



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Job title:	National Legal Expert for supporting the transposition of the European legislation in the field of Ecodesign and Energy Labelling
Duty station:	Home-based
Reference to the:	(01001727) "Greening the future and advancing rights and stability"
Payment arrangements:	Lump sum contract (payments linked to satisfactory performance and delivery of outputs)
Contract type:	Individual Contract (IC)
Contract Duration:	90 working days during September 2025 – December 2026

A. BACKGROUND

Considering the ongoing energy crisis, the energy sector is one of the top priorities for the Government and it is addressed in the Government's Plans and several policy documents, laws, and regulations which outline the need to undertake more actions toward a green, and just energy transition of the Republic of Moldova.

In accordance with the existing strategic planning documents, one of the 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.

In this regard the EU and Moldova stressed the importance of resilience against any potential efforts by third parties to use energy as a geopolitical lever. 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).

The current vision of the Government is to accelerate EU integration and energy transition to achieve a more resilient energy sector. In particular, the Programme of Government has clear and specific objectives when it comes to the development and implementation of mechanisms to promote energy security, sustainability, and efficiency in all sectors.

Recognizing the importance of a just and green energy transition in addressing the root causes of the ongoing crisis, the "Accelerating a Just Energy Transition in the Republic of Moldova" portfolio of interventions has emerged within the Country Office and co-designed with the Government, donors, and other representatives of the energy system.

UNDP Greening the future, advancing rights and stability project, financed by Denmark, part of the JET

portfolio, aims to accelerate a just green transition within the energy and transport sectors, building on UNDP's experience in enhancing energy security by addressing the impacts of the energy crisis and laying the groundwork for a sustainable transition.

The Republic of Moldova faces significant energy challenges, including high dependence on imported energy resources, volatile energy prices, and the need to enhance energy security and sustainability. As an associate member of the European Union through the EU-Moldova Association Agreement (2014) and a contracting party to the Energy Community Treaty, Moldova is committed to aligning its energy policies and legislative framework with EU standards. This includes transposing key EU regulations in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmental sustainability to support its integration into the European energy market and achieve the objectives of the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) 2025-2030, which targets 27% renewable energy usage and substantial improvements in energy efficiency by 2030.

The Ecodesign and Energy Labelling frameworks are critical components of the EU's energy efficiency and climate policy, aimed at reducing energy consumption, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and promoting sustainable products. The Ecodesign Directive establishes minimum energy performance and environmental standards for energy-related products, while the Energy Labelling Regulation provides consumers with clear information on energy efficiency to encourage sustainable choices. Transposing these regulations into Moldova's national legislation is essential to enhance market competitiveness, reduce energy costs for consumers and businesses, and align with EU requirements for product standards.

Within the framework of the UNDP project "Greening the Future and Advancing Rights and Stability" (Project ID: 01001727), the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Moldova has requested support to transpose a set of EU regulations in the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling domains by the end of 2026, as part of activities identified during the realized Bilateral Screening. The specific regulations needed to be transposed at the national level include:

Ecodesign:

- Regulation (EU) 2023/826: Horizontal requirements for standby/off mode consumption;
- Regulation (EU) 2023/2533: Ecodesign requirements for tumble dryers;
- Regulation (EU) 2024/1834: Ecodesign requirements for industrial fans;
- Regulation (EU) 2024/1103: Ecodesign requirements for local space heaters.

Energy Labelling:

- Regulation (EU) 2023/2534: Energy labelling of household tumble dryers;
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2018: Energy labelling of refrigerating appliances with a direct sales function;
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/994: Operational details of the EPREL product database under Regulation (EU) 2017/1369.

These regulations aim to set stringent energy performance standards, ensure transparent labelling for consumers, and establish a robust product compliance database, contributing to Moldova's energy efficiency goals and its just green transition. However, challenges such as limited institutional capacity, complex regulatory processes, and the need for stakeholder coordination pose barriers to timely transposition.

UNDP, through its expertise in policy development, legislative alignment, and capacity building, is well-positioned to support the Ministry of Energy in this endeavor.

This project will facilitate the drafting of national legislation and stakeholder consultations, in order to ensure effective transposition and implementation of the listed EU regulations, aligning Moldova's energy market with European standards and supporting sustainable economic development.

