

Terms of Reference for Individual Contractor

Post Title:	Lead Author on Land Resources Chapter - Saudi Arabia State of Environment Report
Anticipated Starting Date:	As soon as possible
Duration:	75 Working days over a period of nine months
Language(s)	Fluency in English and Arabic is required
Location:	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia / Home-based
Project:	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
National or International consultancy:	International Consultant

A. Project Title

Lead Author on Land Resources Chapter - Saudi Arabia State of Environment Report

B. Project Description

Organizational Setting:

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. The Regional Office for West Asia delivers advisory services and capacity building support to countries to achieve environment and sustainable development objectives. This consultancy is established at the West Asia Office within the framework of the Strategic Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

State of the environment reporting (SOER) represents an instrumental way of developing and communicating environmental information to decision makers. SOER can also provide an early warning of emerging environmental problems (Emerging Issues); and identify knowledge and information deficiencies impeding the understanding and interpretation of environmental conditions and trends.

In this context, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (MEWA) recognized the importance of developing a state of environment report which will be an important pillar for setting a baseline for all future environmental policies and strategies in Saudi Arabia.

Building on a long-lasting relationship between UNEP and Saudi Arabia, both partners are collaborating to produce the State of Environment Report using the methodology adopted by UNEP known as the Integrated Environmental Assessment and the Drivers-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) framework.

The report will start with Part A (State of Environment), including seven priority themes: Air Quality, Climate Change, Waste, Biodiversity, Coastal and Marine Environment, Water Resources, and Land Resources. Each theme will be addressed using the DPSIR framework in a separate chapter led by a leading author with contributions from experts who will be nominated by (MEWA).

While Part B of the report will be focusing on the Kingdom's policies, goals, objectives, and environmental governance including an assessment of the Kingdom's policy effectiveness, Part C will be covering the outlooks and pathways to environmental sustainability within the Kingdom.

The objective of the consultancy is to recruit a **Lead Author** to lead the overall development of the Land Resources Chapter, working very closely with national experts and the Chief Editor. Each Chapter is expected to be initially 30-40 pages, including charts and diagrams which will be reduced by the Chief Editor as appropriate

The Consultant will report to the Regional Coordinator for Science at UNEP West Asia Office.

C. Duties and Responsibilities

The Consultant will carry-out, inter alia, the following duties & responsibilities:

- Provide methodological guidance to the national team;
- Take the overall responsibility for drafting the Chapter to given deadlines and according to the agreed outline and UNEP's referencing and style guide;
- Actively participate in project meetings and workshops and work closely with the UNEP's Science Regional Coordinator to provide oversight of the chapter;
- Gather and analyse update and relevant information, knowledge and data required for the chapter;
- Apply the DPSIR framework to the analysis of issues, trends and recommendations for actions;
- Ensure that manuscript is completed to a high standard, and delivered to UNEP West Asia Office in a timely manner and conform to the UNEP's guidelines for scientific credibility;
- Develop text that is scientifically, technically and socio-economically sound incorporating contributions by the national experts;
- Ensure that any crosscutting scientific or technical issues, which may involve several chapters are addressed in a complete and coherent manner;
- Take responsibility for referring any scientific credibility issues such as uncertainties and use of grey literature to UNEP's Science Regional Coordinator; and
- Ensure that all review comments are dealt with according to specific guidelines.

D. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

The expert will be expected to deliver the following outputs

Number	Deliverables	Anticipated working days	Anticipated target date
First deliverables	Inception report highlighting approach, methodology, data source, annotated outline and a timeline	20	30 October 2022
Second deliverables	First draft of the Chapter	30	30 November 2022
Third deliverables	Final well-written SoE report for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	25	30 March 2023
Total			75 working days

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E. Institutional Arrangement

The Lead Editor will be supervised by the Regional Coordinator for science in UNEP West Asia Office in close collaboration with the National coordinate from (MEWA).

F. Duration of the Work

The contract duration will be for an initial period of nine months (1 September 2022 to 30 May 2023).

