



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

TO: NATIONAL POTENTIAL VENDORS	DATE: June 15, 2021
	REFERENCE: RFP/2021/020 – Gender equality

Dear Sir/Madam:

We kindly request you to submit your Proposal to conduct research on the existing legal and policy framework in Mongolia and international good practices on women's political participation.

Please be guided by the form attached hereto as Annex 2, in preparing your Proposal.

Proposals may be submitted on or before 6:00pm, Tuesday, June 29, 2021 (GMT:08 - UB time) and via email to the address below:

email: bids.mn@undp.org

Your Proposal must be expressed in the English language, and valid for a minimum period of 120 days.

In the course of preparing your Proposal, it shall remain your responsibility to ensure that it reaches the address above on or before the deadline. Proposals that are received by UNDP after the deadline indicated above, for whatever reason, shall not be considered for evaluation. If you are submitting your Proposal by email, kindly ensure that they are signed and in the .pdf format, and free from any virus or corrupted files.

Services proposed shall be reviewed and evaluated based on completeness and compliance of the Proposal and responsiveness with the requirements of the RFP and all other annexes providing details of UNDP requirements.

The Proposal that complies with all of the requirements, meets all the evaluation criteria and offers the best value for money shall be selected and awarded the contract. Any offer that does not meet the requirements shall be rejected.

Any discrepancy between the unit price and the total price shall be re-computed by UNDP, and the unit price shall prevail and the total price shall be corrected. If the Service Provider does not accept the final price based on UNDP's re-computation and correction of errors, its Proposal will be rejected.

No price variation due to escalation, inflation, fluctuation in exchange rates, or any other market factors shall be accepted by UNDP after it has received the Proposal. At the time of Award of Contract or Purchase Order, UNDP reserves the right to vary (increase or decrease) the quantity of services and/or goods, by up to a maximum twenty five per cent (25%) of the total offer, without any change in the unit price or other terms and conditions.

Any Contract or Purchase Order that will be issued as a result of this RFP shall be subject to the General Terms and Conditions attached hereto. The mere act of submission of a Proposal implies that the Service Provider accepts without question the General Terms and Conditions of UNDP, herein attached as Annex 3.

Please be advised that UNDP is not bound to accept any Proposal, nor award a contract or Purchase Order, nor be responsible for any costs associated with a Service Providers preparation and submission of a Proposal, regardless of the outcome or the manner of conducting the selection process.

UNDP's vendor protest procedure is intended to afford an opportunity to appeal for persons or firms not awarded a Purchase Order or Contract in a competitive procurement process. In the event that you believe you have not been fairly treated, you can find detailed information about vendor protest procedures in the following link:

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/procurement/protestandsanctions/>

UNDP encourages every prospective Service Provider to prevent and avoid conflicts of interest, by disclosing to UNDP if you, or any of your affiliates or personnel, were involved in the preparation of the requirements, design, cost estimates, and other information used in this RFP.

UNDP implements a zero tolerance on fraud and other proscribed practices, and is committed to preventing, identifying and addressing all such acts and practices against UNDP, as well as third parties involved in UNDP activities. UNDP expects its Service Providers to adhere to the UN Supplier Code of Conduct found in this link : http://www.un.org/depts/ptd/pdf/conduct_english.pdf

Thank you and we look forward to receiving your Proposal.

