



INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Date: **26 December 2014**

Country: Republic of Moldova

Description of the assignment: National Consultant for Project Formulation in the area of local development and migration

Period of assignment/services: January 2015 - March 2015 (18 working days)

Proposal should be submitted online by pressing the "Apply Online", no later than January 5, 2015.

Requests for **clarification only** must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail: valeria.ieseanu@undp.org. UNDP will respond by standard electronic mail and will send written copies of the response, including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry, to all applicants.

1. BACKGROUND

The Republic of Moldova is one of the few countries in the world with over 15% of its population living abroad as short or long term migrants. It is estimated that between 25-40% of the economically active population is involved in a migration experience. One of the reasons why this level of emigration has not resulted in a calamitous crisis is the fact that a significant part of the productive output of the migrants finds its way back to Moldova – most visibly in the form of remittances. It is estimated that, besides their remittance transfers, the long-term migrant households accumulate annually a total of about 1.6 billion Euros as savings which are kept abroad. 25% Moldovan migrants declare that they are ready to invest, preferably together with local public authorities, in their home communities in projects designed to improve the roads, irrigation, access to water, sanitation systems and gas, while very few would get involved in entrepreneurial activities.

Migrants contribute to development at micro level through the support of their individual families. This by itself is very important to national development. There might not be definitive independent studies that quantify the role of migrants in poverty reduction in Moldova. However, the anecdotal evidence indicates that, as in other countries, migrants are able to pull their families out of poverty in less than a decade. Furthermore, the migrant resources that directly support families generate economic multiplier effects in localised communities and across the country, thus contributing to positive macroeconomic outcomes. This impactful contribution derives almost entirely from the migrants' motivation and active participation in ending poverty and generating development at the family level.

Currently, there are no effective linkages between diaspora input and investment to priority regional and local development schemes or programmes. This gap in government reforms and priorities is especially important as migration is directly linked to local development. Underdevelopment itself is a cause of migration; and migration of working age population

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aggravates underdevelopment. Migrants are more likely to invest in the development of their localities because beyond the self-interest and self-identification with a locality, the migrants are affiliated and belong to those communities. In sum, reform and facilitation in this area provides significant development opportunities. Furthermore, some of the local development priorities will necessarily involve the increase of the welfare of those most affected by migration such as elderly and disabled persons, as well as children whose parents have migrated. In this regard, measures to ensure that the most in need groups are targeted should be guaranteed.

On the other hand, local governments in Moldova play a significant role in the provision of public services and bear primary responsibility for water supply, sanitation, local roads construction, and maintenance and heating. Currently, the local governments are left fragmented, and providing services that are inadequate and of poor quality. The improvement of the much-needed public service in rural areas will depend on the ability of the government to fast track local governance reform as well as on setting up a meaningful cooperation platform with community members, diaspora, businesses, etc.

Specific context of the assignment

Taking into account the scale of the migration phenomenon in Moldova and its potential impact on the country's transition capacity, following and complementing other Swiss initiatives in Moldova, and responding to the request of the Government of Moldova, Swiss Cooperation Office decided to deepen its engagement in this field by establishing a thematic Migration and Development non-core Program within the 2014-2017 Cooperation Strategy for Moldova.

In a rapidly changing global environment, the work of UNDP Moldova and the broader UN family aligns with the new national development vision, Moldova 2020, and sector strategies. UNDP Moldova's country programme for 2013–2017 has three major focus areas: Inclusive development, Democratic governance and Environment and energy. UNDP Moldova has an extensive activity at the local level, having covered so far more than 300 local communities with its interventions.

Thus, SDC will partner with UNDP Moldova to support migrants play active role in the development of their home communities and, through the financial and non-financial contributions, together with local public authorities and specialized NGOs, ensure that people in communities have improved access to essential services, especially those related to health, water and proper sanitation. The joint intervention will be embedded in the on-going Joint Integrated Local Development.

The following options are taken into account: a) strengthening the ties with the Moldovan Diaspora /migrants and promoting mechanisms for their human, social and financial engagement into the development of their home communities; and b) providing support to build the capacity of Moldovan national and local authorities to manage migration processes. Synergies with Health & Water domains of SDC Cooperation Strategy for Moldova will be fostered, especially at the local level. These are expected to contribute to the establishment of sustainable capacities and systematic collaboration among national and local authorities, civil society, and migrants' associations. SDC and UNDP joint intervention will, moreover, address in its design and implementation the transversal themes of gender equity, Human Rights based Approach and good governance.

