

## INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT NOTICE



DATE: 20 October 2020

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**Country:** Cairo, Egypt

**Description of Assignment:** International Consultant

**Economist for the Assessment of Macro-Economic Stimulus Actions in Response to COVID-19 in Egypt**

**Project name:** Supporting an Inclusive and Multi-Sectoral Response to COVID-19 and Addressing its Socio-Economic Impact in Egypt

**Period of assignment/services (if applicable):** 50 days

Proposal should be submitted at the following email address to [procurementnotice.egypt@undp.org](mailto:procurementnotice.egypt@undp.org) no later than Tuesday, November 3, 2020, 14:00 Cairo local time.

Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic communication to the address or e-mail indicated above. *The procurement unit* will respond in writing or by standard electronic mail and will send written copies of the response, including an explanation of the query without identifying the source of inquiry, to all consultants.

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### 1. BACKGROUND

Egypt, like many other countries was hit by the COVID-19 crisis, causing severe impact on the socioeconomic situation. The crisis interrupted a remarkable improvement in Egypt's economic performance following the implementation of recent reforms supported by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). As an immediate response to the crisis and in order to prevent the pandemic from spreading rapidly across the whole of society, the Government of Egypt (GoE) took urgent measures to resolve risks and impacts of COVID-19.

The private sector, which is recognized as an engine for growth and job creation, is currently struggling due to health mitigation measures and to the broader economic impact of the crisis. The size and employment of the MSME sector, and in particular of Small, Micro and informal enterprises, makes it the key sector for the social resilience and later, for the economic recovery of Egypt in the face of COVID-19. On the social front, vulnerable groups with fewer resources to protect themselves from health risks, access healthcare, access clean water and sanitation, and/ or pay for essential goods are the most affected by COVID-19 and also benefited from emergency socio-economic measures taken by the Government.

The GoE took early measures to support the economy and mitigate the impact of the crisis, but not enough is known about the different ways the Egyptian economy has benefitted from emergency measures and about the disaggregated needs for resilience and for an orderly recovery. Moreover, the announced measures and policies are considered as an immediate response to the crisis and there is a need to plan for more support and to determine the needed actions, policies, and measures that will best support recovery and accelerated economic growth after COVID crisis and in the medium term.

In this context and within the framework of the project *“Supporting an Inclusive and Multi-Sectoral Response to COVID-19 and Addressing its Socio-Economic Impact in Egypt”* under the oversight of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED), UNDP seeks the service of a consultant to conduct an Assessment of GoE -Economic Stimulus Actions in Response to COVID-19 as per the below.

The proposed consultant will rely on available data and will therefore not be collecting primary data and will not be required to gather information from GoE officials.

## **2. SCOPE OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ANALYTICAL WORK**

This assignment will focus on producing and validating assessments and diagnostics; building on existing studies and coordinating with specialized assessments

The selected consultant will be responsible for:

### **(i) Analyze of Egypt’s COVID-19 Stimulus Package and data available from other countries**

- Review existing literature and studies and compile relevant data regarding the immediate and short-term response of the GoE to COVID (please refer to the newly launched Government of Egypt Policy Tracker published on the MoPED’s website here: <https://policytracker.mped.gov.eg/en> with focus on resilience of private sector activity (MSMEs) and most vulnerable groups
- Review international experiences, identify suitable comparators and conduct cross-country comparisons on the different types and different components of resilience and stimulus packages, their effectiveness and estimated costs, taking into consideration the targeted sectors and/ or segments of the population
- Identify lessons learned from other countries for recovery from COVID and 2008-2009 global financial crisis that can benefit Egypt and highlight which country experiences can inform future policy actions for Egypt

### **(ii) Analyze quantitatively the specific impact of the current COVID 19 stimulus package on the economy, with a focus on resilience of the most vulnerable group and to MSMEs**

- Propose methodology for the required evaluation of the specific impact and cost-effectiveness of the policies implemented by GoE
- Review and assess the impact of and Return on Investment of the various initiatives put forward by the Government and CBE to support the Egyptian economy during COVID and monetary support provided to the private sector
- Identify and document the key and leading socio-economic indicators that will be used in the analysis, ensuring the use of recent national data and surveys published post COVID.
- Analyse the impact of COVID-19 on the different economic sectors, different size of enterprises, formal and informal with a focus on the most impacted economic and social segments and showcase what role the implemented stimulus package had on dampening the impact.