Sincerely yours,



Soyongua Ganchimeg
Assistant Resident Representative(O)
6/15/2021

Description of Requirements

Context of the Requirement	In recent years, Mongolia has passed several legislative acts which protect the rights of women and prohibit all forms of discrimination. Despite this, women occupy just 13 seats in the Parliament, while men hold the remaining 63. The current proportion of women parliamentarians in Mongolia (17%) is far behind the global average of 24%, and places Mongolia 121 st out of 193 countries in terms of the number of women in its parliament. There are also no women governors of provinces and cities in Mongolia. The Law on Gender Equality (2011) prohibits gender-based discrimination in political, legal, economic, social, cultural and family relations and establishes gender ratio targets to be applied to political positions and senior administrative positions at different levels within the civil service. The project 'Promoting gender equality in public decision-making and women's empowerment in Mongolia' will be implemented from 2021 till 2024. The project aims to contribute to gender equality in decision-making by implementing a range of activities under 6 outputs, including strengthening legal environment, strengthening support networks for women aspirant candidates, expanding the profile and number of women eligible for public decision-making, and improving gender awareness among voters, political parties, and the media.
Implementing Partner of UNDP	Promoting gender equality in public decision-making and women's empowerment in Mongolia
Brief Description of the Required Services ¹	The purpose of the assignment is to contribute to strengthening of the legal framework for gender equality in decision making by i) conducting an updated research study on the existing legal and policy framework in Mongolia, and international good practices on women's political participation, ii) proposing potential solutions for meeting gender equality targets and increasing women's political participation, and iii) support consensus building among stakeholders.
List and Description of Expected Outputs to be Delivered	<p>Scope of Work</p> <p>i. Conduct an updated research study on the existing legal and policy framework in Mongolia, and international good practices on women's political participation,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a desk review of electoral systems that had been used in Mongolia and their outcomes in terms of women's political participation; • Review previous research studies on electoral systems and women's participation in Mongolia; • Review recent and latest international practices which led to increased gender equality in politics, including electoral reform and other initiatives²; • Review current legislative and policy framework in Mongolia, including legislative acts and regulations on elections, political party, political party financing, access to campaign financing, special temporary measures, political party voluntary measures, and gender equality, and incorporate urban-rural and geographical factors; • Analyse progress made in recent years, identify emerging opportunities and key bottlenecks in consultation with stakeholders, including aspiring women candidates, political parties, academia, and CSOs; • Analyse legal and regulatory framework on local elections and their implications for gender equality in local councils and at sub-national decision-making levels;

¹ A detailed TOR may be attached if the information listed in this Annex is not sufficient to fully describe the nature of the work and other details of the requirements.

² <https://www.ipu.org/our-impact/gender-equality>

	ii. Propose potential solutions for meeting gender equality targets and increasing women's political participation and iii) Support consensus building among stakeholders. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy recommendations and proposals improving gender equality at decision-making levels, based on the analyses above, emerging opportunities, and findings of the research; • Prepare research report as well as PPP slides for obtaining feedback from diverse groups of stakeholders, including those working at sub-national level; • Present the draft report and key proposals at stakeholder consultative meetings; • Submit final report;
Person to Supervise the Work/Performance of the Service Provider	<i>Project Coordinator</i>
Frequency of Reporting	<i>Provide weekly updates</i>
Location of work	Contractor's location
Expected duration of work	3 months
Target start date	July 2021
Latest completion date	September 2021
Travels Expected	n/a
Special Security Requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> Security Clearance from UN prior to travelling <input type="checkbox"/> Completion of UN's Basic and Advanced Security Training <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Travel Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Others <i>[pls. specify]</i>
Implementation Schedule indicating breakdown and timing of activities/sub-activities	X Required
Names and curriculum vitae of individuals who will be involved in completing the services	X Required
Currency of Proposal	X Mongolian Tugriks
Value Added Tax on Price Proposal ³	X Must be inclusive of VAT and other applicable indirect taxes
Validity Period of Proposals (Counting for the last day of	X 120 days In exceptional circumstances, UNDP may request the Proposer to extend the validity of the Proposal beyond what has been initially indicated in this RFP. The Proposal shall then confirm the extension in writing, without any modification whatsoever on the Proposal.

³ VAT exemption status varies from one country to another. Pls. check whatever is applicable to the UNDP CO/BU requiring the service.

