the EU climate change ISOs framework, along with the possibility of approximation of national legislation for adoption of ISO 14090; 14091; 14092; 14097, other relevant standards to climate impact and vulnerability assessments. Conclude on the situation and provide appropriate recommendations.

Liaise with national, sectoral and sub-national stakeholders during the training events. Address stakeholder concerns and incorporate recommendations. Engage and participate in virtual (if required, physical) meetings to provide feedback and discuss produced versions of deliverables with relevant stakeholders.

***For detailed information, please refer to Annex 1 – Terms of Reference.***

### **3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **Academic Qualification:**

- University degree in public administration, environmental sciences, health or another relevant field related to the assignment.

#### **Experience:**

- At least 4 years of working experience in the climate change field, health or related sector;
- Experience working with stakeholders at various level and knowledge of institutional mandates.

#### **Competencies:**

- Extensive knowledge of the assignment sector and understanding of sector vulnerability;
- Extensive knowledge of Moldova's climate-related institutional and policy framework, especially in climate change adaptation;
- Familiarity with national development objectives and climate-related needs of the selected sector and relevant organisations e.g. private sector.
- Good coordination and facilitation skills.

#### **Language requirements:**

- Fluency in Romanian and English is required for this assignment; Russian is an asset.

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. *Please mention in CV if you belong to the group(s) under-represented in the UN Moldova and/or the area of assignment.*

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.

### **4. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS**

Applicants shall submit the following required documents:

- ☒ Offeror's Letter confirming Interest and Availability with the financial proposal (in USD, specifying the total lump sum amount). Financial proposal template prepared in compliance with the template in Annex 2.
- ☒ CV, including information about experience in similar assignments
- ☒ Brief description of why the individual considers him/herself as the most suitable for the assignment

## 5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

### **Lump sum contracts**

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, travel costs, accommodation costs, communication, and number of anticipated working days) (see Annex 2 of the Offeror's Letter Confirming Interest and availability attached to this Procurement Notice).

### **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.

## 6. EVALUATION

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

- University degree in public administration, environmental sciences, health or another relevant field related to the assignment;
- At least 4 years of working experience in the climate change field, health or related sector.

The long-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 210 points would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
<b>Technical</b>		
University degree in public administration, environmental sciences, health or another relevant field related to the assignment	Under Master's – 10 pts., Master's degree – 30 pts., PhD degree – 40 pts.	40
At least 4 years of working experience in the climate change field, health or related sector	4 years – 25 pts., Each additional year 5 pts., up to max – 50 pts.	50
Experience working with stakeholders at various level and knowledge of institutional mandates	3 assignments – 10 pts. Each additional assignment– 5 pts., up to a maximum of 30 pts.	30
<b>Interview</b> (demonstrated technical knowledge and experience; communication/ interpersonal skills; initiative; creativity/ resourcefulness).		
Extensive knowledge of the assignment sector and understanding of sector vulnerability	limited – <15 pts., satisfactory – <35 pts., extensive – <50 pts.	50
Extensive knowledge of Moldova's climate-related institutional and policy framework, especially in climate change adaptation	limited – <15 pts., satisfactory – <35 pts., extensive – <50 pts.	50
Familiarity with national development objectives and climate-related needs of the selected sector and relevant organisations e.g. private sector	limited – <10 pts., satisfactory – <30 pts., extensive – <30 pts.	30
Good coordination and facilitation skills	limited – <5 pts., satisfactory – <10 pts., extensive – <15 pts.	15
Fluency in Romanian and English is required for this assignment; Russian is an asset	English and Romanian – max 10 pts. each, Russian – max 5 pts.	25
Belonging to the group(s) under-represented in the UN Moldova and/or the area of assignment <sup>1</sup>	no – 0 pts., to one group – 5 pts., to two or more groups – 10 pts.	10

<sup>1</sup> Under-represented group in the area of assignment are (men/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.



<b>Maximum Total Technical Scoring</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Financial Evaluation Scoring</b>	
<p>Evaluation of submitted financial offers will be done based on the following formula:  <b><math>S = F_{min} / F * 200</math></b>  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.</p>	<b>200</b>

#### Winning candidate

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

#### **Important notice:**

The applicants who has 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.

#### **ANNEXES:**

##### **ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR)**

##### **Annex 2 –OFFEROR’S LETTER CONFIRMING INTEREST AND AVAILABILITY, including financial proposal (template)**

##### **ANNEX 3 – INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**