

# United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Expression of Interest

## "2012/35/EOI – UNDP financial audits of development projects in the Middle East"



Empowered lives.  
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The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) invites interested audit firms to apply on the following:

### **Summary of proposal:**

You are kindly requested to submit an expression of interest (EOI) on financial audits of development projects that are implemented directly by UNDP offices located in 13 countries in the Middle East region (see the list of countries attached). In carrying out its development mission, UNDP provides a range of support services to the implementation of development projects. In specific circumstances such as special development situations, UNDP may take on the role of implementing partner. Projects that are implemented directly by UNDP are known as Directly Implemented (DIM) projects. As the implementing partner of a DIM project, UNDP has overall management responsibility and accountability for project implementation. UNDP is therefore, entrusted with and fully responsible and accountable for successfully managing and delivering a project's outputs. UNDP may act as implementing partner for all the activities of the project, or alternatively, designate other "responsible parties" such as other United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO) or national partners to implement part of the activities within the said project.

DIM project audits are carried out to provide assurance to UNDP senior management and donors, that resources are being used effectively and efficiently for the purposes intended and in accordance with UNDP policies and procedures. The audit of DIM projects is under the mandate of OAI that either directly conducts or contracts out the audit of DIM projects. In 2013, OAI expect to carry out the audit of nine DIM projects totaling about \$64 million in six countries of the Middle East.

You are kindly requested to express your interest by submitting information on the eligibility criteria as stated in this expression of interest no later than 30 November 2012. Audit firms that fully satisfy the eligibility criteria shall be considered for the bid solicitation.

The audit firm shall in each DIM project carry out a financial audit to express an opinion of the project financial statements that include:

- Expressing an opinion on whether the statement of financial performance and financial position presents fairly the expenses incurred by the project over a specified period and funds utilization as at the end of a specified period in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and that the expenses incurred were: (i) in conformity with the approved project budgets; (ii) for the approved purposes of the project; (iii) in compliance with the relevant regulations and rules, policies and procedures of UNDP; and (iv) supported by properly approved vouchers and other supporting documents.
- Expressing an opinion on whether the statement of assets presents fairly the balance of assets of the UNDP project as at a given date. This statement must include all assets available as at the period end and not only those purchased in a given period.
- Expressing an opinion on whether the statement of cash held by the project presents fairly the cash and bank balance of UNDP project as at a given date.

The project financial statements audit will be conducted in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISA).

### **Eligibility criteria**

List of attributes	Benchmark
Regional coverage	Presence ideally in most of the countries in the Middle East
Audit firm's history	Not less than 5 years experience in the audit industry
International experience	Proven experience with international entities and/or international NGOs
Audit experience	Proven experience on audit of financial statements audits and review of internal control and systems
Qualified staff	20 and more qualified and experienced staff, including certified auditors fluent in English and good working knowledge of Arabic.

Audit firm's annual turnover	Not less than US\$500,000 per annum
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### **Submission details**

Interested audit firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform audit of project financial statements in the public sector (brochure, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).

The EOI and accompanying documents must be sent to the email address **tenders.sk@undp.org** no later than **16:00 CET of 3 December 2012**, with subject message: **"2012/35/EOI - UNDP financial audits of development projects in the Middle East"**.

EOI received after the above deadline will not be considered.

EOI from audit firms failing to provide the requested information will be disregarded. Request for proposal and any subsequent contract will be issued in accordance with the rules and procedures of UNDP.

This EOI does not entail any commitment on the part of UNDP, either financial or otherwise. UNDP reserve the right to accept or reject any or all EOI without incurring any obligation to inform the affected applicant/s of the grounds.

Interested audit firm may address their questions in writing to [rastislav.soltes@undp.org](mailto:rastislav.soltes@undp.org) by 22 November 2012.

### **List of countries in the Middle East region.**

1	Bahrain	6	Lebanon	11	Syria
2	Egypt	7	Libya	12	United Arab Emirates
3	Iraq	8	occupied Palestinian territories	13	Bahrain
4	Jordan	9	Saudi Arabia		
5	Kuwait	10	Sudan		