

National Consultant Procurement Notice
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

Project/Outcome Information		
Position Title	National Water Resources Management Specialist	
Project	Catalytic Climate Action in Iraq	
Country	Iraq	
Assignment Duration	260 days over a period of 1 year (Possibility of extension)	
Assignment dates	17 th July 2022	14 th July 2023
Implementing party	United Nations Development Programme	
Advertised	30 May 2022	

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Climate Change is turning out a major driver behind growing water scarcity in the Tigris, Euphrates, and Shat Al-Arab river basins. The impact of climate change related water scarcity is regional in scope. The riparian countries, Iraq, Iran, Turkey and Syria are facing greater stress due to a combination of climate change and a combination of socio-economic factors, i.e. population explosion over the past 50 years, urbanization, rapid economic growth and growing industrialization. The challenge of water scarcity across the river-basins are expected to intensify and tensions over shrinking water shares could lead to conflicts between riparian countries.

To address the growing water needs, upper riparian countries have been engaged in expanding the networks of dams and reservoirs, which has led to massive reduction in downstream flows. The diversion of water by upper riparian countries of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers has serious consequences for water availability in Iraq. Dam and hydropower project constructions on the Tigris and Euphrates are estimated to have cut water to Iraq by 80 percent since 1975. The reduction in river flows has jeopardized agriculture, ecosystems and biodiversity and Iraq is losing an estimated 25,000 hectares of arable land annually, mostly in the south.

The growing water shortage coupled with water pollution (which is partially a side effect of the reduced water flows) affects the socio-economic life in Iraq in multiple ways; including the supply of potable water, very high levels of salinity, waterborne diseases resulting from drinking and usage of polluted water, chronic drought conditions in the southern Iraq resulting from shrinking downstream flows, threats to food security, loss of biodiversity especially in the southern marshlands, sea intrusion, land degradation, loss of livelihoods by agrarian communities and displacement of communities are a few to be noted.

Diverse challenges exist within different areas of Iraq over water shares, seasonal water supplies, water quality and access. These for example include the differential supply and quality of water between northern vs southern Iraq, the lack of water supply to the historic marshes which are also home to rich but at-risk biodiversity, the tensions within southern governorates and the issues between federal and Kurdistan region governments.

There is also a sectoral dimension to water supply and quality: like the excessive consumption of water in the agriculture sector (due to old style irrigation) vs a vs other sectors, the

polluting of rivers from urban, industrial and hospital sewage. Seasonal aspect of water management is important too, especially in the case of rain failures during winter which leads to subsequent shortages in summer for different downstream areas of Iraq. Southern farming communities and marsh Arabs are most vulnerable due to reducing and polluted water supply and are forced to abandon their communities and lifestyle.

In view of these growing risks to its society and economy, Iraq is looking for solutions to improve its water resources management regimen as well as to improve cooperation with upper riparian countries on transboundary water resources. Iraq is about to achieve accession to the UN Water Convention and this would require Iraq to address water as a basic human right issues and ensure supply of good quality water to all Iraqi citizens and sectors of economy. This may include developing new strategies, policies, laws and strengthening capacities, as well as adopting new technologies for efficient water resources management.

The National Water Resources Management Specialist will have a key role in supporting the Government of Iraq including federal, regional and provincial levels in identify challenges, devising opportunities and strategies and developing systems and capacities for effective water resources management.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

Recognizing the broad needs of the Government of Iraq with regards to capacity development for water resources management and improving cooperation with the upper riparian countries, UNDP is recruiting a set of national and international experts and institutes to provide advisory and capacity building support to the Government of Iraq.

The National Water Resources Management Specialist will be responsible for planning, implementation and coordination of UNDP's support to the Government of Iraq on water resources management internally in Iraq and on transboundary water cooperation. The Specialist will directly work with the Ministry of Water, and closely coordinate with the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, other national stakeholders and UNDP. The Specialist will be response for coordination with the international advisors, experts and institutes which would be hired by UNDP to provide policy and technical advisory to the Government of Iraq.

Towards this end, the Specialist is expected to support the following processes and activities specifically.

- Coordinate with the Ministry of Water, the Ministry of Environment and other key national, regional and provincial stakeholders with regards to implementation of the project activities;
- Coordinate the work of international experts and entities to plan and implement the supporting activities;
- Facilitate the preparation of workplans by the international experts and entities through consultations between the national stakeholders and service providing experts and entities;
- Coordinate national consultations on water resources management including holding meetings and workshops with participation of national, regional and provincial governments and other stakeholders; i.e. academia, civil society, media, private sector, youth and women organizations and others;

