**Term of Reference**

**UNDP Gambia Country Programme 2017 – 2021; Mid Term Review**

Post Title: Senior Mid Term Review Consultant Contract

Type : Individual Contractor (Internationa/National) Organizational

Unit : UNDP Duty Station : Banjul, The Gambia (with travel in the regions)

Duration of assignment : 20 days

Starting Date: Immediately

Deadline for application: August 2019

I. Background: a. Introduction

A new Country Programme Document (CPD) for Gambia (2017-2021) was formally adopted by the Executive Board in September 2016, signaling the formal start of a new programme cycle. UNDP Gambia Country Programme Document (2017-2021) is anchored on three major pillars, namely, i) Democratic Governance and Human Rights, ii) Inclusive and Sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction and iii) Energy and Environment and provides the framework within which programmes and project covering the implementation period were designed and are being implemented.

The CPD provided the basis for the design of a new set of fifteen multi-year programmes approved for implementation in September 2017 and which constituted the basis of UNDP’s programming in the new five year cycle.

Taking into account the above, the planned mid-term review will seek to assess progress towards the achievement of the CPD outputs/outcomes in order to understand UNDP’s contribution to both the UNDAF and the National Development Plan 2018 - 2021, drawing lessons that will then inform the remainder of the programme period. In this respect, the CO is planning to undertake a facilitated exercise that will look both internally and externally to inform the how and what as far as the remaining period of the programme cycle, drawing on experience and lessons learnt over the past period.

b. Changed Programming Context

The Country Programme Document and the UN Development Assistance Framework were approved prior to the historic 2016 Presidential election, which saw a win for a seven (7) party coalition under the leadership of Adama Barrow. This historic wind ushered in democratic change and an end to twenty-two years of authoritarian rule. The implication of this event on UN and UNDP programming has been significant. It has opened up the space for engagements on issues of democratic governance and has also enabled the UN/UNDP to work with key national partners on strength ting evidence based planning and monitoring based on true picture/reality on the ground rather that political realities. The new administration has initiated far reaching reforms into such sectors as transitional justice, security sector reform; media reform, constitutional review; civil service reform; access to justice/ human rights and rule of law and human reform among others., The situation compelled UNDP to enter into new territories as a concerted response to the transition as well needing to ensure alignment to the vision of the new government, new programming scenarios including the design of new programmes and mobilizing new resources against them. As a result, a substantial component of the current programme reflect a transitional support.

c. Objectives of the Review The objective of the mid-term evaluation is to assess the progress in achieving the results of the country programme, its relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of strategies in light of the development priorities of Gambia. Specifically the review will assess:

a. The relevance and strategic positioning of UNDP in support of Gambia’s poverty reduction objectives as articulated in the National Development Plan and the UN system delivering as one as articulated in the UNDAF;

b. The frameworks and strategies that UNDP has devised for its support on Inclusive Growth and SDGs; Democratic Governance and Environment and Sustainable Development, including partnership strategies, and whether they are well conceived for achieving the planned objectives.

c. The progress made towards achieving the 3 outcomes, through specific projects and programmes and the range of technical and advisory services in provides including contributing factors and constraints.

d. The progress to date under these outcomes and what can be derived in terms of lessons learned for future UNDP support to Inclusive Growth and SDGs; Democratic Governance and Environment and Sustainable Development and Propose areas of re-positioning and re-focusing of the CPD within the current Gambia’s development context, and in light of UNDP’s new Strategic Plan;

e. The relevance of the programme in delivery of the SDGs and African Agenda 2063.

d. Rationale for the Mid-Term Review

A key rationale for the mid-term review can be found under section 2 above, namely an opportunity for the CO to assess progress towards the achievement of the CPD outputs/outcomes in order to understand

UNDP’s contribution to both the UNDAF and the National Development Plan. It is a response to the changing programme context and the need for UNDP to assess the continuing relevance of its programme. In addition, consistent with UNDP policy guidance, all outcomes to which UNDP is contributing through aligned activities and planned outputs must be monitored. The mid-term evaluation is an opportunity to examine, as systematically and objectively as possible, the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, appropriateness and sustainability of the CPD in supporting Gambia’s development agenda as defined in the National Development Plan,. This exercise will allow UNDP to engage key stakeholders to discuss achievements, lessons learned and adjustments required in response to an evolving development landscape and changing national priorities. The exercise will allow UNDP to make any mid-course adjustments to the strategic direction of the country programme, as well as allocate resources as appropriate, ensuring it is aligned to national priorities and responsive to national demands. Even more importantly, the exercise will allow the CO to align its programme more strategically behind the imperatives of the New UNDP Strategic Plan, integrating the theory of change and benefitting from the body of knowledge, design parameters and other guidance generated over the recent past linked to the alignment exercise2.

