

CONSULTANT SERVICES PROCUREMENT NOTICE



Date: 25 June 2015

Country: Republic of Moldova

Description of the assignment: National Consultants to support review of current National Programme on Ensuring Gender Equality (2010-2015) and develop the new one for the period 2016-2020.

Project name:

1. Governance and national planning fully reflect accountability for gender equality commitments and priorities/UN Women
2. Increased capacity of PHC facilities to provide FP within integrated SRH services, with a focus on vulnerable populations and on the victims and perpetrators of domestic violence/UNFPA

Period of assignment/services: July - December 2015

Starting date: 20 July 2015

Financial proposal should be submitted **on-line** no later than **13 July 2015, 23:59 local time**. Requests for clarification only must be sent by standard electronic communication to the following e-mail: corneliu.eftodi@unwomen.org. Please notice that this address is for information requests only, please do not send or copy your application package to this address. UN Women/UNFPA staff will respond in writing or 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 consultants.

1. BACKGROUND

UN Women and UNFPA are partnering in providing technical support to the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MoLSPF) in reviewing of current National Programme on Ensuring Gender Equality (2010-2015) and development the new one for the period 2016-2020.

Both UN Women and UNFPA interventions are guided by the Government's priorities as formulated in the Strategy "Moldova 2020" and the United Nations – Moldova Partnership Framework (UNPF) "Towards Unity in Action" ¹.

UN Women, grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. Placing women's rights at the center of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates United Nations system efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world. It provides strong and coherent leadership in support of Member States' priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors.

UN Women is operational in Moldova since 2010 on the basis of former UNIFEM projects, which were laid and active in the country from 2007. It extended continuous support to the Government of Moldova, to key stakeholders from national and local levels, through various programmes and activities aimed at creating an enabling environment for gender equality, recognized as a prerequisite for sustainable development with a strong and active policy on gender equality. Since 2014 UN Women has established its fully operational country office in Moldova.

UN Women's country programs are guided by its Strategic Note 2014-2017 and which is fully aligned with UN-Moldova Partnership Framework for 2013-2017, National Program on Gender Equality, and other national strategies and plans. During this period, the assistance and cooperation is planned in four strategic results areas, namely: 1. Women lead and participate in decision-making at all levels, 2. Women, especially the poorest and most excluded, are economically

¹ United Nations Partnership Framework 2013-2017

http://unfpa.md/images/stories/docs/UN-Moldova_Partnership_Framework_2013-2017.pdf

empowered and benefit from development; 3. Women and girls live a life free of violence, 4. Women, Peace and Security and 5. Governance and national planning fully reflect accountability for GE commitments and priorities.

During the period 2007-2015 UN Women provided extensive support to the Government, CSO and key stakeholders in advancing GE agenda, by implementing a number of programmes and projects , and is committed to further assist in promoting GE and Women's Human Rights.

UNFPA Country Programme 2013–2017 is concentrated on health and reproductive rights, with a focus on disadvantaged groups. It also covers policies and population dynamics and addresses gender-based violence. Transversal issues include human rights and gender equality, the concerns of young people, inclusive partnerships, national ownership.

The Output 2 of the Country Programme 2013 – 2017 is proposing to *“Increase capacity of primary health-care facilities to provide family planning within integrated sexual and reproductive health services, with a focus on vulnerable populations and on the victims and perpetrators of domestic violence”*. In response to it, UNFPA is providing support to national institutions in using a multidisciplinary approach to providing integrated sexual reproductive health and family planning services for the victims and perpetrators of domestic violence².

Under these strategic interventions UN Women and UNFPA are providing technical support to the Government of Moldova to strengthen policy agenda on gender, under the framework of the National Programme on Ensuring Gender Equality. National Program on Ensuring Gender Equality (NPGE) for 2010-2015 of the Republic of Moldova was adopted by the Government Decision nr. 933 on 31.12.2009 and envisages a comprehensive and integrated approach of gender mainstreaming in sectorial policies at all levels of decision making and implementation. The implementation of the National Program for the period of 2010-2015 and its fulfilment was supported and assured by two mid-term Action Plans which were to be implemented by competent authorities for the period of 2010-2012 and 2013-2015.