- In coordination with the UNDP Communications team and the Communications Specialist of the Environment, Energy and Climate Change (EECC) team, design a public awareness campaign on multidisciplinary water analysis of Iraq and implement it through social media, electronic media and other mediums as required;
- Facilitate meetings between the scientific community/academia and the national decision-makers to share results of scientific and academic studies on the water resources management, water flows, the impact of water scarcity on different aspects of life (society, economy and environment) and discuss approaches, technologies and solutions for effective management of water resources in Iraq;
- Support the conduct of Climate Vulnerability Assessment of Iraq by working closely with the selected entity, sharing data sources and facilitating stakeholder consultations and interviews etc
- Coordinate with relevant national stakeholders and international partners to organize the participation of Iraq government in the following fora: i) Meeting of Parties of the UN Convention on Water, ii) IWRG working group meeting, iii) visit to the Sava river commission and others iv) UNFCCC Conference of Parties;
- Coordinate with the selected entity and the Ministry of Water resources for development of a river-basin monitoring system for the Tigris and Euphrates rivers;
- Coordinate with UNAMI and national stakeholders (ministries of environment, water, agriculture and others) with regards to bilateral dialogue between Iraq and upper riparian countries over Tigris and Euphrates flows and cooperation;
- Support national consultations on water resources management and related activities; i.e. capacity assessment of water resources management system, development of concept notes for water resources management and formulation of laws, strategies, guidelines for effective water resources management;
- Organize dissemination of the developed concept notes, guidelines/laws/strategies and the capacity assessment with relevant stakeholders through participating in different fora, including public awareness raising through social and electronic media;
- Identify opportunities for UNDP support on water resources management and for resource mobilization in this regards;
- Closely work with the Project Manager of the Catalytic Climate Action in Iraq project with regards to UNDP support to Iraq on water resources management;
- Closely coordinate with the EECC Finance and Admin Officer regarding the financial and administrative management of the UNDP support to Iraq;

3. DELIVERABLES AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Sr.	Deliverables	Number of days	Expected deadline	Payment Percentage (%)	Location
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1	An Inception report including the following: i) brief description of the key elements for successful coordination with stakeholders on water resources management ii) list of key public sector, private sector and civil society stakeholders on water resources management, iii) Workplan with tentative dates of key activities described in the ToRs, and iv) list of policies, laws and key national studies on water	11 days	31 th July 2022	10%	
2.	First Report on coordination activities with the international advisors and the national stakeholders; including from public sector, private and civil society and the result of coordination activities	44 days	30 th September 2022	20 %	
3	Plan on awareness raising campaign on water resources management including through use of electronic media, print media, social media and other channels	22 days	31 th October 2022	10 %	
4	Report on participation of Iraq delegations in different international forums on water resources management	22 days	30 th November 2022	10 %	
5	Report on the progress on river-basin monitoring system	22 days	31 st December 2022	10%	
6	Report on the completion of the climate vulnerability assessment	22 days	January 2023	10 %	
7	Second Report on stakeholder coordination and different consultations and the progress achieved on water resources management and transboundary cooperation with support from UNDP	66 days	30 th April 2023	20%	
8	Final Report on all completed activities and the results achieved	51 days	14 th July 2023	10 %	
	Total	260 days		100%	

4. LOCATION AND TIMEFRAME

The activities may involve a combination of homebased, work from UN compound and will include field travel to different parts of Iraq and may involve international travel as well. The position is being recruited from 17th July 2022 to 14th July 2023.

5. MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The assignment is commissioned by UNDP Iraq's Energy, Environment and Climate Change Pillar (EECC). The National Water Resources Management Specialist will report to the Project Manager of the Project Manager of the Catalytic Climate Action in Iraq Project.

This TOR shall be the basis for assessment of the compliance of selected Consultant to the assignment requirements. As part of the assignment:

UNDP will provide office space to the consultant as and when required
UNDP will support with security clearances and travel protocols in Iraq
UNDP may provide the consultant a laptop, if required (own not available)

- The Evaluation Consultant is expected to:
 - use her/his own mobile and personal email address during the consultancy period, including when in-country.
 - make her/his own travel arrangements to fly to Iraq and make transportation arrangements outside work hours.

6. QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

Education

Master's degree in hydrology, geography, environmental management, climate change or other relevant discipline. In addition, the Consultant must possess the relevant competencies listed below.

Work Experience

- Five (5) years' experience in water resources management required;
- Three (3) years of experience of working with national or provincial governments on water resources management required;
- Experience in coordination with stakeholders and organizing consultative events is desirable;
- Experience in awareness raising activities, use of media, social media and communications desirable;
- Experience of working with the United Nations or an international organization is an advantage
- Fluency in spoken and written English and Arabic is required.

Corporate Competencies

- Demonstrates commitment to the UN's values and ethical standards.
- Promotes the mission, vision and strategic goals of UNDP.
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability.
- Treats all people fairly and with impartiality.

Functional Competencies

- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude.
- Identifies priorities, allocates time and resources, foresees risks and allows for contingencies.
- Ability to work under pressure and to meet deadlines.
- Demonstrates excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstrates openness to change and ability to manage complexities.
- Self-reliant and able to work as a part of a multi-cultural team in a stressful.
- Establishes and maintains productive partnerships with clients by gaining their trust and respect.

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Scores (Maximum 100 points)
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Master's degree in hydrology, geography, environmental management, climate change or in other relevant subjects.	10
Five (5) years' experience in water resources management required	20
Three (3) years of experience of working with national or provincial governments on water resources management required	20
Experience in coordination with stakeholders and organizing consultative events is desirable	15
Experience in awareness raising activities, use of media, social media and communications desirable	15
Experience of working with the United Nations or an international organization is an advantage	10
Fluency in spoken and written English and Arabic is required	10
TOTAL SCORE	100

8. ANNEXES

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

Annex 1: Code of conduct forms.



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.”