



TERMS OF REFERENCE

International Consultant in EU approximating the Official Control and the Products Certification Systems in the Wine Sector

Job title:	International Consultant in EU approximating the Official Control and the Products Certification Systems in the Wine Sector for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
Duty station:	Chisinau, Moldova
Reference to the project:	Building Institutional Capacity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
Contract type:	Individual Contract (IC)
Expected workload:	Up to 30 working days
Starting date:	April 2014

BACKGROUND:

Relations between the Republic of Moldova (RM) and the European Union (EU) formally started with the signing of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in 1994 that entered into force in 1998. The PCA established the basic principles of cooperation between RM and EU and was designed for a 10 year period.

The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement will soon be replaced by an Association Agreement which includes a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). The documents provide for political association and economic integration and have been initialed in Vilnius in November 2013.

For the Republic of Moldova the AA represents a reform agenda which is based on a comprehensive program of legal harmonization with EU norms.

Exceeding the classical arrangements of free trade, DCFTA provides not only a mutual opening of markets for most goods and services but requires a gradual rapprochement of norms and standards such as quality standards and rules, sanitary rules, intellectual property rights, trade facilitation, public procurement and competition, energy trade and other. Except for European Economic Area and EU candidate states, never before has the EU opened its internal market to such an extent to a third country. This reality is possible due to the commitment of the Republic of Moldova to take over the *acquis communautaire*.

In exchange to effective implementation of EU legislation Moldova will gradually become part of the EU internal market.

A deeper economic integration through DCFTA will boost the country's economic growth, will create business opportunities and promote real economic modernization and integration into the EU. The direct result of establishing free trade area with EU is that citizens will benefit from higher quality and safer goods and services while manufacturers will be supported to access international markets.

UNDP and its international partners are committed to assist Moldova, through technical and financial assistance, in promoting costly legal and institutional reforms that DCFTA entails.

The Project “Building Institutional Capacity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI)” aims at strengthening the institutional capacity of the MFAEI as lead institution in the AA negotiation process. In the same context, the Project seeks to contribute to developing EU integration capacities of key line ministries through aligning relevant policies, administrative and institutional arrangements, legislation, procedures and best practices to EU standards and requirements.

Objective

The Project will contract an International Consultant to provide assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of the Republic of Moldova (further referred as MAFI) and to the State Inspectorate for Alcoholic Products Supervision (further referred as Inspectorate) in consolidating the Official Control and Products Certification Systems in the Wine Sector, based on the EU norms and practices.

This objective should be met through the following activities and through the following deliverables:

Key activities

- Perform a regulatory needs assessment for the consolidation of the control system and quality certification of wine and wine products;
- Advise and report on the EU best practices for control system regulation and wine products certification;
- Draft relevant regulations and supporting documents on the official control in the wine sector;
- Draft appropriate schemes and procedures on certification for wine and wine products;
- Draft standard forms for the implementation of official control in wine sector;
- Draft regulations and supporting documents, including regulatory impact assessment, on fraud and penalties relevant for the wine sector;
- Widely discuss and coordinate the draft documents with key stakeholders;
- Organize a workshop and present findings and recommendations to key stakeholders.

Deliverables

- Needs assessment for the consolidation of wine and wine products’ control and quality certification systems
- Draft regulations and supporting documents on the official controls in the wine sector
- Draft schemes and procedures on certification for the wine and wine products
- Draft standard forms for the official controls
- Draft regulation and supporting documents on frauds and penalties
- Consultation meetings with stakeholders
- Workshop with beneficiaries including presentation of final mission report.

Result

MAFI capable of defining and implementing EU compliant Official Control and Products Certification Systems in the Wine Sector.

Resources

30 working days (a minimum 20 of which in Moldova) within maximum two missions.

Mission Schedule:

The mission shall be undertaken, tentatively, in the period April - May 2014 with detailed timetable to be agreed with the Beneficiaries.

The 30 working days allocated for this task should be used approximately as follows:

Deliverable/milestone	Indicative timeframe
Needs assessment for the consolidation of wine and wine products' control and quality certification systems	3 days
Draft regulations and supporting documents on the official controls in the wine sector	10 days
Draft schemes and procedures on certification for the wine and wine products	5 days
Draft standard forms for the official controls	3 days
Draft regulation and supporting documents on frauds and penalties	5 days
Consultation meetings with stakeholders	2 day
Workshop with beneficiaries	1 day
Reporting	1 day
Total	30

All deliverables should be agreed with the UNDP and MAFI, and be provided in English or Romanian, in hard and electronic copy.

Institutional arrangements:

The International Consultant will work in close collaboration with the UNDP and MAFI – for substantive aspects of the assignment, and under the direct supervision of the Project Manager – for administrative aspects.

The International Consultant will be located in the premises of the MAFI and will work closely with the Ministry's staff. MAFI will provide the Consultant working space, access to Internet, printer and telephone line.

Qualifications Required:Academic Qualification

- Master's degree in agriculture, winemaking, wine technology, EU law, or other relevant field. Bachelor and at least 7 years of experience relevant to the assignment would also be acceptable;

Experience

- Minimum 5 years' work experience in the area of grape-growing and wine making.
- Specific experience in developing official control systems in the wine sector and certification of product's quality in line with EU law and practice.
- Experience in approximation EU legislation in the wine sector.

- Knowledge of and experience in assisting government institutions within projects funded by international organizations in the region of Central and Eastern Europe (experience in newer EU member states or candidate countries would be an asset).

Competencies

- Strong analytical and drafting skills.
- Ability to analyse, plan, communicate effectively with stakeholders and present ideas clearly and effectively.
- Demonstrated interpersonal and diplomatic skills.
- Ability to enter new environments, adapt quickly and produce immediate results.
- Computer literacy - competent user of Microsoft Office programs.

Language requirements

- Fluency in written and spoken English, knowledge of Romanian or Russian would be an asset.

Documents to be included when submitting the proposals:

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

1. Proposal: explaining why they are the most suitable for the work;
2. Financial proposal specifying a total lump sum amount;
3. Personal CV including past experience in similar projects and **at least 3 references.**