

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Assignment Title	Development Economist
Type of Contract	Framework Agreement
Start/End Dates	1 January -December 2020
Assignment Bracket	Specialist
Number of working days	12 months
Supervisor	Direct supervision by Team Leader, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Unit under the overall supervision of the Deputy Resident Representative with matrix reporting to Regional Economic Advisor at Bangkok Regional Hub
Duty Station	Yangon, Myanmar (with possible relocation to Nay Pyi Taw)

BACKGROUND

UNDP supports countries around the world to formulate strategies, policies, and programme interventions that promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To advance these aims, UNDP provides technical policy advice and programming tools, especially to help address critical sustainable development challenges.

UNDP country offices work closely with government counterparts and other national stakeholders to support the introduction of inclusive and sustainable development policies that are aligned with the national context. National economists based in country offices across the Asia-Pacific region contribute to this work, including through support to policy dialogue with government officials and other partners, assistance in programme development, and production of research and analysis. These colleagues also collaborate and share experiences and practices across countries inside and outside the Asia-Pacific region.

In Myanmar, UNDP's Country Programme (2018-2022) has two outcomes – governance and sustainable peace, and sustainable and inclusive growth. The Country Office is a key interlocutor and advisor to the Government of Myanmar on issues related to the two outcomes. The Country Programme has adopted an integrated approach to programming to better address the interlinkages between peacebuilding and social cohesion, governance, environment and natural resource management, resilience, urbanization and balanced and inclusive growth. In line with the principle of leaving no one behind, the programme also focuses on strengthening the ability of national counterparts to address the needs of the vulnerable, defined as those exposed to conflict/violence, climatic and disaster risks and those marginalized by inadequate economic opportunities and poor public service delivery. For implementation of the Country Programme, the Country Office is structured into five units including a Strategic Management Unit (SMU) and two Programme Teams: Governance for Sustainable Peace Unit, and Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Unit, through whom its programmes and projects in Myanmar are managed and supported.

UNDP Myanmar is recruiting a Development Economist to help contribute to its overall work programme. The Development Economist will support the country office by providing economic analysis and policy advice to management and government counterparts that favor inclusive development, including the integration of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs into national plans and activities. S/he will also work closely with the two Programme Teams and be responsible for helping develop large-scale development solutions and activities aimed at enhancing UNDP's programmatic support. The Development Economist is expected to contribute to knowledge generation through research and analysis, represent UNDP as required in policy discussions, and work closely with the Senior Management, SMU and Programme Teams as well as the regional network on SDG integration, acceleration, and innovation. The Development Economist will also work closely with the Conflict and Gender Specialist to ensure that overall cross-cutting issues are mainstreamed throughout the Country Office's programmes and projects.

The Development Economist will be based full-time in the UNDP Country Office in Yangon, with possible relocation to Nay Pyi Taw. Domestic and international travel may be required. S/he will work closely with Senior Management, the Programme and SMU teams in the Country Office, other Country Office Advisors and UNDP's key partners, including the private sector, and colleagues in the Bangkok Regional Hub (BRH). S/he will also collaborate with the Asia-Pacific regional network of country economists. This will include systematic engagement with and oversight from the lead regional economic advisors based in Bangkok and Beijing. S/he is also expected to develop and maintain a network of colleagues across development partner agencies, government institutions, the private sector, and civil society.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the direct supervision of the *Team Leader, SIG Unit* with matrix reporting to the Regional Economic Advisor in BRH, the Development Economist will be primarily responsible for the following work streams:

- **Provision of support to UNDP country office management, including to help strengthen programme development and implementation.**
 - **Provision of technical policy advice to national government counterparts, especially in support of the 2030 Agenda and the introduction of sustainable and inclusive economic policies.**
 - **Representation, advocacy, and partner engagement to support UNDP's institutional positioning and advance its mandate.**
 - **Contribution to UNDP's work across the Asia-Pacific region, including collaboration with the regional economist network and analysis of priority regional thematic areas.**
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1. Provision of support to UNDP country office management, including to help strengthen programme development and implementation.

- Support UNDP country office teams to develop and manage relevant thematic portfolios, such as activities to support inclusive growth and progress towards the SDGs;
- Support the coordination and implementation of the CO's innovation,-private sector strategy and engagements to accelerate achievement of SDGs including SDG localization initiatives
- Provide analysis and research in priority thematic areas at the country level, including through the publication of policy briefs or other analytical outputs;
- Compile and analyse statistical data as required in support of country strategies and activities.
- Collaborate across UNDP teams, especially to ensure linkages to the work emerging from national and state/regional priorities;
- Support the creation of large-scale development solutions to help address complex development challenges; and
- Assist UNDP country office management with preparation and implementation of country programmes and strategies, including the Country Programme Document (CPD);

2. Provision of technical advice to national government counterparts and other partners, especially in support of the 2030 Agenda and the introduction of sustainable and inclusive economic policies.

