

# **Terms of References (TOR)**

For

## **Social Vulnerability Consultant**

### **Background**

The Climate Risk Nexus (CRN) Initiative by the League of Arab States (LAS) has been proposed to develop capacities of LAS and Member States to enact decisions and policies that better manage the growing complexity of risks and support the resilience of people and countries. It will help address gaps that exist to achieve a more risk-informed development and will serve as a platform and network for joint programming between LAS and partner agencies to bring about a series of outcomes in the region that engage the complexity of risks, and exemplify resilient-based development solutions.

Through this initiative, efforts will be made to: strengthen regional cooperation and knowledge networks across disciplines, respond to gaps in science and data for managing risks, enhance use of indicators and early warning systems, build local leadership and capacities for risk and resilience, and support transformational change in development policies.

To achieve these various strategic goals, an Arab Geographical Information Room (AGIR) has been instituted, hosted by the Arab Water Council (AWC), and supported by a Unit of Technical Excellence established by a decree of the LAS Arab Water Ministerial Council issued on May 27, 2015.

The following terms of reference describe the scope of work and responsibilities of a consultant who will take part in implementation of a critical task for the initiative as in terms of **“Strengthening the understanding of social vulnerability in the Arab Region”**

### **Scope of Work**

The objective of this task is to review the concept of social vulnerability applicable to the Arab region and its implications, assess programmes and activities that relate to and address social vulnerability, taking into consideration water, food and climate risks as well as gathering stakeholders to share experiences, discuss data, monitoring, and indicator needs, with a view towards establishing a way forward on how social vulnerability can be practically understood and addressed in the Arab region.

The consultant will work under the direct supervision of the Task Team Leader and will receive feedback from CRN Technical Steering Committee.

### **Activities and Responsibilities of the Consultant**

Task 1: Conduct a desk review study to be acquainted with the background information on the concept of social vulnerability applicable to the MENA countries and its implications.

Task 2: Conduct a consultation with focal points in each country to identify programmes/policies that address social vulnerability in MENA as well as existing resources dedicated, and Identify appropriate standards for drawing up national and regional Policies.

Task 3: Conduct and provide technical assistance for leading the organization of a regional level workshop with key stakeholders, to present experiences, discuss available data for social vulnerability, how to monitor possible indicators, , with a view towards establishing a way forward on how social vulnerability can be practically understood and addressed in the Arab region.

Task 4: preparation of the final report that summarizes the findings.

## **Deliverables and timeline**

Task 1: Conduct a desk review study (22 Days)

Task 2: Conduct a consultation with focal points in each country (46 Days)

Task 3: Conduct and provide technical assistance for leading the organization of a regional level workshop (66 Days)

Task 4: Preparation of the final report that includes following (21 Days for the first draft and 10 Days for the final report)

- Background information on Social Vulnerability,
- Implications and application in the Arab region;
- Compilation and analyses of national ground realities presented by national delegation during the workshop and;
- Discussions and recommendations formulated during the workshop

## **Qualifications and Experience**

The consultant should have the following qualifications and working experience in the relevant field:

1. A Master's Degree or PhD in a field related to Social vulnerability (economics, social sciences, public policy and/or international development policy),
2. A minimum of 10 years work experience in creating, establishing and enforcing policies related to social vulnerability and programs concerning social vulnerability,
3. Previous experience in social vulnerability policy development or program implementation at a national or a regional level in the MENA region,
4. Previous research experience on poverty aid/development, experience in quantitative or qualitative data collection and analysis,
5. Excellent written and oral communication skills in English are required,
6. Ability to work independently and respond to feedback in a timely and professional manner,
7. Excellent organizational skills, attention to detail and ability to contribute to a team.

## **Duration**

The duration for completing the activities listed in this TOR is 7 months starting immediately after signing the contract.

## **Terms of Payment**

Payment will be made based on satisfactory submission of deliverables as follows:

- 10 % upon Signing of the contract.
- 20% upon the completion of Task 1 “The desk review study”
- 40% upon the satisfactory submission of the 1<sup>st</sup> draft report following the regional workshop to AWC task team leader.
- 30% upon the satisfactory approval of the final report by LAS CRN Steering Committee.