Title: Socio-Economic Consultant  
Duration: Six Months with opportunity for renewal  
Duty Station: Trinidad and Tobago

On the ground in 170 countries and territories, UNDP works with national partners to eradicate poverty, protect the planet and achieve the sustainable development goals. UNDP connects countries to knowledge, experiences and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP’s office in Trinidad and Tobago builds on UNDP’s worldwide presence, thought leadership, and over 50 years of experience—to help countries and communities respond to a fast-changing development landscape. UNDP, Trinidad and Tobago (UNDP TT) is a multi-country office, with responsibilities for Aruba, Curacao and Sint Maarten as well.

UNDP Trinidad and Tobago has had a robust portfolio comprised of activities in the Health sector, the Energy sector, the environment sector; initiatives to support parliamentary strengthening; initiatives to prevent crime and support at risk youth SDG planning, gender equality and examining multi-dimensional poverty. In March 2020 UNDP TT began realigning its portfolio to respond to the rapidly changing impact of the coronavirus by repurposing existing projects, launching new initiatives to respond to the immediate needs of COVID 19 and examining the longer term socio-economic implications of the virus.

In May 2020, the United Nations launched a UN Framework for Socio-Economic Response identifying how the UN Development System, under the overall coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator and the technical leadership of UNDP will support countries to manage the socio-economic response to COVID 19. The framework identifies five workstreams that should constitute the UN Country Team’s offer, which UNDP should be supporting the country team to develop. These five workstreams include: 1. ensuring that essential health services are still available and protecting health systems; 2. helping people cope with adversity, through social protection and basic services; 3. protecting jobs, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, and informal sector workers through economic response and recovery programmes; 4. guiding the necessary surge in fiscal and financial stimulus to make macroeconomic policies work for the most vulnerable and strengthening multilateral and regional responses; and 5. promoting social cohesion and investing in community-led resilience and response systems. These five streams are
connected by a strong environmental sustainability and gender equality imperative to build back better.

Under the guidance of the Resident Representative (RR) and Assistant Resident Representative (ARR), the Socio-Economic Consultant will provide support to UNDP in providing technical leadership to the UN Country team in preparing its socio-economic offer for the islands served by UNDP TT. The socio-economist will also support the implementation of studies, oversee the implementation of impact assessments and the development of projects to assist governments in managing and recovering from the economic impacts of the crises. The Consultant will work in close collaboration with UNDP staff in Trinidad and Tobago, UN Agencies and national authorities.

**Scope of Work:**

The consultant will be the backbone of the UNDP support to the UN Country Team and government in responding to the socio-economic impact of COVID19, while working with multiple stakeholders including NGOs, academia, and the private sector. The consultant will also work closely with UNDPs global teams of experts, including networks of economists and policy experts to support policy responses to the socioeconomic impacts related to Covid-19. The focus of this assignment will be on supporting the development of the UN system wide framework; mobilizing global expertise and developing solutions, programmes and interventions to support Trinidad and Tobago and the Dutch islands to ensure that the most vulnerable sectors of society are supported in the socio-economic response. The socio-economist will work within the wider team of UNDP Trinidad and Tobago to leverage new opportunities for resource mobilization and programmatic interventions for economic recovery.

He/she will link closely with UNDP economists and crises response experts around the world to support the countries serviced by UNDP Trinidad and Tobago and will establish strong networks with Ministries of Finance, Trade and Industry, Energy, Social Development and with the Private Sector as well as other UN agencies and IFIs to advance UNDPs mission. The socio-economist will be expected to contribute to national stimulus packages and social safety nets; support the establishment of social protection systems and bring about partnerships between governments, private actors and financial institutions to develop innovative solutions to sustain economies.

The consultant will also employ innovative tools for socio-economic and vulnerability assessment, roll out new initiatives to support SMEs and lead UNDPs support to the UN Country Team. He/she will also lead and leverage new opportunities for resource mobilization and liaise closely with the international community.
Qualifications:

- Master’s or PhD in Economics
- At least 8 years’ experience working in a policy environment advising on economic policies
- Experience working with Government, Research Institutions or Development Agencies
- Experience working with the United Nations will be an asset
- Thorough knowledge of the economies of the Caribbean

Competencies:

- Promotes a knowledge sharing and learning culture in the office
- In-depth knowledge on development issues
- Ability to advocate and provide socio-economic policy advice
- Ability to lead strategic planning, results-based management and reporting
- Ability to lead formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes and projects, mobilize resources
- Strong IT skills
- Focuses on impact and result for the client Leads teams effectively and shows conflict resolution skills
- Demonstrates strong oral and written communication skills
- Builds strong relationships with clients and external actors
- High interpersonal skills, and ability to remain calm, in control and good humored under pressure
- Ability to prioritise assignments and requirements and multitask as needed.
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities

Language Requirements:

- Fully proficient in English.

Deliverables:

The Socio-Economist will have the responsibility for:

- developing research papers, briefs and advisory notes on issues related to Covid 19 Socio-economic recovery;
- for the development of new programmes and the roll out of assessment tools to support the national capacities for economic recovery with a focus on vulnerable groups;
- developing initiatives to strengthen national social protection systems leveraging global best practices; and for organizing stakeholder consultations bringing the best national and global expertise to support economic recovery
**Evaluation Criteria:**

Method: Highest total score of weighted interview and financial criteria. The price proposals of all shortlisted consultants, who have attained a minimum 70% score at the Interview stage, will be compared. UNDP will award a contract to the individual who receives the highest score out of a predetermined weighted, Interview and Financial criteria as follows: 70% Interview criteria, 30% Financial criteria.

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<th>Review Criteria</th>
<th>Maximum points*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Relevance of education</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in developing solutions, programmes and interventions as well as mobilizing resources to support socio-economic responses</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Knowledge of Caribbean economies and experience in rolling out economic assessment tools</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experience in providing high level policy advice to senior officials in government, research institutions and development agencies</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Experience in working with the United Nations</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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Once candidates have been shortlisted, i.e. they have attained a score of at least 70%, based on the requirements in the Terms of Reference, only then, would they be interviewed for the position.

At the interview stage, candidates must attain a score of 70% for their financial proposals to be evaluated.

The final evaluation process is based on a 70:30 weighting, with 30 points being allocated to the financial component.

The following formula (cumulative analysis) is used to determine the financial scoring: \( p = y \left(\frac{\mu}{z}\right) \),

Where:
- \( p \) = points for the financial proposal being evaluated
- \( y \) = maximum number of points for the financial proposal
- \( \mu \) = price of the lowest priced proposal
- \( z \) = price of the proposal being evaluated.