II. Scope of Work:

The mid-term review will cover programme activities from 2017 to 2019. The geographic coverage will include all activities under the three pillar of the CO engagement. This will also cover the extent to which the programme strategy addresses several points of reference, namely, national priorities, as expressed in the National Development Plan (2017-2021), which seeks a stable, inclusive and unified middle-income country that brings higher standards of living to citizens and reduces major inequalities; the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and Gambia’s decision to become a Delivering as One self-starter; the UN Reform and delinking of the Resident Coordinator function;. UNDP interventions (output) have contributed to attainment of UNDAF Key results or outcomes.

III. Methodology and Approach

The review will adopt a participatory and inclusive approach, giving voice to different stakeholders involved in the implementation of the CPD as either IP, beneficiaries, partners or other stakeholders. This exercise will also rely on or consult documentation/ information from previous evaluations during the desk review. It is expected that the consultants to conduct the MTR will use an appropriate range of data collection and analysis methods to come up with findings, conclusions and recommendations for the questions mentioned above. The review exercise will be wide-ranging, consultative and participatory, entailing but not limited to a combination of comprehensive desk reviews, interview, focus groups and field visits as appropriate. While interviews are a key instrument, all analysis must be based on observed facts to ensure that the review is sound and objective. On the basis of the foregoing, the consultants will elaborate on the method and approach in a manner commensurate with the assignment at hand and reflect this in the inception report; which will subsequently be approved by the National Steering Committee in consultation with key stakeholders.

The work of the MTR Consultant I will be guided by the Norms and Standards established by the United Nations Evaluation Group. Team members will be requested to sign the Code of Conduct prior to engaging in the review exercise.

IV. Deliverables

Expected outputs of the Gambia CPD 2017 -2021 Mid-Term Evaluation will be the following:

 Support with the preparation of the inception report with the content mentioned in the annex 2a  Support with the preparation of the 1st draft (after in-cooperating comments of reference groups) MTR report of CPD 2017 – 2021 with the content mentioned in the annex 2b  Support with the presentation of summary of the Mid-Term Review report for Validation  Support with the preparation of the final Report of Mid-Term Review of CPD 2013 -2017 after incorporation of comments during the validation.

Payment of fees will be based on the delivery of outputs, as follows:  15% payable upon signing of contract to cover DSA and transport  25% upon submission of acceptable inception report  30% upon submission of acceptable draft report  30% upon satisfactory completion of assignment and endorsement of MTR by UNDP CO

V. Duration of contract Workdays for the Senior National Consultant will be for 20 workdays

Workdays will be distributed between the dates of contract signature. UNDP will pay the consultancy fees per working day. Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) will be paid per nights spent at the place of the mission following UN DSA rate applicable

VI. Qualification and Experience

Education: Qualification and competency required for the National Consultants are the following:  A Master degree in social sciences, political science, economics and related fields with at least 5 progressive years working in a similar field Experience:  Knowledge and expertise on development aspect of the country especially on Government and Human Rights and Gender and Environment  Significant knowledge and extensive experience of complex evaluations in the field of development aid for UN agencies (Preferably UNDP) and/or other international organizations

VII. Competencies & Skills

 Strong analytical and research skills with sufficient understanding of survey design, quantitative/qualitative methods and data analysis.

 Familiarity with UN (preferably UNDP) evaluation guidelines and processes is a plus.  Excellent written and spoken English. Writing skills that include an attention to detail as well as a grasp of conceptual frameworks  Outstanding interpersonal skills, teamwork, and competency to operate in a multi-cultural and diverse environment

VIII. Application Procedure

Kindly apply online at the following websites: http://jobs.lr.undp.org. At this site, you will be required to complete the online application form and also upload your CV to complete the process. PLEASE NOTE THAT ONLY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED ONLINE AT THE ABOVE JOB SITE WILL BE CONSIDERED.