**Terms of Reference**

**International NDC Costing Expert**

**Project Title: NDC project**

**Duty Station: Home-based**

**Period of assignment/services: 30 working days spanning over a period between 20 July to 30 November 2020**

**Estimated Starting Date: 20th July 2020**

##### Project background:

Climate change is the world’s largest challenge which poses significant threats to global peace and security and threaten to backtrack progress to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The Paris Agreement on Climate Change marks a turning point to an emerging climate regime that brings all the states and the actors together to a new global platform to address the growing risks to peace and development. Actions under current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are inadequate to achieve Paris Agreement long-term goals of limiting global temperature rise well below 2 degrees °C above pre-industrial levels; and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C. The Paris Agreement calls upon countries to review their NDCs every five years and raise mitigation and adaptation ambitions to help put the world on track to achieve neutrality by 20250. In response to the SG’s call for raising level of ambition in 2020, UNDP launched a global initiative known as Climate Promise to support 100 countries scale up climate action under the Paris Agreement.

Iraq is among the seven Climate Promise countries in the Arab region with UNDP financial and technical support to help enhance NDC and raise adaptation and mitigation ambition on the road to COP26 in Glasgow. Iraq is a middle-income country with an economy dominated by oil export. Iraq also stands as one of the most climate hotspots and environmentally vulnerable with decades of protracted conflict, fragility, and dramatic escalation of displacement. Recent years have seen an increase in temperatures above 55 degree Celsius in parts of Iraq, and more intense and frequent drought spells, a decrease in the precipitation level by 50 percent, and higher evaporation rates. The recent waves of drought have triggered an increasing trend of rural displacement, and socio-ecological vulnerability. The reduction of water flow of Tigris River, and drought have accelerated land degradation and salinity of agriculture lands while also disrupted the ecosystems of Mesopotamian Marshlands which led to loss of livelihoods, expansion of poverty and social vulnerability.

Iraq is a signatory to the Paris Agreement on climate change, with national climate plans defined in its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 2015), which reflects the country's commitment to address vulnerability to climate risks while taking proactive actions to ensure gradual transition to a low-carbon economy. The first Iraq’s NDC includes BAU and Mitigation Scenarios with 14% GHG reduction target in 2035 including 1% non-conditional and 13% conditional. Sustainable energy actions including renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy access are among the major actions proposed under Iraq’s NDC to achieve commitments under Paris Agreement. The NDC also outlined a set of adaptation actions to help build resilience of the water and agricultural sectors. Despite the emerging developments of COVID-19, Iraq demonstrated firm commitment and momentum to move NDC revision process forward with first NDC inception workshop convened digitally in April 16, 2020. This study also shows momentum by Government of Iraq to proceed with NDC revision despite the challenging situation.

##### Objective:

The Government of Iraq with support from UNDP Climate Promise is working with national stakeholders and partners to enhance NDC and raise adaptation and mitigation ambition in 2020. The NDC revision process will help collect relevant data and conduct stakeholder consultations to update national circumstances, investment needs, review mitigation potential of certain energy sectors, and identify catalytic actions to raise adaptation ambition. The NDC revision process will review priority sectoral actions water and agricultural sectors and assess actions with highest potentials for building resilience that help address major vulnerabilities and raise adaptation ambition while generating mitigation co-benefits and help achieve progress across relevant SDGs. Under the Climate Promise workplan for Iraq, UNDP’s Iraq is planning to hire an international NDC costing expert (home-based) to help Government of Iraq assess costing and investment needs to help achieve NDC mitigation and adaptation actions identified under the NDC revision process.

This will help Iraq strengthen political buy-in and societal ownership over the current NDC enhancement process. The international NDC costing expert will work remotely (given travel pan and movement restrictions due to concerns over COVID-19 pandemic) and conduct consultations with relevant agencies including Ministry of Finance and Iraq’s national NDC committee and the UNFCCC national focal point to conduct the study.

##### Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

The consultant will carry out review and analysis of the various mitigation initiatives implemented by the Government of Iraq with focus on the transition to combined gas cycle. This includes the following tasks:

1. Proposes a detailed methodology and a work plan to conduct of the consultation and estimate costing and overall investment needs to implement NDC mitigation and adaptation actions
2. Propose tools for collecting and analyzing data/information relevant to the study
3. Assess costing and investment needs to help Iraq define financing needs to implement NDC adaptation and mitigation actions
4. Develop investment plan and financing strategy to help Government of Iraq s scale up implementation of NDC mitigation targets under the NDC revision process

##### Expected Outputs and Deliverables:

Following the specific tasks and responsibilities listed under item.4, at the end of the consultancy:

1. Provide an inception report with Methodology used to conduct the study
2. Produce a high-quality report and analysis with estimated costing and overall investment needs to implement NDC mitigation and adaptation actions
3. Develop an investment plan and financing strategy for Iraq to help accelerate implementation of NDC actions
4. Provide final report with all findings and final recommendations.
5. **Reporting:**

The International Consultant will report directly to UNDP Project Manager

##### Payment Method

The consultant is expected to discuss with the Project Manager about detail implementation plan within the scope of the work and the listed deliverables within the prescribed timeline explained in the sections above.