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

The overall objective of the assignment is to design a programmatic intervention related to migration and local development, thus tackling the issue of minimizing the negative consequences of migration and maximizing its development potential at the local level. The main areas of intervention would be: a) Community support schemes in rural areas and possible synergies with SDC interventions in Health and Water & Sanitation; b) Temporary, circular and

virtual return of skilled professionals; c) Migrants` Home Town Associations or Others Alike or others as proposed by the Consultant.

For detailed information, please refer to the Terms of Reference.

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Academic Qualification:

- Advanced university degree in public administration, economics, local and regional development, or related fields

Experience:

- 5 years professional experience in local and regional development, economics, migration or related fields
- Experience in designing projects proposals, conducting evaluations and needs assessments
- Proven expertise in programme development
- Programme management and coordination skills
- Familiarity with the UN system is an asset

Competencies:

- Excellent interpersonal skills, team oriented work style
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Self-motivated, ability to work with minimum supervision
- Excellent ability to quickly grasp and synthesize inputs
- Proficiency in using computer applications (word processing, spreadsheet, presentations, project planning, e-mail, graphics, internet)

Language requirements:

- Fluency in Romanian and English

4. 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 including information on previous similar assignments;
2. Financial proposal;
3. Personal CV or P11 including past experience in similar projects and at least 3 references.

5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

The financial proposal shall specify a total lump sum amount, and payment terms around specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) deliverables (i.e. whether payments fall in installments or upon completion of the entire contract). Payments are based upon output, i.e. upon delivery of the services specified in the TOR. In order to assist the requesting unit in the comparison of financial proposals, the financial proposal will include a breakdown of this lump sum amount (including travel, per diems, and number of anticipated working days).

Travel

All envisaged travel costs must be included in the financial proposal. This includes all travel to join duty station/repatriation travel. In general, UNDP does not accept travel costs exceeding those of

an economy class ticket. Should the IC wish to travel on a higher class he/she should do so using their own resources.

In the case of unforeseeable travel, payment of travel costs including tickets, lodging and terminal expenses should be agreed upon, between UNDP Moldova and the Consultant, prior to travel and will be reimbursed.

6. EVALUATION

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

- Advanced university degree in public administration, economics, local and regional development, or related fields
- 5 years professional experience in local and regional development, economics, migration or related fields
- Experience in designing projects proposals, conducting evaluations and needs assessments

The short-listed individual consultants will be further evaluated based on the following methodology:

Cumulative analysis

The award of the contract shall be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

- a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
- b) having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.

* Technical Criteria weight – 60% (300 pts);

* Financial Criteria weight – 40% (200 pts).

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 210 points would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

Criteria	Scoring	Maximum Points Obtainable
Technical		
Advanced university degree in public administration, economics, local and regional development, or related fields	(MSc-20 pts; PhD-30 pts)	30
5 years professional experience in local and regional development, economics, migration or related fields	(5 years – up to 40 pts; each additional year – 2 pts, up to a maximum of 10 additional points)	50
Experience in designing projects proposals, conducting evaluations and needs assessments	(up to 5 years - 15 pts; >5 years - 20 pts)	20
Proven expertise in programme development	(to some extent - 20 pts, strong yes - 30 pts)	30
Programme management and coordination skills	(to some extent - 20 pts, strong yes - 30 pts)	30
Familiarity with the UN system is an asset	(to some extent - 10 pts, strong yes - 20 pts)	20

Excellent interpersonal skills, team oriented work style	(max 20 pts)	20
Excellent written and oral communication skills	(max 20 pts)	20
Self-motivated, ability to work with minimum supervision	(max 20 pts)	20
Excellent ability to quickly grasp and synthesize inputs	(max 20 pts)	20
Proficiency in using computer applications (word processing, spreadsheet, presentations, project planning, e-mail, graphics, internet)	(max 15 pts)	15
Fluency in Romanian and English	(English – 20 pts, Romanian – additional max 5 pts)	25
Maximum Total Technical Scoring		300
Financial		
Evaluation of submitted financial offers will be done based on the following formula: $S = F_{min} / F * 200$ S – score received on financial evaluation; Fmin – the lowest financial offer out of all the submitted offers qualified over the technical evaluation round; F – financial offer under consideration.		200

Winning candidate

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

Important notice

The applicant who has the statute of Government Official / Public Servant, prior to appointment will be asked to submit the following documentation:

- a no-objection letter in respect of the applicant received from the government, and;
- the applicant is certified in writing by the government to be on official leave without pay for the duration of the Individual Contract.

A retired government official is not considered in this case a government official, and as such, may be contracted.