**CONSULTANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Job Title: Terminal evaluation of the Regional Project: PIMS 3341- Adaptation to Climate**

 **Change- Responding to Coastline Change in its human dimension in West Africa**

 **through integrated Coastal Area Management (ACCC) - Gambia component**

**Contract Type: SC**

**Start of Consultancy: April, 30th 2012**

 **Terms of Reference**

1. **Background**
2. Basic background information on the Regional ACCC project (2008-2011): The interconnected coastal and marine environment of Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, and Cape Verde is a highly productive ecosystem of significant marine biological diversity. It also underpins a significant portion of livelihood opportunities of the coastal communities. However, several assessments based on country specific National Communications to the UNFCCC, the second assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as well as GEF-funded projects such as the African Process, have concluded that widespread coastal erosion due to climate change is one of the most serious anticipated environmental problems facing the region. Even though coastal erosion and sedimentation have been a reality for centuries in these countries, and are not solely a consequence of climate change due to anthropic carbon emission **,** both processes are strongly influenced by changes in climatic conditions. Given that all five countries are within the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem , any coastwise shift in climatic, hydro-graphical and oceanic conditions northward along the coast with global warming will be better identified and addressed by each of these countries if they understand the features and processes in neighbouring states.

The project was designed to foster such a collaborative effort by implementing a series of activities that can lead to the improvement in the adaptive capacity to climate change of sensitive coastline ecosystems in the five countries. At the heart of the project is a combination of community based demonstration projects and UNDP & UNESCO led support to facilitate and build capacity to foster national level integration of policies that promote adaptive capacity for climate change of coastline ecosystems.

**Brief description of the project**: The primary objective of the project is to maintain or strengthen communities and ecosystem resilience to climate change along the coastlines of participating countries. To achieve the objectives of the project, four outcomes were identified as follows **with only the first two items relevant to the Gambia:**

1. Pilot activities to increase the adaptive capacity and resilience of coastline ecosystems in regions vulnerable to climate change impacts implemented;
2. Climate change and adaptation issues and coastal area management policies and programmes integrated;
3. Monitoring of coastal erosion and capacity building in coastal management and planning enhanced, and
4. Learning, evaluation, and adaptive management increased

The implementation of the Project in the Gambia started in earnest in 2009 with the appointment of a National Project Coordinator in mid March 2009. The project was initially for a period of four years (2008-2011)

1. **Objectives of the evaluation:**

The objective of the evaluation is to is to assess progress of UNDP/GEF/GOTG interventions towards achievement of the ACCC project in terms of its objectives and to evaluate the efficacy of the strategies employed in contributing to the achievement of the outputs as well as generate lessons and recommendations that could be applied in enhancing the interventions towards achievement of the project outcomes. The evaluation should also generate lessons and experiences that could provide inputs or feed into the development of the next support.

1. **Scope of the evaluation:**

The evaluation will cover all activities supported by UNDP/GEF in the project and, where appropriate, in collaboration with other development partners that have contributed to the achievement of the outputs/activities. The evaluation is expected to generate lessons learnt, findings, conclusions and recommendations in the following areas of the project;

* An assessment of the adequacy of the project design, including adequacy of the institutional analysis and indicators for the achievement of outputs/activities;
* An assessment and analysis of the outputs/activities: whether they have been achieved in part or full as was intended, the reasons for any shortfall in their achievements and whether any unexpected results or outcomes have occurred. The evaluation should appraise their relevance to the intended overall project objectives;
* An analysis of factors within and beyond UNDP’s control that influenced performance and success of the project (including the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) in contributing to the realization of the project outputs;
* An analysis of whether UNDP’s interventions can be credibly linked to achievement of the overall objectives, including the key outputs and assistance provided, both soft and hard as well as how the support has influenced capacity development;
* Whether UNDP/GEF’s partnership strategy has been appropriate and effective including the range and quality of partnerships and collaboration developed with government, civil society, donors, the private sector and whether these have contributed to improved project delivery. The degree of stakeholder and partner involvement in the various processes related to the objectives. How can synergies be built with other projects within the UNDP Country Programme and those of other development partners (donors);
* Whether cross- cutting issues such as gender, ICT etc. were adequately addressed in the interventions and have contributed to the achievement of the objectives; and if not, establish the reasons for not addressing the cross-cutting issues and suggest the appropriate remedial measures to be taken into account under the next support.
* Explore whether the activities being implemented would contribute to smooth exit strategy or/and sustainability
1. **Expected outputs of the evaluation:**