submission of quotes)				
Partial Quotes	X Not permitted			
Payment Terms ⁴	Installments	Deliverables	Target date	Condition for Payment Release
	40% of the total fee	Research plan and methodology	Within 2 weeks from start of contract	Within thirty (30) days from the date of meeting the following conditions: a) UNDP's written acceptance (i.e., not mere receipt) of the quality of the outputs; and b) Receipt of invoice from the Service Provider.
		Desk review findings	31 July 2021	
	60% of the total fee	Draft report	30 August 2021	
		Final report	15 September 2021	
Person(s) to review/inspect/ approve outputs/completed services and authorize the disbursement of payment	Programme Officer			
Type of Contract to be Signed	X Purchase Order X Contract for Professional Services			
Criteria for Contract Award	<p>X Highest Combined Score (based on the 70% technical offer and 30% price weight distribution)</p> <p>When the Data Sheet specifies a combined scoring method, the formula for the rating of the Proposals will be as follows:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><u>Rating the Technical Proposal (TP):</u> TP Rating = (Total Score Obtained by the Offer / Max. Obtainable Score for TP) x 100</p> <p><u>Rating the Financial Proposal (FP):</u> FP Rating = (Lowest Priced Offer / Price of the Offer Being Reviewed) x 100</p> <p><u>Total Combined Score:</u> (TP Rating) x (Weight of TP, e.g. 70%) + (FP Rating) x (Weight of FP, e.g., 30%)</p> <p>Total Combined and Final Rating of the Proposal</p> </div> <p>X Full acceptance of the UNDP Contract General Terms and Conditions (GTC). This is a mandatory criteria and cannot be deleted regardless of the nature of</p>			

⁴ UNDP preference is not to pay any amount in advance upon signing of contract. If the Service Provider strictly requires payment in advance, it will be limited only up to 20% of the total price quoted. For any higher percentage, or any amount advanced exceeding \$30,000, UNDP shall require the Service Provider to submit a bank guarantee or bank cheque payable to UNDP, in the same amount as the payment advanced by UNDP to the Service Provider.

	services required. Non acceptance of the GTC may be grounds for the rejection of the Proposal.
Criteria for the Assessment of Proposal	<p><u>Technical Proposal (70%)</u></p> <p>X Expertise/experience of the Firm 30p</p> <p>X Methodology, Its Appropriateness to the Condition and Timeliness of the Implementation Plan 20p</p> <p>X Management Structure and Qualification of Key Personnel 50p</p> <p><u>Financial Proposal (30%)</u></p> <p>To be computed as a ratio of the Proposal's offer to the lowest price among the proposals received by UNDP.</p>
UNDP will award the contract to:	X One and only one Service Provider
Annexes to this RFP ⁵	<p>X Form for Submission of Proposal (Annex 2)</p> <p>X General Terms and Conditions / Special Conditions (Annex 3)⁶</p> <p>X Detailed TOR (Annex 4)</p>
Contact Person for Inquiries (Written inquiries only) ⁷	<p><i>Procurement Officer</i></p> <p>bids.mn@undp.org</p> <p>Any delay in UNDP's response shall be not used as a reason for extending the deadline for submission, unless UNDP determines that such an extension is necessary and communicates a new deadline to the Proposers.</p>
Other Information [pls. specify]	

⁵ Where the information is available in the web, a URL for the information may simply be provided.

⁶ Service Providers are alerted that non-acceptance of the terms of the General Terms and Conditions (GTC) may be grounds for disqualification from this procurement process.

⁷ This contact person and address is officially designated by UNDP. If inquiries are sent to other person/s or address/es, even if they are UNDP staff, UNDP shall have no obligation to respond nor can UNDP confirm that the query was received.

FORM FOR SUBMITTING SERVICE PROVIDER'S PROPOSAL⁸

(This Form must be submitted only using the Service Provider's Official Letterhead/Stationery⁹)

[insert: Location]

[insert: Date]

To: [insert: Name and Address of UNDP focal point]

Dear Sir/Madam:

We, the undersigned, hereby offer to render the following services to UNDP in conformity with the requirements defined in the RFP dated [specify date] , and all of its attachments, as well as the provisions of the UNDP General Contract Terms and Conditions:

A. Qualifications of the Service Provider

The Service Provider must describe and explain how and why they are the best entity that can deliver the requirements of UNDP by indicating the following:

- a) Profile – describing the nature of business, field of expertise;*
- b) Business Licenses – Registration Papers, Tax Payment Certification, Special permit licenses, certifications, accreditations etc.*
- c) Latest Audited Financial Statement for the last 3 years– income statement and balance sheet to indicate Its financial stability, liquidity, credit standing, and market reputation, etc.;*
- d) Track Record – list of clients for similar services as those required by UNDP, indicating description of contract scope, contract duration, contract value, contact references;*
- e) Certificates and Accreditation – including Quality Certificates, Patent Registrations, Environmental Sustainability Certificates, etc.*
- f) Written Self-Declaration that the company is not in the UN Security Council 1267/1989 List, UN Procurement Division List or Other UN Ineligibility List.*

B. Proposed Methodology for the Completion of Services

The Service Provider must describe how it will address/deliver the demands of the RFP; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics, reporting conditions and quality assurance mechanisms that will be put in place, while demonstrating that the proposed methodology will be appropriate to the local conditions and context of the work. Additionally, the provider shall identify all potential risk & risk mitigation measures that will be put into place.

