

Terms of Reference

Support to the Government of Iraq for the Implementation and Monitoring of SDGs 'Financial Gap Analysis of Agenda 2030 and SDGs'

Project Title: Support to the Government of Iraq for the Implementation and Monitoring of SDGs

Duty Station: Home-based

Number of working days: 70 Days

Duration: 6 months

Estimated Starting Date: June 15th, 2021

1. Background:

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as outlined in the 2030 Agenda will require actors across public and private sectors to work together at scale. Channeling global financial flows towards Sustainable Development is imperative to achieving the 2030 Agenda. Understanding the scale and types of investment needed to achieve the SDGs are a key foundation on which governments can build effective SDG financing strategies.

UNDP-Iraq has been supporting the Government of Iraq on the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs targets and indicators at both national and sub-national levels. This initiative comes at a particular junction where the National Development Plan (NDP 2018-2022) of Iraq acknowledges that Iraq is faced with various institutional, economic, social, and environmental challenges, which cannot be addressed through a business-as-usual approach and demands effective integration (horizontal as well as vertical) and coordination. Thus, the Government of Iraq, with support from multiple development partners, has engaged in developing new strategies and plans to meet the challenges of transitioning from a crisis context to a sustainable development context.

The NDP (2018-2022) and the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) have been significantly aligned with the SDGs targets and indicators with the support of UNDP-Iraq and other UN Agencies – as a national framework for the SDGs. The Government has also engaged in developing the Iraq Vision 2030 that identifies and addresses medium and long-term strategic development priorities and goals. Iraq Vision 2030 encapsulates an ambitious governance agenda to achieve sustainable human development and sustain peace. This includes upholding the rule of law and access to justice, fostering integrity, transparency, and fighting corruption, but also improving administrative decentralization, promoting effective public participation in decision-making, enhancing the values of citizenship and reducing inequality, promoting a culture of tolerance and community peace, as well as values of achievement, initiative, and volunteerism.

Iraq continues to face a significantly worsened economic outlook through the 'twin shocks; First oil process experienced a historically unprecedented fall in early 2020. Second, starting from March 2020,

the Government imposed a range of restrictions on economic and social activities in a bid to control the spread of COVID-19. While these restrictions are key to staunching infection, they have substantially reduced activity across the economy, far beyond the oil sectors.

This said, Iraq is in a position now to identify and analyze the SDGs financial gap assessment for the next decade of action of sustainability. Besides the Iraq's SDGs data gap assessment report, developed recently by the Central Statistics Organization with the support of UNDP-Iraq, the SDGs financial gap assessment will contribute to ensuring better actions for the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

2. Objective:

The main objective of the consultancy services is to provide a robust Financial Gap Analysis of Agenda 2030 within the context of Iraq – aligned with Iraq Vision 2030, SDGs data gap assessment report, and other strategic plans and documents. The consultant should consider using the Integrated national financing frameworks (INFFs) building blocks, assessment and diagnostics and to frame it as a step towards the INFFs. The INFFs, developed by the United Nations, spell out how the national strategy will be financed and implemented, relying on the full range of public and private financing sources. INFFs are a planning and delivery tool to help countries strengthen planning processes and overcome obstacles to financing sustainable development and the SDGs at the national level.

The International Consultant is expected to provide technical and advisory services to the SDGs Project Team at UNDP-Iraq, as well as to the officials of the Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Finance and other line ministries, in undertaking SDGs Financial Gap assessment to produce "SDG Financial Gap Assessment Report for Iraq" – in which assess current financing systems and mechanisms at both national and local levels.

3. Duties and Responsibilities:

In carrying out the assignment, the International Consultant is required to employ a collaborative approach in ensuring that inputs are obtained from the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance and integrated throughout the drafting process in consultation with UNDP Iraq.

In completing the scope of work, the consultant is expected to closely coordinate with the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance, National Planning Commission and relevant Ministries, UNDP Iraq. The consultant is expected to participate in meeting and discussion with relevant stakeholders, Department of Finance, planning and if needed organize a national level workshop for inputs and feed back into the draft financial gap analysis of Agenda 2030.

Therefore, the Consultant will develop the following specific activities:

- ✓ Develop and present the methodological approach to SDG costing in consultation with counter partners. As a result, develop a detailed work plan to be reviewed/endorsed by UNDP and submitted to government stakeholders.
- ✓ Undertake desk Review relevant to SDGs and strategic documents and surveys – to depict the national and sub-national context in term of financing mechanisms existing in the country (opportunities and challenges).
- ✓ Formulate and describe the outlines for the country's SDGs financial gap assessment report in consultation with the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance, and UNDP-Iraq.

