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**Terms of Reference**

**Environment Portfolio Outcome Evaluation**

Independent Outcome Evaluation for the “Environment Portfolio” .

**Location :** Kuwait

**Application Deadline :**

**Additional Category** Planning and development

**Type of Contract :** Government Contract

**Post Level :**

**Languages Required :** English   Arabic

**Starting Date :**

**Duration of Initial Contract :** 1 month

**Expected Duration of Assignment :** 1 month

Brief and Program Context

Kuwait’s commitment to environmental sustainability is of particular importance in the light of its dependence on oil production and its harsh climate. The Government of Kuwait has ratified several international Environmental conventions and agreements and therefore endeavors to comply with their requirements including on biodiversity, climate change, combating desertification, Control of Trans boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Ozone depleting substances Protection of the Sea Prevention of Pollution from Ships, Persistent Organic Pollutants, 1987)

According to the 2014 Kuwait report to ECOSOC on the progress of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and with regard to MDG7, Kuwait reduced consumption of ozone-depleting substances by 27.1% between 1993 and 2012. By 2010, it had also managed to eliminate completely CFC emissions, which had stood at 546 tons in 1993. In 2011-2012, Kuwait continued not to consume chlorofluorocarbons. However, carbon dioxide levels remain a major challenge for Kuwait; such emissions, in tons per capita, rose by 48 per cent between 1990 and 2010.

To protect the country’s diverse ecosystems, ensure the sustainability of its natural resources, and reduce pollutants to levels that are not harmful to health and the environment, Kuwait promulgated a comprehensive environmental act which sets forth national environmental protection regulations. Under that law, all entities engaged in economic activity are required to conduct environmental impact studies and the law also grants enforcement powers to environmental inspectors

With this backdrop, Kuwait still faces several environmental challenges such as the high demand and consumption of water and energy .Kuwait’s average annual water consumption per capita is among the highest in the world and average daily fresh water consumption, expressed in million imperial gallons, increased by 3 per cent between 2010 and 2011. Energy consumption in Kuwait, expressed in kilogram oil equivalent per capita, rose from 9,135 in 1995 to 11,402 in 2009, an increase of 44.6 %.

Within the framework of cooperation between UNDP and the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for planning and Development (GSSCPD), Environment is targeted is several dedicated outcomes and translated into two active projects aiming to ensure the compliance of public and private institutions in environmental regulations. The National authority in Kuwait mandated with the protection of the environment is the Kuwait Environment Public Authority (KEPA). Established in 1995, KEAPA is the official body entrusted with all the tasks and functions needed to protect the environment in the country and support the ministries and authorities to comply with the international agreements Kuwait’s government signed regarding the environment. The first UNDP project is the Kuwait Integrated Environmental Information Network managed by Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research (KISR). The second is the Kuwait Integrated Environmental Management System that is being managed by KEPA.

The environment portfolio is currently completing its final year of implementation. The GSSCPD and UNDP are seeking to conduct an independent outcome evaluation which will provide a comprehensive overall assessment of the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the Environment Portfolio as well as the issues and constraints facing its implementation.

Purpose of Evaluation:

This outcome evaluation exercise is commissioned by UNDP Kuwait, the evaluation will cover the environment portfolio outcomes. The evaluation will assess the impact and over all contribution of the environment portfolio toward achieving the CPD outcomes.

The evaluation will:

* Analyze the progress of the project activities, quality of results and impact vis - vis its expected outcomes
* Evaluate the Project management, coordination arrangements Highlight lessons learned in implementation and Project management and identify challenges for eventual corrective measures.
* Generate evidence based findings, conclusions and recommendations regarding the results, challenges, sustainability and cost-effectiveness.
* Analyze the reasons for deviations, if any, from the project goals and outcomes
* Meet with all stakeholders related to the projects under the Environment Portfolio.
* Further reflect on developments brought about by internal or external events and the possible resulting change in priorities
* Review the added value of UNDP support or cooperation with local and government authorities and local civil society actors in achieving the outcomes
* Provide concrete recommendations towards the sustainability of the results.
* Provide recommendations on improving strategies and suggest mechanisms and orientations for new phase of support as part of the new CPD (2015-2018).



Portfolio Overview:

The evaluation will assess the impact and contribution of the following projects towards the achieving the Country Program Outcome on the Environment portfolio

**Kuwait Integrated Environmental Information Network (KIEIN):** is a project created in partnership with the Kuwait Scientific Institute for research (KISR). KIEIN is an integrated GIS –based solution to unify, enhance, document, and disseminate essential environmental indicator data and spatial decision support system tools (SDSS) and services via the internet using Web GIS technology. The environmental geographic and attribute database developed in the previous KIEIN Phases I- III are currently accessible within KISR and serve as the foundation for the upcoming and final phase. This final phase will result in the study and documentation of environmental indicators and SDSS tools that are essential to protecting Kuwaiti habitats, and make that data information, and tools available in a GIS form that is not only useful, but also easy to access, here in Kuwait and around the world.

