



# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

## TERMS OF REFERENCE / INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT

### I. Job Information

Job Title:	International consultant on mainstreaming climate-fragility risks into water policies and river basin management plans
Type:	Individual Contract
Project Title/Department:	Climate Change and Resilience in Central Asia / Environment and Climate Action Cluster
Duration of the assignment:	Up to 30 working days: March– December 2022 (expected start date of assignment is March 7, 2022)
Duty station:	Remote, with the possible travels to Ferghana Valley (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan)
Work status:	Part-time
Reports to:	Regional Project Manager

### II. Background

Central Asia is highly vulnerable to climate change. In a region that is subject to multiple stressors, climate change exacerbates existing vulnerabilities. Central Asia is warming faster than the global average. Average annual temperatures have risen by 0.5 degrees Celsius over the last three decades and are forecast to increase by 2.0 to 5.7 degrees Celsius by 2085. This is evidenced by substantial reductions in mountain snowpack and the depleted volume of the Tien Shan glaciers and permafrost, releasing carbon and methane stocks which contribute to further warming. The region is projected to experience increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, changing precipitation patterns and increased drought. These impacts add pressure to already stressed and overexploited natural resources, thereby increasing the vulnerability of rural communities and their livelihoods. Whilst climate change rarely results in direct security threats, climate change interacts with existing stressors, including socioeconomic, political, and natural hazards, to undermine resilience.

A particularly complex challenge is the water-food-energy nexus because electricity and food production rely on scarce water resources. Increasing frequency of climate-induced extreme weather events and disasters can put communities and their livelihoods at risk, which in turn can push people to migrate on a large scale or to turn to illegal sources of income. Climate-induced disruption of food production and increasing food prices can lead to social instability. Impacts on energy production caused by higher temperatures and lower precipitation, as well as threats to energy production and transmission infrastructure from extreme weather events put supply chains and energy supply at risk. Increasing demand for water and an unreliable supply increase pressure on existing water governance arrangements and can complicate political relations, particularly at transboundary basins already affected by tensions.

To address these challenges UNDP, with the financial support from EC, is implementing a regional project “**Climate Change and Resilience in Central Asia**” with overall objective to support stability and climate resilient development in the Ferghana Valley, a trans-border area of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The project will (i) improve knowledge of climate-fragility risks amongst stakeholders at local, national, and regional levels; (ii) facilitate risk-informed policymaking and transboundary resource management; and (iii) support practical risk reduction interventions. Early warning and prevention measures will be enhanced. Knowledge base will be increased through targeted public awareness campaigns to ensure growing consciousness on climate-induced vulnerability implications and spill-over effects and climate change resilience.

### III. Functions / Key Outputs Expected

The **objective** of the assignment is to support national project teams in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan in mainstreaming climate-fragility risks into water policies and river basin management plans to improve sustainable use of water resources in the Ferghana Valley.

To meet the objective, the consultancy will provide expertise and necessary resources to deliver the following tasks:

**Task 1. Support national teams in selecting river basins at the national level in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan (Outcome 2, activity 2.2)**

- Desktop review of existing key water policies and river basin plans, particularly considering how they currently address climate change and resilience risks.
- Develop criteria for selecting river basins in the Ferghana Valley, a trans-border area of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan (one river basin will be selected in each programme country).
- With the support of UNDP COs in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan agree selection criteria and selected river basins with national counterparts.

**Task 2. Mainstreaming climate resilience risk into water policies and river basin management plans (Outcome 2, activity 2.1)**

- Review existing agreements between Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan on water allocation in Ferghana Valley (bilateral or regional).
- Assess climate sensitive water allocation systems and transboundary rivers in Andijan, Namangan and Fergana Provinces (level of climate risks and resilience).
- Conduct a training for national teams on introduction of climate resilience risks into national water policies
- Identify priority policy documents in water sector to be included in the strategic review and adaptation planning to mainstream climate-fragility risks. (Prioritisation will be carried out through a national consultative process).
- Support national consultants to conduct situation analysis of river basins in the Ferghana Valley. During the situation assessment civil protection and disaster risk reduction, water and agriculture, land management, energy, health, rural development, urban development sectors will be considered.

**Task 3. Based on the results of the desk review and situation assessment to validate policy documents and water management plans (Outcome 2, activity 2.2)**

- Provide technical advice and support to national consultants to integrate climate-fragility risks into river basin plans
- Conduct presentation and prepare a policy brief summarizing the finding of the climate mainstreaming into water policies
- With the support of UNDP COs in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan agree river basin plans and revised policy documents (water code, strategy, or concepts on water sector) that mainstream climate fragility risks with national counterparts.

