



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Development of a Methodology for setting special Water Use Thresholds and Roadmap for its implementation, including Cost Estimates

RFP Reference No.: **RFP25/03192**

Country: **Republic of Moldova**

Contents

SECTION 1: LETTER OF INVITATION	3
SECTION 2: INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS	5
SECTION 3: DATA SHEET (DS).....	20
SECTION 4: EVALUATION CRITERIA	24
SECTION 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE	34
SECTION 6: CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT AND CONTRACT FORMS	34
SECTION 7: PROPOSAL FORMS	43
FORM A: PROPOSAL CONFIRMATION	44
FORM B: CHECKLIST	45
FORM C: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	46
FORM D: PROPOSER INFORMATION	48
FORM E: JOINT VENTURE/CONSORTIUM/ASSOCIATION INFORMATION	50
FORM F: ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION	51
FORM G: FORMAT FOR TECHNICAL PROPOSAL	53
FORM J: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION	57
FORM K: FORMAT FOR FINANCIAL PROPOSAL	58

SECTION 1: LETTER OF INVITATION

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through the Project “Supporting the Moldovan Authorities in the Sustainable Management of the Dniester River” (Dniester-II), hereby invites qualified companies to submit proposals for the Development of a Methodology for Setting Special Water Use Thresholds and Roadmap for Its Implementation, Including Cost Estimates, in accordance with the Terms of Reference and the UNDP General Conditions of Contract provided within this Request for Proposal (RFP). International companies may participate only in consortium or subcontracting arrangements with Moldovan entities or experts, ensuring institutional alignment, access to national datasets, and compliance with the national regulatory framework.

To enable you to submit a proposal, please read the following attached documents carefully.

- Section 1:** This Letter of Invitation
- Section 2:** Instruction to Proposers
- Section 3:** Data Sheet
- Section 4:** Evaluation Criteria
- Section 5:** Terms of Reference
- Section 6:** Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms
- Section 7:** Proposal Forms
 - **Form A:** Proposal confirmation
 - **Form B:** Checklist
 - **Form C:** Technical Proposal Submission
 - **Form D:** Proposer Information
 - **Form E:** Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information
 - **Form F:** Eligibility and Qualification
 - **Form G:** Format for Technical Proposal
 - **Form H:** Format for CV of Proposed Key Personnel
 - **Form I:** Statement of Exclusivity and Availability
 - **Form J:** Financial Proposal Submission
 - **Form K:** Format for Financial Proposal

If you are interested in submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, please prepare your proposal in accordance with the requirements and procedure as set out in this RFP and submit it by the deadline for submission of proposals set out in Section 3: Data Sheet.

Should you be interested to submit a proposal, please log in to the Quantum NextGenERP supplier portal and subscribe to this tender following the instructions in the system user guide. Please search for the tender using search filters, namely **Negotiation ID: UNDP-MDA-00878**.

Once subscribed to the tender, you will be able to receive notifications in case of amendments of the tender document and requirements.

Please indicate whether you intend to submit a bid by creating a draft response without submitting directly in the Quantum NextGenERP supplier portal.

Offers must be submitted directly in the Quantum NextGenERP supplier portal following this link: <http://supplier.quantum.partneragencies.org/> using the profile you may have in the portal (please log in using your username and password). In case you have never registered before, please follow the [Registration Link](#).

Please note that the access link to the Supplier registered profile is sent from Oracle within up to 3 days. In case you have not received the access link after 3 days since registration, you should address for support to UNDP at

the email address: sc.md@undp.org. In case you encounter errors with registration (e.g. system states Supplier already is registered), you should address for support to UNDP at the email address: sc.md@undp.org.

Computer firewall could block *oracle* or *undp.org extension* and Suppliers might not receive the Oracle notifications. Please turn down any firewalls on your computers to ensure receipt of email notification.

Do not create a new profile if you already have one. Use the forgotten password feature in case you do not remember the password or the username from previous registration.

Should you require further clarifications on the application through the Quantum online portal, kindly contact the Procurement Unit at sc.md@undp.org. Please pay attention that the proposal shall be submitted online through the Quantum system and any proposal sent to the above email shall be disqualified.

Should you require further clarifications on the Request for Proposal, Terms of Reference or other requirements, kindly communicate using the messaging functionality in the portal.

Deadline for Submission of Offers (Date and Time), which is visible in the online procurement system will be final. System will not accept submission of any proposal after that date and time. It is the responsibility of the bidder to make sure that the proposal is submitted prior to this deadline for submission.

Bidders are advised to upload proposal documents and to submit their offer a day prior or well before the date and time indicated under the deadline for submission of Offers. Do not wait until last minute. If Bidder faces any issue during submitting offers at the last minutes prior to the deadline for submission, UNDP may not be able to assist on such a short notice and will not be held liable in such instance. UNDP will not accept any offer that is not submitted directly through the System.

We look forward to receiving your proposal.

UNDP Moldova

SECTION 2: INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS	
1. Scope	<p>Proposers are invited to submit a proposal for the services specified in Section 5: Terms of Reference, in accordance with this Request for Proposal (RFP). A summary of the scope of the proposal is included in Section 3: Data Sheet.</p> <p>Proposers shall adhere to all the requirements of this RFP, including any amendment made in writing by UNDP. This RFP is conducted in accordance with Policies and Procedures of UNDP which can be accessed at UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures/Procurement.</p> <p>As part of the bid, it is desired that the Bidder registers at the United Nations Global Marketplace (UNGM) website (www.ungm.org). The Bidder may still submit a bid even if not registered with the UNGM. However, if the Bidder is selected for contract award, the Bidder must register on the UNGM prior to contract signature.</p>
2. Interpretation of the RFP	<p>Any proposal submitted will be regarded as an offer by the proposer and does not constitute or imply the acceptance of the proposal by UNDP. UNDP is under no obligation to award a contract to any proposer as a result of this RFP.</p>
3. Supplier Code of Conduct, Fraud, Corruption, Gifts and Hospitality	<p>All proposers must read the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct and acknowledge that it provides the minimum standards expected of suppliers to the UN. The Code of Conduct, which includes principles on labour, human rights, environment and ethical conduct may be found at: https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/about-us/un-supplier-code-conduct</p> <p>Moreover, suppliers should note that certain provisions of the Code of Conduct will be binding on the supplier in the event that the supplier is awarded a contract, pursuant to the terms and conditions of any such contract.</p> <p>UNDP strictly enforces a policy of zero tolerance on proscribed practices, including fraud, corruption, collusion, unethical or unprofessional practices, and obstruction of UNDP vendors and requires all bidders/vendors observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement process and contract implementation. UNDP's Anti-Fraud Policy can be found at http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/accountability/audit/office_of_audit_andinvestigation.html#anti</p> <p>Bidders/vendors shall not offer gifts or hospitality of any kind to UNDP staff members including recreational trips to sporting or cultural events, theme parks or offers of holidays, transportation, or invitations to extravagant lunches or dinners.</p> <p>In pursuance of this policy, UNDP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Shall reject a proposal if it determines that the selected proposer has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question; (b) Further to the UNDP's vendor sanctions policy, shall declare a vendor ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period, to be awarded a contract if at any time it determines that the vendor has engaged in any corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing a UNDP contract.

<p>4. Eligible proposers</p>	<p>Proposers shall have the legal capacity to enter into a binding contract with UNDP.</p> <p>A proposer, and all parties constituting the proposer, may have the nationality of any country with the exception of the nationalities, if any, listed in Section 3: Data Sheet. A proposer shall be deemed to have the nationality of a country if the proposer is a citizen or is constituted, incorporated, or registered and operates in conformity with the provisions of the laws of that country.</p> <p>All proposers found to have a conflict of interest shall be disqualified. Proposers may be considered to have a conflict of interest if they are or have been associated in the past, with a firm or any of its affiliates that have been engaged by UNDP to provide consulting services for the preparation of the design, specifications, Terms of Reference, cost analysis/estimation and other documents to be used for the procurement of the services required in the present procurement process; were involved in the preparation and/or design of the programme/project related to the services requested under this RFP; or are found to be in conflict for any other reason, as may be established by, or at the discretion of UNDP and/or are found to be in conflict for any other reason, as may be established by, or at the discretion of UNDP.</p> <p>In the event of any uncertainty in the interpretation of a potential conflict of interest, Bidders must disclose to UNDP, and seek UNDP's confirmation on whether or not such a conflict exists.</p> <p>Similarly, the Bidders must disclose in their proposal their knowledge of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) If the owners, part-owners, officers, directors, controlling shareholders, of the bidding entity or key personnel are family members of UNDP staff involved in the procurement functions and/or the Government of the country or any Implementing Partner receiving services under this RFP; and b) All other circumstances that could potentially lead to actual or perceived conflict of interest, collusion or unfair competition practices. <p>Failure to disclose such an information may result in the rejection of the proposal or proposals affected by the non-disclosure.</p> <p>The eligibility of Bidders that are wholly or partly owned by the Government shall be subject to UNDP's further evaluation and review of various factors such as being registered, operated and managed as an independent business entity, the extent of Government ownership/share, receipt of subsidies, mandate and access to information in relation to this RFP, among others. Conditions that may lead to undue advantage against other Bidders may result in the eventual rejection of the Proposal.</p> <p>Proposers shall not be eligible to submit a proposal if at the time of proposal submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is included in the Ineligibility List, hosted by UNGM, that aggregates information disclosed by Agencies, Funds or Programs of the UN System; • is included in the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List, including the UN Security Council Resolution 1267/1989 list; • is included in the World Bank Corporate Procurement Listing of Non-Responsible Vendors and World Bank Listing of Ineligible Firms and Individuals.
<p>5. Proprietary information</p>	<p>The RFP documents and any Terms of Reference or information issued or furnished by UNDP are issued solely for the purpose of enabling a proposal to be completed and may not be used for any other purpose. The RFP documents and any additional information provided to proposers shall remain the property of UNDP. All documents which may form part of the proposal will become the property of UNDP, who will not be required to return them to your firm.</p>
<p>6. Publicity</p>	<p>During the RFP process, a proposer is not permitted to create any publicity in connection with the RFP.</p>

SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS	
7. Clarification of solicitation documents	<p>Proposers may request clarifications on any of the RFP documents no later than the date indicated in Section 3: Data Sheet. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing in the manner indicated in Section 3: Data Sheet. Explanations or interpretations provided by personnel other than the named contact person will not be considered binding or official.</p> <p>UNDP will provide the responses to clarifications through the method specified in Section 3: Data Sheet.</p> <p>UNDP shall endeavour to provide responses to clarifications in an expeditious manner, but any delay in such response shall not cause an obligation on the part of UNDP to extend the submission date of the proposals, unless UNDP deems that such an extension is justified and necessary.</p>
8. Amendment of solicitation documents	<p>At any time prior to the deadline for proposal submission, UNDP may for any reason, such as in response to a clarification requested by a proposer, modify the RFP in the form of an amendment to the RFP. Amendments will be made available to all prospective proposers.</p> <p>If the amendment is substantial, UNDP may extend the deadline for submission of proposals to give the proposers reasonable time to incorporate the amendment into their proposal.</p>
PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS	
9. Cost of preparation of proposal	The proposer shall bear all costs related to the preparation and/or submission of the proposal, regardless of whether its proposal is selected or not. UNDP shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the procurement process.
10. Language	The proposal, as well as any and all related correspondence exchanged by the proposer and UNDP, shall be written in the language(s) specified in Section 3: Data Sheet.
11. Documents establishing eligibility and qualifications of the proposer	The proposer shall furnish documentary evidence of its status as an eligible and qualified vendor, using the forms provided in Section 7 and providing the documents required in those forms. In order to award a contract to a proposer, its qualifications must be documented to UNDP's satisfaction.
11.a Documents comprising the proposal	<p>The proposal bid shall comprise of the following documents and related forms which details are provided in Section 3: Data Sheet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Documents Establishing the Eligibility and Qualifications of the Bidder; d) Technical Proposal; e) Financial Proposal; f) Proposal Security, if required by DS; g) Any attachments and/or appendices to the Proposal.
12. Technical proposal format and content	<p>The proposer is required to submit a technical proposal using the forms provided in Section 7 and taking into consideration the requirements in the RFP.</p> <p>The technical proposal shall not include any price or financial information. A technical proposal containing material financial information may be declared non-responsive.</p>
13. Financial proposal	<p>The financial proposal shall be prepared using the form provided in Section 7 and taking into consideration the requirements in the RFP. It shall list all major cost components associated with the services, and the detailed breakdown of such costs.</p> <p>Any output and activities described in the technical proposal but not priced in the financial proposal, shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items as well as in the final total price.</p> <p>Prices and other financial information must not be disclosed in any other place except in the financial proposal.</p>

14. Currencies	<p>All prices shall be quoted in the currency or currencies indicated in Section 3: Data Sheet. Where proposals are quoted in different currencies, for the purposes of comparison of all proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP will convert the currency quoted in the proposal into the UNDP preferred currency, in accordance with the UN Operational Rate of Exchange. • In the event that UNDP selects a proposal for award that is quoted in a currency different from the preferred currency in Section 3: Data Sheet, UNDP shall reserve the right to award the contract in the currency of UNDP's preference, using the conversion method specified above.
15. Duties and taxes	<p>Article II, Section 7, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities provides, inter alia, that the United Nations, including UNDP as a subsidiary organ, is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs restrictions, duties, and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. All proposals shall be submitted net of any direct taxes and any other taxes and duties, unless otherwise specified in Section 3: Data Sheet</p>
16. Proposal validity period	<p>Proposals shall remain valid for the period specified in Section 3: Data Sheet, commencing on the deadline for submission of proposals. A proposal valid for a shorter period may be rejected by UNDP and rendered non-responsive.</p> <p>During the proposal validity period, the proposer shall maintain its original proposal without any change, including the availability of the key personnel, the proposed rates and the total price.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances, prior to the expiration of the proposal validity period, UNDP may request proposers to extend the period of validity of their proposals. The request and the responses shall be made in writing and shall be considered integral to the proposal.</p> <p>If the proposer agrees to extend the validity of its proposal, it shall be done without any change to the original proposal but will be required to extend the validity of the proposal security, if required, for the period of the extension, and in compliance with Article 17 (Proposal security) in all respects.</p> <p>The proposer has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its proposal without forfeiting the proposal security, if required, in which case, the proposal shall not be further evaluated.</p>

