

Terms of Reference

International Environmental Strategy Development Expert

Project:	Funding Facility for Economic Reform – Federal
Post Level:	International Environmental Strategy Expert
Duty Station:	Baghdad/Iraq and homebased
Period of assignment/services:	115 days over 10 Months
Estimated Starting Date:	1 st June 2022

1. FACILITY FOR ECONOMIC REFORM (FFER)

Facility for Economic Reform (FFER) is a programme of support financed by the USAID and implemented by the UNDP to support the Government of Iraq (Federal) in carrying out their economic reform agenda. Given the high importance of Climate Change, Environment and Energy issues to the reforms, based upon request of the GoI, the USAID and UNDP have agreed to provide advisory support on a number of aspects of the climate change adaptation and mitigation, especially with regards to formulation of policies and strategies.

2. ASSIGNMENT CONTEXT

Iraq is recognized as one of the most affected countries by the harmful effects of climate change. The average temperature is expected to rise by two Celsius degrees and the rainfall is expected to fall by 9% by 2050 due to climate change. Iraq ratified the UNFCCC in the end of 2009 to start its paradigm shift plan to develop non-fossil fuel – dependent industries and develop renewable energy plans and strategies as well as design its national adaptation plan to tackle climate change.

Iraq Vision 2030 is in alignment with the environmental goal to create a clean, safe and sustainable environment for the current and future generations. Iraq ratified the Paris Agreement on January 14, 2021. President Saleh said at the United Nations Climate Ambition Summit; “This move marks the Iraqi government’s intention to shift from relying heavily on oil to more renewable energy sources.”

Iraq prepared its National Environmental Strategy and Action Plan in 2013-2017. Therefore, at present Iraq has no updated strategy. Significant changes have taken place in the social and environmental conditions in Iraq, as well as in Iraq’s commitment to global environmental and climate change protocols. Iraq has also prepared a National Bio-diversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 2015 for a five year duration.

Iraq has approved its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which define Iraq’s strategic objectives and commitments towards climate change adaptation and mitigation. Iraq plans for transition towards green economy. More than ever before, it recognizes that a healthy and sustainable economy is that the diversified

and green one, this includes renewable energy and environmentally-sound technologies and enhance the resilience of communities most vulnerable to climate change.

According to the NDC, Iraq aims to achieve reduction between 1% and 2% of its total emissions between 2021 to 2030 through the national effort and 15% subject to the international financial and technical support. Iraq aims to develop its National Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) with priority to the electricity sector by investing in renewable energies of up to 12 GW based on the Cabinet's economic decisions for 2021.

To support the GoI with formulation of a National Environmental Strategy and Action Plan for the period of 2023-2028, UNDP is seeking an international expert with following desired scope of work and qualifications.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The overall objective of this assignment is to support the Ministry of Environment to revise its National Environmental Strategy and Action Plan for Iraq to lay out pathways for sustainable development, enhance resilience and strengthen Iraq's capacity to contain shocks and recover from catastrophic events. It will also help to ensure that natural resources can deliver their full potential on a sustainable basis in Iraq. The Strategy will be based on a thorough assessment of the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable natural resource management, climate change and future growth.

The consultancy will involve support to the Ministry of Environment in establishing the national strategy and preparing an action plan for its implementation based upon consultations and participation of stakeholders.

The International Environmental Strategy Expert will work under the overall guidance of the Special Advisor to the Minister of Environment and will closely coordinate with the Portfolio Manager of the UNDP Environment, Energy, Climate Change (EECC) pillar and the Project Manager of the FFER-Federal as required. The international expert will be supported with a team of a national expert and a gender specialist. An economist will provide analysis on economic aspects of the sustainable environmental management.

Key duties and responsibilities will include, but are not limited to:

1. Review the National Environmental Management Strategy and Action Plan of Iraq and other related policies, legislations and reports such as Iraq's NDC, national communication reports, Biennial update reports, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), National Adaptation Plan (NAP), etc.
2. In consultation with the Government stakeholders, identify key elements to be covered in the National Environment Strategy and Action Plan and prepare an outline of the proposed Strategy.
3. Prepare an engagement plan with concerned agencies and stakeholders to be involved in developing the strategy and action plan

4. Undertake situation analysis research to understand the baseline for environmental management in Iraq.
5. Analyse the threats to sustainable environmental management in Iraq, their impact, economic costs and the available opportunities
6. Based upon review of Iraq's existing policies, laws, and other instruments related to climate change, environment, bio-diversity, ecosystems and protected areas propose linkages with the environment strategy (including gaps, challenges, opportunities and recommendations for further policy, legislative and institutional reform)
7. Conduct stakeholder consultations to identify their concerns, priorities and recommendations with regards to sustainable environmental management
8. Define strategic vision, objectives and targets of sustainable environmental management in Iraq
9. Describe results for different components of the Strategy (this may include preparing sectoral and subnational targets and results)
10. Define sectoral and sub-national approaches for achievement of results
11. Prepare a roadmap/plan for implementation of the strategy in priority sectors.
12. Include a cost estimate for different priority interventions/projects to be implemented in different sectors
13. Map relevant stakeholders for these sectors, define stakeholder roles and engagement models
14. Prepare/propose monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework
15. Receive feedback on the draft strategy
16. Finalize the Strategy

4. LOCATION AND TIMEFRAME FOR THE ASSIGNMENT PROCESS

The detailed Assignment workplan will be agreed upon between the UNDP and the selected Consultant/s. The Assignment will take place between 1st June 2022 – 30th April 2023, including a combination of home-based work and in-country travel as needed. The security situation in each location will be reviewed to make a decision on the country visit. The assignment and final deliverable are expected to be completed no later than 30th April 2023 as per the details in the Deliverables Tables.