Since the current NPGE is coming to its end this year, Government has planned to evaluate the NPGE implementation and the result obtained during the entire 5 years period, with a view to develop the second PNGE for the period 2016-2020. In this context, UN Women and UNFPA, as the leading Government's partners and UN Agencies in ensuring that gender equality and women's human rights are on the top agenda of both United Nations and Government are committed to support the development of the new National Programme on Gender Equality.

Therefore, UN Women and UNFPA is looking for a team of consultants/experts in various areas (political participation and leadership, social protection, employment and migration, education and health, mass-media, institutional mechanism on gender equality, etc.) to support and be part of the NPGE Task Force to review current NPGE, its action plans and relevant reports and develop the new NPGE for the years 2016-2020.

UN Women and UNFPA is planning to hire the team of consultants with the following composition:

One team leader/coordinator (who can be one of the thematic experts),

Up to 3 experts/consultants in the area of women's political participation and leadership

Up to 3 experts/consultants in the area of women in social protection

Up to 3 experts/consultants in the area of women's employment and in migration

Up to 3 experts/consultants in the area of women and education and health

Up to 3 experts/consultants in the area of women in mass media

Up to experts/consultants in the area of institutional mechanism for Gender Equality

One legal expert with knowledge of and expertise in Charter based and Treaty Bodies recommendations

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

² UNFPA Country Programme for 2013-2017, approved by UNFPA Executive Board at the ordinary session of 4 to 10 September 2012, http://unfpa.md/images/stories/docs/UN_version_CPD_for_the_Republic_of_Moldova_2013-2017_Engl.pdf

For this purpose, the selected team of consultants will work under the overall guidance of the Head of the Equal Opportunities Department of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, direct supervision of the National Programme Officer/Programme Specialist UN Women and UNFPA Programme Analyst on Population and Development and Gender, and in close coordination with other agencies and UN Entities and their consultants supporting the NPGE review process (including UNDP, OSCE and other relevant as described in the tasks section) to review the available reports in relation to the NPGE 2010-2015 implementation and develop the second NPGE for the years 2016-2020 in a participatory and transparent manner.

For detailed information, please refer to Annex 1 - Terms of Reference.

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

- University degree in human rights, gender studies, public relations, development studies, law, statistics and/or other social or economic science related to the areas relevant for the assignment;

Experience:

- Minimum 5 years of proven experience working/collaborating with the Government sectors in assisting/supporting drafting policy recommendations/ policy reports, coordinating activities;
- Minimum 3 years of proven work experience in the field of gender equality, human rights and development
- Minimum 2 years of experience in working with international organizations (successful experience in working with UN agencies is an asset)

Note: for the team leader, good communication and facilitation skills is essential

Language skills:

- Excellent verbal and written Romanian. Working knowledge of English and Russian will be considered an advantage.

Note: For the team leader, working knowledge of English is a requirement.

4. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS

Interested candidates must submit via online submission system the following documents/ information to demonstrate their qualification:

- Letter of Intent with justification of being the most suitable for the work, vision and working approach, specifically indicating experience of carrying out consultative research and in producing out analytical reports
- Duly filled Personal History Form (P11) and/or CV, including records on past experience in similar projects/assignments and specific outputs obtained;
- Financial proposal (in MDL) - specifying an all-inclusive fixed total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs as per template provided.

5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

The financial proposal shall be structured around the specific tasks and key deliverables described in the Terms of Reference. Interested individual consultants must specify a total lump sum amount for each task and deliverable, which are to be completed by the deadlines specified in the ToR. Payments shall be made based on delivery of the services specified in the ToR and in accordance with the procedures described in the financial arrangements section of the ToR. In order to assist UN Women Moldova Country Office in the comparison of financial proposals, the financial proposal will include a breakdown of the lump sum amount.

6. TRAVEL

All travel of the consultants to the districts of Moldova will be ensured by UN Women/UNFPA. All travels shall be coordinated with the UN Women Country Office or UNFPA Country Programme in advance.

7. EVALUATION

For detailed evaluation procedures please refer to Annex 1-Terms of Reference

ANNEX

ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR)

ANNEX 2 – P11 UN Women

ANNEX 3 – CONDITIONS OF SERVICE –CONSULTANT