<p>17. Proposal security</p>	<p>A proposal security, if required by Section 3: Data Sheet, shall be provided in the amount and form indicated in the Section 3: Data Sheet. The proposal security shall be valid for a minimum of thirty (30) days after the final date of validity of the proposal.</p> <p>The proposal security shall be included along with the proposal. If a proposal security is required by the RFP but is not found in the proposal, the offer shall be rejected.</p> <p>If the proposal security amount, or its validity period, is found to be less than is required by UNDP, UNDP shall reject the proposal.</p> <p>In the event an electronic submission is allowed in Section 3: Data Sheet, proposers shall include a copy of the proposal security in their proposal and the original of the proposal security must be sent via courier or hand delivery as per the instructions in Section 3: Data Sheet.</p> <p>Unsuccessful proposers' proposal securities will be discharged/returned as promptly as possible but no later than thirty (30) days after the expiration of the period of proposal validity prescribed by UNDP pursuant to Article 16 (Proposal Validity Period).</p> <p>The Proposal security may be forfeited by UNDP, and the proposal rejected, in the event of any, or combination, of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the proposer withdraws its offer during the period of the proposal validity specified in Section 3: Data Sheet, or; • In the event the successful Proposer fails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ to sign the contract after UNDP has issued an award; or ○ to furnish the performance security, insurances, or other documents that UNDP may require as a condition precedent to the effectivity of the contract that may be awarded to the proposer.
------------------------------	---

<p>18. Joint Venture, Consortium or Association</p>	<p>If the proposer is a group of legal entities that will form or have formed a Joint Venture (JV), Consortium or Association for the proposal, each such legal entity will confirm in their joint proposal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they have designated one party to act as a lead entity, duly vested with authority to legally bind the members of the JV, Consortium or Association jointly and severally, and this will be evidenced by a duly notarised agreement among the legal entities, which will be submitted along with the proposal; and • if they are awarded the contract, the contract shall be entered into by and between UNDP and the designated lead entity, who will be acting for and on behalf of all the member entities comprising the joint venture. <p>After the deadline for submission of proposal, the lead entity identified to represent the JV, Consortium or Association shall not be altered without the prior written consent of UNDP.</p> <p>If a JV, Consortium or Association's proposal is the proposal selected for award, UNDP will award the contract to the joint venture, in the name of its designated lead entity. The lead entity will sign the contract for and on behalf of all other member entities.</p> <p>The lead entity and the member entities of the JV, Consortium or Association shall abide by the provisions of Article 19 (Only one Proposal) herein in respect of submitting only one proposal.</p> <p>The description of the organization of the JV, Consortium or Association must clearly define the expected role of each of the entities in the joint venture in delivering the requirements of the RFP, both in the proposal and the JV, Consortium or Association Agreement. All entities that comprise the JV, Consortium or Association shall be subject to the eligibility and qualification assessment by UNDP.</p> <p>A JV, Consortium or Association, in presenting its track record and experience, should clearly differentiate between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those that were undertaken together by the JV, Consortium or Association; and • Those that were undertaken by the individual entities of the JV, Consortium or Association. <p>Previous contracts completed by individual experts working privately but who are permanently or were temporarily associated with any of the member firms cannot be claimed as the experience of the JV, Consortium or Association or those of its members, but should only be claimed by the individual experts themselves in their presentation of their individual credentials.</p> <p>JV, Consortium or Associations are encouraged for high value, multi-sectoral requirements when the spectrum of expertise and resources required may not be available within one firm.</p>
---	--

<p>19. Only one proposal</p>	<p>The proposer (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture.</p> <p>Proposals submitted by two (2) or more proposers shall all be rejected if they are found to have any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they have at least one controlling partner, director or shareholder in common; or • any one of them receive or have received any direct or indirect subsidy from the other/s; or • they have the same legal representative for purposes of this RFP; or • they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties, that puts them in a position to have access to information about, or influence on the proposal of another proposer regarding this RFP process. • they are subcontractors to each other's proposal, or a subcontractor to one proposal also submits another proposal under its name as lead proposer; or some key personnel proposed to be in the team of one proposer participates in more than one proposal received for this RFP process. This condition relating to the personnel, does not apply to subcontractors being included in more than one proposal.
<p>20. Alternative proposals</p>	<p>Unless otherwise specified in Section 3: Data Sheet, alternative proposals shall not be considered. If submission of alternative proposals is allowed in Section 3: Data Sheet, a proposer may submit an alternative proposal, but only if it also submits a proposal conforming to the RFP requirements. Where the conditions for its acceptance are met, or justifications are clearly established, UNDP reserves the right to award a contract based on an alternative proposal.</p> <p>If multiple/alternative proposals are being submitted, proposer must create an alternate response directly in the system and upload all attachments relevant to the alternate proposal separately together with the alternate response...</p>
<p>21. Pre-proposal conference</p>	<p>When appropriate, a pre-proposal conference will be conducted at the date, time and location and according to any instructions specified in Section 3: Data Sheet.</p> <p>If it is stated in Section 3: Data Sheet that the pre-proposal conference is mandatory, a Proposer which does not attend the pre-proposal conference shall become ineligible to submit a proposal under this RFP.</p> <p>If it is stated in Section 3: Data Sheet that the pre-proposal conference is not mandatory, non-attendance shall not result in disqualification of an interested proposer.</p> <p>UNDP will not issue any formal answers to questions from proposers regarding the RFP or proposal process during the pre-proposal conference. All questions shall be submitted in accordance with Article 38 (Clarification of Proposals).</p> <p>The pre-proposal conference shall be conducted for the purpose of providing background information only. Without limiting Article 24 (Proposers responsibility) proposers shall not rely upon any information, statement or representation made at the pre-proposal conference unless that information, statement or representation is confirmed by UNDP in writing.</p> <p>Minutes of the pre-proposal conference will be disseminated as specified in Section 3: Data Sheet. No verbal statement made during the conference shall modify the terms and conditions of the RFP, unless specifically incorporated in the minutes of the proposer's conference or issued/posted as an amendment to RFP.</p>

<p>22. Site inspection</p>	<p>When appropriate, a site inspection will be conducted at the date, time and location and according to any instructions specified in Section 3: Data Sheet.</p> <p>If it is stated in Section 3: Data Sheet that the site inspection is mandatory, a proposer which does not attend the site inspection shall become ineligible to submit a proposal under this RFP.</p> <p>If it is stated in Section 3: Data Sheet that the site inspection is not mandatory, non-attendance, shall not result in disqualification of an interested proposer.</p> <p>Proposers participating in a site inspection shall be responsible for making and obtaining any visa arrangements that may be required for the proposers to participate in a site inspection.</p> <p>Prior to attending a site inspection, proposers shall execute an indemnity and a waiver releasing UNDP in respect of any liability that may arise from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) loss of or damage to any real or personal property; (ii) personal injury, disease or illness to, or death of, any person; (iii) financial loss or expense, arising out of the carrying out of that site inspection; and (iv) transportation by UNDP to the site (if provided) as a result of any accidents or malicious acts by third parties. <p>UNDP will not issue any formal answers to questions from proposers regarding the RFP or solicitation process during a site inspection. All questions shall be submitted in accordance with Article 7 (Clarification of solicitation documents).</p> <p>A site inspection will be conducted for the purpose of providing background information only. Without limiting Article 24 (Proposers Responsibility), proposers shall not rely upon any information, statement or representation made at a site inspection unless that information, statement or representation is confirmed by UNDP in writing.</p>
<p>23. Errors or omissions</p>	<p>Proposers shall immediately notify UNDP in writing of any ambiguities, errors, omissions, discrepancies, inconsistencies or other faults in any part of the RFP, with full details of those ambiguities, errors, omissions, discrepancies, inconsistencies or other faults.</p> <p>Proposers shall not benefit from such ambiguities, errors, omissions, discrepancies, inconsistencies or other faults.</p>

<p>24. Proposers responsibility to inform themselves</p>	<p>Proposers shall be responsible for informing themselves in preparing their proposal. In this regard, proposers shall ensure that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examine and fully inform themselves in relation to all aspects of the RFP, including the Contract and all other documents included or referred to in this RFP; • review the RFP to ensure that they have a complete copy of all documents; • obtain and examine all other information relevant to the project and the scope of the requirements available on reasonable enquiry; • verify all relevant representations, statements and information, including those contained or referred to in the RFP or made orally during any clarification meeting or site inspection or any discussion with UNDP, its employees or agents; • attend any pre-proposal conference if it is mandatory under this RFP; • fully inform and satisfy themselves as to requirements of any relevant authorities and laws that apply, or may in the future apply, to the supply of the services; and • form their own assessment of the nature and extent of the services required as included in Section 5: Terms of Reference and properly account for all requirements in their proposal. <p>Proposers acknowledge that UNDP, its directors, employees and agents make no representations or warranties (express or implied) as to the accuracy, currency or completeness of this RFP or any other information provided to the proposers.</p>
<p>25. No material change(s) in circumstances</p>	<p>The proposer shall inform UNDP of any change(s) of circumstances arising during the RFP process, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a change affecting any declaration, accreditation, license or approval; • major re-organisational changes, company re-structuring, a take-over, buy-out or similar event(s) affecting the operation and/or financing of the proposer or its major sub-contractors; • a change to any information on which UNDP may rely in assessing proposals.
<p>SUBMISSION AND OPENING OF PROPOSALS</p>	
<p>26. Instruction for proposal submission</p>	<p>The proposer shall submit a complete proposal in the format and comprising the documents and forms in accordance with requirements in Section 3: Data Sheet. The proposal shall be delivered according to the method specified in Section 3: Data Sheet.</p> <p>The proposal shall be submitted by the proposer or person(s) duly authorized to commit the proposer. The authorization shall be communicated through a document evidencing such authorization issued by the legal representative of the proposing entity, or, if requested, a Power of Attorney, accompanying the proposal.</p> <p>Proposers must be aware that the mere act of submission of a proposal, in and of itself, implies that the proposer fully accepts the UNDP General Conditions of Contract.</p>
<p>26 a. Online submission</p>	<p>1.1 Electronic submission through online portal shall be governed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic files that form part of the proposal must be in accordance with the format and requirements indicated in DS; • The Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal files MUST BE COMPLETELY SEPARATE and each of them must be uploaded individually and clearly labelled. • The Financial Proposal file must be uploaded separately only in the commercial section of the RFP in the system. encrypted with a password so that it cannot be opened nor viewed until the password is provided. • Documents which are required to be in original form (e.g. Bid Security, etc.) must be sent via courier or hand delivery as per the instructions in DS. <p>Detailed instructions on how to submit, modify or cancel a bid in the online portal are provided in the system Bidder User Guide made available in the procurement notice site and in the portal.</p>

27. Deadline for Submission of Proposals and Late Proposals	<p>Complete proposals must be received by UNDP in the manner, and no later than the date and time, specified in Section 3: Data Sheet. If any doubt exists as to the time zone in which the Proposal should be submitted, refer to http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/. It shall be the sole responsibility of the proposers to ensure that their proposal is received by the closing date and time. UNDP shall accept no responsibility for proposals that arrive late due to any technical issues and shall only recognise the actual date and time that the proposal was received by UNDP.</p> <p>UNDP may, at its discretion, extend this deadline for the submission of proposals by amending the solicitation documents in accordance with Article 8 (Amendment of solicitation documents). In this case, all rights and obligations of UNDP and proposers subject to the previous deadline will thereafter be subject to the new deadline as extended.</p>
28. Withdrawal, substitution and modification of proposals	<p>A proposer may withdraw or modify its proposal after it has been submitted at any time prior to the deadline for submission directly in the system following the instructions provided in the user guide.</p> <p>However, after the deadline for proposal submission, the proposals shall remain valid and open for acceptance by UNDP for the entire proposal validity period, as may be extended.</p>
29. Storage of proposals	Proposals received are kept confidential and unopened in the system as part security protocols built in the system until the proposal opening date stated in Section 3: Data Sheet.
30. Proposal opening	There is no mandatory public bid opening for RFPs however UNDP may at its discretion sent a public bid opening report from the system only to suppliers who successfully submitted a proposal. The report will include only the names of the companies but not the financial proposal.
31. Late proposals	<p>Any proposal received by UNDP after the deadline for submission of proposals will be destroyed unless the proposer requests that it be returned and assumes the responsibility and expenses for the re-possession of the returned proposal documents.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances, late proposals may be accepted if it is determined that the submission was sent in ample time prior to the proposal closing and the delay could not be reasonably foreseen by the proposer or were due to force majeure.</p>
EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS	
32. Confidentiality	<p>Information relating to the examination, evaluation, and comparison of proposals, and the recommendation of contract award, shall not be disclosed to proposers or any other persons not officially concerned with such process, even after publication of the contract award.</p> <p>Any effort by a proposer or anyone on behalf of the proposer to influence UNDP in the examination, evaluation and comparison of the proposals or contract award decisions may, at UNDP's decision, result in the rejection of its proposal and may subsequently be subject to the application of prevailing UNDP's vendor sanctions procedures.</p>
33. Evaluation of proposals	<p>UNDP shall evaluate a proposal using only the methodologies and criteria defined in this RFP. No other criteria or methodology shall be permitted.</p> <p>UNDP shall conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted technical and financial proposals.</p> <p>Evaluation of proposals shall be undertaken in the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary examination Evaluation of minimum eligibility and qualification (if pre-qualification is not done) Evaluation of technical proposals Evaluation of financial proposals.

