

Joint Integrated Local Development Programme

Terms of Reference

Job title:	National Consultant on anti-corruption in education in Moldova
Duty Station:	Chisinau Moldova
Section/Unit:	Joint Integrated Local Development Programme
Type of Contract:	Individual Contract
Starting Date:	February 2014
Duration of Assignment:	February, 2014 - July 2015

Job Content

I. Project Title

Joint Integrated Local Development Programme
Local Governance and Development Component

II. Project Description

General Background:

Within the broad agreement on the UN assistance priorities in Moldova, Government of Moldova in partnership with the UNDP and UN Women are implementing the Joint Integrated Local Development Programme (JILDP) funded by the Governments of Denmark and Sweden. The Programme purpose is to support better and equitable service provision and sustainable local development, facilitated by the improved legal and institutional framework resulting from the implementation of the National Decentralization Strategy.

The Programme is providing central and local public authorities with the support mechanism to implement the national decentralization priorities, and is following two direct objectives:

- To support the Government in improving the policy and legal framework as mandated by the National Decentralization Strategy to ensure local autonomy, availability of resources, and more effective local management for better and equitable service provision.
- To improve the capacity of Local Public Authorities (LPA) to deliver efficient, equitable and accessible local public services, to facilitate sustainable development and foster social inclusion.

Both JILDP areas (central and local) emphasize the national ownership and strengthening capacities at the local level to speed up economic recovery, reduce poverty and inequality, and ultimately supporting the achievement of MDGs. The Programme interventions are applying a human rights-based approach, gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment, in line with the national development targets, while responding to the challenges of EU integration driven reform.

The interventions at the local level will aim at developing models of operational local governments – 'champions of change' – by providing support to implement changes in the operation and structure of local governments in line with the changes brought by the Governmental strategy. JILDP will assist LPAs in improving their capacity and operations, will support target communities and their local authorities to provide quality public services to achieve sustainable economic and social development, in the main areas affected by the National Decentralization Strategy.

III. Specific background

For many years corruption has been seen as one of the major cross-cutting development constraints. Various international rankings testify the high levels of corruption perceptions in Moldova. For instance, according to the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index, with a score of 36 in 2012 the Republic of Moldova is perceived as a significantly corrupted country (ranked 94 out of 174) despite some progress registered in the last period of time. As acknowledged in the National Anticorruption Strategy, along with health, education is one of the social areas most affected by corruption. *The increase of formal parental contributions and informal payments* (total sum of informal payments in the educational system is around 22ml USD, representing around 16% of the budget allocated for education in 2013), as well as other corrupt practices (like bribing and plagiarism) has significantly affected the *quality of education while entrenching the existing inequalities* in the education system.

The proposed intervention will tackle the issues of corruption in the education system by crowd-sourcing youth perspectives on the issue that could be prototyped and potentially scaled up at the national level in Moldova. This specific anticorruption initiative is implemented with the financial support of the UNDP's Global Thematic Programme on Anti-Corruption for Development Effectiveness (PACDE)

The envisioned activities will complement and bring added-value to the broader JILDP community mobilization for empowerment effort in 20 rural communities of Moldova. The approach envisages a 2-3 years long cycle of progressive steps starting from identification of community vulnerable groups, among which is also youth, through forming and consolidation the local self-help groups around the identified needs and priorities, and finalizing with the full capacitating of the groups to plan, mobilize

resources, and actually implement projects coming to address their priority needs and concerns. The proposed actions will also build on the current reform efforts aimed at modernizing the country's education system as laid out in the recent strategies by the Ministry of Education of Moldova.

III. Scope of Services, Expected Outputs and Target Completion

The JILDP/UNDP seeks a national consultant on anti-corruption in education (hereinafter national consultant) to support the senior consultant in developing conceptually and ensure the implementation of youth-centered anticorruption activities in education using innovative tools in 20 rural communities in Moldova.

More specifically the national consultant will be responsible for the following tasks:

Task 1: Support the senior consultant in: assessing the existing international and regional practices in tackling corrupt practices in the education system (i.e. informal payments, plagiarism, nepotism, etc.), including related to empowering girls and young people from vulnerable groups; developing the methodology and detailed action plan of activities; and training a group of facilitators¹, including developing the materials and delivering the training of facilitators, on practical application of crowd sourcing tools for tackling corruption in the education system in Moldova

Expected deliverables for Task 1

- a) Input to the report on international and regional practices to tackle corrupt practices in education. Position paper on what is and what is not corrupt practice in education
- b) Training of facilitators organized and delivered.
- c) Input to the Training of facilitators' toolkit elaborated, including but not limited to:
 - Training agenda
 - Short guidebook on the crowd sourcing tools to be applied
 - Power-point presentations, handouts, other support materials

Task 2: Coordinate and provide on-going support and guidance to the trained facilitators in applying crowd sourcing and other innovative tools with young women and men, including from vulnerable groups, from 20 rural communities (at least 2 events per locality organized) to generate practical solutions to prevent and combat corruption in education; ensure continuous and rigorous monitoring of the facilitators activities in the field.