Payments will be made in three instalments based on the satisfactory progress as per agreed implementation plan of the assignments and submission of quality deliverables. The dates and schedules of the payment instalments are:

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| **#**  | **Deliverables** | **Due date** | **Percentage of total** |
| 1 | Inception report | 25 July 2020 | 20% |
| 2 | Report and analysis with estimated costing and overall investment needs to implement NDC mitigation and adaptation actions + investment plan and financing strategy | 15 September August 2020 | 30% |
| 3 | Final report | 30 November 2020 | 50% |

##### Travel Plan:

The consultant shall be home-based with a position to undertake travel upon request of the Project Manager with coverage to be undertaken by UNDP as an additional payment.

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| **Places** | **No of Visit** | **Duration on each Visit-days** |
| **Erbil** | **1** | **5** |
| **Baghdad** | **1** | **5** |

**6. Duration of the Work:**

30 working days spanning over a period between 20 July to 30 November 2020

**7**. **Location:**

Homebase with travel to Baghdad and Erbil, Iraq.

##### Competencies:

**Corporate Competencies:**

* Demonstrates commitment to the UN’s values and ethical standards;
* Promotes the mission, vision and strategic goals of UNDP;
* Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability;
* Treats all people fairly and with impartiality.

**Functional Competencies:**

* Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude;
* Ability to work under pressure and to meet deadlines;
* Demonstrates excellent oral and written communication skills;
* Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities;
* Self-reliant and able to work as a part of a multi-cultural team in a stressful.

**Professionalism:**

* Shows pride in work and in achievements; is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments; observing deadlines and achieving results; is motivated by professional rather than personal concerns; Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges; Remains calm in stressful situations.

**Communication:**

* Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; Listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately; Asks questions to clarify and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; Tailors language, tone, style and format to match the audience; Demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

**Planning and Organizing:**

* Identifies priority activities and assignments; allocates appropriate amount of time and resources for completing work; foresees risks and allows for contingencies when planning; monitors and adjusts plans and actions as necessary; Uses time efficiently.

**Client Orientation:**

* Considers all those to whom services are provided to be “clients” and seeks to see things from clients’ point of view; Establishes and maintains productive partnerships with clients by gaining their trust and respect; Meets time line for delivery of product or services to client.

**Teamwork:**

* Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; Builds consensus for task purpose and direction with team members; Supports and acts in accordance with final group decisions, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position.

**Technological awareness:**

* Keeps abreast of available technology; actively seeks to apply technology to appropriate tasks; Shows willingness to learn new technology.

##### Qualifications of the Successful Contractor:

**Education:**

* Master’s degree in economics, finance or equivalent disciplines.

**Work Experience**

* At least 15 years of relevant professional experience in economics, finance, climate finance including experience in costing of NDC adaptation and mitigation actions or any related experience.
* In-depth knowledge of global climate policy process including Paris Agreement on climate change
* Proven experience in climate finance
* Related experience in the Arab region and Iraq will be an added asset

**Language:**

Fluency in English languages both written and oral.

**10. Criteria for Selection of The Best Offer**

 Individual consultants will be evaluated based on the following methodology:

* Cumulative analysis
* When using this weighted scoring method, the award of the contract should be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:
1. responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
2. Having received the highest score out of a predetermined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation:

 \* Technical Criteria weight; [70]

 \* Financial Criteria weight; [30]

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| **Criteria** | **Max. Point 100** | **Weight** |
| **Technical** | **Relevance and responsiveness of candidate’s past experience and qualification based on submitted documents:*** Master’s degree in economics, finance or equivalent disciplines.

-**10 Points*** Proven Experience on Climate Policies including climate finance and experience in assessment of costing and investment needs for NDC adaptation and mitigation actions – **40 points**
* Previous experience working in the Arab region and Iraq - **10 points**
* Experience in broader stakeholders and engagement relating to national climate polices with focus on mitigation in particular - **20 points**
* Excellent communication and reporting skill - **10 points**

Fluency in English languages both written and oral - **10 Points** | **100 Points** | **70%** |
| **Financial** | **Lowest Offer / Offer\*100** | **30%** |
| **Total Score = (Technical Score \* 0.7 + Financial Score \* 0.3)** |

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 70 points of the 100 points in the Technical Evaluation will be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

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| **Criteria** | **Weight** | **Max. Point** |
| Technical | 70% | 70 |
| Financial | 30% | 30 |
| Total | 100% | 100 |

 **Total Score**

* The technical score attained at by each proposal will be used in determining the Total score as follows:
* The weights given to the technical and financial proposals are: T= 0.7, F=0.3
* The Total score will be calculated by formula: TS = St x 0.7 + Sf x 0.3
* TS - Is the total score of the proposal under consideration
* St - is technical score of the proposal under consideration.
* Sf - is financial score of the proposal under consideration.