

## Terms of references

**Job Title:** Technical national forestry consultant for the development of Forestry Code

**Project Reference:** Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into Moldova territorial planning policies and land-use practices

**Duration of Employment:** October 2016 – August 2017

**Contract type:** Individual Contract

**Expected workload:** 70 working days

### I. Background

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), acting as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), is providing assistance to the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova in implementation of the GEF Medium Sized Project (MSP) “Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Moldova’s Territorial Planning Policies and Land-Use Practices” (BD mainstreaming project).

Despite the Government’s reform efforts, the spatial/territorial planning framework is facing two types of barriers: (i) inadequate planning and enforcement framework and (ii) inadequate demonstrated experiences in spatial planning and biodiversity-compatible land management practices.

Against this background, the BD mainstreaming Project will be addressing the gaps in land planning and enforcement systems through development of relevant regulations, standards and legislation to accommodate biodiversity conservation objectives while the gap of limited coordination across sectors will be addressed by establishing a multi-stakeholder committee which will ensure a unified approach in the development, implementation and enforcement of land-use plans from the different ministries and departments. In addition, a monitoring system will be emplaced among the various regulatory agencies, assigning responsibilities based on comparative advantage, in order to evaluate acceptable limits of change in biodiversity-important areas. The gap of inadequate demonstrated experiences in spatial planning and biodiversity-compatible land management practices will be tackled through development and testing of biodiversity-compatible district spatial (land-use) plans in 2 districts of Moldova, relying on cross-sectoral working groups, GIS technologies for biodiversity mapping, identification of sites of conflict between biodiversity and human activities and others.

Overall, the objective of the project is to mainstream biodiversity conservation priorities into Moldova’s territorial planning policies and land-use practices through two components – the first will focus on modifying the land use planning and enforcement system so that it addresses biodiversity loss, and the second will demonstrate methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity on communal lands outside PAs.

The BD mainstreaming project is implemented as part of a larger biodiversity programme, which includes also UNDP/EU Clima East Project “Sustainable management of pastures and community forests in Moldova’s first National Park Orhei to demonstrate climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits and dividends for local communities”.

### II. Scope of work and responsibilities

The national forestry consultant in close collaboration with Lead national consultant will support Moldsilva Forest Agency in development of the new redaction of Forestry Code.

The Consultant will report directly to the project manager of the BD mainstreaming project and will work with all other involved national consultants.

### **Expected tasks**

A. Based on inputs from the working group members, the consultant will develop the following chapters of the new redaction of Forestry Code, which should be transmitted to the Lead national consultant for integration into a consolidated document:

- Sustainable forest management practices
  - a) Sustainable forest management (SFM) practices principles
  - b) Implementation of SFM practices in Moldova
- Management of state forestry and hunting fund
  - a) Management of state forestry and hunting fund objectives
  - b) Management of the state forestry fund
  - c) Role of the Central forestry authority
  - d) Management on other forestry lands
  - e) Management of the forest vegetation outside forestry fund
  - f) Forest functional groups and sub-groups and its classification
  - g) Establishment of the forest exploitability age and forest production cycle
  - h) The way of property rights transfer on the forests (incl. for out of forestry purposes)
  - i) Constructions in the forestry fund for management purposes.
  - j) Constructions in the forestry fund that can affect sustainable forest management. Planning and construction norms.
  - k) Obligations of the forestry authority related to use of forestry regime.
  - l) Citizens access in state forestry fund.
- Management of the community forests
  - a) Community forests definition
  - b) Management of community forests
  - c) Guarding and protection of the community forests
  - d) Afforestation and regeneration of the community forests
  - e) Community forests management planning, evidence and reporting.
- Management of the private forests
  - a) Private forests definition
  - b) Afforestation of the private lands
  - c) Guarding and protection of the private forests
  - d) Rights and obligations of the private forests owners
- Forestry certification
  - a) Principles of forest certification

- b) Norms and requirements for forest certification
  - c) Forest certification body
  - d) Implementation of forest certification practices
- Sustainable use of forestry and non-forestry products
  - a) Types of forestry products
  - b) Norms for forestry products use
  - c) Timber exploitation
  - d) Fire-wood exploitation
  - e) Wood Tracking system norms and implementation
  - f) Types of non-forestry products and their exploitation
  - g) Pasturing in the forestry fund
  - h) Bee keeping in forestry fund
  - i) Forestry use in recreational purposes
  - j) Forestry use in hunting purposes
  - k) Forestry lands use in research purposes
  - l) Particularities of forestry practices in border areas
- Forest regeneration practices
  - a) Natural forest regeneration
  - b) Human driven forest regeneration
  - c) Periodicity of forest regeneration
  - d) Seed bank and nurseries
  - e) Forest maintenance
- Particularities of the forestry fund rent in recreational and hunting purposes
  - a) The modality of allocation of the lands for renting to private persons and companies
  - b) Rights and obligations of the renting authority
- Biodiversity conservation
  - a) Management of protected areas from forestry fund
  - b) Forest ecosystem management taking into consideration biodiversity important areas/habitats
  - c) Protected areas from forestry fund
- Afforestation of degraded lands, establishment of the ecological corridors and establishment of the forest protection belts on the lands outside forestry fund.
- Forest ecosystem services
  - a) Payment for forestry ecosystem services.
  - b) Economic stimulation of the sustainable forest management.
  - c) Conservation and development fund for forestry sector

The content of the each chapter will be discussed in detail during the working group meetings.

B. The consultant will provide support to the Forest Agency Moldsilva during the official consultation process of the Forestry code prior to Government decision through providing relevant inputs to the received feedback (avize) and completing the table of divergences.

### **III. DELIVERABLES, ESTIMATED WORKLOAD AND TIMEFRAME:**

The assignment should be carried out within a period of October 2016 – August 2017, not exceeding 70 working days.

	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Deadline and workload</b>
1	Draft chapters of the new redaction of the Forestry Code provided	November 20, 2016 40 working days
2	Final chapters of the new redaction of the Forestry Code provided based on the zonal consultation process	December 20, 2016 10 working days
3	Report on the support provided to the working group during the Forestry code official consultation process	August 31, 2017 20 working days

Deliverables can be amended or specified for the purpose of the assignment.

#### **Management Arrangements:**

Consultant will work under the overall guidance of the BD mainstreaming/Clima East Project Manager, in coordination with the Agency Moldsilva and other stakeholders. The Contractor will report to the UNDP BD mainstreaming/Clima East Project Manager.

#### **Financial arrangements:**

Payment will be disbursed in instalments upon submission and approval of the final documents as specified under 'Deliverables and Timeframe' section and certification by the Project Manager, and UNDP Portfolio Manager, that the services have been satisfactorily performed.

### **IV. QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS REQUIRED**

#### **Academic Qualification:**

- University or Advanced Degree in, forestry or other relevant fields.

#### **Experience:**

- At least five years of experience in forestry or other related fields.
- Good knowledge of the forestry norms and sustainable management practices is required.
- Experience in working with state institutions at central level, as well as with forestry enterprises.
- Experience in similar positions in a UNDP and/or other international projects are a strong advantage.

**Language requirements:**

- Fluency in oral and written Romanian and Russian. Knowledge of English will be an asset.

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.