

## Terms of Reference

### Consultant - International ESS, Gender and Climate Expert

#### Lebanon's Green Climate Fund Readiness Project

Issued on: 06 April 2022

#### Background:

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest dedicated fund helping developing countries to act on climate change. It was established by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010. By channeling climate finance to developing countries, the GCF plays a crucial role in serving the goals of the Paris Agreement on climate change, adopted in 2015.

The Ministry of Environment in Lebanon is currently leading the implementation of the *"Strengthening and enhancing Lebanon's institutional arrangements and capacity to enable and optimize access to the Green Climate Fund"* project (2020-2022) which aims at supporting Lebanon to efficiently tap into the fund. The GCF promotes gender mainstreaming in its design and implementation of its projects, thus the current consultancy aims has to promote gender sensitive activities and environmental and social safeguards (ESS) targeting women and women groups as part of the beneficiaries. Therefore, Lebanon has to align itself with GCF requirements and expectations which entail the following:

1. National sectoral projects and policies have to clearly identify their linkages to climate change;
2. The government has to coordinate and prioritize its needs across all sectors and stakeholders (this includes CSOs, the private sector and municipalities), and incorporate those priorities and needs in a **Country Programme** for engagement with the GCF;
3. The national focal point of the fund, called the Nationally Designated Authority (NDA) (in Lebanon's case, the Ministry of Environment), has to be capacitated, both technically and legally, to coordinate Lebanon's access to the fund and to evaluate project proposals. This includes the development and implementation of a clear and institutionalized procedure (called the **No Objection Procedure**, NOP) to evaluate, select and prioritize GCF proposals from all stakeholders in line with national priorities;
4. The Ministry of Environment has to draft a **Gap Assessment Report** detailing: (1) the Government and the Ministry's strengths that facilitate alignment with GCF requirements, including on environmental and social safeguard (ESS) and gender, (2) the weaknesses and gaps that may hinder/delay alignment with GCF requirement, (3) the capacity building needs to overcome weaknesses and gaps.

#### Objective of the consultancy:

The Objectives of the consultancy are:

- to ensure that a gender sensitive approach to climate finance in the country is guaranteed, whereby women's participation in training workshops, demonstration activities and management committees will be strongly promoted.
- to ensure that Environmental and Social Safeguards principles and guidelines are mainstreamed throughout project outputs and within relevant institutions

The consultancy will focus on 3 areas of activities, where the Gender and ESS lens will be applied in order to support the Development of Gender and ESS operational guidelines/strategy for the functioning of the NDA.

1. Production of capacity building material and design and implementation of capacity building activities
2. Preparation and submission of GCF proposals
3. Monitoring and evaluation

### **General Terms:**

- The International ESS, Gender and Climate Expert will be engaged in a fixed- price consultancy contract for a 3 month.
- The selected candidate will work under the direct supervision of the National Technical Coordinator at the Ministry of Environment.

### **Qualifications, Experience and Skills**

#### Education:

- Advanced University Degree (Master's degree or equivalent; PhD an asset) in Environmental/Climate/Sustainable Development studies, Social Development, Law, Economics, Political Science, or International Relations or related fields of study. Background in other areas may be considered based on experience and performance in previous positions.

#### Experience:

- A minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible experience in sustainable development with exposure to gender policy, environmental and social safeguards (ESS) and climate policy;
- Demonstrated experience in GCF requirements and guidelines and their implementation with national governments of developing countries and international organizations;
- Knowledge of environmental and social risks in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives in developing countries, particularly in Lebanon and/or the MENA region;
- Knowledge of institutional mandates, policies and operations in relation to ESS, Gender and Climate Change in developing countries, particularly in Lebanon and/or the MENA region;
- Strong experience in working on issues of environmental justice and equity with stakeholders from developing countries, particularly in Lebanon and/or the MENA region;
- Familiarity with the climate policy and finance landscape and institutional arrangements of Lebanon, particularly in the context of implementation of the GCF readiness project is strongly desired.

### Language and Other skills:

- Fluency in both spoken and written English (working language);

### Competencies:

#### Professionalism and technical skills:

- Working and liaising with public administration, development partners, United Nations system NGOs, academia, and the private sector;
- Conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results.