The findings are expected to feed into the development process for any possible future support and provide valuable insights into the implementation of the Country Programme Action Plan and in particular for the achievement output related to the project’s outputs. The expected product from this terminal evaluation is an evaluation report for each project that provides findings, recommendations, and lessons learned from the following:

* Qualitative and quantitative assessment of progress made towards the achievements of the intended objectives
* Qualitative and quantitative assessment of relevant outputs;
* A rating on the relevance of the objectives and outputs
* Assessment of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats as well as possible partnerships for resource mobilization;

It should include but not be limited to the following;

* Lessons learned concerning best and/or less than ideal practices in producing outputs and achieving the objectives;
* Strategies and recommendations for exit or continued UNDP/GEF assistance towards the achievement of the objectives; and
* A monitor able action plan for follow – up.

**5. Methodology or Evaluation Approach**

The consultant may employ relevant and appropriate methods to conduct evaluations including review of documents, individual and group interviews/discussions with stakeholders and partners, field visits, use of questionnaires, etc.

**6. Composition of the Evaluation Team**

The evaluation team shall consist of one consultant who must be knowledgeable in the management of development programmes and strategies and project management in general with a good understanding of the environmental/natural resources situation in The Gambia, particularly in the area of climate change and related focal areas. The evaluation will last for a period of 15 working days effective 30 April 2012 or the day the contract is signed. The final report should be submitted latest Friday 18rd May 2012 by 13:30 pm (COB).

The selected consultant will have the responsibility for the overall co-ordination of the evaluation and for the final coherence of the reports, both in terms of content and presentation. **The consultant must have at least a masters’ degree in environmental science, development planning, or any of the social sciences relevant to the task and should have extensive experience in leading evaluations and report writing.**

The areas of expertise needed by the consultant are: i) knowledge of developmental issues ii) knowledge of results based management and iii) in-depth knowledge of the Gambian environment and local development and management issues being evaluated; iv) experience in evaluating UNDP/GEF environment related projects. Additional requirements include;

* The consultant should have not less than 5 years of professional experience in environment related development project negotiations & design, monitoring and management.
* Experience with organizational capacity building, programming and delivery mechanisms
* Qualifications in development planning, environmental/natural sciences, or related fields
* Knowledge and competencies/experience in organizational development, policy analysis, capacity building and mainstreaming crosscutting issues such as gender, environment, ICT etc
* Experience in technical cooperation programmes and projects would be an added advantage
* Knowledge of UNDP procedures and programme implementation strategies will be additional advantage

**8.Implementation arrangements**

A Joint UNDP CO and Government Evaluation Focal Team (EFT) will be established to guide and assist the Evaluation Team. This EFT will consist of the poverty programme specialist as head of poverty & Environment portfolio, Environment Programme Analyst/PA, Poverty & Environment Programme Associate and Project Focal Points in NEA/Task Manager to ensure close collaboration with the Government. The EFT/NEA/PA will be responsible for coordinating, organizing, and managing the evaluation including liaison with partners, backstopping and providing relevant documentation and feedback to the evaluation team.

**9. Evaluation timeframe**

The evaluation team shall work under the overall supervision of the EFT/NEA- NPC/PA according to the following timeframe: The evaluation will be undertaken over a period of 15 working days commencing 30 April 2012 in accordance with the following time frame:

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|  | Time frame | Main Activity |
| 1. | 3 days | * Desk Review and consultations with all stakeholders, especially with the EFT/NEA/PA/PS/PMU manager
* Submission of a short inception report to the EFT/NEA/PS/PA/PMU
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| 2. | 5 days | * Field Visit to project sites/discussion with beneficiaries
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| 3 | 7 days | * Preparation and submission of first draft Report
* Review of first draft, incorporation of comments, finalization and submission of two final evaluation reports (hard copies) and a soft copy of the report.
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***Submission of applications***

Interested candidates should send a one-page cover letter explaining their interest and suitability for this position, as well as an updated CV to the UNDP Country Office:

The Resident Representative

UNDP The Gambia

5 Kofi Annan Street

P. O. Box 553, Cape Point, The Gambia

Or through email: registry.gm@undp.org, indicating ‘**consultancy for the terminal evaluation of ACCC Project”** ’ in the subject field.

Closing date for applications is Monday 23rd April 2012 at 17:00hr. Any applications received after this date will not be given consideration. Only short-listed candidates whose applications correspond to the above criteria will be contacted for an interview.