- Support and facilitate dialogue on sustainable development issues with government officials, development partners, civil society, and the private sector;
- Provide policy and programming advice and support for development planning and policy formulation at the national, sub-national and local levels;
- Support the identification and analysis of interventions that can impact multiple development goals and targets at the same time;
- Support monitoring and reporting of progress related to SDGs and other national development frameworks including through preparation of Human Development Reports working closely with the SMU.

3. Representation, advocacy, and partner engagement to support UNDP's institutional positioning and advance its mandate.

- Develop and/or strengthen partnerships with UN agencies, IFIs, bilateral development agencies, private sector entities, and civil society;
- Represent UNDP country office in relevant forums, conferences, or workshops, including to present research or programmatic results;
- Support UNDP resource mobilization and future growth strategies through project pipeline development and design of large-scale programme and development solutions;
- Contribute to national, regional, and global knowledge networks and communities of practice.

4. Contribution to UNDP's work across the Asia-Pacific region, including collaboration with the regional economist network and analysis of priority regional thematic areas.

- Participate actively in the UNDP Asia-Pacific regional network of economists, including through attending regional meetings (in-person and/or virtual), sharing relevant experiences, and conducting peer reviews;
- Substantively contribute as possible to UNDP regional knowledge products and development of programming offers in regional priority areas (e.g., inequality, future of work, innovative financing);
- Enhance UNDP's understanding and design of new approaches to sustainable development across the region by acting as a regional thematic lead where possible.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

Reporting line:

The Development Economist will report to the Team Leader of Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Unit under the overall supervision of the Deputy Resident Representative with matrix reporting to Regional Economic Advisor at Bangkok Regional Hub.

Logistical arrangement:

- For all international travels:

- Candidates are requested to include international travel costs from possible origins of travel in the financial proposal and arrange the flight. The travel cost should be based on the economy class fares, with most direct routes.
- UNDP will provide support for the visa process and pay for the visa fee, when needed.

- For all in-country travels:

- UNDP will cover costs related to all domestic travels – such as transport, living allowances, accommodation - in accordance with its regulations and policies.
- UNDP will provide logistical support to arrange transportations and accommodations.

- Interpretation/Translation: UNDP will arrange, as needed, and cover the costs.

UNDP will issue a contract to activate the rendering of service within the period of the Framework Agreement.

Duration of Assignment:

Duration: From 1 January-31 December 2020

Duty Station and Expected Places of Travel:

Duty Station: Yangon, Myanmar (with possible relocation to Nay Pyi Taw)

COMPETENCIES

Corporate Competencies:

- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards;
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP;
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability;
- Treats all people fairly without favoritism.

Functional Competencies:

Knowledge Management and Learning:

- Shares knowledge and experience and contributes to UNDP Practice Areas and actively works towards continuing personal learning and development;
- Ability to provide top quality policy advice services on economic issues;
- In-depth practical knowledge of inter-disciplinary development issues.

Development and Operational Effectiveness:

- Ability to lead strategic planning, results-based management and reporting;
- Ability to lead formulation and evaluation of development programmes and projects;
- Ability to apply economic theory to the specific country context, carry out high-quality economic research.

Management and Leadership:

- Focuses on impact and result for the client and responds positively to critical feedback;
- Encourages risk-taking in the pursuit of creativity and innovation;
- Leads teams effectively and shows conflict resolution skills;
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude;
- Demonstrates strong oral and written communication skills;
- Builds strong relationships with clients and external actors.

Required Skills and Experience

Education (10 points)

- Master's Degree in Economics, Econometrics, Statistics or equivalent.

Experience (50 points)

- 7 years of relevant development experience at the national or international level;
- Extensive experience in research and policy-level analysis;
- Direct experience providing technical advice to government officials;
- Experience in designing, monitoring and evaluating development projects;
- Experience using computers and office software packages, including programmes for statistical analysis of data;
- Knowledge of the SDGs and their application at the national level.

Language Requirements (10 points)

- Fluency in English while knowledge of *Myanmar* will be an asset.

Individual consultants will be evaluated based on the *cumulative analysis* of the technical evaluation (weight: 70%) and financial evaluation (weight: 30%). The technical evaluation will award a maximum of 70 points and consist of an evaluation of the CV+ cover letter (40 points) and a technical interview (30 points). Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 45 points from the technical evaluation will be considered for the financial evaluation.