B. SCOPE OF WORK & EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The overall objective of the assignment is to support the Government of Moldova in transposing into the national legislation 7 (seven) EU Regulations on Ecodesign and Energy Labelling of industrial and household electronic devices.

The process of legislative harmonization has three key components:

- Legislative transposition - the incorporation of EU legislation into national legislation;
- Implementation - identification and/or designation of institutions and resources (material, human, financial) for the implementation of the transposed legislation;
- Enforcement and control - ensuring mechanisms, procedures, and means of control to ensure compliance with the new legislation.

To ensure effective transposition of the relevant EU legislation, the process involves the development of two separate Government Decisions:

- the draft for amending Government Decision No. 750/2016 for the approval of regulations on ecodesign requirements applicable to energy-related products,
- the draft for amending Government Decision No. 1003 of 10-12-2014 for the approval of regulations on energy labeling requirements for certain energy-related products.

The drafts for amending Government Decisions and acts required for Governmental consideration and approval of the drafts should be developed according to the provisions of the Law no. 100/2017 on normative acts and provisions of the Government Decision no. 1171/2018 for the approval of the Regulation regarding the harmonization of the legislation of the Republic of Moldova with the legislation of the European Union, and other related legislation of the Republic of Moldova.

C. EXPECTED DELIVERABLES AND TENTATIVE TIMEFRAME

Expected deliverables and schedules are provided in the table below as follows:

Deliverables	Estimated Timeframe
<p>Deliverable 1. Drafting the package for transposing the 4 (four) EU Regulations in the field of Ecodesign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Regulation (EU) 2023/826: Horizontal requirements for standby/off mode consumption;- Regulation (EU) 2023/2533: Ecodesign requirements for tumble dryers;- Regulation (EU) 2024/1834: Ecodesign requirements for industrial fans;- Regulation (EU) 2024/1103: Ecodesign requirements for local space heaters. <p>The package should include the following documents for 4 (four) transposed regulations: 1 Government Decision draft, 1 Explanatory Notes, 4 Tables of Concordances and 1 Comparative table. (estimated workload: 40 w.d.- est. 10 w.d. per Regulation)</p>	<p>31 October 2025</p>
<p>Deliverable 2. Drafting the package for transposing the 3 (three) EU Regulations in the field of Energy Labelling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Regulation (EU) 2023/2534: Energy labelling of household tumble dryers;- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2018: Energy labelling of refrigerating appliances with a direct sales function;	<p>10 December 2025</p>

<p>- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/994: Operational details of the EPREL product database under Regulation (EU) 2017/1369.</p> <p>The package should include the following documents for 3 (three) transposed regulations: 1 Government Decision draft, 1 Explanatory Notes, 3 Tables of Concordances and 1 Comparative Note.</p> <p><i>(estimated workload: 30 w.d. - est. 10 w.d. per Regulation)</i></p>	
<p>Deliverable 3. Summary reports on public consultation of the documents</p> <p>Support in conducting public consultations, reviewing received proposals, and preparing draft of the Summary Reports (2 documents, 3,5 w.d per each report).</p> <p><i>(estimated workload: 7 w.d.)</i></p>	25 March 2026
<p>Deliverable 4. Development of the Objections Summary</p> <p>Support in drafting and completion of the Objections Summary Table needed for promoting and approving of the Government Decision (2 documents, 3 w.d per each objection summary).</p> <p><i>(estimated workload: 6 w.d.)</i></p>	30 June 2026
<p>Deliverable 5. Drafting the final documents of transposing into the national legislation 7 EU Regulations on Ecodesign and Energy Labelling.</p> <p>Final version of 2 Government Decisions (1 w.d.), 2 Explanatory Notes (2 w.d.), 7 Table of Concordance (2 w.d.), 2 Comparative Tables (2 w.d.), according to the provisions of the Law no. 100/2017 regarding the normative acts.</p> <p><i>(estimated workload: 7 w.d.)</i></p>	10 December 2026

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

D. Institutional arrangements

This is a part-time consultancy. The timeframe for the work is September 2025 – December 2026.