- ✓ Draft the SDGs financial gap assessment based on the agreed outlines of the report – including a benchmarking or best practice from other similar economies.
- ✓ Facilitate national wide consultation sessions on the draft financial gap analysis, justify the national priority areas with the financial gap assessment with a clear outline and the development process.
- ✓ Draft the Financial Gap analysis report and make necessary revisions based on inputs from Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Finance, National Planning Commission, and UNDP experts – taking into consideration of the financial crisis and challenges imposed by the pandemic (COVID 19) impact on socio economic situation, and post conflict environment in Iraq.
- ✓ Facilitate validation sessions on the first draft of the assessment report at both national and local levels with multi-stakeholders including academia, NGOs, local governments, women and youth groups.
- ✓ Organize and facilitate capacity strengthening workshops on SDGs financial instruments and tools to be adopted by the country for better implementation and monitoring of the SDGs in Iraq. This will be based on the SDGs financial gap assessment findings.
- ✓ Revise, finalize and obtain approval on the final version of the Financial Gap Assessment report – considering all the feedbacks from MOP and UNDP.

4. Deliverables:

The key milestones/deliverables and the timelines of the planned activities to be accomplished by the consultant during the period of June 15th – December 30th, 2021 are tabulated below.

Key Deliverables	Due Date	Location	Payment Percentage
Development of methodological approach including workplan for the preparation process of the SDGs financial gap assessment	June 30, 2021	Home-based	25%
Formulate and describe the outlines for the country's SDGs financial gap assessment report	July 18, 2021		
Conduct consultation sessions with multi-stakeholders on the outlines of the report and the preparation process of the assessment	July 25, 2021		
Drafting the SDGs financial gap assessment	September 5, 2021	Home-Based	50%

Facilitate national wide validation sessions on the draft financial gap analysis	September 20, 2021		
Organize and facilitate capacity strengthening workshops on SDGs financial instruments and tools to be adopted by the country	September 30, 2021		
Revise, finalize and obtain approval on the final version of the Financial Gap Assessment report	October 20, 2021	Home-based	25%
PowerPoint slides for the presentation of the National level endorsement	November 20, 2021		

5. Reporting:

The Consultant will report directly to the SDGs Project Manager at the UNDP country office throughout the assignment period, in delivering the above-mentioned deliverables as per an agreed workplan.

6. Duration

The expected duration of the assignment is from June 15th to December 30th, 2021. The number of working days are 70 working days.

7. Qualification:

Education

- Advanced university degree in Finance, Economics, Statistics, development studies, or other related fields.

Work experience

- At least 10 years of relevant experience working on Financial Management, development of strategic plans and sustainable development reports with strong financial analyses
- Has experience of working with UN or governments on developing strategies and case studies, financial analysis, financial assessments, economic financial planning
- Previous working experience in developing SDGs reports, national planning, costing and needs assessments
- Experience in managing multi-stakeholder engagement, coordination with ministries, national planning commission, UN and International agencies, economic sector, private and public sectors, and stakeholders.
- Experience facilitating stakeholder workshops and training sessions.

Language requirement

- Excellent written and spoken in English, Arabic is a plus.

8. Competencies

Functional Competencies:

- Knowledge of and extensive experience of working in the focus areas indicated in the TOR.
- Proven competency in the production of analytical reports in quantitative and qualitative research methods is required.
- Excellent knowledge of the UN system and its work in the area of sustainable development, financial management, economic market study and the intergovernmental processes related to the 2030 Agenda.
- Excellent analytical and writing skills,
- Excellent communication skills.
- Results-driven, ability to work under pressure and to meet required deadlines.
- Good understanding and practice of capacity development.
- Cultural sensitivity.
- Diplomatic skills.

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
- Ability to work with a multi-cultural and diverse team

9. Evaluation/Selection criteria

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:
 - a) Responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
 - b) Having received the highest score out of a predetermined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation:
 - Technical Criteria weight; [50]
 - Methodical Approaches; [20]
 - Financial Criteria weight; [30]

Criteria		Max. Point 100	Weight
Technical	Relevance and responsiveness of candidate's experience and qualification based on submitted documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational Background as requested: 20 Points Extensive expertise, knowledge, and experience writing relevant SDGs reports: 25 Points Extensive conceptual and practical knowledge of local government development and strategic principles: 15 Points Demonstrated experience and practical knowledge in working and collaborating with stakeholders including governments; civil society and local communities in the selected governorates for the SDG related report, Needs Assessment Report 20 Points Fluency in English and working knowledge in Arabic: 20 Points 	100 Points	50%
	<u>Methodological approaches</u>		20%
Financial	<u>Lowest Offer / Offer*100</u>		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.

Criteria	Weight	Max. Point
Technical criteria	50%	50
Methodical Approaches	20%	20
Financial	30%	30
Total	100%	100

Total Score

- The technical score attained 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: $TS = St \times 0.7 + Sf \times 0.3$
- TS - Is the total score of the proposal under consideration
- St - is the technical score of the proposal under consideration.
- Sf - is the financial score of the proposal under consideration.