5. DELIVERABLES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The consultant is expected to deliver the following deliverables. It should be noted that the following list of deliverables might be subject to review and revision by UNDP in discussion with the consultant in the event of unexpected changes to the context during the consultancy period. Payments will be made upon acceptance and approval by UNDP of the planned deliverables, based on the following tentative payment schedule:

Deliverables	ESTIMATED # OF DAYS	DATE OF COMPLETION	PLACE
1. Inception report: includes a detailed workplan of the proposed process for formulation of the Strategy and engagement with stakeholders	10	15 June 2022	Home-based
2. Baseline report on environment status in Iraq: Situation analysis, challenges and opportunities for environmental protection and sustainability in Iraq and a proposed Table of Contents of the Strategy	20	31 st July 2022	Home-based and Iraq
3. Stakeholder consultation workshops and Report on the recommendations of consultations	20	30 th September 2022	Iraq
4. Draft of the Environmental Strategy, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of the reasons for environmental degradation, impact on different aspects of life and costs; • Strategic vision, objectives, targets and pathways towards environmental protection, preservation and sustainability with regards to air, water, land, coastal/marine and biodiversity; • Review of existing policies, legislation and institutional arrangements for environmental management and description of gaps, challenges, opportunities and recommendations for reform to achieve the suggested vision, objectives and targets; • A roadmap for implementing of the Environmental Strategy for Iraq in priority sectors • Results Framework for Monitoring the implementation of strategy 	50	31 st January 2023	Home-based and Iraq
5. Final draft of National Environmental Strategy (based upon feedback/comments inclusion from	15	30 th April 2023	Home-based and Iraq

national stakeholders) and debriefing to national workshop			
	115		

6. MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The assignment is commissioned by UNDP Iraq’s Energy, Environment and Climate Change Pillar (EECC). The main UNDP Focal Point will be the Portfolio Manager (PM) of the EECC pillar. The Portfolio Manager will serve as the focal point to provide both substantive and logistical support to the Consultant/s. Assistance will be provided by the PM to make any refinements to the work plan of the selected Consultant/s (i.e. coordination with target entities, access to relevant documents, survey coordination and organization of interviews).

This TOR shall be the basis upon which compliance with assignment requirements and overall quality of services provided by the Consultant will be assessed by UNDP.

As part of the assignment:

- UNDP will provide office space with access to the internet and printer when in-country .
- UNDP will provide the following list of additional documents to the selected Consultant
 - Share any relevant reports or documents
 - Connect to the Ministry of Environment or any other relevant stakeholders
 - Support in the holding of stakeholder consultations
- The Consultant is expected to
 - Have/bring their laptops, and other relevant software/equipment.
 - Use their own mobile and personal email address during the consultancy period, including when in-country.
 - Make their own travel arrangements to fly to Baghdad and transportation arrangements outside work hours. UNDP will make arrangements for in-country travel to any other locations, as required.
 - UNDP will make arrangements for interpretation services locally, as required.

7. QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

The consultant will require the following qualifications, experience, competencies and language skills. Only applicants who meet these criteria will be short-listed and will be contacted.

A. Education and Professional Qualifications Required:

- A Master’s Degree or equivalent in Environment, Climate Change, Natural resource management, biodiversity, or related field.

B. Experience Required:

- At least 10 years of relevant working experience in environment, green growth, green economy, and climate change-reform
- At least 5 years of demonstrated experience in facilitating the formulation of national, local or sectoral strategies for environmental management
- At least 5 years of experience in conducting situation analyses and needs assessments related to environment and climate change reform in developing countries
- Demonstrated experience in facilitating dialogue among national senior level stakeholders to formulate, validate and adopt reform priorities
- Experience of working in conflict-affected countries would be an advantage.
- Experience with and knowledge of UNDP policies and procedures desirable
- Experience with UN or international organization working in Iraq would be an advantage
- Demonstrated ability to write high quality technical reports in English
- Fluency in Arabic language and ability to conduct meetings in Arabic is an asset

8. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Score
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Master’s Degree or equivalent in Environment, Climate Change, Natural resource management, biodiversity, or related field. 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 10 years of relevant working experience in environment, green growth, green economy, and climate change-reform 	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of demonstrated experience in facilitating the formulation of national, local or sectoral strategies for environmental management 	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years of experience in conducting situation analyses and needs assessments related to environment and climate change reform in developing countries 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated experience in facilitating dialogue among national senior level stakeholders to formulate, validate and adopt reform priorities 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in conflict-affected countries would be an advantage. 	10

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience with and knowledge of UNDP policies and procedures desirable 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience with UN or international organization working in Iraq would be an advantage 	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated ability to write high quality technical reports in English 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency in Arabic language and ability to conduct meetings in Arabic is an asset 	5
TOTAL	100

9. ANNEXES

This section presents additional documents to facilitate the proposal preparation by the Consultant.

Annex 1: Code of conduct forms.



Adobe Acrobat
Document

The Consultant Firm and each member of the Assessment Team consultant will be requested to read carefully, understand and sign the “UN Code of Conduct.”

Annex 2: Dispute and wrongdoing resolution process and contact details (will also be provided at the time of signing the contract)