34. Preliminary examination	UNDP shall examine the proposals to determine whether they are complete with respect to minimum documentary requirements, whether the documents have been properly signed, and whether the proposals are generally in order, among other indicators that may be used at this stage. UNDP reserves the right to reject any proposal at this stage.
35. Evaluation of eligibility and qualification	<p>Eligibility and qualification of the proposer will be evaluated against the minimum eligibility and qualification requirements specified in Section 4: Evaluation Criteria and in Article 4 (Eligible proposers).</p> <p>In general terms, vendors that meet the following criteria may be considered qualified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) They are not included in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 Committee's list of terrorists and terrorist financiers, and in UNDP's ineligible vendors' list; b) They have a good financial standing and have access to adequate financial resources to perform the contract and all existing commercial commitments, c) They have the necessary similar experience, technical expertise, production capacity, quality certifications, quality assurance procedures and other resources applicable to the supply of goods and/or services required; d) They are able to comply fully with the UNDP General Terms and Conditions of Contract; e) They do not have a consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the Bidder; and f) They have a record of timely and satisfactory performance with their clients.

<p>36. Evaluation of technical and financial proposals</p>	<p>The evaluation team shall review and evaluate the technical proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and other RFP documents, applying the evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and point system specified in Section 4: Evaluation Criteria. A proposal shall be rendered non-responsive at the technical evaluation stage if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in Section 3: Data Sheet. When necessary, and if stated in the Data Sheet, UNDP may invite technically responsive proposers for a presentation related to their technical proposals. The conditions for the presentation shall be provided in the proposal document where required.</p> <p>When necessary, and if stated in the Section 3: Data Sheet, UNDP may invite technically responsive bidders for a presentation related to their technical Proposals. The conditions for the presentation shall be provided in the bid document where required.</p> <p>In the second stage, only the financial proposals of those proposers who achieve the minimum technical score will be opened for evaluation.</p> <p>The evaluation method that applies for this RFP shall be as indicated in Section 3: Data Sheet, which may be either of two (2) possible methods, as follows: (a) the lowest priced method which selects the lowest evaluated financial proposal of the technically responsive Proposers; or (b) the combined scoring method which will be based on a combination of the technical and financial score.</p> <p>When the Data Sheet specifies a combined scoring method, the formula for the rating of the proposals will be as follows:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p><u>Rating the Technical Proposal (TP):</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TP Rating = (Total Score Obtained by the Offer / Max. Obtainable Score for TP) x 100</p> <p><u>Rating the Financial Proposal (FP):</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">FP Rating = (Lowest Priced Offer / Price of the Offer Being Reviewed) x 100</p> <p><u>Total Combined Score:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Combined Score = (TP Rating) x (Weight of TP, e.g. 70%) + (FP Rating) x (Weight of FP, e.g., 30%)</p> </div>
<p>37. Post-qualification/Due Diligence</p>	<p>UNDP reserves the right to undertake a post-qualification assessment, aimed at determining, to its satisfaction, the validity of the information provided by the proposer. Such exercise shall be fully documented and may include, but need not be limited to, all or any combination of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Verification of accuracy, correctness and authenticity of information provided by the proposer; b) Validation of extent of compliance to the RFP requirements and evaluation criteria based on what has so far been found by the evaluation team; c) Inquiry and reference checking with Government entities with jurisdiction on the proposer, or with previous clients, or any other entity that may have done business with the proposer; d) Inquiry and reference checking with previous clients on the performance on on-going or completed contracts, including physical inspections of previous works, as deemed necessary; e) Physical inspection of the proposer's offices, branches or other places where business transpires, with or without notice to the proposer; f) Other means that UNDP may deem appropriate, at any stage within the selection process, prior to awarding the contract.

<p>38. Clarification of proposals</p>	<p>UNDP may request clarification or further information in writing from the proposers at any time during the evaluation process. The proposers' responses shall not contain any changes regarding the substance or price of the proposal, except to confirm the correction of arithmetic errors discovered by UNDP in the evaluation of the proposals, in accordance with Instructions to Proposers Article 23 (Errors or omissions).</p> <p>UNDP may use such information in interpreting and evaluating the relevant proposal but is under no obligation to take it into account.</p> <p>Any unsolicited clarification submitted by a proposer in respect to its proposal which is not a response to a request by UNDP, shall not be considered during the review and evaluation of the proposals.</p>
<p>39. Responsiveness of proposal</p>	<p>UNDP's determination of a proposal's responsiveness is to be based on the contents of the proposal itself. A substantially responsive proposal is one that conforms to all the terms, conditions, TOR and other requirements of the RFP without material deviation, reservation, or omission. A material deviation, reservation, or omission is one that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) affects in any substantial way the scope, quality, or performance of the services specified in the contract; or b) limits in any substantial way, inconsistent with the solicitation documents, UNDP's rights or the proposer's obligations under the contract; or c) if rectified would unfairly affect the competitive position of other proposers presenting substantially responsive proposals. <p>If a proposal is not substantially responsive, it shall be rejected by UNDP and may not subsequently be made responsive by the proposer by correction of the material deviation, reservation, or omission.</p>
<p>40. Nonconformities, reparable errors and omission</p>	<p>Provided that a proposal is substantially responsive, UNDP may waive any non-conformities or omissions in the proposal that, in the opinion of UNDP, do not constitute a material deviation. These are a matter of form and not of substance and can be corrected or waived without being prejudicial to other proposers.</p> <p>Provided that a proposal is substantially responsive UNDP may request the proposer to submit the necessary information or documentation, within a reasonable period, to rectify nonmaterial nonconformities or omissions in the proposal related to documentation requirements. Such omission shall not be related to any aspect of the price of the proposal. Failure of the proposer to comply with the request may result in the rejection of its proposal.</p> <p>For financial proposals that have been opened, UNDP shall check and correct arithmetical errors as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the line-item total that is obtained by multiplying the unit price by the quantity, the unit price shall prevail and the line item total shall be corrected, unless in the opinion of UNDP there is an obvious misplacement of the decimal point in the unit price; in which case, the line item total as quoted shall govern and the unit price shall be corrected; b) if there is an error in a total corresponding to the addition or subtraction of subtotals, the subtotals shall prevail, and the total shall be corrected; and c) if there is a discrepancy between words and figures, the amount in words shall prevail, unless the amount expressed in words is related to an arithmetic error, in which case the amount in figures shall prevail. <p>If the proposer does not accept the correction of errors, its proposal shall be rejected, and its proposal security may be forfeited.</p>

41. Right to accept any proposal and to reject any or all proposals	UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any proposals, and to annul the proposal process and reject all proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected proposer or proposers or any obligation to inform the affected proposer or proposers of the grounds for UNDP's action. UNDP shall not be obliged to award the contract to the lowest priced offer.
AWARD OF CONTRACT	
42. Award criteria	Prior to expiration of the proposal validity, UNDP shall award the Contract to the qualified proposer based on the award criteria indicated in Section 3: Data Sheet.
43. Right to vary requirement at time of award	At the time the Contract is awarded, UNDP reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity of services originally specified by up to a maximum twenty-five per cent (25%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions and the solicitation document.
44. Notification of award	Prior to the expiration of the period of proposal validity, UNDP will notify the successful proposer in writing by email, fax or post, that its proposal has been accepted. Please note that the proposer, if not already registered at the appropriate level in UNGM, will be required to complete the vendor registration process on the UNGM prior to the signature and finalization of the contract.
45. Debriefing	In the event that a proposer is unsuccessful, the proposer may request a debriefing from UNDP. The purpose of the debriefing is to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the proposer's submission, in order to assist the proposer in improving its future proposals for UNDP procurement opportunities. The content of other proposals and how they compare to the proposer's submission shall not be discussed.
46. Publication of contract award	UNDP will publish the contract award on UNDP Procurement Notices website https://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_awards.cfm which is linked to the United Nations Global Marketplace , with the RFP Reference number, the information of the awarded proposer's company name, contract amount or LTA and the date of the contract.
47. Contract Signature	Within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the Contract, the successful Bidder shall sign and date the Contract and return it to UNDP. Failure to do so may constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award, and forfeiture of the Bid Security, if any, and on which event, UNDP may award the Contract to the Second highest rated or call for new Bids.
48. Contract Type and General Terms and Conditions	The types of Contract to be signed and the applicable UNDP Contract General Terms and Conditions, as specified in Data Sheet, can be accessed at http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html
49. Performance security	<p>The successful Proposer, if so specified in Section 3: Data Sheet shall furnish a Performance Security in the amount and form specified herein: https://popp.undp.org/layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PSU_Solicitation_Performance%20Guarantee%20Form.docx&action=default, within the specified number of days after receipt of the Contract from UNDP. Banks issuing performance securities must be acceptable to the UNDP comptroller, i.e. banks certified by the central bank of the country to operate as a commercial bank. The Performance Security form is available here. UNDP shall promptly discharge the proposal securities of the unsuccessful proposers pursuant to Article 17 (Proposal security).</p> <p>Failure of the successful proposer to submit the above-mentioned Performance Security or sign the Contract shall constitute sufficient grounds for the annulment of the award and forfeiture of the proposal security. In that event UNDP may award the contract to the next lowest ranked proposer.</p>

50. Bank guarantee for advance payment	<p>Except when the interests of UNDP so require, it is UNDP's standard practice not to make advance payment(s) (i.e., payments without having received any outputs). If an advance payment is allowed as per Section 3: Data Sheet, and if specified there, the proposer shall submit a Bank Guarantee in the full amount of the advance payment using this bank guarantee form available at : https://popp.undp.org/layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/UNDP_POPP_DOCUMENT_LIBRARY/Public/PSU_Contract%20Management%20Payment%20and%20Taxes_Advanced%20Payment%20Guarantee%20Form.docx&action=default. Banks issuing bank guarantees must be acceptable to the UNDP comptroller, i.e. banks certified by the central bank of the country to operate as a commercial bank.</p>
51. Liquidated Damages	<p>If specified in Section 3: Data Sheet, UNDP shall apply Liquidated Damages for the damages and/or risks caused to UNDP resulting from the Contractor's delays or breach of its obligations as per the Contract. The payment or deduction of such liquidated damages shall not relieve the Contractor from any of its other obligations or liabilities pursuant to any current contract or purchase order.</p>
52. Proposal protest	<p>Any proposer that believes to have been unjustly treated in connection with this proposal process or any contract that may be awarded as a result of such proposal process may submit a complaint to UNDP.</p> <p>The following link provides further details regarding UNDP vendor protest procedures: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/protest-and-sanctions.html</p>
53. Other Provisions	<p>In the event that the Bidder offers a lower price to the host Government (e.g. General Services Administration (GSA) of the federal government of the United States of America) for similar goods and/or services, UNDP shall be entitled to the same lower price. The UNDP General Terms and Conditions shall have precedence.</p> <p>UNDP is entitled to receive the same pricing offered by the same Contractor in contracts with the United Nations and/or its Agencies. The UNDP General Terms and Conditions shall have precedence.</p> <p>The United Nations has established restrictions on employment of (former) UN staff who have been involved in the procurement process as per bulletin ST/SGB/2006/15 http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=ST/SGB/2006/15&referer</p>

SECTION 3: DATA SHEET (DS)

The following specific data shall complement, supplement or amend the provisions in Section 2: Instructions to Proposers. In case there is a conflict, the provisions herein shall prevail over those in Section 2: Instructions to Proposers.

Ref. Article in Section 2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
1.	Scope	<p>The reference number of this Request for Proposal is RFP25/03192</p> <p>The overarching objective of the assignment is to develop a comprehensive, scientifically grounded, and operationally feasible Methodology for setting special Water Use Thresholds in the Republic of Moldova, accompanied by a costed Implementation Roadmap. The methodology shall define quantitative thresholds for the maximum allowable volumes of water abstraction and discharge across key sectors (agriculture, industry, energy, aquaculture, municipal supply), taking into account hydrological, hydrogeological, ecological, and climate-related conditions, the environmental limits of water bodies, as well as the legal priorities and water-use hierarchy established in national legislation. The assignment aims to provide a coherent, data-driven, and internationally aligned framework that strengthens the national system of special water use authorizations. The resulting methodology and implementation roadmap will support regulatory decision-making, permit issuance and review processes, and long-term planning for sustainable water allocation at national and river basin levels.</p> <p>Details of services to be provided are further described in Section 5 of this RFP.</p>
2.	Eligible proposers	<p>Proposers from all countries are eligible to participate in this proposal process. International companies may participate only in consortium or subcontracting arrangement with Moldovan entities or experts, ensuring compliance with national regulations and access to national datasets.</p>
3.	Clarification of solicitation documents	<p>Any request for clarification of solicitation documents must be sent directly in the system through Quantum message functionality.</p> <p>ATTENTION: PROPOSALS (OR ANY PART OF IT) SHALL NOT BE SUBMITTED IN THE ABOVE MANNER.</p> <p>Deadline for submitting requests for clarifications / questions:</p> <p>2 (two) working days before the submission deadline</p> <p>Supplemental information to the RFP and responses / clarifications to queries will be posted directly in the system.</p>
4.	Language	<p>All proposals, information, documents and correspondence exchanged between UNDP and the proposers in relation to this solicitation process shall be in English and/or Romanian (acceptable)</p>
5.	Partial proposals	<p>Submitting proposals for parts or sub-parts of the TOR is:</p> <p>Not allowed</p>
6.	Currencies	<p>Prices shall be quoted only in the currency indicated in the system:</p> <p>MDL (Moldovan Leu) for local suppliers and USD (US Dollars) for international suppliers.</p> <p>For evaluation purposes, all the rates shall be recalculated at UN Operational Rate of Exchange indicated on the submission deadline:</p>

Ref. Article in Section 2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
		https://treasury.un.org/operationalrates/OperationalRates.php UNDP shall not be kept liable for any fluctuations of the exchange market during contract implementation, the Contractor being legally responsible to register any loss/gain of currency exchange resulting from payments against the Contract in accordance with the national legislation.
7.	Duties and taxes	All prices shall: Be exclusive of VAT and other applicable indirect taxes.
8.	Proposal validity period	90 days
9.	Proposal security	Not Required
10.	Alternative proposals	Shall not be considered.
11.	Pre-proposal conference	Will not be conducted
12.	Site inspection	A site inspection will not be held.
13.	Instructions for proposal submission	Proposals must be submitted directly in Quantum . Allowable manner of submitting proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ File Format: PDF files only ▪ File names must be clearly indicative of the file content and uploaded in the relevant section as instructed in the system. File names must be in English or in the language specified in this document as the bid language. ▪ All files must be free of viruses and not corrupted. ▪ It is recommended that the entire Proposal be consolidated into as few attachments as possible. ▪ The proposer should receive an email acknowledging receipt of the proposal by the system. ▪ The Financial Proposal (Forms J and K) shall be submitted directly in the system only in the “Commercial section” of the requirements. Non-compliance with this instruction may result in rejection of the proposal received.
14.	Deadline for proposal submission	Deadline for proposal submission is indicated in the portal . In case of discrepancies between the deadline in the system and deadline indicated elsewhere, the one in the system prevails. Note that system time zone is in EST/EDT (New York) time zone.
15.	Proposal Opening	Public proposal opening will NOT be held
16.	Evaluation of technical and financial proposals	Evaluation will be based on: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Combined scoring method using a distribution of 70%-30% Technical proposal - financial proposal The maximum number of technical points is detailed in Section 4: Evaluation Criteria.