C. Qualifications of Key Personnel

If required by the RFP, the Service Provider must provide:

- a) Names and qualifications of the key personnel that will perform the services indicating who is Team*

⁸ This serves as a guide to the Service Provider in preparing the Proposal.

⁹ Official Letterhead/Stationery must indicate contact details – addresses, email, phone and fax numbers – for verification purposes

- Leader, who are supporting, etc.;*
- b) *CVs demonstrating qualifications of the key personnel must be submitted; and*
- c) *Written confirmation from each personnel that they are available for the entire duration of the contract.*

D. Cost Breakdown per Deliverable*

	Deliverables <i>[list them as referred to in the RFP]</i>	Percentage of Total Price (Weight for payment)	Price (Lump Sum, All Inclusive)
1	Research plan and methodology	40%	
2	Desk review findings		
3	Draft report	60%	
4	Final report		
	Total	100%	

**This shall be the basis of the payment tranches*

E. Cost Breakdown by Cost Component [This is only an Example]:

Description of Activity	Remuneration per Unit of Time	Total Period of Engagement	No. of Personnel	Total Rate
I. Personnel Services				
Election expert/political scientist				
Gender expert				
Legal expert				
II. Out of Pocket Expenses				
III. Other Related Costs				

*[Name and Signature of the Service Provider's
Authorized Person]
[Designation]
[Date]*

General Terms and Conditions for Services

1.0 LEGAL STATUS:

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of UNDP or the United Nations.

2.0 SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS:

The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to UNDP in connection with the performance of its services under this Contract. The Contractor shall refrain from any action that may adversely affect UNDP or the United Nations and shall fulfill its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of UNDP.

3.0 CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES:

The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under this Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of this Contract, respect the local customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

4.0 ASSIGNMENT:

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of this Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under this Contract except with the prior written consent of UNDP.

5.0 SUB-CONTRACTING:

In the event the Contractor requires the services of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall obtain the prior written approval and clearance of UNDP for all sub-contractors. The approval of UNDP of a sub-contractor shall not relieve the Contractor of any of its obligations under this Contract. The terms of any sub-contract shall be subject to and conform to the provisions of this Contract.

6.0 OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT:

The Contractor warrants that no official of UNDP or the United Nations has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from this Contract or the award thereof. The Contractor agrees that breach of this provision is a breach of an essential term of this Contract.

7.0 INDEMNIFICATION:

The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, UNDP, its officials, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents or sub-contractors, in the performance of this Contract. This provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents, servants or sub-contractors. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.

8.0 INSURANCE AND LIABILITIES TO THIRD PARTIES:

- 8.1** The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain insurance against all risks in respect of its property and any equipment used for the execution of this Contract.
- 8.2** The Contractor shall provide and thereafter maintain all appropriate workmen's compensation insurance, or the equivalent, with respect to its employees to cover claims for personal injury or death in connection with this Contract.
- 8.3** The Contractor shall also provide and thereafter maintain liability insurance in an adequate amount to cover third party claims for death or bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising from or in connection with the provision of services under this Contract or the operation of any vehicles, boats, airplanes or other equipment owned or leased by the Contractor or its agents, servants, employees or sub-contractors performing work or services in connection with this Contract.
- 8.4** Except for the workmen's compensation insurance, the insurance policies under this Article shall:
 - 8.4.1** Name UNDP as additional insured;
 - 8.4.2** Include a waiver of subrogation of the Contractor's rights to the insurance carrier against the UNDP;
 - 8.4.3** Provide that the UNDP shall receive thirty (30) days written notice from the insurers prior to any cancellation or change of coverage.
- 8.5** The Contractor shall, upon request, provide the UNDP with satisfactory evidence of the insurance required under this Article.