- Highlight additional indicators that are most relevant to monitor for the phases of resilience recovery and reconstruction including the use of non-traditional data sources.

**(iii) Develop recommendations, policies and corrective actions that could inform the GoE to Build Back Better on the short and medium term, with a focus on resilience of most vulnerable groups and MSMEs**

- Provide clear policy advice to the Interministerial Committee on how to support the GoE policy framework to build back better on the short and medium term, as needed throughout the framework of this assignment.
- Assess the expected impact of and Return on Investment of the additional policies and initiatives recommended to the Government to support the Egyptian economy during COVID and monetary support provided to the private sector
- Review and assess the expected impact of policy recommendations and corrective actions regarding the design of MSME reconstruction policies developed based on a MSMEs national survey (the detailed findings of this survey will be provided to the consultant for analysis).
- Propose detailed action plan on how to operationalize alternative sources of socio-economic data (high frequency, high granularity) to monitor recovery and guide policy design in the short and medium term
- Present three scenarios and the associated recommended policies based on the leading economic indicators; the pessimistic scenario would represent a counterfactual scenario of the economic and social status if the GoE had not taken any steps, the baseline scenario should present the current economic and social status quo as a result of the stimulus package in place, the second presents a worsening of the socio-economic indicators and slow uptake of the stimulus policies, and the third scenario would present an optimistic scenario in with additional policies successfully implemented
- Present study findings in consultations/workshops with government officials, reviewing hypotheses, methodologies and ensuring consistency of initial finding and forming consensus on the way forward.

**Deliverables**

- An in-depth study on the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Egyptian economy with a focus on macroeconomics, key economic sectors (incl. tourism, industrial exports, services), MSMEs and vulnerable segments. The study should include the impact assessment, description of methodology used, key findings, potential scenarios, policy recommendations, and action plan to guide economic recovery policies in the upcoming period.
- At least three consultations/workshops to ensure consensus on the methodology and key findings as the study evolves

Description	Qty	Days/unit	Subtotal
In depth study	1	35	35
At least three consultations/workshops	3	5	15
<b>TOTAL</b>			50

**3. REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

**Academic Qualifications:**

- A Master's degree or higher in the field of Finance, Economics or other relevant fields. Doctorate degree in a relevant field is an advantage.

**Years of experience:**

- A minimum of 7 years of progressive experience in the field of public finance, impact assessment, economics, fiscal policy, and private sector (MSME) development.
- Demonstrated experience of 3 years with a development partner or central government agency in the area of development finance and public institutional governance improvement and capacity building is essential.
- 5 years of rigorous data and information research and policy analysis experience in the area of public finance, economics, private sector development are required.
- Experience in country level advisory work in public finance policy reforms in close collaboration with central government agencies and experience leading consultations with senior government officials and facilitate discussions among a wide group of stakeholders is required.
- Strong and applied skills and experience in socioeconomic impact assessments.
- Knowledge of the United Nations System and the Agenda 2030 in regard to its goals, targets and global indicators framework for the SDGs is **desirable**, experience on macro-economic modeling, poverty economics, energy economics, water and sanitation or vulnerability assessments is **required**.

**Competencies:**

**Job Knowledge & Expertise:**

- Excellent organizational skills and ability to handle effectively multiple tasks without compromising quality, team spirit and positive working relationships with all colleagues;
- Dependability, reliability and initiative;
- Motivated & demonstrates a capacity to pursue personal development & learning.

**Functional Competencies:**

- Excellent writing skills required, as demonstrated by previous research/analytical reports/policy notes on relevant topics.

**Corporate Responsibility & Teamwork:**

- Serves and promotes the vision, mission, values, and strategic goals of UN;
- Plans, prioritizes, and delivers tasks on time;
- Participates effectively in a team-based, information-sharing environment, collaborating and cooperating with others;
- Responds flexibly & positively to change through active involvement.

**Results-Orientation:**

- Plans and produces quality results to meet established goals.

**People Skills:**

- Sets clear performance goals and standards; executes responsibilities accordingly.
- Partnering & Networking:
- Seeks and applies knowledge, information, and best practices from within and outside UN.

**Innovation & Judgment:**

- Contributes creative, practical ideas and approaches to deal with challenging situations;
- Pursues own personal and professional development;
- Strives for quality client-centered services (internal/external).