G. Duty Station

This assignment will be mixed between home-based and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Travel:

- UNDP/UNEP will cover the cost of travel of the individual to the duty station, as well as their return to their home upon completion of their services. Travel costs are covered only in the event that the function will be undertaken physically in the duty station and exclude working from home arrangements.
- Include any official travel expected to be associated with performing the functions.
- Any change to the preliminary travel plan/schedule above, in such cases, UNDP/UNEP will cover travel costs in accordance with corporate regulations and rules.
- If unforeseen travel outside the assigned duty station is requested by UNDP/UNEP and not required by the Terms of References (ToR), such travel shall be covered by UNDP/UNEP in line with applicable rules and regulations and upon prior written agreement. In such cases, the consultant shall receive living allowances not exceeding the United Nations (UN) Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) rate for such other location(s).
- **Note:** A written approval from UNDP/UNEP and relevant authorities will be required to facilitate the consultant's travel to other locations than Riyadh on official missions where necessary.

H. Scope of Price and Schedule of Payments

1. All proposals must be expressed in a lump sum amount. This amount must be "all-inclusive". Please note that the terms "all-inclusive" implies that all costs (professional fees, living allowances, communications, consumables, etc.) that could possibly be incurred are already factored into the final amounts submitted in the proposal.
2. Payments shall be made to the individual contractor upon successful completion and certification by UNDP that services have been satisfactorily performed, based upon the actual number of working days.
3. Payment shall be made as a deliverables-based lump sum payment, to be paid in instalments. The schedule of payment will be distributed upon satisfactory submission of the deliverables listed in the table hereunder:

Payment	Phases	Estimated Duration to Complete	Payment Percentage
1st payment	Upon completion of the first and second deliverables	50 working days	50%
2nd payment	Upon submission and acceptance of third deliverables and final report	25 working days	50%

I. Qualifications of the Successful Individual Contractor

Education Qualification:

Master's (or higher) in Environmental Sciences, Agriculture or equivalent

Work experience:

At least 15 years of proven experience in land resources environmental assessment; and familiarity with the Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) methodology and DPSIR framework.

Competencies:

- Conceptualizes and analyses problems to identify key issues, underlying problems, and how they relate;
- Ability to identify beneficiaries' needs and to match them with appropriate solutions.
- Shares knowledge and experience and provides helpful feedback and advice;
- Excellent communication and interview skills (with groups and individuals);
- Excellent interpersonal skills and is able to negotiate with diplomacy and tact.
- Focuses on results for the client and responds positively to feedback.
- Ability to handle a large volume of work, possibly under time constraints.
- Strong time management and sensitive deadline abilities.
- Remains calm, in control and works well under pressure;
- Excellent report writing skills.

Required skills and competencies:

Previous working experience with recent Global Environment Outlooks (GEO) is an asset.

Desired additional skills and competencies

Knowledge of the National context of Saudi Arabia.

Required Language(s) (at working level)

Strong research and excellent technical writing skills in Arabic.

J. Recommended Presentation of Offer

For purposes of generating Offers whose contents are uniformly presented and to facilitate their comparative analysis, it is best to recommend the preferred contents and presentation of the Offer to be submitted, as well as the format/sequencing of their presentation. The following documents may

be requested:

- a) Duly accomplished **Letter of Confirmation of Interest and Availability** using the template provided by UNDP.
- b) **Personal CV or P11**, indicating all experience from similar projects, as well as the contact details (email and telephone number) of the Candidate and at least three (3) professional references.
- c) **Financial Proposal** that indicates the all-inclusive total contract price, supported by a breakdown of costs, as per template provided. The term “all-inclusive” implies that all costs (professional fees, travel costs, living allowances, communications, consumables, etc.) that could possibly be incurred are already factored into the final amounts submitted in the Proposal. If an Offeror is employed by an organization/company/institution, and he/she expects his/her employer to charge a management fee in the process of releasing him/her to UNDP under Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA), the Offeror must indicate at this point, and ensure that all such costs are duly incorporated in the financial Proposal submitted to UNDP.

K. Evaluation

Individual consultants will be evaluated based on the following methodologies:

Step I: Screening and desk review:

Individual consultants will be evaluated based on the following methodology.