Ref. Article in Section 2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
		To be substantially compliant, Proposers must obtain a minimum threshold of 70% of maximum points from technical evaluation.
17.	Right to vary requirement at time of award	The maximum percentage by which quantities may be increased is 25% The maximum percentage by which quantities may be decreased is 25%
18.	Contract award to one or more proposer	UNDP will award a contract to: One Bidder Only
19.	Type of contract to be awarded	Contract Face Sheet More information can be accessed at http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html See Section 6 for link to sample contract.
20.	Expected date for commencement of contract	February 2026
21.	Conditions of contract to apply	UNDP General Terms and Conditions for contracts (goods and/or services) See Section 6 for link to the contract terms.
22.	Performance Security	Not Required
23.	Advance payment	Not Allowed
24.	Liquidated damages	Will be imposed as follows: Percentage of contract 0.33% per day of delay. Maximum of 30 days of delay, after which UNDP may terminate the contract.
25.	Documents to be submitted with your Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Company Profile, which should not exceed fifteen (15) pages, including list of relevant institutions the Company has been cooperating with, including the topic and year must be presented together with the application package. ▪ Certificate of Incorporation/ Business Registration ▪ Certified details of the ownership of the Bidder company (including each member of a JV consortium), providing the percentage ownership, share or stockholding of each party with an interest exceeding 5% of the company ownership (or Annex 1 to Business Registration Certificate – for local companies) ▪ Tax Registration/Payment Certificate issued by the Internal Revenue Authority evidencing that the Bidder is updated with its tax payment obligations, or Certificate of Tax exemption, if any such privilege is enjoyed by the Bidder ▪ Official Letter of Appointment as local representative, if Bidder is submitting a Bid on behalf of an entity located outside the country ▪ Internal documents such as Company Organigram, Quality Assurance and Risk mitigation procedures, Sustainability Commitments, etc. ▪ Latest Audited Financial Statements (Income Statements and Balance Sheets) including Auditor's Reports (for international companies) or registered Financial Report at the Statistical Bureau (for local companies) for the past 3 (three) years for the Bidder (2022-2024) ▪ At least 3 Clients' statements confirming satisfactory performance by the Proposer, each JV partner/Subcontractor (if the case), on the contracts of

Ref. Article in Section 2	Data	Specific Instructions / Requirements
		<p>highest value carried out, during the past 5 (five) years, by each intended participant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A copy of preliminary Agreement in case of Consortium. ▪ Detailed description of the Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan (sequence of actions) for the services required in the ToR, applicable Monitoring and Evaluation tools, and measures to ensure sustainability, with clear distribution of roles and responsibilities of the proposed key personnel ▪ Copies of contracts to prove that Offeror meets the similar experience requirement (stated under Section 4: Evaluation Criteria) ▪ List of qualified key personnel, together with CVs and Statements of Exclusivity and Availability (signed by the envisaged person) of the Key personnel (mentioned under in Section 5: ToR), including experience relevant to the required skills ▪ Quality Certificate (e.g., ISO, etc.) and/or other similar certificates, accreditations, awards, and citations received by the Bidder, if any ▪ Dully filled in Proposal Forms A-K (as per Section 7: Proposal Forms). Forms A-I, representing the Technical Proposal, shall be submitted directly in the system in the “Technical section” of the requirements. ▪ Forms J and K, representing the Financial Proposal shall be submitted directly in the system only in the “Commercial section” of the requirements. Please, ensure that no other documents are disclosing your financial proposal apart from Forms J and K. Non-compliance with this instruction may result in rejection of the proposal received

SECTION 4: EVALUATION CRITERIA

Preliminary Examination Criteria

All criteria will be evaluated on a **Pass/Fail basis** and checked during Preliminary Examination.

Criteria	Documents to establish compliance
Completeness of the Proposal	All documents requested in Section 2: Instructions to Bidders Articles 11 and 12 have been provided and are complete.
Proposer accepts UNDP General Conditions of Contract as specified in Section 6.	Duly signed and stamped Form C: Technical Proposal Submission has been provided.
Proposal Validity	Duly signed and stamped Form C: Technical Proposal Submission has been provided.
Appropriate signatures	Proposal Forms have been duly signed and stamped.
Power of Attorney [if applicable]	Certified Letter of Appointment and/or power of attorney authorizing the representative of the Bidder to sign bids has been provided.

Minimum Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

Minimum eligibility and qualification criteria will be evaluated on a **Pass/Fail basis**.

If the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture, Consortium or Association, each member should meet the minimum criteria, unless otherwise specified.

Eligibility Criteria	Documents to establish compliance
Legal Status: Proposer is a legally registered entity	Form D: Proposer Information
Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging: Proposer belongs to a diverse supplier group, including micro, small or medium sized enterprise, women or youth owned business or other.	Form D: Proposer Information
Eligibility: Vendor is not suspended, nor otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization, the World Bank Group or any other International Organisation in accordance with Section 2 Article 4.	Form C: Technical Proposal Submission
Conflict of Interest: No conflicts of interest in accordance with Section 2 Article 4.	Form C: Technical Proposal Submission
Bankruptcy: The Proposer has not declared bankruptcy, in not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against the vendor that could impair its operations in the foreseeable future	Form C: Technical Proposal Submission

Qualification Criteria	Documents to establish compliance
History of non-performing contracts¹: Non-performance of a contract did not occur as a result of contractor default within the last 3 years ¹ .	Form F: Eligibility and Qualification
Litigation History: No consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the Proposer for the last 3 years.	Form F: Eligibility and Qualification
Previous Experience:	
At least three (3) years of demonstrated organisational experience in delivering analytical and/or methodological and/or technical assistance in the broader field of water resources management, including areas such as hydrology, hydrogeology, environmental regulation, water allocation planning, or water use monitoring. <i>(For JV/Consortium/Association, Lead Party should meet requirement).</i>	Form F: Eligibility and Qualification
Demonstrated experience in at least three (3) completed assignments focused on water resources management, such as hydrological or hydrogeological analyses, ecological flow assessments, quantitative water allocation studies, or the development of methodologies for determining water use thresholds, implemented in the Republic of Moldova within the last 7 years (2019-2025). <i>International entities may demonstrate such experience through projects carried out independently or in collaboration with Moldovan institutions, ensuring relevance to Moldova's regulatory and institutional framework.</i> <i>(For JV/Consortium/Association, all Parties cumulatively should meet requirement).</i>	Form F: Eligibility and Qualification
Minimum Key Personnel:	
The minimum personnel mandatory for the implementation of the contract: 1. Team Leader / Senior Water Resources Management Expert (1)	Duly signed CVs and Statements of Exclusivity and Availability, including any other supporting documents, attached to Form H: Format for CV of proposed Key Personnel

¹ Non-performance, as decided by UNDP, shall include all contracts where (a) non-performance was not challenged by the contractor, including through referral to the dispute resolution mechanism under the respective contract, and (b) contracts that were so challenged but fully settled against the contractor. Non-performance shall not include contracts where Employer's decision was overruled by the dispute resolution mechanism. Non-performance must be based on all information on fully settled disputes or litigation, i.e. dispute or litigation that has been resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution mechanism under the respective contract and where all appeal instances available to the Bidder have been exhausted.

2. Hydrologist / Climate and Environmental Flow Specialist (1) 3. Groundwater Specialist (1) 4. Agricultural Water Use Specialist (1) 5. Urban and Public Health Water Use Specialist (1) 6. Industrial / Energy Water Use Specialist (1) 7. Aquaculture and Fisheries Specialist (1) 8. Data and Digital Integration Specialist (1) <i>Please note: Position of Team leader can be combined with another position (only one) listed above, if the expert has the minimum qualifications required.</i> <i>(For JV/Consortium/Association, all Parties cumulatively should meet requirement).</i>	
Financial Standing:	
Liquidity: The Ratio Average current assets / Current liabilities over the last 3 (three) years must be equal or greater than 1. Proposers must include in their Proposal audited balance sheets cover the last 3 (three) years. <i>(For JV/Consortium/Association, all Parties cumulatively should meet requirement).</i>	Copy of audited financial statements for the last 3 (three) years. Form F: Eligibility and Qualification
Turnover: Proposers should have annual sales turnover of minimum 60,000 USD for the last 3 (three) years. <i>(For JV/Consortium/Association, all Parties cumulatively should meet requirement).</i>	Copy of audited financial statements for the last 3 (three) years. Form F: Eligibility and Qualification

Technical Evaluation Criteria

Summary of technical proposal evaluation sections		Points obtainable
1.	Proposer's qualification, capacity and experience	250
2.	Proposed methodology, approach and implementation plan	400
3.	Management structure and key personnel	350
	Total	1000

Section 1. Proposer's qualification, capacity and experience	Points obtainable
---	--------------------------

1.1	<p>Reputation of organisation and staff credibility / reliability / industry standing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>A company is a well-known market player, based on reference letters – up to 15 pts.</i> - <i>Financial statement: (between \$60 000 and \$70 000 of average annual turnover for last three years – 15 pts., between \$70 001 and \$80 000 – 25 pts; more than \$80 001 – 35 pts)</i> 	50
1.2	<p>General organisational capability which is likely to affect implementation: management structure, financial stability and project financing capacity, project management controls, extent to which any work would be subcontracted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Age of the legal entity (3 years – 10 pts, > 3 years – 5 pts for each additional year up to max. 30 pts).</i> - <i>Project management controls (organigram) (no – 0 pts, yes - 20 pts)</i> 	50
1.3	<p>Relevance of specialised knowledge and experience on similar engagements done in the region / country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>At least three (3) years of demonstrated organisational experience in delivering analytical and/or methodological and/or technical assistance in the broader field of water resources management, including areas such as hydrology, hydrogeology, environmental regulation, water allocation planning, or water use monitoring.</i> <i>(3 years – 20 pts; > 3 years – 5 pts for each additional year, up to max. 40 pts)</i> - <i>Demonstrated experience in at least three (3) completed assignments focused on water resources management, such as hydrological or hydrogeological analyses, ecological flow assessments, quantitative water allocation studies, or the development of methodologies for determining water use thresholds, implemented in the Republic of Moldova within the last 7 years (2019-2025).</i> <i>(3 assignments – 20 pts; for each additional assignment – 10 pts, up to max. 40 pts)</i> - <i>Demonstrated capacity to develop or apply quantitative methodologies for setting water use thresholds, including basin-level water balance modelling, ecological flow analyses, groundwater–surface water interaction assessments, or multi-sectoral water demand modelling. At least one completed assignment shall demonstrate the integration of multiple water-using sectors into a unified methodological or analytical framework, ensuring coherence across hydrological, environmental, and socio-economic components and applicability to national regulatory contexts.</i> <i>(each assignment – 10 pts, up to max. 30 pts)</i> - <i>Working experience with UN Agencies and/or other international organizations will be an asset</i> <i>(no – 0 pts., yes – 10 pts.).</i> 	120

1.4	<p>Organisation Commitment to Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organisation is compliant with ISO 14001 or ISO 14064 or equivalent – 10 points - Organisation is a member of the UN Global Compact – 5 points - Organisation demonstrates significant commitment to sustainability through some other means (for example internal company policy documents on women empowerment, climate change, renewable energies or membership of trade institutions promoting such issues) – 15 points 	30
Total Section 1		250

Section 2. Proposed methodology approach and implementation plan		Points obtainable
2.1	<p>To what degree does the Proposer understand the assignment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Excellent Understanding. The proposer demonstrates a comprehensive and deep understanding of the assignment. The requirements submitted and supported by excellent evidence of ability to support and exceed ToR requirements: 80 pts.</i> •<i>Good Understanding. The proposer demonstrates good understanding of the assignment and provided good evidence of ability to support the ToR requirements: 70 pts.</i> •<i>Satisfactory Understanding. The proposer demonstrates a general understanding of the assignment. The requirements submitted are supported by satisfactory evidence of ability to support ToR requirements: 55 pts.</i> •<i>Poor Understanding. The proposer shows limited understanding of the assignment. The requirements submitted are supported by marginally acceptable or weak evidence of ability to support ToR requirements: 30 pts.</i> •<i>Very poor Understanding. The proposer demonstrates very little understanding of the assignment. The requirements submitted but not supported by evidence to demonstrate ability to comply with ToR requirements: 10 pts.</i> •<i>No submission. Information has not been submitted or is unacceptable: 0 pts</i> 	80
2.2	<p>Is the conceptual framework adopted appropriate for the assignment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Excellent. The conceptual framework is fully appropriate for the assignment, all aspects are excellently described, and requirements fully addressed: 100 pts</i> •<i>Good. The conceptual framework is appropriate, minor refinements may be possible, but unnecessary, and overall meets requirements well: 90 pts.</i> •<i>Satisfactory. The conceptual framework is appropriate but may require some adjustments to fully incorporate all aspects and requirements: 70 pts</i> •<i>Poor. The conceptual framework requires significant adjustments to address most aspects and requirements: 40 pts.</i> 	100