9.0 ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS:

The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with the UNDP against any monies due or to become due for any work done or materials furnished under this Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

10.0 TITLE TO EQUIPMENT:

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP shall rest with UNDP and any such equipment shall be returned to UNDP at the conclusion of this Contract or when no longer needed by the Contractor. Such equipment, when returned to UNDP, shall be in the same condition as when delivered to the Contractor, subject to normal wear and tear. The Contractor shall be liable to compensate UNDP for equipment determined to be damaged or degraded beyond normal wear and tear.

11.0 COPYRIGHT, PATENTS AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS:

- 11.1** Except as is otherwise expressly provided in writing in the Contract, the UNDP shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including, but not limited to, patents, copyrights, and trademarks, with regard to products, processes, inventions, ideas, know-how, or documents and other materials which the Contractor has developed for the UNDP under the Contract and which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of, or during the course of, the performance of the Contract, and the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that such products, documents and other materials constitute works made for hire for the UNDP.
- 11.2** To the extent that any such intellectual property or other proprietary rights consist of any intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor: (i) that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or (ii) that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract, the UNDP does not and shall not claim any ownership interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to the UNDP a perpetual license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.

11.3 At the request of the UNDP; the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring or licensing them to the UNDP in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law and of the Contract.

11.4 Subject to the foregoing provisions, all maps, drawings, photographs, mosaics, plans, reports, estimates, recommendations, documents, and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be the property of the UNDP, shall be made available for use or inspection by the UNDP at reasonable times and in reasonable places, shall be treated as confidential, and shall be delivered only to UNDP authorized officials on completion of work under the Contract.

12.0 USE OF NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF UNDP OR THE UNITED NATIONS:

The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public the fact that it is a Contractor with UNDP, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of UNDP or THE United Nations, or any abbreviation of the name of UNDP or United Nations in connection with its business or otherwise.

13.0 CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Information and data that is considered proprietary by either Party and that is delivered or disclosed by one Party ("Discloser") to the other Party ("Recipient") during the course of performance of the Contract, and that is designated as confidential ("Information"), shall be held in confidence by that Party and shall be handled as follows:

13.1 The recipient ("Recipient") of such information shall:

- 13.1.1** use the same care and discretion to avoid disclosure, publication or dissemination of the Discloser's Information as it uses with its own similar information that it does not wish to disclose, publish or disseminate; and,
- 13.1.2** use the Discloser's Information solely for the purpose for which it was disclosed.

13.2 Provided that the Recipient has a written agreement with the following persons or entities requiring them to treat the Information confidential in accordance with the Contract and this Article 13, the Recipient may disclose Information to:

- 13.2.1** any other party with the Discloser's prior written consent; and,
- 13.2.2** the Recipient's employees, officials, representatives and agents who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, and employees officials, representatives and agents of any legal entity that it controls controls it, or with which it is under common control, who have a need to know such Information for purposes of performing obligations under the Contract, provided that, for these purposes a controlled legal entity means:
 - 13.2.2.1** a corporate entity in which the Party owns or otherwise controls, whether directly or indirectly, over fifty percent (50%) of voting shares thereof; or,
 - 13.2.2.2** any entity over which the Party exercises effective managerial control; or,
 - 13.2.2.3** for the UNDP, an affiliated Fund such as UNCDF, UNIFEM and UNV.

13.3 The Contractor may disclose Information to the extent required by law, provided that, subject to and without any waiver of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, the Contractor will give the UNDP sufficient prior notice of a request for the disclosure of Information in order to allow the UNDP to have a reasonable opportunity to take protective measures or such other action as may be appropriate before any such disclosure is made.

13.4 The UNDP may disclose Information to the extent as required pursuant to the Charter of the UN, resolutions or regulations of the General Assembly, or rules promulgated by the Secretary-General.

