

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANT

Background and objectives

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), through its Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), has launched a UN System SDGs Action Database in May 2018, based on the results of a survey conducted in December 2017 to the member entities of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs as well as UN Conventions secretariats and research institutions (ECESA Plus).

The database allows for a searchable overview of UN system entities' responses to the survey, including strategic decisions, programmes, measures adopted by their respective governing bodies; specific measures and actions initiated or planned by the Executive Heads of each organization, including their contributions to HLPF; lessons learned, gaps; capacity building support to developing countries; how they address the transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda, such as interlinkages, integration, universality, multi-stakeholder partnerships, "leaving no one behind", and peer learning, among others. It also shows their various views on a strategic plan of the UN system in support of the 2030 Agenda. It is possible to navigate the online database by entity, by question, or by using its user-friendly filtered search tool.

The overall objective of the consultancy is to (i) provide an independent and neutral viewpoint on UN system-wide dynamics, including using information contained in the UN System SDGs Action Database, and identify elements for a possible UN System Roadmap for SDGs implementation; (ii) provide recommendations to further improve the UN System SDGs Action Database.

Work Assignment

The following work assignments will be carried out in a period of two months:

1. Desk review of all relevant documents, analyzing available information in the UN system SDGs Action Database and various UN system entity websites as appropriate;
2. Identify areas that overlap and areas that require more attention by the ECESA Plus members to further improve system-wide efficiency in implementing the 2030 Agenda;
3. Identify and propose elements for a possible UN System Roadmap for the 2030 Agenda;
4. Extract relevant data that can be used by the Division to prepare infographics etc.

5. Make recommendations on ways to further improve the UN System SDGs Action Database.

Methodology of the midterm evaluation may include, but is not limited to the following: (i) desk-review of project documents, reports, substantive materials; (ii) interview of UN system entities; (iii) analysis of qualitative and quantitative data.

Duration of contract

The contract is for a duration of 2 months.

Duty Station or Location of Assignment

The Consultant is not required to work in a UN office.

Travel

The Consultant is not required to travel for the performance of the assignment.

Expected outputs

- Outline of methodology and schedule for completing the activities;
- Draft report presenting work assignments 2-5;
- Final report presenting work assignments 2-5.

The outputs documents will be delivered by electronic word format.

Qualifications

- A Master's Degree or higher in Business Administration, Economics, Sustainable Development or a related field. A Bachelor's Degree with 2 years of experience is in lieu of a Master's degree.
- Minimum of 7 years' experience in the monitoring and evaluation of development projects and/or programmes is required for candidate with a Master's Degree or higher and minimum of 5 years' experience in the monitoring and evaluation of development projects and/or programmes is required for candidate with a Bachelor's Degree.
- Proven competency in production of analytical reports in quantitative and qualitative research methods is required;
- Fluency in English is required.
- Experience in assessing system-wide performance will be an asset;
- Experience in assessing UN system performance will be a distinct asset;