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Very poor. The conceptual framework is largely inadequate, missing critical elements, and does not meet requirements: 10 pts.</i> •<i>No submission. No conceptual framework provided or completely unacceptable: 0 pts.</i> 	
2.3	<p>Details on how the different service elements shall be organised, controlled and delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Excellent. The submission provides a comprehensive, clear, and well-structured explanation of how all service elements will be organised, controlled, and delivered: 50 pts.</i> •<i>Good. The submission provides a strong and mostly complete description of service organisation, control, and delivery: 45 pts.</i> •<i>Satisfactory. The submission provides an adequate but basic explanation of how service elements will be organised, controlled, and delivered: 35 pts.</i> •<i>Poor. The submission provides a weak and incomplete description of service organisation, control, and delivery: 20 pts.</i> •<i>Very poor. The submission provides a very limited and unclear response: 5 pts</i> •<i>No Submission. No details are provided or completely unacceptable: 0 pts.</i> 	50
2.4	<p>Description of available performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools; how they shall be adopted and used for a specific requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Excellent. The submission provides a comprehensive, well-structured, and highly detailed description of performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools: 50 pts.</i> •<i>Good. The submission provides a strong and mostly complete explanation of performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms: 45 pts.</i> •<i>Satisfactory. The submission provides an adequate but basic description of performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools: 35 pts.</i> •<i>Poor. The submission provides a weak and incomplete explanation of performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms: 20 pts.</i> •<i>Very poor. The submission provides a very limited and unclear response: 5 pts</i> •<i>No Submission. No details are provided or completely unacceptable: 0 pts.</i> 	50
2.5	<p>Assessment of the implementation plan proposed including whether the activities are properly sequenced and if these are logical and realistic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Excellent. The proposed plan is clear, well-structured with a defined and realistic sequence of activities; all needed human and material resources promise efficient implementation: 70 pts.</i> •<i>Good. The proposed plan is clear and structured, resources mostly sufficient for efficient implementation: 60 pts.</i> 	70

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Satisfactory. The proposed plan is clear and structured with minor refinements possible, has a realistic sequence of activities if refined; resources may not be fully sufficient for implementation: 50 pts. •Poor. The proposed plan is partially structured, with significant gaps in activity sequence and resource allocation: 30 pts. •Very poor. The proposed plan is not well-structured, lacks clarity in sequence, and resources are largely missing: 10 pts •No Submission. No plan provided or completely unacceptable: 0 pts. 	
2.6	<p>Description of the quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures:</p> <p>To what extent does the proposal include robust quality assurance mechanisms to ensure effective, timely, and results-oriented implementation of activities (no quality assurance mechanisms are described – 0 pts.; some quality measures are included but lack detail or consistency (10 pts.); comprehensive and realistic quality assurance system is provided (25 pts.)</p> <p>How well are the key risks to project implementation identified, and how appropriate and realistic are the proposed mitigation strategies (No risks identified and no mitigation measures proposed – 0 pts.; Several relevant risks identified with some mitigation strategies but lacks integration or depth – 10 pts.; Risks are thoroughly analysed; mitigation strategies are well-developed, proactive, and integrated into the implementation plan – 25 pts.)</p>	50
Total Section 2		400

Section 3. Management Structure and Key Personnel		Points obtainable
1	Team leader / Senior Water Resources Management Expert	60
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University degree in economics, public administration, environmental sciences, water resources management, hydrology, civil/hyrotechnical engineering, or a related field (University degree – 5 pts., Master’s degree 10 pts., PhD. – 15 pts.) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 7 (seven) years of experience in integrated water resources management, environmental policy, hydrology, or related areas, including demonstrated ability to work within national regulatory and institutional frameworks in the Republic of Moldova (7 years – 10 pts., each additional year – 2.5 pts., up to a max. of 20 pts.) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven leadership in managing multi-disciplinary teams and assignments for government agencies or international donors. (each project – 5 pts., up to max 20 pts.) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English and Romanian language proficiency required (each language – 2.5 pts) 	

2	Hydrologist / Climate and Environmental Flow Specialist		50
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in hydrology, civil or environmental engineering, water resources management, environmental sciences, climate science, or a closely related discipline. (University degree – 5 pts., Master’s degree 10 pts or PhD. – 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of experience in hydrological and climate-related modelling and scenario development under variable climatic and demand conditions, including demonstrated ability to work with national hydrological datasets and institutional frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or comparable country contexts, and experience with defining ecological flow standards, biodiversity-sensitive flow regimes, and integrating ecosystem-health metrics into water allocation processes. (5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2 pts., up to a max. of 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proven experience in developing and applying hydrological and climate models, conducting ecological flow assessments, and integrating surface - and groundwater dynamics with climate variability and adaptation planning. (each assignment – 5 pts., up to a max of 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romanian language proficiency required. (no – 0 pts., yes – 5 pts) 	5	
3	Groundwater Specialist		50
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in hydrogeology, geology, environmental engineering, or a closely related discipline (University degree – 5 pts., Master’s degree -10 pts; PhD. – 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of professional experience in groundwater assessment, management, and modeling, including demonstrated ability to work with national groundwater datasets and institutional frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or comparable country contexts, covering areas such as aquifer recharge analysis, abstraction rates, and groundwater–surface water interactions. (5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2 pts., up to a max. of 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proven experience in developing groundwater monitoring frameworks, conducting sustainable yield and balance assessments, and contributing to water allocation or permitting systems. (1 assignment - 5 pts., 2 and more assignments – 10 pts.) 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarity with the EU Water Framework Directive, particularly its requirements for groundwater body status and quantitative thresholds, is an advantage. (no – 0 pts., yes – 5 pts.) 	5	
4	Agricultural Water Management Specialist		40
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in agricultural engineering, irrigation, water management, or a related discipline 	10	

	<i>(University degree – 5 pts., Master’s degree -10 pts.)</i>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of experience with crop water requirement calculations (e.g., using FAO CROPWAT or AquaCrop), irrigation system performance, and water productivity indicators, including demonstrated ability to work with national agricultural and water-use datasets and institutional frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or comparable country contexts. <i>(5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2 pt., up to a max. of 15 pts.)</i> 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarity with evapotranspiration modeling and seasonal irrigation planning <i>(no – 0 pts., yes – 10 pts.)</i> 	10	
	Romanian language proficiency required. <i>(no – 0 pts., yes – 5 pts.)</i>	5	
5	Urban and Public Health Water Use Specialist		50
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in water engineering, public utilities, urban planning, environmental health, or a related field; <i>(University degree – 5 pts., master’s degree -10 pts.)</i> 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of experience working in the areas of urban water supply systems, public utilities management, or drinking water regulation and monitoring, including demonstrated ability to work with national urban water datasets and institutional frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or in comparable country contexts. <i>(5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2 pt., up to a max. of 15 pts.)</i> 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proven familiarity with performance indicators (e.g., non-revenue water – NRW, per capita consumption rates) and international standards and guidelines for drinking water quality (e.g., WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality) <i>(no – 0 pts., yes – 10 pts.)</i> 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience in resilience planning for drought or emergency conditions and in developing or assessing urban water supply plans is an asset <i>(no – 0 pts., yes – 10 pts.)</i> 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romanian language proficiency required. <i>(no – 0 pts., yes – 5pts)</i> 	5	
6	Industrial and Energy Sector Water Use Specialist		35
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in industrial engineering, energy systems, environmental engineering, or related field <i>(University degree – 5 pts., master’s degree -10 pts.)</i> 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of experience in assessing water footprints and process water use in industrial and energy installations, including demonstrated ability to work with national industrial water-use datasets and institutional/regulatory frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or comparable country contexts. <i>(5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2 pt., up to a max. of 15 pts.)</i> 	15	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of sector-specific technologies, water reuse systems, and water efficiency benchmarks (e.g., m³/MWh or m³/ton output) is an advantage (no – 0 pts., yes – 5 pts.) 	5	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romanian language proficiency required (no – 0 pts., yes – 5pts) 	5	
7	Aquaculture and Fisheries Water Use Specialist		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in aquaculture, fisheries science, biology, or related field (University degree – 5 pts., master’s degree -10 pts.) 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of experience in aquaculture system design and operation, with a focus on water quality and quantity management, including demonstrated ability to work with national aquaculture/fisheries datasets and institutional frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or comparable country contexts. (5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2.5 pts., up to a max. of 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional experience demonstrating understanding of seasonal variability, water reuse practices, and regulatory requirements for effluent discharge, as evidenced through relevant responsibilities, assignments, or projects listed in the CV. (No – 0 pts; Yes – 5 pts) 	5	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romanian language proficiency required (no – 0 pts., yes – 5pts) 	5	35
8	Data and Digital Integration Specialist		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University degree in computer science, environmental informatics, or related technical discipline (University degree – 5 pts., master’s degree -10 pts.) 	10	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 5 (five) years of experience in the development of user-friendly data tools including demonstrated ability to work with national environmental and water-sector datasets and institutional data-management frameworks in the Republic of Moldova or comparable country contexts. (5 years – 5 pts., each additional year – 2.5 pts., up to a max. of 15 pts.) 	15	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Romanian language proficiency required (no – 0 pts., yes – 5pts) 	5	
Total Section 3			350

SECTION 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Title: Development of a Methodology for setting special Water Use Thresholds and Roadmap for its implementation, including Cost Estimates

Project: “Supporting the Moldovan authorities in the sustainable management of the Dniester River” Project/Dniester 2

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The sustainable management of water resources is a strategic priority for the Republic of Moldova, particularly in the context of its EU Association Agreement commitments and its status as an EU candidate country. The Dniester River, which supplies up to 70% of Moldova's water needs, is critical for drinking water, agriculture, industry, and biodiversity. However, the basin faces mounting environmental pressures, including pollution, inefficient wastewater treatment, and the complex impacts of the Dniester Hydropower Complex (HPC). As such, Moldova is working to enhance its integrated water resource management framework and align it with the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

In support of these goals, the project titled “Supporting the Moldovan authorities in the sustainable management of the Dniester River” is financially supported by the Government of Sweden and is being implemented by UNDP Moldova in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and its subordinate National Administration “Apele Moldovei”.

The overall objective of the project is to increase the capacity of the Moldovan Government to manage the Dniester River sustainably at both national and transboundary levels. The specific objectives include: (i) strengthening the national regulatory framework for water management in line with the WFD, (ii) developing a comprehensive and WFD-compliant River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) for the Dniester, (iii) enhancing institutional and technical capacities for transboundary cooperation, and (iv) supporting concrete environmental actions to improve water quality and ecosystem health.

The first project component focuses on the enhancement of the national water-related regulatory framework, recognizing that Moldova's current legislative and institutional structures require significant updates to meet EU standards. Outdated norms, inconsistent procedures, and a lack of operational tools hamper effective implementation. Within this component, the activity of supporting the Ministry of Environment in securing legal and procedural approval for the modified Water Law and newly developed regulations plays a central role. These efforts are critical to enable the practical application of the WFD principles, including the setting of special water use thresholds.

One of the project activities includes both procedural and technical support. It ensures that newly developed regulations and legislative amendments addressing water monitoring, risk assessment, ecological classification, and permitting are accompanied by legal instruments (e.g., explanatory notes, concordance tables) necessary for governmental endorsement. This activity also addresses the need to align Moldova's national legal framework with the broader EU water acquis, enabling coherent and enforceable implementation.

The task to establish thresholds of special water use will directly contribute to strengthening Moldova's regulatory capacity for managing water abstractions and discharges from high-impact users such as agriculture, industry, and hydropower. Currently, there is no clear and harmonized methodology to determine ecological or operational limits for such uses, nor tools to support their enforcement. The new methodology will define scientific and technical criteria, accounting for ecological flow needs, cumulative impacts, seasonal variability, and basin-specific conditions.

The project is being implemented through August 2022 - April 2027.

2. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The overarching objective of the assignment is to design and deliver a robust, science-based, and operationally effective methodology for setting special water use thresholds in the Republic of Moldova. These thresholds will define the maximum allowable quantities of water that can be abstracted or discharged for various uses, considering the environmental limits of water bodies, the legal priorities outlined in national legislation, and the socio-economic importance of water-consuming sectors. The methodology will serve as a cornerstone for modernizing Moldova's water

resources management system, supporting the issuance and review of permits under the special water use authorization regime, and providing a transparent, technically sound foundation for water allocation decisions at national and river basin levels.

More specifically, the assignment will deliver a methodology capable of quantifying thresholds by source type (surface or groundwater), sector (agriculture, industry, energy, aquaculture, etc.), geographical location, and seasonal or hydrological conditions. It will integrate hydrological, ecological, and climate data to determine the conditions under which water use should be limited, restricted, or prioritized. In addition to the core methodology document, the assignment will produce an Implementation Roadmap, which will provide phased guidance on how to operationalize the threshold system across Moldova's water management framework. The roadmap will outline institutional responsibilities, legal and procedural adjustments, and financing requirements, supported by detailed cost estimates. This will serve as an interim operational solution and planning instrument while Moldova continues to strengthen its national water information system and e-permitting infrastructure.

The special water use authorization system in Moldova is a key regulatory instrument governed by the Water Law No. 272/2011, which requires that any significant use of water resources, whether for abstraction, discharge, or infrastructure-related activities, be subject to an environmental permitting system. Special use of water refers to any planned, organized activity involving the abstraction of more than 0.2 liters of water per second from surface or groundwater sources, the discharge of wastewater, or the use of water bodies for economic activities. These uses require prior authorization through a special water use permit due to their potential environmental impact and influence on the overall balance and quality of water resources. The authorization system ensures that water uses are planned, monitored, and controlled to protect aquatic ecosystems and promote equitable access. Special water use permits apply to a wide range of sectors, including human consumption, agriculture (irrigation), aquaculture, energy production, industry that includes mining and food processing, municipal services, and recreational infrastructure. The permits are designed to specify allowable volumes of water use, by source and season, along with associated obligations related to water quality, environmental protection, and monitoring. The authorizations are typically valid for long durations (up to 6 years, or 12 years in specific cases), necessitating a strong methodological foundation for determining sustainable and legally defensible water allocations.