**Kuwait Integrated Environmental Management System (KEIMS**): in partnership with Kuwait Environment Public Authority, (KEPA) seeks to design a clear regulatory framework that provides guidance for promulgation of Kuwait environmental law. Simply having environmental laws in place is not enough to address environmental problems. To respond to the country’s urgent needs, an integrated air compliance and enforcement program will be established as part of a comprehensive environmental management cycle to ensure that the regulated community meets the requirements put forth in the environmental law and its implementing regulations. Ambient Air Quality Standards will set the foundation for the regulatory framework that comprises Chapter VII: Protection of the Ambient Air from Pollution. This project will establish the primary vehicle for implementing the law through development and implementation of a long-term national air quality improvement and management plan. An automated self reporting system will be set up to assist KEPA track and manage emissions and ensure plan implementation. A program infrastructure will be developed in KEPA supported by an automated Learning Management System (LMS) to track skill improvement and performance enhancement of KEPA staff

Scope Of Work:

The evaluator shall consider the following:

* review, evaluate projects under the Environment Portfolio and its achievements, effectiveness, relevance, efficiency , impact, timeliness, and sustainability:
* Meet and discuss with relevant project team, UNDP and relevant; stakeholders the project results, impacts and challenges;
* Propose recommendation and corrective actions to UNDP and GSSCPD with regards to the management of the project, its continuity and orientations
* Level of incurred changes; enabling environment, organizational and or individual change
* UNDP strategic positioning on achieving the outcomes
* Relevance of the outcomes and outputs
* Partnership strategy
* Sustainability: where there is ownership and capacity to maintain and manage development in the outcomes

The outcome evaluation should address, but not be limited to, the following questions and issues:

Outcome analysis

* Are the outcomes and associated project relevant, appropriate and strategic to the national goals and the UNDP mandate?
* Where the actions to achieve the outputs and outcomes effective and efficient?
* Where there multi-level interventions conducted (environment, organization, individual) how many?
* Are the outcomes and outputs leading to the benefits beyond the life of the project?
* Which findings may have relevance for eventual adjustments and /or future programing?
* To what extent did UNDP support positive changes in terms of gender equality and were there any unintended effects?
* What is the current status and prospects for achieving the outcome with the indicated inputs and within the indicated time frame?
* What are the main factors (positive/negative) within and beyond UNDP’s interventions that affected or are affecting the achievement of the outcome? How has these factors limited or facilitated progress towards the outcome?
* Were UNDP’s proposed contributions to the achievement of the outcome appropriate, sufficient, effective and sustainable?
* Are UNDP’s management structure and working methods appropriate and affective in achieving this outcome?
* What are the key outputs that have been produced by UNDP to contribute to the outcome?
* Are the UNDP outputs relevant to the outcome?
* Are the monitory and evaluation indicator appropriate to link these outputs to the outcome, or is there a need to approve the outcome?

Main partners to be involved in the evaluation are the General Secretariat Of Supreme Council for Planning And Development and the Environmental Protection Authority.

Deliverables and schedule:

The evaluator will be expected to produce the following:



Methodology

During the outcome evaluation, the evaluator is expected to apply the following approaches for data collection and analysis:

* Desk review of relevant documents: Project documents, Monthly reports.
* Discussion with senior management and program staff of UNDP country office
* Briefing and debriefing sessions with UNDP, government, as well as with other stakeholders.
* Interview with partners and stakeholders
* Field visits to select project sites and discussion with project teams
* Consultation meetings

**(The inception plan and the draft and the final evaluation report should be submitted by the Consultant in Arabic and in English.)**

Work Arrangements

The Assignment will be both home based and in Kuwait. The expert will be supervised by UNDP, in close coordination with GSSCPD.

Competencies

* Demonstrated ability to assess complex situations in order to succinctly and clearly distil critical issues and draw forward looking conclusions;
* Good knowledge of the UNDP Evaluation Policy;
* Knowledge of Result-Based Management Evaluation methodologies;
* Demonstrable analytical skills;
* Demonstrates integrity by modelling 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; fulfils all obligations to gender sensitivity and zero tolerance for sexual harassment;
* Strong communication skills.

Required Skills and Experience

**Education:**

* At least a Master degree or equivalent in development, strategic planning, public policy or a relevant field.

**Experience:**

* Extensive knowledge of, and minimum of 10 years of experience in applying qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods;
* Proven record in designing and leading evaluations;
* Technical competence in in strategic planning for development
* Good knowledge of the role of the UN, preferably UNDP and its programming;
* Background in Kuwaiti culture will be considered an asset.

**Language:**

* Excellent communication, reading and writing skills in both English and Arabic.

**Note:**

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

**Proposal:**

* A letter of confirmation of interest and availability describing why the individual consider him/herself as the most suitable candidate for this assignment;
* Technical proposal and methodology explaining how he/she will approach and complete this assignment;
* Financial proposal presented in a Lump sum with all inclusive fixed total contract price;
* The lump sum shall include all the cost components to enable the consultant’s work, such as, the consultant’s daily fee, travel, allowances, taxes, translations, communication, other as relevant. A breakdown of the lump sum is required;
* Completed and signed P11 form, if necessary the Consultant may supplement the P11 form with a personal CV including past experience in similar projects and at least 3 references.

**Evaluation:**

The individual consultant will be evaluated based on the cumulative analysis methodology and the award of the contract will be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

Responsive/compliant/acceptable, and

Having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation:

* Technical Criteria weight: 70%;
* Financial Criteria weight: 30%.

Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 70 % in their technical proposal would be considered for the Financial Evaluation.

Please note that any CV/P11 not submitted with a technical and financial proposal will not be considered.

Type of Consultancy: GSSCPD Contract

**Duration:** 30 working days

**Note:**

* This position will be on a governmental contract administered by the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development.
* As part of the application, the applicant must attach a CV.