**Language Requirements:**

- Proficiency in English is essential and Arabic Language is an advantage.
- Minimum proficiency with teleconferencing and online collaboration tools is essential

#### 4. DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED WHEN SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS

Interested individual consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

1. Proposal:

- (i) Explaining why they are the most suitable for the work
- (ii) Provide a brief methodology on how they will approach and conduct the work (if applicable)

2. Financial proposal

3. Personal CV including past experience in similar projects and at least 2 references

#### 5. FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

- **Contracts based on daily fee**

The financial proposal will specify the daily fee, travel expenses and per diems quoted in separate line items, and payments are made to the Individual Consultant based on the number of days worked.

**Travel:**

With the uncertainty related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the majority of engagements, consultations, trainings are scheduled to take place through teleconferencing. However, for the late stages of consultation, trainings and launch of final deliverables. One-week in-person visit to Cairo is considered (to be adapt and repeated if needed, safe and possible).

Full cost for such one-week travel to Cairo must be included in the financial proposal. In general, UNDP should not accept travel costs exceeding those of an economy class ticket. Should the IC wish to travel on a higher class he/she should do so using their own resources.

In the case of unforeseeable travel, payment of travel costs including tickets, lodging and terminal expenses should be agreed upon, between the respective business unit and Individual Consultant, prior to travel and will be reimbursed

#### 6. EVALUATION

**2. 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:*

- a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and*
- b) Having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.*

*\* Technical Criteria weight; 70%*

*\* Financial Criteria weight; 30%*

*Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 49 point would be considered for the Financial Evaluation*

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Max. Point</b>
<u>Technical</u>	<b>70</b>	

<i>Adequacy of competencies for assignment</i>	40	
<i>Relevant experience</i>	30	
<i><u>Financial</u></i>	<b>30</b>	

**Note:** The selected consultant will rely on available data and will therefore not be collecting primary data and will not be required to gather information from GoE officials.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

### ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORs)

#### Individual Contract

#### Economist for the Assessment of Macro-Economic Stimulus Actions in Response to COVID-19 in Egypt

**A. Project title:** Supporting an Inclusive and Multi-Sectoral Response to COVID-19 and Addressing its Socio-Economic Impact in Egypt.

#### **B. Project Description**

Egypt, like many other countries was hit by the COVID-19 crisis, causing severe impact on the socioeconomic situation. The crisis interrupted a remarkable improvement in Egypt's economic performance following the implementation of recent reforms supported by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

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the disaggregated needs for resilience and for an orderly recovery. Moreover, the announced measures and policies are considered as an immediate response to the crisis and there is a need to plan for more support and to determine the needed actions, policies, and measures that will best support recovery and accelerated economic growth after COVID crisis and in the medium term.

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The selected consultant will be responsible for:

- **Analyze of Egypt's COVID-19 Stimulus Package and data available from other countries**
- **Analyze quantitatively the specific impact of the current COVID 19 stimulus package on the economy, with a focus on resilience of the most vulnerable group and to MSMEs**
- **Develop recommendations, policies and corrective actions that could inform the GoE to Build Back Better on the short and medium term, with a focus on resilience of most vulnerable groups and MSMEs**

### D. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

- An in-depth study on the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Egyptian economy with a focus on macroeconomics, key economic sectors (incl. tourism, industrial exports, services), MSMEs and vulnerable segments. The study should include the impact assessment, description of methodology used, key findings, potential scenarios, policy recommendations, and action plan to guide economic recovery policies in the upcoming period.
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### E. Institutional Arrangements

- **The selected consultant** will report to the UNDP Resident Representative in close consultation, with the UNDP Egypt policy and partnership team, the UNDP Inclusive Growth and Innovation team and MoPED.
- **Ministry of Planning and Economic Development** will facilitate data availability and facilitate meetings with key national entities and experts as needed. The Ministry team will review and clear the final document as needed.

### F. Duration of the Work

This assignment requires **a total of 50 days**, till the end of the project.

## G. Qualifications and Experience

### Academic Qualifications:

- A Master's degree or higher in the field of Finance, Economics or other relevant fields. Doctorate degree in a relevant field is an advantage.

### Years of experience:

- A minimum of 7 years of progressive experience in in the field of public finance, impact assessment, economics, fiscal policy, and private sector (MSME) development.
- Demonstrated experience of 3 years with a development partner or central government agency in the area of development finance and public institutional governance improvement and capacity building is essential.
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