The permit system operates through a centralized one-stop shop framework, established under Government Decision No. 894/2013, which streamlines the administrative process by enabling applicants to submit all required documentation through a single digital platform or designated service desk. This procedural arrangement facilitates coordination among all relevant authorities involved in the permitting process, including the Environmental Agency, the Inspectorate for Environmental Protection, the Agency for Geology and Mineral Resources, and Apele Moldovei. While the Environmental Agency is responsible for issuing the final permit, Apele Moldovei plays a central role in assessing and authorizing the quantitative components of special water use requests. In the absence of a standardized and scientifically grounded methodology, Apele Moldovei currently relies on outdated technical norms and expert judgment, which can lead to inconsistent evaluations, difficulties in addressing cumulative pressures, and inequities in water allocation across user groups and regions. This reliance on subjective assessments also limits the ability to plan adaptively in the face of climate variability or rising sectoral demands.

Water use thresholds play a crucial operational role in integrated river basin management by translating strategic planning principles into concrete, enforceable limits on water use. While basin management plans define the overarching objectives, such as protecting ecosystems, ensuring equitable allocation, and maintaining water quality, thresholds determine how much water can actually be abstracted or discharged by users, by sector, location, and season. These quantitative limits help align permit decisions with real-time hydrological conditions, ecological flow requirements, and legally established priorities. By setting maximum allowable volumes, thresholds reduce the risk of over-allocation, protect environmental flows, and support the coordinated implementation of basin-wide management goals.

One of the most pressing issues the threshold-setting methodology seeks to resolve is the absence of a practical, operational system for prioritizing water allocation in line with Moldova's legal framework. Although the Water Law clearly defines a hierarchy of water uses, giving precedence to drinking water supply, followed by ecological flow needs and then to economic and industrial uses, this prioritization remains largely theoretical in the current permitting process. In practice, decisions are often made on a first-come, first-served basis or through subjective assessments that do not systematically weigh the relative importance or urgency of each request. This lack of prioritization becomes especially

problematic in catchments with limited availability or seasonal shortages, where multiple users may submit overlapping applications. The new methodology will address this gap by translating legal priorities into quantifiable threshold rules and decision-support criteria, ensuring that water is allocated in a manner that reflects national policy goals, ecological requirements, and equitable access.

A second systemic issue is the regulatory risk posed by the long-term nature of special water use authorizations, which can remain valid for up to 6 years in most cases and up to 12 years for strategic uses. Without a clear and scientifically defensible basis for determining abstraction or discharge volumes, long-term permits risk locking in water allocations that may become unsustainable under changing hydrological or climate conditions. This can undermine ecological flows, harm downstream users, and lead to costly permit revisions or legal disputes. The methodology will address this by embedding adaptive elements into the threshold-setting process, enabling authorized volumes to be justified not only for present conditions but also in light of projected water availability and sectoral growth over the permit duration.

A third issue relates to the absence of equity and transparency in current water allocation practices, which undermines the principle of water as a public good and an equal right for all citizens. Presently, in the absence of a standard threshold methodology, permits may be granted based on institutional discretion or the negotiating power of applicants, leading to perceptions of unfairness or actual imbalances — especially between large-scale users and smaller stakeholders such as smallholder farmers or rural communities. By introducing a uniform, evidence-based threshold system, the assignment will help democratize access to water, reduce subjective decision-making, and enhance public trust in regulatory institutions. It will also provide a clear rationale for allocation outcomes, which is crucial for resolving disputes and ensuring procedural justice.

Another major challenge addressed by this assignment is the increasing pressure on water resources due to climate change, which is already manifesting through more frequent droughts, declining river flows, and growing seasonal imbalances in water availability. Current allocation decisions do not adequately reflect these changing dynamics, leading to over-permitting in vulnerable basins and an erosion of ecological buffers. The threshold methodology will incorporate climate-resilient elements such as hydrological scenario modeling, seasonal flow adjustments, and environmental flow safeguards, ensuring that water use limits are responsive to both current variability and future risks. This approach will support long-term water security while reducing the ecological degradation often associated with excessive abstraction during critical periods.

Finally, the methodology responds to the growing risk of conflicts between competing water users, particularly as demand is forecasted to increase across key sectors like agriculture, energy, aquaculture, and municipal supply. In many catchments, especially during low-flow seasons, water availability will not be sufficient to meet all anticipated uses without trade-offs. However, Moldova currently lacks a structured mechanism for assessing cumulative demands or prioritizing applications based on clear, basin-specific thresholds. This creates regulatory bottlenecks, encourages inefficient water use, and increases the likelihood of socio-economic disputes. The threshold-setting methodology will offer a transparent and technically grounded framework to guide allocation under stress, helping regulators to proactively mediate competing claims and maintain social cohesion around shared water resources.

This assignment is open to both national and international companies or consortia. International firms, however, may participate only in partnership (through consortium or subcontracting) with Moldovan entities or experts to ensure institutional alignment, access to national datasets, and compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory frameworks. This approach will also promote knowledge exchange, methodological transfer, and capacity development within Moldova's water management system.

3. TASKS TO BE PERFORMED UNDER THE ASSIGNMENT

The contractor (company / consortium) will be responsible for the planning, analysis, stakeholder consultation, and design of a scientifically grounded methodology and implementation roadmap for setting thresholds of special water use in the Republic of Moldova. This work must be carried out in close coordination with the Ministry of Environment, its subordinated National Administration "Apele Moldovei", the Environmental Agency, and other relevant institutions involved in water resources regulation and permitting. The contractor shall ensure that the assignment is implemented in a participatory and consultative manner, incorporating technical feedback from institutional stakeholders and aligning with national water governance priorities.

The assignment must ensure full compliance with Moldova's legal and institutional frameworks, including the Water Law No. 272/2011, Law No. 160/2011 on the regulation of entrepreneurial activity through authorization, Government Decision No. 894/2013 on the organization and operation of the one-stop shop for environmental authorization in special water use, Government Decision No. 950/2013 on the collection, treatment, and discharge requirements for wastewater, Government Decision No. 977/2016 on the standard regulation for the operation of reservoirs and ponds, and the Subsoil Code No. 3/2009. It should also draw upon international best practices and principles embedded in the EU Water Framework Directive, supporting Moldova's efforts to modernize its regulatory system and ensure ecologically sustainable, equitable, and climate-resilient water allocation.

The activities shall be structured under the following main tasks and sub-tasks:

Task 1: Development of a Methodological Framework for Setting Water Use Thresholds

This task entails the comprehensive design of a methodology for establishing special water use thresholds for both surface and groundwater, tailored to Moldova's hydrological, legal, and institutional context. The methodology will define how to determine the maximum allowable volumes of water that may be abstracted or discharged for various sectors, including agriculture, energy, aquaculture, and municipal services. It will differentiate between surface water and groundwater sources and incorporate seasonal variability, sectoral demand forecasts, and hydrological conditions at basin and sub-basin levels. The framework will establish calculation rules based on projected demand, ecological flows, climate scenarios, and historical data series.

The methodology will incorporate an integrated forecasting model of sectoral water demands. It will consider socio-economic trends, technological progress, and anticipated structural changes in demand. Moldova's methodology will also adopt sector-specific water consumption coefficients and apply correction factors based on water-saving practices, regulatory developments, and demographic evolution. Projections will be developed for short, medium, and long-term horizons to allow for flexible, forward-looking water allocation.

Hydrological zoning and basin-specific analysis will be a core component of the methodology. Moldova will be divided into river sub-basins where thresholds are adjusted to reflect the local availability of water resources, ecological sensitivity, and existing pressure from anthropogenic uses. In addition to surface water, groundwater bodies will be included, using available data on aquifer status, recharge rates, and existing uses. Water balances will be calculated for each sub-basin, and spatial overlays of ecological flow requirements and current permit data will be used to identify critical zones.

The methodology will ensure sectoral disaggregation, allowing the system to account for differences in water needs, seasonal dynamics, and efficiency levels across sectors such as human consumption, irrigation, hydropower, municipal supply, and aquaculture. For irrigation, specific calculations will be introduced based on crop water requirements, irrigation methods, and evapotranspiration data. For energy and industrial sectors, water use will be evaluated based on cooling processes, production outputs, and treatment reuse. Correction factors will allow the thresholds to reflect both baseline consumption and anticipated improvements in water productivity.

Another vital component of the methodology will be the integration of environmental protection objectives. Ecological flow requirements will be calculated and introduced as baseline values for every water body. These will represent non-negotiable minimum flows that must be preserved at all times. This will ensure compliance with the EU Water Framework Directive and Moldova's commitment to ecological health. The total volume of water available for abstraction will be derived only after subtracting ecological flow volumes, making this methodology both legally robust and environmentally grounded.

Scenario-based modeling will further enhance the methodology's resilience and planning value. Scenarios will be developed to reflect varying socio-economic growth paths, climate variability, and potential stress events. Each scenario will feed into a dynamic assessment framework that allows for threshold revision based on actual or anticipated changes. The approach will include climate-resilient elements such as hydrological modeling under drought conditions, sensitivity analysis of water bodies to abstraction, and strategic adjustment of thresholds during critical periods.

The framework will include an institutional-operational component to guide integration of thresholds into permitting procedures. It will outline how thresholds are to be applied by Apele Moldovei and the Environmental Agency in evaluating applications, how to assess cumulative impacts, and how to handle overlapping or competing applications. A rule-based decision matrix will be developed to support transparent and equitable allocation aligned with the priority order set by the Water Law.

The methodology development shall include a review of the best international practices and relevant experiences in setting quantitative water use limits and environmental flow thresholds, including examples from EU Member States and neighboring countries. The contractor shall identify and adapt methodologies and approaches that are scientifically robust, operationally feasible, and relevant to Moldova's hydrological and institutional context. Lessons learned from comparable regulatory systems shall be documented and reflected in the final methodological design.

The development of the methodological framework shall be undertaken in a participatory and consultative manner, ensuring structured engagement with relevant institutional and non-institutional stakeholders. The contractor shall organize targeted consultation meetings and technical discussions to integrate sector-specific perspectives, local knowledge, and practical considerations into the threshold-setting methodology.

Finally, the methodology will be documented in a user manual that includes step-by-step calculation procedures, hydrological models, application examples, normative references, and stakeholder feedback. The document will be validated through institutional consultations and a piloting phase, with revisions incorporated before final approval for official use.

Sub-task 1.1: Legal and Institutional Review

The contractor will review national legislation, including the Water Law and relevant regulations, to identify legal provisions and institutional roles related to threshold setting and water use authorization.

Sub-task 1.2: Methodological Design

The contractor will define the methodology's conceptual structure, including sectoral categorization, seasonal variation parameters, ecological flow integration, and decision criteria under different hydrological scenarios. The methodology should incorporate principles of adaptive management, climate resilience, and cumulative impact assessment.

Sub-task 1.3: Review of International Practices

The contractor shall conduct a desk review of the best international and EU practices for determining water use thresholds and environmental flow standards. The findings shall be integrated into the methodological structure, calculation parameters, and implementation roadmap. The review shall highlight examples relevant to countries with similar hydrological and institutional characteristics.

Sub-task 1.4: Validation with Stakeholders

The contractor will ensure that the validation process for the draft methodological framework is carried out through a participatory and consultative approach, engaging relevant institutional and non-institutional stakeholders in a structured manner. Targeted consultation meetings and technical discussions will be organized, including with sectoral authorities and user associations, to capture sector-specific perspectives, integrate local knowledge, and reflect practical considerations into the final threshold-setting methodology.

Task 2: Development of a Roadmap for Special Water Use Threshold Methodology Implementation with Cost Estimates

This task entails elaboration of a structured roadmap for the phased implementation of the special water use threshold-setting methodology across Moldova's water management system. The task will deliver a comprehensive plan that details the steps needed to operationalize the methodology in practice. The roadmap will clarify institutional responsibilities, identify required legal and procedural adjustments, outline the mechanisms for mainstreaming threshold-based decision-making into routine water authorization and basin management processes, and provide with the progressive operationalization of the methodological framework through a set of coordinated actions, including institutional

alignment, data-sharing arrangements, staff training, and the development of digital solutions to support implementation.

A critical enabler of the methodology's effectiveness will be a robust inter-institutional data sharing mechanism. Since hydrological, climatic, and geological data are housed within different institutions, such as the State Hydro-Meteorological Service for precipitation and flow data, the Agency for Geology and Mineral Resources for aquifer and groundwater status, and Apele Moldovei for water balances and permits, it is essential to establish functional agreements or protocols for timely and standardized data exchange. The contractor will identify all relevant datasets, assess their availability and format, and recommend institutional arrangements or digital linkages to ensure continuous access. This data integration will not only underpin the accuracy and legitimacy of the methodology but will also facilitate its integration into Moldova's broader water information systems.

The roadmap will also present a detailed and structured cost estimation for the implementation of the methodology, ensuring that financial planning is both realistic and adaptable to Moldova's institutional context. This estimation will cover a wide range of expenditure categories, including institutional capacity building measures to strengthen the role of key agencies, systematic staff training programs to ensure technical uptake, and upgrades to data infrastructure to improve monitoring, storage, and interoperability of hydrological and ecological information. A special focus will be placed on the digital integration of the methodology into permitting processes, which will require investments in software development, system maintenance, and long-term technical support to guarantee sustainability.

Sub-task 2.1: Institutional and Legal Alignment

Based on the approved methodology, the contractor will define institutional roles and legal adjustments needed to integrate threshold-setting into permitting and basin management.

Sub-task 2.2: Data Integration and Sharing

The contractor will map the required datasets and establish inter-agency mechanisms for data exchange and integration with national systems.

