



# United Nations Development Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي

IC-005 /15

**Policy Support Specialist: Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI), Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG)**

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## **Description of the assignment:**

UNDP Iraq seeks to recruit a development policy specialist to provide strategic leadership for the implementation of tasks and activities identified in the support framework.

Type of Consultancy: International Post

Duty Station: Home Base and Erbil, Iraq

Period of assignment/services: 3 months

Estimated Starting Date: 1 April 2015

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## **I. Background**

UNDP and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) have held negotiations on potential areas of cooperation to sustain significant gains that the Kurdistan Region has achieved over the last years. Areas of support and cooperation include investment promotion improving supply of basic services and quality of life, and job creation for its teeming youth and capacity building assistance for effective crisis response. Over the last decade, the Region has grown fast owing to better security and fiscal stability through the 17% of the federal budget (net of sovereign expenditures) transferred by the Federal Government to the KRG. However, the heavy reliance of Iraq on the extractive sector affects the Kurdistan Region both directly, as it has its own resources, and indirectly via the transfer arrangement from the federal budget. Over 90% of Iraq's public revenues originate from oil exports.

In its Regional Development Vision for 2020, the Kurdistan Region Government has set five major goals to raise the Region's socio-economic potential for sustainable growth through diversification and competitiveness. Specifically, the Vision 2020 development objectives of the KRG include:

- Health and social services that meet the needs of the population
- An education system and labor market opportunities that will enable the population to achieve its potential and improve its standard of living
- The necessary physical infrastructure
- The development of a diversified economy relying on the private sector
- Effective and honest government

As needs continue to grow along with a rapidly expanding population, occasioned by large influx of refugees and internally displaced persons fleeing conflicts in neighboring countries and regions there is a continuing need to measure gaps and accurately develop policies to accelerate progress in the KRG-led sustainable growth endeavors and crisis management for now and in the coming years. To deepen development interventions in the Kurdistan Region on evidence-based analyses, and more effective development planning and crisis management, the Ministry of Planning requested UNDP to undertake studies and facilitate technical assistance involving senior UNDP staff and consultants, reputable universities and research institutions while building in parallel the regional capacity to utilize the created outputs for development planning and the measuring of impacts.

UNDP Iraq therefore seeks to recruit a development policy specialist to provide strategic leadership for the implementation of tasks and activities identified in the support framework.

## **II. Scope of Work, Responsibilities and Description of the Proposed Analytical Work**

The Policy Support Specialist will coordinate the following activities

- Develop proposal to enhance capacity and operations of the Directorates of Capital Investment Budget; and Development Cooperation and Coordination.
- Support development of UNDP Kurdistan Region Program Document outline
- Support team of international consultants in the development of Social Economic Infrastructure Needs Assessment
- Support team of experts working on the development of Skills Development Needs Assessment

More specifically, the Policy Support Specialist will:

- i) Conduct technical review directorates of Capital Investment Budget (CIB) and the Development Cooperation and Coordination (DCC) and propose options for enhanced capacity building of the two directorates
- ii) Assist with draft outline for development of UNDP Regional Program Document 2015-2020 for the Kurdistan Region
- iii) Provide policy advisory and implementation support between UNDP, Ministry of Planning, Kurdistan Region and the team of international consultants developing the Socio-Economic Infrastructure Needs Assessment 2015 (SEINA 2015)
- iv) Provide policy advisory and implementation support to UNDP, Ministry of Planning, Kurdistan Region and the team of consultants developing the Skills Development Needs Assessment (SDEVNA)
- ii) Facilitate application and integration of UNDP processes and procedures in the implementation of assigned tasks and duties

### III. Expected Deliverables and outputs:

The Consultant will be responsible for producing the below deliverables. These deliverables are changeable subject to UNDP's approval, in case unexpected incidents take place in the project, such as delay of the project or change of project scope, due to reasons uncontrollable by the Consultant.

Deliverables	Output	Location	Target Date
1. Review and assess processes and procedures of the Directorates of Capital Investment Budget and Development Cooperation and Coordination Ministry of Planning	Produce draft project proposal to enhance capacity and operations of the Directorates of Capital Investment Budget; and Development Cooperation and Coordination	Home based/Erbil	Last week of April 2015
2. Support drafting of UNDP KRG Regional Program Document	Produce draft outline of Regional Program Document	Home based/ Erbil	Last week of May 2015
3. Provide policy advisory and implementation support between UNDP, Ministry of Planning, Kurdistan Region and the team of international consultants developing the Socio-Economic Infrastructure Needs Assessment 2015 (SEINA 2015)	Review ToR of team of international consultants Develop TOR and coordinate hiring of National Coordinator Support deployment of team of consultants and facilitate assessment meetings and workshops	Erbil	April - June 2015
4. Provide policy advisory and implementation support to UNDP, Ministry of Planning, Kurdistan Region and the team of consultants developing the Skills Development Needs Assessment (SDEVNA)	Review ToR of team of international consultants	Erbil	June 2015

### IV. Time and Method of payment

Payment shall be provided upon satisfactory completion of the deliverables outlined in the table above. Payment requests submitted by the Consultant must be certified by the supervisor(s) specified below.

## **V. Contract and Reporting**

The assignment is for an initial period of 3 months. The consultant will submit a report describing his main contributions at the end of the contract period noting any strengths or weaknesses, making suggestions for improved future engagements between UNDP and the Ministry of Planning.

Overall supervision is at the direction of the UNDP deputy country director programs and operations with corresponding oversight by other UNDP assigned personnel.

## **VI. Requirements for Experience and Qualifications**

The candidate should have:

- postgraduate degree in international development, public policy political science and or public administration
- 10 years' experience working on governance and development planning support in developing countries including the Middle East.
- Specialization in public policy.
- Knowledge of the institutional framework and governmental organizations in developing countries
- previous work experience in Kurdistan Region and or Iraq an advantage
- high quality report writing skills