The consultant will be given access to relevant information and data necessary for the execution of the tasks under this assignment. The national consultant will work in close collaboration with:

- Representatives of the Ministry of Energy in order to ensure that the draft documents reflect their concerns, expertise, and comments.
- Technical consultant responsible for development of the Regulatory Impact Assessment.
- The UNDP will provide administrative and logistical support in the organization of all required consultations and meetings.

E. Financial arrangements

The financial proposal shall specify a total amount, and payment terms around specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) deliverables (i.e. whether payments fall in installments according to the described deliverables). 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 the daily fee, taxes, and number of anticipated working days) (see Annex 2 of the Offeror's Letter Confirming Interest and availability).

F. Travel

This assignment is home-based.

G. Confidentiality

Materials provided to the Consultant and all proceedings within the consultancy contract shall be regarded as confidential, both during and after the consultancy. Violation of confidentiality requirements may result in immediate termination of contract.

H. Qualifications and skills required

I. Education:

- University degree in law, public policies, energy sector or other related areas is required.

II. Experience:

- At least 5 years of proven professional experience in legal acts drafting and transposition in the national legislation of the EU energy and/or climate related acquis.
- At least 5 years of working experience in the institutional consultancy and/or law-making.

III. Competencies:

- Familiar with the eco-design and energy labelling, national and EU legislation;
- Good knowledge of the national legislative process (drafting and promotion for adoption);
- Strong analytical and report-writing skills demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Experience in working with UNDP and other donors in legislative drafting;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, ability to work with Government representatives, demonstrated by previous assignments;
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English is required.

IV. Personal qualities:

- Resourcefulness and creativity;
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.

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 noncitizens legally entitled to work in the Republic of Moldova, are particularly encouraged to apply. **Please specify in CV, in case you belong to the group(s) under-represented in the UN Moldova and/or the area of assignment.**

I. Documents to Be Included When Submitting the Proposals

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

- Signed and filled-in Offeror's letter to UNDP confirming interest and availability for the individual contractor (IC) assignment, incorporating Financial proposal in Annex 2 (in USD, specifying a total requested amount per working day, including all related costs, e.g. fees, phone calls etc.). Annex 2 to the Offeror's letter, incorporating the Financial Proposal, shall be filled in mandatorily and includes the detailed breakdown of costs supporting the all inclusive financial proposal;

- Proposal (Motivation Letter): explaining why they are the most suitable for the work including previous experience in similar Projects (please provide brief information on each of the above qualifications, item by item, including information, links/copies of documents for similar assignments and according to the „Skills and Experience Required”);
- CV with at least 3 references.

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.

J. Evaluation

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

- University degree in law, public policies, energy sector or other related areas is required.
- At least 5 years of proven professional experience in legal acts drafting and transposition in the national legislation of the EU energy and/or climate related acquis.
- At least 5 years of working experience in the institutional consultancy and/or law-making
- Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova

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:

- responsive/ compliant/ acceptable, and
- 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
<u>Technical</u>		
University degree in law, public policies, energy sector or other related areas is required	University degree – 30 pts, Master’s degree – 35 pts, Ph.D. – 40 pts.	40
At least 5 years of proven professional experience in legal acts drafting and transposition in the national legislation of the EU energy and/or climate related acquis	5 years – 30 pts, each additional year - 10 pts, up to max – 60 pts.	60
At least 5 years of working experience in the institutional consultancy and/or law-making	5 years – 30 pts, each additional year - 10 pts, up to max – 60 pts.	60

Proven expertise in drafting and promoting normative acts (e.g., government decisions, draft laws). Candidates must provide concrete examples of contributions to legislative processes.	No assignments – 0 pts, 3 assignments – 25 pts, each additional assignment – 5 pts, up to 40 pts.	40
Strong analytical and report-writing skills demonstrated by previous assignments	No assignments – 0 pts, up to 3 assignments – 20 pts, each additional assignment – 5 pts, up to 30 pts.	30
Experience in working with UNDP and other donors in legislative drafting	No assignments – 0 pts, 1 assignment – 20 pts, each additional assignment – 5 pts, up to 30 pts.	30
Fluency in Romanian is required. Knowledge of English and Russian would be an asset.	Romanian – 10 pts English – 10 pts Russian – 10 pts	30
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 2 or more groups – 10 pts.	10
Maximum Total Technical Scoring		300

** Under-represented group in the area of assignment (law enforcement) 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.*

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

Winning candidate

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