- 13.5** The Recipient shall not be precluded from disclosing Information that is obtained by the Recipient from a third party without restriction, is disclosed by the Discloser to a third party without any obligation of confidentiality, is previously known by the Recipient, or at any time is developed by the Recipient completely independently of any disclosures hereunder.
- 13.6** These obligations and restrictions of confidentiality shall be effective during the term of the Contract, including any extension thereof, and, unless otherwise provided in the Contract, shall remain effective following any termination of the Contract.

14.0 FORCE MAJEURE; OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS

- 14.1** In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the UNDP, of such occurrence or change if the Contractor is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract. The Contractor shall also notify the UNDP of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event that interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of this Contract. On receipt of the notice required under this Article, the UNDP shall take such action as, in its sole discretion; it considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the Contractor of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform its obligations under this Contract.
- 14.2** If the Contractor is rendered permanently unable, wholly, or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract, the UNDP shall have the right to suspend or terminate this Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 15, "Termination", except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.
- 14.3** Force majeure as used in this Article means acts of God, war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, or other acts of a similar nature or force.
- 14.4** The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to any obligations under the Contract that the Contractor must perform in or for any areas in which the UNDP is engaged in, preparing to engage in, or disengaging from any peacekeeping, humanitarian or similar operations, any delays or failure to perform such obligations arising from or relating to harsh conditions within such areas or to any incidents of civil unrest occurring in such areas shall not, in and of itself, constitute force majeure under the Contract..

15.0 TERMINATION

- 15.1** Either party may terminate this Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) days notice, in writing, to the other party. The initiation of arbitral proceedings in accordance with Article 16.2 ("Arbitration"), below, shall not be deemed a termination of this Contract.
- 15.2** UNDP reserves the right to terminate without cause this Contract at any time upon 15 days prior written notice to the Contractor, in which case UNDP shall reimburse the Contractor for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.
- 15.3** In the event of any termination by UNDP under this Article, no payment shall be due from UNDP to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of this Contract.
- 15.4** Should the Contractor be adjudged bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, the UNDP may, without prejudice to any other right or remedy it may have under the terms of these conditions, terminate this Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform the UNDP of the occurrence of any of the above events.

16.0 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

16.1 Amicable Settlement: The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules then obtaining, or according to such other procedure as may be agreed between the parties.

16.2 Arbitration: Any dispute, controversy, or claim between the Parties arising out of the Contract or the breach, termination, or invalidity thereof, unless settled amicably under Article 16.1, above, within sixty (60) days after receipt by one Party of the other Party's written request for such amicable settlement, shall be referred by either Party to arbitration in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules then obtaining. The decisions of the arbitral tribunal shall be based on general principles of international commercial law. For all evidentiary questions, the arbitral tribunal shall be guided by the Supplementary Rules Governing the Presentation and Reception of Evidence in International Commercial Arbitration of the International Bar Association, 28 May 1983 edition. The arbitral tribunal shall be empowered to order the return or destruction of goods or any property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, order the termination of the Contract, or order that any other protective measures be taken with respect to the goods, services or any other property, whether tangible or intangible, or of any confidential information provided under the Contract, as appropriate, all in accordance with the authority of the arbitral tribunal pursuant to Article 26 ("Interim Measures of Protection") and Article 32 ("Form and Effect of the Award") of the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award punitive damages. In addition, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Contract, the arbitral tribunal shall have no authority to award interest in excess of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") then prevailing, and any such interest shall be simple interest only. The Parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such dispute, controversy, or claim.

17.0 PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES:

Nothing in or relating to this Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs.

18.0 TAX EXEMPTION

18.1 Section 7 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations provides, inter-alia that the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs, is exempt from all direct taxes, except charges for public utility services, and is exempt from customs duties and charges of a similar nature in respect of articles imported or exported for its official use. In the event any governmental authority refuses to recognize the United Nations exemption from such taxes, duties or charges, the Contractor shall immediately consult with the UNDP to determine a mutually acceptable procedure.

18.2 Accordingly, the Contractor authorizes UNDP to deduct from the Contractor's invoice any amount representing such taxes, duties or charges, unless the Contractor has consulted with the UNDP before the payment thereof and the UNDP has, in each instance, specifically authorized the Contractor to pay such taxes, duties or charges under protest. In that event, the Contractor shall provide the UNDP with written evidence that payment of such taxes, duties or charges has been made and appropriately authorized.

