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TERMS OF REFERENCE

Job title:	National Consultant to update the Teachers Guide pertaining to “Renewable Energy Sources” Manual for 7th – 8th – 9th grade students
Duty station:	Chisinau, Moldova
Reference to the project	Moldova Energy and Biomass Project, Phase II
Contract type:	Individual Contract (IC)
Duration of the assignment:	March - May 2016

A. BACKGROUND and CONTEXT OF THE ASSIGNMENT:

The first phase (2011-2014) of the Moldova Energy and Biomass Project (MEBP) with a budget of 14.56 million EUR project, funded by the European Union and UNDP and implemented by UNDP, succeeded to contribute to a more secure, competitive and sustainable energy production in the Republic of Moldova through targeted support to the most viable and readily available local source of renewable energy, which is biomass from agricultural wastes.

In 2015 the project entered its second phase in the framework of the Eastern Partnership Integration and Cooperation (EaPIC) programme, based on its continued high relevance and the clearly identified need to further support the consolidation of the emerging biomass market in the country. The extension timeframe spans until the end of 2017 with additional EU-funding of 9.46million EUR.

The main objective of the project extension is to scale up the successful activities and extend them to so far not covered or underrepresented regions, specifically Transnistria, Gagauzia and Taraclia, and to support the further consolidation of the Biomass market.

Getting the younger members of the society informed about the benefits of clean, low-cost energy that can be produced from renewable local sources, including biomass, will contribute to increasing the societal acceptance of biomass as a sustainable source of energy for Moldova and will bring a long-term change within the Moldovan society regarding energy efficiency and use of renewable materials.

In this context, educating the school children of 7th, 8th and 9th grades on renewable energy sources in general, and biomass in particular, within public schools from the MEBP target communities will contribute to the change of behaviour of the young generation.

Within the first phase of the Moldova Energy and Biomass Project (2011 – 2014), via its training and capacity development component, comprehensive educational activities for teachers and students from MEBP target localities were deployed. A Teacher’s Guide (2012) and a Student Manual (2014) were developed to support the education initiative in schools. An optional course on “Renewable Energy Sources” for 7th-8th grade students was taught and more than 19000 students enhanced their knowledge in this regard. The optional course was taught based on an educational programme elaborated by a group of experts and endorsed by the Ministry of Education.

Within MEBP II phase, the Educational Initiative further expanded the activities within the “Educational Initiative” not only to the newly identified target communities by offering the optional course for 9th grade students but also updated and revised the Manual “Renewable Energy Sources”. A subsequent revision of the Teachers’ Guide pertaining to the Manual is further required.

B. OBJECTIVE, KEY ACTIVITIES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

The main objective of the assignment is to support the Ministry of Education and MEBP in its efforts to update and revise the Teachers Guide pertaining to the Manual for the 7th – 9th grade students for the optional course on “Renewable Energy Sources”.

In order to achieve the stated objective, the consultant is expected to perform the following tasks:

1. In-depth analysis of the available educational programme and educational materials pertaining to the optional course on „Renewable Energy Sources” mainly the existing Teacher’s Guide elaborated in 2012 and Students Manual;
2. Consult the main stakeholders previously involved in the implementation of the optional course „Renewable Energy Sources” – the Ministry of Education and school teachers - regarding the content of the educational materials and the teaching process of the optional course;
3. In parallel, study best practices at the regional and international level on elaborating Teachers Guide for optional courses in the field of renewable energy, specifically biomass, and energy efficiency. Based on the comparative analysis of the best practices identify the most relevant model for Moldova. Specific examples of countries with similar experience that can be replicated in Moldova and practical recommendations for implementation shall be incorporated in the Final activity report;
4. Conduct a thorough analytical review of best practice and lessons learned during the MEBP I phase regarding the implementation of the optional course on “Renewable Energy Sources” for 7-th-8th grade students;
5. Based on the conclusions reached after the completion of Activities 1, 2, 3 and 4, elaborate the revised version of the Teachers Guide for the optional course on “Renewable Energy Sources” for 7th – 8th – 9th grade students ;
6. Consult the content of the Guide with the respective department of the Ministry of Education and other relevant stakeholders: Agency for Energy Efficiency, Institute for Continuing Education, school teachers previously involved in the teaching process of the course, experts, etc.; Incorporate their comments and views where relevant.

C. DELIVERY TIMEFRAME:

Deliverable	Timeframe
Work plan for the assignment	15 March 2016
Analysis of the educational programme and educational materials pertaining to “Renewable Energy Sources” conducted	22 March, 2016
Draft Teachers Guide pertaining to the optional course on “Renewable Energy Sources” developed	15 April 2016
Consultation meeting with the main stakeholders regarding the content of the Guide conducted	30 April 2016
Final report including stakeholders comments and views	15 May 2016

Note: Exact dates for deliveries will be confirmed upon the selection of the candidate. The volume of work has been estimated at up to **25 working days for whole assignment** during which all the activities and outputs/results envisaged under the present assignment are expected to be performed. The mentioned number of working days has been estimated as being sufficient/ feasible for the envisaged volume of work to be completed successfully and is proposed as a guideline for the duration of assignment, and it cannot be used as criteria for completion of work/assignment. The provision of envisaged deliverables approved by the Project Team would be the only criteria for the Contractor’s work being considered completed and eligible for payment/s.

D. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS:

Organizational setting: The consultant will work in close cooperation with the Training and Capacity Building Officer and under the overall guidance of the Project Manager of Moldova Energy and Biomass Project. PMT will put at the contractor's disposal all available materials and necessary information for the achievement of tasks and will facilitate the meetings, as needed.

The payment for services provided by the Consultant under the MEBP will be made on a lump-sum basis upon the service delivery and acceptance by MEBP according to the timeframes stated above.

All in-country transportation related to this assignment will be provided by MEBP, upon preliminary coordination.

E. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- University degree in Education, Social Sciences or other related field. An advanced degree or/and substantive relevant work experience would constitute an advantage;
- At least 5 years of previous experience in elaborating school curricula, manuals, guides including for school courses;
- Extensive experience in developing teachers guides, educational plans, etc., pertaining to biology classes; environment protection; ecological education, and other school subject relevant to renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- Demonstrated understanding and knowledge of optional school program principles;
- Excellent analytical, writing, drafting and planning skills;
- Good understanding of the biomass market in Moldova would constitute an advantage;
- Strong interpersonal communication skills at all levels;
- Excellent proficiency in Romanian and Russian. Knowledge of written and spoken English is an advantage;
- Proven commitment to the core values of the United Nations, in particular, respecting differences of culture, gender, religion, ethnicity, nationality, language, age, HIV status, disability, and sexual orientation, or other status.