#### Functional skills and abilities:

- Experience and demonstrated ability in conducting research;
- Strong analytical skills and ability to adapt to national context;
- Excellent communication and organizational skills;
- Proactive, motivated and meticulous with an ability to be flexible and adaptive;
- Strong exposure and knowledge of Microsoft office applications, mainly, Excel, Word, Power Point

### Scope:

Under the supervision of the National Technical Coordinator at the Ministry of Environment, the consultant shall carry out the below tasks. The Project Management Unit (PMU) will provide backstopping support with necessary information and data, which it can access from different consultancy services for the project. The following tasks will be performed:

#### **Task 1: Produce capacity building material and operational guidelines**

- Desk review of the following deliverables developed and implemented under the present GCF readiness project, with particular emphasis on gender and ESS elements:
  - o The gap assessment report and related capacity building plan
  - o Guidelines, factsheets and other capacity building and awareness material
  - o Workshops and consultations
  - o Stakeholder engagement
- Identify gaps in capacity building material and guidelines, with a special focus on the 3 areas of activities mentioned in the objectives section of the ToR.
- In consultation and agreement with the PMU, develop appropriate capacity building material. This could be in the form of guidance notes, booklets, manuals or others, and should all integrate the GCF operational guidelines focusing on gender and ESS.

#### **Task 2: Design, prepare and participate in capacity building activities**

- In consultation and agreement with the PMU, define and conceptualize capacity building workshops and/or trainings related to the 3 areas of activities mentioned in the objectives of the ToR, to be implemented during the consultancy.
- Develop content of these workshops and/or trainings, favoring a hands-on approach, whereby concrete examples of GCF pipeline projects in Lebanon are used as a case study, and involved stakeholders are directly engaged.
- Undertake one mission to Lebanon - pending developments related to the COVID-19 situation (alternative scenarios such as virtual consultations/meetings may be applicable) in order to participate in training sessions as trainer/co-moderator.

- Produce training reports.

**Mode of work:**

- Work implies frequent interaction with the Project Management Unit (PMU).
- Work may also entail consultations with officials at Ministry of Environment, other officials, community groups and other stakeholders within Lebanon, other consultants under the project, and the staff of the South Centre;
- One mission to Lebanon is foreseen – pending developments related to the COVID-19 situation (alternative scenarios such as virtual consultations/meetings may be applicable). **Travel fees are to be covered by the project and not to be accounted for in the offer for this consultancy;**
- The PMU at the Ministry of Environment will be heavily involved in guiding progress and communication with stakeholders;
- The PMU will be responsible for organizing meetings, workshops, arranging for venues, printing material, issuing invitations and all other logistical and coordination matters needed for the implementation of the work of the consultant.

**Expected outputs:**

Table of detailed deliverables after initial inception meeting – to be delivered one week after contract signature

Task 1 (50%):

- Operational guidelines/capacity building materials produced for the NDA to fulfill GCF’s requirements including those on ESS & Gender

Task 2 (50%)

- Report on capacity building activities

**Timeframe of service delivery:**

<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Remuneration</b>
Outputs related to task 1	3 months from contract signature	50%
Outputs related to task 2	2 months from contract signature	50%

\* The consultant shall submit a written report to the South Centre, validated by the PMU to the end of the consultancy summarizing the activities carried on during the lifetime of the consultancy. The report shall include all backup documents of the main outcomes.

**Contract type and Remuneration:**

The International ESS, Gender & Climate Expert will be engaged in a fixed- price consultancy contract for a 3 month duration. Once selected, a Special Services Agreement (SSA) will be signed

with the awarded consultant in accordance with the regulations in force for the South Centre for such Special Services Agreements.

### **Selection Process:**

Application should be sent in English at [applications@southcentre.int](mailto:applications@southcentre.int) (stating 'ESS & Gender – Lebanon' in the subject) no later than CET 24.00 hrs. on **13 April 2022**.

Application should include:

- A Curriculum Vitae describing previously accomplished work related to institutional arrangements and analysis of ESS, Gender & Climate;
- Cover letter with indication of availability;
- Detailed financial proposal.

Copies of qualifications, previous employment certificates, publications etc. should not be sent with the application. These may be requested at later stage.

Only short-listed candidates would appear for an interview. Only successful candidate shall be contacted and thus candidates are kindly requested to refrain from enquiring about progress of their application.

### **About the South Centre:**

The South Centre is the inter-governmental policy research institution of developing countries, with currently 54 developing country member States from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The South Centre promotes more effective South-South cooperation and coordination, supports developing countries in participating in and voicing their development interests and priorities more effectively in various multilateral and regional development policy-related issues and fora, and provides policy advice and technical assistance to governments on their national development-related policies.

The main activities of the Centre are policy research and analysis, convening of meetings and conferences for developing countries to share views and experiences, and technical assistance and capacity building activities. The issues taken up by the Centre include international and regional trade policy, global macroeconomic and finance issues, global public health, innovation and intellectual property policy, climate change, environment and sustainable development, international economic issues including tax policy, external debt and international investment policy; human rights policy; global governance for and North-South relations, South-South cooperation, and global governance for development. The South Centre has three major institutional pillars: The Council of Representatives in which the Member States are represented; the Board comprising a Chairperson and members who act in their individual capacities and provide guidance to the Secretariat; and the Secretariat headed by the Executive Director which implements the activities of the South Centre. The Secretariat is accountable to and works under the guidance of the Board and the Council.