19.0 CHILD LABOUR

19.1 The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it, nor any of its suppliers is engaged in any practice inconsistent with the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including Article 32 thereof, which, inter alia, requires that a child shall be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

- 19.2** Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, at no cost to UNDP.

20.0 MINES:

- 20.1** The Contractor represents and warrants that neither it nor any of its suppliers is actively and directly engaged in patent activities, development, assembly, production, trade or manufacture of mines or in such activities in respect of components primarily utilized in the manufacture of Mines. The term "Mines" means those devices defined in Article 2, Paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of Protocol II annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 1980.
- 20.2** Any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate this Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind of UNDP.

21.0 OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW:

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of this Contract.

22.0 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION:

- 22.1** The Contractor shall take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse of anyone by it or by any of its employees or any other persons who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract. For these purposes, sexual activity with any person less than eighteen years of age, regardless of any laws relating to consent, shall constitute the sexual exploitation and abuse of such person. In addition, the Contractor shall refrain from, and shall take all appropriate measures to prohibit its employees or other persons engaged by it from, exchanging any money, goods, services, offers of employment or other things of value, for sexual favors or activities, or from engaging in any sexual activities that are exploitive or degrading to any person. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the provisions hereof constitute an essential term of the Contract and that any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle UNDP to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.
- 22.2** The UNDP shall not apply the foregoing standard relating to age in any case in which the Contractor's personnel or any other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract is married to the person less than the age of eighteen years with whom sexual activity has occurred and in which such marriage is recognized as valid under the laws of the country of citizenship of such Contractor's personnel or such other person who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract.

23.0 AUTHORITY TO MODIFY:

Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP, only the UNDP Authorized Official possesses the authority to agree on behalf of UNDP to any modification of or change in this Contract, to a waiver of any of its provisions or to any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor. Accordingly, no modification or change in this Contract shall be valid and enforceable against UNDP unless provided by an amendment to this Contract signed by the Contractor and jointly by the UNDP Authorized Official.

Annex 4**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)**

Project Title	'Promoting gender equality in public decision-making and women's empowerment in Mongolia'
Title of assignment	Conduct research on the existing legal and policy framework in Mongolia and international good practices on women's political participation
Type of Contract	Institutional contract
Duration of Contract:	40 working days (July - September 2021)
Application deadline	

Background

In recent years, Mongolia has passed several legislative acts which protect the rights of women and prohibit all forms as discrimination. Despite this, women occupy just 13 seats in the Parliament, while men hold the remaining 63. The current proportion of women parliamentarians in Mongolia (17%) is far behind the global average of 24%, and places Mongolia 121st out of 193 countries in terms of the number of women in its parliament. There are also no women governors of provinces and cities in Mongolia. The Law on Gender Equality (2011) prohibits gender-based discrimination in political, legal, economic, social, cultural and family relations and establishes gender ratio targets to be applied to political positions and senior administrative positions at different levels within the civil service.

The project 'Promoting gender equality in public decision-making and women's empowerment in Mongolia' will be implemented from 2021 till 2024. The project aims to contribute to gender equality in decision-making by implementing a range of activities under 6 outputs, including strengthening legal environment, strengthening support networks for women aspirant candidates, expanding the profile and number of women eligible for public decision-making, and improving gender awareness among voters, political parties, and the media.

The purpose of the assignment is to contribute to strengthening of the legal framework for gender equality in decision making by i) conducting an updated research study on the existing legal and policy framework in Mongolia, and international good practices on women's political participation, ii) proposing potential solutions for meeting gender equality targets and increasing women's political participation, and iii) support consensus building among stakeholders.