Technical Criteria (CV review and Desk Review/Interview optional) – maximum 70 points. Only candidates who obtained **at least 70% of points from the CV desk review (who will score at least 49 points)** will be considered for the next stage of evaluation, i.e. financial evaluation.

Applications will be first screened and only candidates meeting the following minimum criteria will progress to the pool for shortlisting:

- Master’s (or higher) in Environmental Sciences, Agriculture or equivalent
- At least 15 years of proven experience in land resources environmental assessment; and familiarity with the Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA) methodology and DPSIR framework.
- Previous working experience with recent Global Environment Outlooks (GEO) is an asset.
- Knowledge of the National context of Saudi Arabia.
- Strong research and excellent technical writing skills in Arabic.

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 49 points (70% of the total technical points) would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

Weight Per Technical Competence	
5 (outstanding): 96% - 100%	The individual consultant/contractor has demonstrated an OUTSTANDING capacity for the analyzed competence.
4 (Very good): 86% - 95%	The individual consultant/contractor has demonstrated a VERY GOOD capacity for the analyzed competence.
3 (Good): 76% - 85%	The individual consultant/contractor has demonstrated a GOOD capacity for the analyzed competence.
2 (Satisfactory): 70% - 75%	The individual consultant/contractor has demonstrated a SATISFACTORY

	capacity for the analyzed competence.
1 (Weak): Below 70%	The individual consultant/contractor has demonstrated a WEAK capacity for the analyzed competence.

UNDP applies the “**Best value for money approach**” – the final selection will be based on the combination of the applicants’ qualification and financial proposal.

Financial proposal – Maximum 30 points

- Duly accomplished Confirmation of Interest and Submission of Financial Proposal Template using the template provided by UNDP (Annex II)

PRICE PROPOSAL AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The contractor shall submit a price proposal as below:

The total professional fee shall be converted into a lump-sum contract and payments under the contract shall be made on submission and acceptance of deliverables under the contract in accordance with the schedule of payment linked with deliverables. Financial proposal should include all relevant cost (consultancy fees, all envisaged travel costs, living allowances, etc.).

Financial evaluation - Total 30% (30 points)

The following formula will be used to evaluate the financial proposal:

$p = y (\mu/z)$, where

p = points for the financial proposal being evaluated

y = maximum number of points for the financial proposal

μ = price of the lowest-priced proposal

z = price of the proposal being evaluated

Interested applicants are advised to carefully review this advertisement and ensure that they meet the requirements and qualifications described.

Given the volume of applications that UNDP receives, only shortlisted offerors will be notified.

UNDP reserves the right to reject any incomplete applications.

Please be informed that we don’t accept applications submitted via email.

Interested Offerors are required to submit an application via UNDP Jobsite system as the application screening and evaluation will be done through UNDP Jobsite system. Please note that UNDP Jobsite system allows only one uploading of application documents, so please make sure that you merge all your documents into a single file. Your online application submission will be acknowledged where an email address has been provided. If you do not receive an email acknowledgement within 24 hours of submission, your application may not have been received. In such cases, please resubmit the application if necessary. Please combine all your documents into one (1) single PDF document as the system only allows to upload a maximum one document.

Any request for clarification/additional information on this procurement notice shall be communicated in writing to UNDP office or send to email mohammed.abbas@undp.org with a copy to nora.alzahid@undp.org. While the Procurement Unit would endeavour to provide information expeditiously, only requests receiving at least 3 working days prior to the submission deadline will be entertained. Any delay in providing such information will not be considered as a reason for extending the submission deadline. The UNDP’s response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying the source of inquiry) will be posted in the Individual Consultant (IC) Procurement Notice page as provided above. Therefore, all prospective Offerors are advised to visit the page regularly to make obtain update related to this Individual Consultant (IC) Procurement Notice

UNDP is committed to achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Individuals from minority groups, indigenous groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

UNDP does not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse, any kind of harassment, including sexual harassment and discrimination. All selected candidates will, therefore, undergo rigorous reference and background checks.

In view of the volume of applications UNDP receives, only shortlisted offerors will be notified.

L. Approval

This TOR is approved by: *[indicate name of Approving Manager]*

Signature _____
Name and Designation _____
Date of Signing _____