**IV. Deliverables / Timeframe**

#	Deliverables	Timeframe	Payment Conditions
D-1	An inception report, including selection criteria of river basins, final report structure, timeline, a list of national government institutions, private sector, and other stakeholders to be consulted (5 days - 20%).	10 April 2022	40%
D-2	Report from the trainings for the national teams on introduction of climate resilience risks into national policies and situation analysis of river basins (4 days - 20%).	15 May 2022	
D-4	Draft report consisting of three national reports of mainstreaming climate resilience risk into water policies Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan (8 days - 20%).	31 August 2022	60%
D-5	Final report consisting of three national river basin plans and reports on mainstreaming climate resilience risk into water policies (including a summary of purpose, methodology and key findings indicating recommendations) (10 days - 30%).	30 September 2022	
D-6	Presentation and policy brief summarizing the finding of the assessments and recommendations targeting decision makers at national and local level (3 days 10%)	20 October 2022	

**V. Management/organizational arrangements**

The consultant will work under guidance and technical supervision of Regional project manager and IRH CDT Team Leader. He/she will also work closely with the UNDP Country Offices in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and other partners.

**VI. Payment conditions**

A total lump sum fee should be submitted which includes the all-inclusive fixed total contract price supported by a breakdown of costs.

Note: Instalments will be based on invoices on achievement of agreed milestones, i.e. upon delivery of the services specified in the TOR and certification by the UNDP. No costs other than what has been indicated in the financial proposal will be paid or reimbursed to the consultant.

Travel cost will be covered separately.

### VII. Qualifications Requirements

Education:	a. Master's degree in environmental management, water management, climate change, environmental policy, economy or related areas.
Work experience:	b. A minimum of 10 years of progressive experience related to scoping and facilitating research, policy development, evaluation and review in water management, climate change adaptation, climate change and security, natural resources and/or environmental management, transboundary collaboration/partnership. c. Work experience, familiarity with multi-stakeholder dialogue and knowledge and experience exchange and understanding of sustainable partnerships and their ecosystems in Central Asia region.
Languages:	d. Fluency in written and spoken Russian and English is required and mandatory for this assignment.
Competencies:	f. Functional competencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent communication and management skills and demonstrable capacity to work with a multi-national team and to work with government institutions</li> <li>• Demonstrated ability to develop strategies and communication plans</li> <li>• Openness to change and ability to receive/integrate feedback</li> <li>• Ability to work under pressure and stressful situations</li> <li>• Strong analytical, reporting and writing abilities.</li> </ul> Corporate competencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standards</li> <li>• Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP</li> <li>• Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability</li> <li>• Treats all people fairly without favoritism</li> <li>• Fulfills all obligations to gender sensitivity and zero tolerance for sexual harassment.</li> </ul>

### VIII. Evaluation of Applicants

Individual consultants will be evaluated based on a cumulative analysis **taking into consideration the combination of the applicants' qualifications and financial proposal.**

The award of the contract should be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as:

- a) responsive/compliant/acceptable, and
- b) having received the highest score out of a pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.

Only candidates who receive min 70% of points in desk review (Criteria A-D) will be considered for interviews. Only candidates who receive min 70% of points in technical evaluation (Criteria A-E) will be considered for the financial evaluation.

Technical Criteria - 70% of total evaluation – **max. 70 points:**

Criteria A – (desk review) Advanced university degree in the fields related to environmental management, water management, climate change, environmental studies, climate policy – max. 10 points.

Criteria B – (desk review) years of professional experience in water management and climate change – max. 20 points.

Criteria C – (desk review) Experience with implementing water policy at the national and/or sectoral levels in CA countries) – max. 20 points.

Criteria D – (desk review) Fluency in written and spoken Russian and English is mandatory and other skills are in asset – max. 10 points.

Criteria E – (interviews) Understanding of topic and experience with implementing water policy in CA: up to 10 points.

Financial Criteria - 30% of total evaluation – **max. 30 points**

## IX. Application procedures

The application submission is a two-step process. Failing to comply with the submission process may result in disqualifying the applications.

Step 1: Interested candidates must include the following documents when submitting the applications (Please group all your documents into one (1) single PDF attachment as the system only allows upload of one document):

- **Cover letter** explaining why you are the most suitable candidate for the advertised position. Please paste the letter into the "Resume and Motivation" section of the electronic application.
- Filled P11 or CV form including past experience in similar projects and contact details of referees (blank form can be downloaded from [http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/P11\\_modified\\_for\\_SCs\\_and\\_ICs.doc](http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/P11_modified_for_SCs_and_ICs.doc))

Step 2: Submission of Financial Proposal - Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and requested to provide a financial offer.

**Payments** will be made only upon confirmation of UNDP on delivering on the contract obligations in a satisfactory manner.

*Individual Consultants are responsible for ensuring they have **vaccinations**/inoculations when travelling to certain countries, as designated by the UN Medical Director. Consultants are also required to comply with the UN **security directives** set forth under [dss.un.org](http://dss.un.org)*

**General Terms and conditions** as well as other related documents can be found under: <http://on.undp.org/t7fJs>  
Qualified **women** and members of **minorities** are encouraged to apply.

*Due to large number of applications, we receive, we are able to inform only the successful candidates about the outcome or status of the selection process.*

## IX. Signatures- Post Description Certification

Incumbent

Signature

Date

Supervisor

Isomiddin Akramov  
Climate Change and Resilience  
Regional Project Manager  
UNDP CO Uzbekistan

Signature

Date: February, 2022