Expected Deliverables for Task 2:

- a) Monitoring report of the facilitators' activities on the crowd sourcing and consultations process
- b) Field visit reports for monitoring and ensuring the proper implementation of project activities

Task 3: Support the senior consultant in organizing (developing the competition criteria, logistical support) a competition of generated solutions and ideas.

Expected deliverables for Task 3:

- a) Input to the competition criteria and requirements elaborated in partnership with Ministry of Education and JILDP

¹ The trained facilitators will provide guidance and coaching to the local youth groups in developing project ideas and solutions, participate in the competition and implement them if awarded grants

- b) Activity report on organizing the competition

Task 4: Provide on-going support to the JILDP team over the project implementation process, including but not limited to:

- a) Provide input and guidance to all project related activities and documents throughout the project implementation period of time
- b) Facilitate consultations, data collection, including conduct interviews in the field, to support the elaboration of project related documents
- c) Develop a matrix of monitoring and evaluation indicators and ensure the continuous monitoring and evaluation of all project activities, results and impact; including the implementation of the prototyped solutions
- d) Provide support in carrying out the awareness raising campaign and widely disseminate the project results.

Expected deliverables for Task 4:

- a) Filled in matrix of indicators of project results
- b) Data collected, interviews sheets and interviews conducted
- c) Input to the Report on the results of the prototyped solutions, including recommendations for the follow-up actions, results of the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation process of the prototyped solutions

Task 5: Provide inputs to the project's activity and financial reports according to the requirements and templates provided

IV. Deliverables and Timeframe

Performing the mentioned above activities, the national consultant will be responsible for delivering of the main deliverables:

Milestones and Deliverables	General Timeframe and Estimated Workload
Expected deliverables for Task 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inception Report, including: 2. Input to the report on international and regional practices to tackle corrupt practices in education. Position paper on what is and what is not corrupt practice in education 3. Matrix of monitoring and evaluation indicators developed 4. Training of facilitators organized and delivered. 5. Input to the Training of facilitators' toolkit elaborated, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training agenda • Short guidebook on the crowd sourcing tools to be applied • Power-point presentations, handouts, other support materials 	March 2014 10 working days

Expected Deliverables for Task 2: 6. Intermediary progress report, including: 7. Monitoring report of the facilitators' activities on the crowd sourcing and consultations process 8. Field visit reports for monitoring and ensuring the proper implementation of project activities	June 2014 15 working days
Expected deliverables for Task 3: 9. Intermediary progress report, including: 10. Inputs to the competition criteria and requirements elaborated in partnership with Ministry of Education and JILD 11. Activity report on organizing the competition	October 2014 5 working days
12. Expected deliverables for Task 4: Intermediary progress report, including: 13. Filled in matrix of indicators of project results 14. Data collected, interviews sheets and interviews conducted 15. Input to the Report on the results of the prototyped solutions, including recommendations for the follow-up actions, results of the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation process of the prototyped solutions	June 2015 15 working days
Final Activity Report	July 2015
Total	45 working days

The above mentioned deliverables shall be developed and submitted in Romanian, and shall be endorsed by the JILD Senior Project Officer.

V. Duration of Work

The whole activities (preparation, implementation and reporting) shall be carried out by July 2015. The activities under the present assignment are expected to commence by the end of February, 2014 and be completed by the end of July, 2015 and be carried out in the limits of the above-mentioned general timeframe.

VI. Minimum Eligibility and Qualification Criteria

Academic Qualifications:

- MA and in Sociology, Public Administration, Public Policy, Education, Social Science, Law or other relevant fields

Experience:

- Minimum 3 years of proven of professional work experience, including analysis and research in the field of sociology, public administration, education, multi-disciplinary studies, anticorruption policies or other relevant fields

- Previous working experience in the field of national anticorruption policies and education policies
- Knowledge of the Moldovan development context, specifically with regard to the decentralization and local development reforms

Competences:

- Robust analytical and writing skills
- Demonstrated capacity of team work
- Ability to produce deliverables in due time and within cost and quality standards
- Proficiency in computer applications (Windows, MS Office, IE, Outlook)
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Sensitivity and respect for human rights and gender equality
- Fluency in Romanian, Russian and English (written & oral).

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