Sub-task 2.3: Phased Roadmap Development

The contractor will design a stepwise plan (short-, medium-, long-term) for piloting, scaling, and full integration of the methodology.

Sub-task 2.4: Cost Estimation

The contractor will prepare phased cost estimates of the implementation roadmap.

5. DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAME

The expected deliverables and schedules are provided in the table below as following:

No.	Deliverable	Description	Indicative Deadline
1	Methodology for setting special Water Use Thresholds	Methodology for setting special water use thresholds, including technical annexes, step-by-step guidance, scenario models, stakeholder-validated criteria	14 weeks upon contracts signing
2	Roadmap for special Water Use Threshold Methodology Implementation with Cost Estimates	A phased plan outlining institutional roles, legal adjustments, digital integration, training needs, and cost estimates for implementing the special water use threshold methodology	18 weeks upon contracts signing

The accomplishment of each task shall be fully described and evidenced in the corresponding reports and deliverables. All deliverables shall be submitted in Romanian, in electronic format, accompanied by an executive summary in English outlining the main achievements during the reporting period.

6. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The contractor / lead entity of the consortium shall ensure timely delivery of deliverables. In case of an international lead entity, close coordination with Moldovan experts or partner institutions shall be maintained throughout the assignment to ensure methodological consistency, data accuracy, and compliance with the national institutional framework. The contractor will report to the UNDP Dniester 2 Project Manager and will work in close collaboration with the project staff, as well as with national partners and end-beneficiaries of the final output under this assignment. All deliverables under this assignment shall be subject to review and approval by the UNDP Project Manager in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment.

Where translation services are required for the implementation of the assignment tasks, such services shall be duly included in the proposal and borne by the contractor.

7. DURATION OF THE WORK

Tentative duration of the assignment will be 7 months (February – August 2026). The assignment is expected to require approximately 110–115 person-days of effort distributed across a multidisciplinary team, including the Team Leader and sectoral specialists. The distribution of workload shall ensure that the Methodology and Implementation Roadmap are completed within the seven-month timeframe.

8. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE BIDDER/S

Given the specialized nature of the assignment, bidders may be national, international entities, or consortia.

This requirement ensures institutional alignment, access to national datasets, and consistency with Moldova's legal and regulatory frameworks. The participation of international firms is encouraged particularly in areas such as hydrological modeling, climate scenario analysis, and methodological standardization.

In the case of consortia, roles and responsibilities must be clearly defined, and combined expertise should ensure both international best practice and national applicability. The Lead Entity may be either national or international, provided that the consortium includes Moldovan experts or entities with relevant institutional experience.

The Bidder may propose individual experts to serve in multiple roles within the assignment; however, no expert may be assigned to more than two roles. The Bidder must demonstrate that each proposed expert fully meets the minimum qualifications and required experience for every position they are assigned to, while ensuring that the workload remains manageable and that the quality and timeliness of deliverables are not compromised. In addition to the general qualification requirements described above, each position shall have specific tasks to ensure both technical delivery and effective stakeholder engagement. The task table below is indicative/tentative, as the RFP foresees that bidders will further elaborate and optimize their proposed tasks and methodologies to the best of their knowledge and abilities.

Position	Specific Tasks
1. Team Leader / Senior Water Resources Management Expert	Coordinate the planning and implementation of all activities; ensure the quality of deliverables; lead the participatory process for developing and validating the methodology; organize and facilitate national and regional consultations with ministries, agencies, water user associations, and civil society; ensures that stakeholder feedback is systematically integrated into the final deliverables.
2. Hydrologist / Climate and Environmental Flow Specialist	Integrate the water balance approach into the methodology, using available surface and groundwater data, hydrological records, and environmental flow considerations based on existing and projected climate scenarios, to assess water availability and flow regimes

	<p>across different basin; Apply climate scenarios, drought risk, and adaptation considerations to ensure that the methodology incorporates climate-resilient elements and reflects both current hydrological variability and long-term changes in water resources; Provide technical input to the implementation roadmap, including recommendations on hydrological data integration, climate-adjusted thresholds, environmental flow safeguards, and adaptive management measures; Support capacity-building and training activities by delivering modules and technical guidance on hydrological modeling, environmental flow assessment, and integration of climate and water balance analysis into decision-making processes; Participate actively in consultations with institutional partners (Apele Moldovei, Environmental Agency, Hydro-Meteorological Service, and others), environmental organizations, scientific institutions, and NGOs to ensure that hydrological, climate, and ecological flow considerations are well-reflected in the final methodology and roadmap; Present and communicate the implications of climate change and environmental flow dynamics during stakeholder consultations.</p>
3. Groundwater Specialist	<p>Integrate groundwater considerations into the methodology, ensuring that aquifer characteristics, recharge rates, abstraction pressures, and groundwater–surface water interactions are incorporated into the overall assessment of water availability and use thresholds; Conduct or support groundwater balance analyses, applying available national hydrogeological data and regional models to estimate sustainable abstraction levels and identify critical groundwater bodies; Provide technical input to the implementation roadmap, particularly on monitoring frameworks, data collection protocols, and institutional arrangements related to groundwater management; Contribute to the development of groundwater-specific indicators and thresholds, aligning them with the EU Water Framework Directive requirements for quantitative and chemical status; Participate in consultations with the Agency for Geology and Mineral Resources, Apele Moldovei, the Environmental Agency, scientific institutions, and other stakeholders to ensure that groundwater perspectives are fully represented in the methodology and roadmap.</p>
4. Agricultural Water Management Specialist	<p>Apply irrigation considerations into methodology; facilitate consultations with the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Agency for Land Improvement, and Water Users' Associations for Irrigation; provide input to roadmap actions.</p>
5. Urban and Public Health Water Use Specialist	<p>Apply public water supply and drinking water considerations within the development of the methodology; Provide specialized input to the implementation roadmap, ensuring that urban water use and human health aspects are appropriately reflected; Participate in consultations with local public authorities, water utilities, public health institutions, and other relevant stakeholders.</p>
6. Industrial and Energy Sector Water Use Specialist	<p>Apply industrial and energy sectors considerations into methodology; participate in consultations with economic operators,</p>

	relevant authorities and other stakeholders; provide input to the roadmap actions.
7. Aquaculture and Fisheries Water Use Specialist	Apply aquaculture and fisheries considerations into methodology provide input to the roadmap actions; provide support in consultations with specialized institutions and other stakeholders.
8. Data and Digital Integration Specialist	Support the Implementation Roadmap by providing technical input on digital integration of the methodology into water management systems (e.g., Water Cadastre, Authorization system); assess data infrastructure needs, interoperability, and workflows, and prepare cost estimates for digital components and system upgrade; consult with institutions to align recommendations with existing IT systems and national e-governance priorities.

SECTION 6: CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT AND CONTRACT FORMS

6.1 The types of Contract to be signed and the **applicable UNDP Contract General Terms and Conditions**, as specified in Data Sheet, can be accessed at <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html>

6.2 Special Conditions of Contract

The following Special Conditions of Contract (SCC) shall supplement and/or amend the General Conditions of Contract. Whenever there is a conflict, the provisions herein shall prevail over those in the GCC:

N/A

6.3 Contract Form

In the event of an award, the following sample Contract will be used: Contract for Goods and/or Services to UNDP. The conditions are available at: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/procurement/business/how-we-buy.html>

SECTION 7: PROPOSAL FORMS

- **Form A: Proposal Confirmation**
- **Form B: Checklist**
- **Form C: Technical Proposal Submission**
- **Form D: Proposer Information**
- **Form E: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information**
- **Form F: Eligibility and Qualification**
- **Form G: Format for Technical Proposal**
- **Form H: Format for CV of Proposed Key Personnel**
- **Form I: Statement of Exclusivity and Availability**
- **Form J: Financial Proposal Submission** *[Form J is part of the Financial Proposal and shall be submitted directly in the system only in the “Commercial section” of the requirements. Please, ensure that no other documents are disclosing your financial proposal apart from Forms J and K. Non-compliance with this instruction may result in rejection of the proposal received.]*
- **Form K: Format for Financial Proposal** *[Forms K is part of the Financial Proposal and shall be submitted directly in the system only in the “Commercial section” of the requirements. Please, ensure that no other documents are disclosing your financial proposal apart from Forms J and K. Non-compliance with this instruction may result in rejection of the proposal received.]*

FORM A: PROPOSAL CONFIRMATION

Please acknowledge receipt of this RFP by completing this form and returning it by email to the address, and by the date specified, in the Letter of Invitation.

To: Insert name of contact person

Email: Insert contact person's email - do not enter secure proposal email address

From: Insert name of proposer

Subject **RFP25/03192**

Check the appropriate box	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	YES , we intend to submit a proposal.
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO , we are unable to submit a competitive proposal for the requested services at the moment

If you selected NO above, please state the reason(s) below:

Check applicable	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	The requested services are not within our range of supply
<input type="checkbox"/>	We are unable to submit a competitive proposal for the requested services at the moment
<input type="checkbox"/>	The requested services are not available at the moment
<input type="checkbox"/>	We cannot meet the requested terms of reference
<input type="checkbox"/>	The information provided for proposal purposes is insufficient
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your RFP is too complicated
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insufficient time is allowed to prepare a proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	We cannot meet the delivery requirements
<input type="checkbox"/>	We cannot adhere to your terms and conditions e.g. payment terms, request for performance security, etc. Please provide details below.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainability criteria/requirements are too stringent (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	We do not export
<input type="checkbox"/>	We do not sell to the UN
<input type="checkbox"/>	Your requirement is too small
<input type="checkbox"/>	Our capacity is currently full
<input type="checkbox"/>	We are closed during the holiday season
<input type="checkbox"/>	We had to give priority to other clients' requests
<input type="checkbox"/>	The person handling proposals is away from the office
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please provide reasons below):
Further information: Click or tap here to enter text.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	We would like to receive future RFPs for this type of services
<input type="checkbox"/>	We don't want to receive RFPs for this type of services

Questions to the Supplier concerning the reasons for no proposal should be addressed to Click or tap here to enter text.
phone Click or tap here to enter number., email Click or tap here to enter text..

FORM B: CHECKLIST

This form serves as a checklist for preparation of your Proposal. Please complete the returnable Proposal Forms in accordance with the instructions and return them as part of your Proposal submission: No alteration to the format of forms shall be permitted and no substitution shall be accepted.

Before submitting your Proposal, please ensure compliance with the instructions in Section 2: Instructions to Proposers and Section 3: Data Sheet.

Technical Proposal:

Have you duly completed all the Returnable Proposal Forms?	
▪ Form C: Technical Proposal Submission	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form D: Proposer information	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form E: Joint Venture/Consortium/Association Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form F: Eligibility and Qualification	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form G: Technical Proposal	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form H: CVs of proposed key personnel	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form I: Statements of exclusivity and availability for key personnel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you provided the required documents to establish compliance with the evaluation criteria in Section 4?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you provided the required documents in support of Form D: Proposer Information?	<input type="checkbox"/>

Financial Proposal:

▪ Form J: Financial Proposal Submission	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Form K: Financial Proposal	<input type="checkbox"/>

Forms J and K, representing the Financial Proposal shall be submitted directly in the system only in the “Commercial section” of the requirements. Please, ensure that no other documents are disclosing your financial proposal apart from Forms J and K. Non-compliance with this instruction may result in rejection of the proposal received.

FORM C: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

We, the undersigned, offer to supply the services required for Click or tap here to enter text.in accordance with your Request for Proposals No. Click or tap here to enter text.. We hereby submit our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal, and our Financial Proposal uploaded separately under the commercial section in the system as instructed.

Proposer Declaration: on behalf of our firm, its affiliates, subsidiaries and employees, including any JV / Consortium / Association members or subcontractors or suppliers for any part of the contract.

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requirements and Terms and Conditions: I/We have read and fully understand the RFP, including the RFP Information and Data Sheet, Terms of Reference, the General Conditions of Contract and any Special Conditions of Contract. I/we confirm that the proposer agrees to be bound by them.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We confirm that the proposer has the necessary capacity, capability and necessary licenses to fully meet or exceed the requirements and will be available to deliver throughout the relevant contract period.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ethics: In submitting this proposal I/we warrant that the proposer: has not entered into any improper, illegal, collusive or anti-competitive arrangements with any competitor; has not directly or indirectly approached any representative of the buyer (other than the point of contact) to lobby or solicit information in relation to the RFP; has not attempted to influence, or provide any form of personal inducement, reward or benefit to any representative of the buyer.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We confirm to undertake not to engage in proscribed practices, or any other unethical practice, with the UN or any other party, and to conduct business in a manner that averts any financial, operational, reputational or other undue risk to the UN and we have read the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct : https://www.un.org/Depts/ptd/about-us/un-supplier-code-conduct and acknowledge that it provides the minimum standards expected of suppliers to the UN.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conflict of interest: I/We warrant that the proposer has no actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest in submitting this proposal or entering into a contract to deliver the requirements. Where a conflict of interest arises during the RFP process the proposer will report it immediately to the Procuring Organisation's Point of Contact.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prohibitions and Sanctions: I/We hereby declare that our firm, ultimate beneficial owners, affiliates or subsidiaries or employees, including any JV/Consortium members or subcontractors or suppliers for any part of the contract is not under procurement prohibition by the United Nations, including but not limited to prohibitions derived from the Compendium of United Nations Security Council Sanctions Lists and have not been suspended, debarred, sanctioned or otherwise identified as ineligible by any UN Organization or the World Bank Group or any other international Organization.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We do not employ, or anticipate employing, any person(s) who is, or has been a UN staff member within the last year, if said UN staff member has or had prior professional dealings with our firm in his/her capacity as UN staff member within the last three years of service with the UN (in accordance with UN post-employment restrictions published in ST/SGB/2006/15);
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bankruptcy: I/We have not declared bankruptcy, are not involved in bankruptcy or receivership proceedings, and there is no judgment or pending legal action against us that could impair our operations in the foreseeable future.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposal Validity Period: I/We confirm that this Proposal, including the price, remains open for acceptance for the proposal validity period.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We understand and recognize that you are not bound to accept any proposal you receive.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	By signing this declaration, the signatory below represents, warrants and agrees that he/she has been authorised by the Organisation/s to make this declaration on its/their behalf.



Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

[Stamp with official stamp of the Proposer]

FORM D: PROPOSER INFORMATION

RFP reference	RFP25/03192
Legal name of Proposer	Click or tap here to enter text.
Legal Address, City, Country	Click or tap here to enter text.
Website	Click or tap here to enter text.
Year of registration	Click or tap here to enter text.
Proposer's Authorized Representative information	Name and Title: Click or tap here to enter text. Telephone numbers: Click or tap here to enter text. Email: Click or tap here to enter text.
Legal structure	Choose an item.
No. of full-time employees	Click or tap here to enter number.
No. of staff involved in similar contracts	Click or tap here to enter number.
Are you a UNGM registered vendor?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, insert UNGM Vendor Number
Years of supplying to UN organisations	Click or tap here to enter text.
Are you a Click or tap here to enter text.vendor?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, insert Vendor Number
Countries of operation	Click or tap here to enter text.
Subsidiaries in the region (please indicate names of subsidiaries and addresses, if relevant to the proposal)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Commercial Representatives in the country: Name/Address/Phone (for international companies only)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Quality Assurance Certification (e.g. ISO 9000 or Equivalent) (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Does your Company have a corporate environmental policy or environmental management system/accreditation such as ISO 14001 or ISO 14064 or equivalent? (If yes, provide a Copy of the valid Certificate):	<p>Tick all that apply and provide supporting documentation:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Environmental Policy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ISO 14001</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ISO 14064</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
Does your organization demonstrate significant commitment to sustainability, including the following aspects that have	Attach a formal statement that outlines your organisation's commitment to sustainability, where possible providing evidence of tangible results that demonstrate progress such as:

<p>been identified in the UN Sustainable Procurement Framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental: prevention of pollution, sustainable resources; climate change and mitigation and the protection of the environment, biodiversity. • Social: human rights and labour issues, gender equality, sustainable consumption, and social health and wellbeing. • Economic: whole life cycle costing, local communities and small or medium enterprises, and supply chain sustainability. 	<p>Tick all that are attached:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Formal statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> UN Global Compact Communication on Progress</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>Does your company belong to a diverse supplier group including micro, small or medium sized enterprise, women or youth owned business or other?</p> <p><i>(If yes, please provide details and documentation)</i></p>	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>Is your company a member of the UN Global Compact?</p>	<p>Choose an item.</p> <p>If yes, please provide link to Global Compact profile:</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>Bank Information</p>	<p>Bank Name: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Bank Address: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>IBAN: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>SWIFT/BIC: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Account Currency: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Bank Account Number: Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>Contact person that Click or tap here to enter text. may contact for requests for clarifications during Proposal evaluation</p>	<p>Name and Title: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Telephone numbers: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Email: Click or tap here to enter text.</p>

FORM E: JOINT VENTURE/CONSORTIUM/ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

To be completed and returned with your Proposal if the Proposal is submitted as a Joint Venture/Consortium/Association.

No	Name of Partner and contact information (<i>address, telephone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail address</i>)	Proposed proportion of responsibilities (in %) and type of services to be performed
1	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
2	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
3	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Name of leading partner (with authority to bind the JV, Consortium, Association during the RFP process and, in the event a Contract is awarded, during contract execution)	Click or tap here to enter text.
--	----------------------------------

We have attached a copy of the below referenced document signed by every partner, which details the likely legal structure of and the confirmation of joint and severable liability of the members of the said joint venture:

☐ Letter of intent to form a joint venture **OR** ☐ JV/Consortium/Association agreement

We hereby confirm that if the contract is awarded, all parties of the Joint Venture/Consortium/Association shall be jointly and severally liable to Click or tap here to enter text for the fulfilment of the provisions of the Contract.

Name _____ of _____ partner:	Name _____ of _____ partner:
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

Name _____ of _____ partner:	Name _____ of _____ partner:
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

FORM F: ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

If JV/Consortium/Association, to be completed by each partner.

History of Non- Performing Contracts

<input type="checkbox"/> No non-performing contracts during the last 3 years			
<input type="checkbox"/> Contract(s) not performed in the last 3 years			
Year	Non- performed portion of contract	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount (current value in US\$)
		Name of Client: Address of Client: Reason(s) for non-performance:	

Litigation History (including pending litigation)

<input type="checkbox"/> No litigation history for the last 5 years			
<input type="checkbox"/> Litigation History as indicated below			
Year of dispute	Amount in dispute (state currency)	Contract Identification	Total Contract Amount (state currency)
		Name of Client: Address of Client: Matter in dispute: Party who initiated the dispute: Status of dispute: Party awarded if resolved:	

Previous Relevant Experience

Please list only previous similar assignments successfully completed in the **last 5 (five) years**.

List only those assignments for which the Proposer was legally contracted or sub-contracted by the Client as a company or was one of the Consortium/JV partners. Assignments completed by the Proposer's individual experts working privately or through other firms cannot be claimed as the relevant experience of the Proposer, or that of the Proposer's partners or sub-consultants, but can be claimed by the Experts themselves in their CVs. The Proposer should be prepared to substantiate the claimed experience by presenting copies of relevant documents and references if so requested.

Project name & Country of Assignment	Client & Reference Contact Details	Contract Value	Period of activity and status	Types of activities undertaken and role (Contractor, sub-contractor or consortium member)

Proposers may also attach their own Project Data Sheets with more details for assignments above.

☐ Attached are the Statements of Satisfactory Performance from the Top 3 (three) Clients or more.

Financial Standing

Annual Turnover for the last 3 years	Year 2024	Currency: USD	Amount
	Year 2023	Currency: USD	Amount
	Year 2022	Currency: USD	Amount
Latest Credit Rating (if any), indicate the source and date.			

Financial information (state currency)	Historic information for the last 3 years		
	2022	2023	2024
	<i>Information from Balance Sheet</i>		
Total Assets (TA)			
Total Liabilities (TL)			
Current Assets (CA)			
Current Liabilities (CL)			
	<i>Information from Income Statement</i>		
Total / Gross Revenue (TR)			
Profits Before Taxes (PBT)			
Net Profit			
Current Ratio (current assets/current liabilities)			

☐ Attached are copies of the audited financial statements (balance sheets, including all related notes, and income statements) for the years required above complying with the following condition:

- Must reflect the financial situation of the Proposer or party to a JV, and not sister or parent companies.
- Historic financial statements must be audited by a certified public accountant.
- Historic financial statements must correspond to accounting periods already completed and audited. No statements for partial periods shall be accepted.

FORM G: FORMAT FOR TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

The proposer's proposal must be organised to follow the format of this Technical Proposal Form. Where the proposer is presented with a requirement or asked to use a specific approach, the proposer must not only state its acceptance, but also describe, where appropriate, how it intends to comply. Where a descriptive response is requested, failure to provide the same will be viewed as non-responsive.

Section 1: Proposer's qualification, capacity and expertise

1.1 Brief description of the organisation, including the year and country of incorporation, and types of activities undertaken.

1.2 General organizational capability which is likely to affect implementation: management structure, financial stability and project financing capacity, project management controls, extent to which any work would be subcontracted (if so, provide details).

1.3 Relevance of specialised knowledge and experience on similar engagements done in the region/country.

1.4 Quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures.

1.5 Organization's commitment to sustainability.

Section 2: Proposed Methodology, Approach and Implementation Plan

This section should demonstrate the proposer's responsiveness to the TOR by identifying the specific components proposed, addressing the requirements, providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics proposed and demonstrating how the proposed approach and methodology meets or exceeds the requirements. All important aspects should be addressed in sufficient detail and different components of the project should be adequately weighted relative to one another.

2.1 A detailed description of the approach, conceptual framework and methodology for how the Proposer will achieve or exceed the requirements of the Terms of Reference, keeping in mind the appropriateness to local conditions and project environment. Detail how the different service elements shall be organised, controlled and delivered.

2.2 A detailed description of the Bidder's internal technical and quality assurance mechanisms and risks identified, if any.

2.3 Description of available performance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and tools; how they shall be adopted and used during the assignment.

2.4 Implementation plan including a Gantt chart or Project Schedule indicating the detailed sequence of activities that will be undertaken and their corresponding timing.

2.5 Any other comments or information regarding the project approach and methodology that will be adopted.

2.6 Description of available quality assurance procedures and risk mitigation measures, how they shall be adopted and used during the assignment.

Section 3: Management Structure and Key Personnel

3.1 Describe the overall management approach toward planning and implementing the project. Include details of key personnel including their name and nationality, the Position they will assume and their role as per the ToR. Include an

organisation chart for the management of the project describing the relationship of key positions and designations. Provide a spreadsheet to show the activities of each personnel and the time allocated for his/her involvement.

3.2 For each of the key personnel provide: the CV using the format in **Form H** and the statement of exclusivity and availability using the format in Form I. *Please provide copies of Certifications/Awards for the Key Personnel to be involved in the project.*

FORM H: FORMAT FOR CV OF PROPOSED KEY PERSONNEL

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

Position (as per ToR)			
Personnel Information	Name:		
	Nationality:	Date of birth:	
	Language Proficiency:		
Present Employment	Name of employer:	Contact: (manager or HR)	
	Address of employer:		
	Telephone:	Email:	
	Job title:	Years with present employer:	
Education / Qualifications	<i>Summarise college/university and other specialised education of personnel member, giving names of schools, dates attended, and degrees/qualifications obtained.</i>		
Professional Certifications	<i>Provide details of professional certifications relevant to the scope of services including name of institution and date of certification.</i>		
References:	<i>Provide names, addresses, phone and email contact information for two (2) references.</i>		

Summarise professional experience over the last 20 years in reverse chronological order. Indicate particular technical and managerial experience relevant to the project.

From	To	Company / Project / Position / Relevant technical and management experience

--	--	--

I, the undersigned, certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV is accurate.

Signature of Personnel

Date (Day/Month/Year)

FORM I: STATEMENT OF EXCLUSIVITY AND AVAILABILITY

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I agree to participate exclusively with the Proposer Click or tap here to enter text. in the above referenced RfP25/xxxxx. I further declare that I am able and willing to work for the period(s) foreseen for the position for which my CV has been included in the event that this proposal is successful, namely:

From	To
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

I confirm that I am not engaged in other projects in a position for which my services are required during the periods where my services are required under this RFP.

By making this declaration, I understand that I am not allowed to present myself as a candidate to any other proposer submitting a proposal for this RFP. I am fully aware that if I do so, I will be excluded from this RFP, the proposals may be rejected, and I may also be subject to exclusion from other UNDP's solicitation procedures and contracts.

Furthermore, should this proposal be successful, I am fully aware that if I am not available at the expected start date of my services for reasons other than ill-health or *force majeure*, I may be subject to exclusion from other Click or tap here to enter text. solicitation procedures and contracts and that the notification of award of contract to the Proposer may be rendered null and void.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

FORM J: FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services indicated in our proposal and in accordance with your Request for Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Financial Proposal in the amount indicated herewith.

Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Data Sheet.

We understand that you are not bound to accept any Proposal that you receive.

Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of *[Insert amount in words and figures]*. Please make sure the total matches with the total indicated in the deliverables section of the system (lines) and with the total deriving from the cost breakdown (form K).

FORM K: FORMAT FOR FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

Name of Proposer:	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
RFP reference	RFP25/03192		

The proposer is required to prepare the Financial Proposal following the below format and submit it in an envelope separate from the Technical Proposal as indicated in the Instruction to Proposers. **The inclusion of any financial information in the Technical Proposal shall lead to disqualification of the Proposer.** The Financial Proposal should align with the requirements of the Terms of Reference and the proposer's Technical Proposal.

Currency of the proposal: MDL (Moldovan Leu) for local suppliers and USD (US Dollars) for international suppliers, VAT exclusive

Table 1: Summary of Overall Prices

Costs	Amount (insert currency)
Professional Fees (from Table 2)	
Other Costs (from Table 3)	
Total Amount of Financial Proposal	

Table 2: Breakdown of Price pe Type of Cost

Deliverable / Activity description	Professional Fees				Other Costs				Total Amount per deliverable (subtotal 1 + sub-total 2)
	Position	Daily fee Rate	No. of Working Days	Total Amount	Description	Q-ty	Price	Total	
Deliverable 1. Methodology for Setting	Team Leader / Senior Water Resources Management Expert (1)				Travel				

Special Water Use Thresholds	Hydrologist / Climate and Environmental Flow Specialist (1)				Subsistence allowance					
	Groundwater Specialist (1)				Local transportation costs					
	Agricultural Water Management Specialist (1)				Communication					
	Urban and Public Health Water Use Specialist (1)				Translation Costs					
	Industrial and Energy Sector Water Use Specialist (1)				Other costs (specify)					
	Aquaculture and Fisheries Water Use Specialist (1)									
	Data and Digital Integration Specialist (1)									
	Other experts (if any) <i>[Please list]</i>									
		Sub-total 1				Sub-total 2				
	Total:									
Deliverable 2. Roadmap for Special Water Use Threshold Methodology Implementation with Cost Estimates	Team Leader / Senior Water Resources Management Expert (1)				Travel					
	Hydrologist / Climate and Environmental Flow Specialist (1)				Subsistence allowance					
	Groundwater Specialist (1)				Local transportation costs					
	Agricultural Water Management Specialist (1)				Communication					
	Urban and Public Health Water Use Specialist (1)				Translation Costs					
	Industrial and Energy Sector Water Use Specialist (1)				Other costs (specify)					
	Aquaculture and Fisheries Water Use Specialist (1)									

	Data and Digital Integration Specialist (1)									
	Team Leader / Senior Water Resources Management Expert (1)									
	Hydrologist / Climate and Environmental Flow Specialist (1)									
	Other experts (if any) [Please list]									
		Sub-total 1				Sub-total 2				
	Total:									
Grand Total	Total Amount of Financial Proposal [Please specify currency]									