Scope of Work

- I. Conduct an updated research study on the existing legal and policy framework in Mongolia, and international good practices on women's political participation,

- Conduct a desk review of electoral systems that had been used in Mongolia and their outcomes in terms of women's political participation;
 - Review previous research studies on electoral systems and women's participation in Mongolia;
 - Review recent and latest international practices which led to increased gender equality in politics, including electoral reform and other initiatives¹⁰;
 - Review current legislative and policy framework in Mongolia, including legislative acts and regulations on elections, political party, political party financing, access to campaign financing, special temporary measures, political party voluntary measures, and gender equality, and incorporate urban-rural and geographical factors;
 - Analyse progress made in recent years, identify emerging opportunities and key bottlenecks in consultation with stakeholders, including aspiring women candidates, political parties, academia, and CSOs;
 - Analyse legal and regulatory framework on local elections and their implications for gender equality in local councils and at sub-national decision-making levels;
- II. Propose potential solutions for meeting gender equality targets and increasing women's political participation and iii) Support consensus building among stakeholders.
- Develop policy recommendations and proposals improving gender equality at decision-making levels, based on the analyses above, emerging opportunities, and findings of the research;
 - Prepare research report as well as PPP slides for obtaining feedback from diverse groups of stakeholders, including those working at sub-national level;
 - Present the draft report and key proposals at stakeholder consultative meetings;
 - Submit final report.

Deliverables

1. Research plan and methodology
2. Desk review findings
3. Draft report covering the tasks listed above under Scope of Work
4. Final report

Duration of the Work

40 working days

B. Expected deliverables and Payment Schedule

Payment installments	Deliverables	Target due dates
40% of the total fee	Research plan and methodology	5 days after the contract signing
	Desk review findings	31 July 2021
60% of the total fee	Draft report	30 August 2021
	Final report	15 September 2021

Institutional Arrangement

The contractor will report to the Project Coordinator and liaise and work closely with the focal point of the Standing Committee on State Structure, Parliament of Mongolia. The contractor is also expected to work with Women's caucus, women's wings of political parties, NCGE and other relevant stakeholders.

The present TOR may subject to modification, without changing the overall objectives and scope of the work, on the basis of mutual consultations.

¹⁰ <https://www.ipu.org/our-impact/gender-equality>

The contractor is expected to ensure timely identification of potential risks and signals of any delays in deliverables and inform to the Project coordinator in a timely manner.

Qualifications of successful institutional contractor

This assignment shall be conducted by a legal entity (NGO, company, academic institution, law firm etc.). The team should consist of at least 3 consultants:

- 1) Election expert/political scientist
- 2) Gender expert
- 3) Legal expert

Requirements for the legal entity:

- Has been incorporated for more than 3 years;
- Preferably, specialized in research studies in the field of political science and/or elections;

Qualification requirements for the team:

Election expert/political scientist

- Master's degree in political science, law, constitutional studies, governance, and other closely related fields (or equivalent years of work experience);
- At least 5 years of experience in academic and policy research and analysis in relevant fields, prior research on elections, political parties and women's political empowerment would be an asset;
- 2 similar assignments demonstrating analytic and report writing skills;
- Good command of English language;

Gender expert

- Degree in political science, gender studies, development studies, social science, sociology, or other closely related fields;
- At least 3 years of experience in conducting research on gender, women's empowerment, and other related issues;
- 2 similar assignments demonstrating analytic and report writing skills and good knowledge research methodologies and tools;
- Good command of English language skills (desirable);

Legal expert

- Master's degree in Law, preferably specializing in constitutional or administrative law;
- At least 5 years of experience of conducting analysis of legislative environment, legislative drafting, or legal reviews in closely relevant fields;
- 2 similar assignments demonstrating analytic and report writing skills;
- Good command of English language skills (desirable);

Criteria for Selection of the Best Offer

Combined Scoring method will be used in the selection of a consultant, where the technical proposal (expertise, methodology, experience and qualification of key personal) will be weighted a max. of 70%, and combined with the price offer which will be weighted a max of 30%.

Financial proposal that indicate the all-inclusive fixed total contract price, support by breakdown of cost, as per template provided.

Annex 1. Evaluation criteria

Criteria	Weight	Max. Point
Technical criteria 1: Expertise of the organization		30
Incorporated for more than 3 years;		10
Preferably, specialized in research studies in the field of political science and/or elections		20
Technical criteria 2: Qualifications of team members		50
Election expert/political scientist		20
Gender expert		15
Legal expert		15
Technical criteria 3: Proposed methodology and timeliness of the implementation plan		20
A brief proposal describing the methodologies, work plan and timeframe		10
Demonstration of quality assurance mechanisms and risk management		10
Technical Score	70	100