



promoting the **SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
in Southeastern Europe through the use of the Nexus Approach  
FUNDED BY THE AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

## Terms of Reference

### Preparation and implementation of 2 online Gender Capacities Development Workshops in the Drina and Drin basins

*In the framework of  
the “Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Southeastern Europe,  
through the use of Nexus approach” Project*

*funded by the Austrian Development Agency  
implemented by GWP-Med in partnership with the UNECE*

#### 1. Background – the SEE Nexus Project

The Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus (“Nexus”) approach has been introduced in the natural resources management agenda to facilitate the enhancement of water, energy, and food security, while preserving ecosystems and their functions. The Nexus approach provides for an integrated and coordinated approach across sectors, with a view to reconciling potentially conflicting interests as they compete for the same scarce resources, while capturing existing opportunities and exploring emerging ones.

The Nexus approach is especially relevant to the South East Europe (SEE) Region given the significant share of hydropower in the region’s energy mix, as well as the significant role of forests.

The objective of the “Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Southeastern Europe, through the use of Nexus approach” Project (SEE Nexus Project), supported by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), and implemented by GWP-Med in partnership with the UNECE, is to introduce the Nexus approach and catalyse action for its adoption and implementation in SEE at the national and transboundary basin levels. Serving this purpose, Nexus Dialogue Processes are being implemented in the transboundary basins of the Drin and Drina rivers, and in Albania.

#### 2. Description of the Assignment

##### **Objective**

The objective of the Assignment is the preparation, organisation and implementation of two online Gender Capacities Development Workshops in the Drina and Drin basins, in coordination with and with the support of GWP-Med’s Senior Gender Advisor and the Project Manager. The overall aim of the Workshops is to increase awareness and capacities of targeted stakeholders on Nexus and gender issues, and to cross-fertilise through sharing of experience and best practices.

The workshops will be held online, hosted in GWP-Med’s Zoom platform, each lasting about 4 hours. GWP-Med will arrange for simultaneous interpretation from/to English and local languages and will also cover any other costs relevant to the technical implementation of the workshop.

The workshops will be held in April/May 2021 with exact dates to be determined.

## ***Scope and aim of the Workshops***

Women play a critical role in sustaining communities and managing natural resources, but their contributions are often undervalued and neglected. For example, climate change impacts women disproportionately, as natural disasters are found to inflict higher fatality rates on women compared to men. Exposure to agriculture, the burden of domestic labour and violence against women also play a role. While awareness and concern over climate change is rising globally, research finds that women overwhelmingly are more concerned than men yet remain underrepresented in positions of power and cannot have a say. These differences are often magnified by other factors, such as age, socio-economic status, and geographical location.

The challenge is that these differences and gender considerations are not understood, explored or analysed and as a result usually not captured by legislation, policies or action plans, which further impacts the way women and men benefit from different interventions and by further widening existing gender gaps.

## **Overall scope and objectives**

The workshop will provide gender-related knowledge resources and information to participants, as well as case studies to enhance understanding of challenges, differences and opportunities due to gender roles in access and representation in the Nexus sectors, and in the context of sustainable development overall.

Participants to the workshop will initially learn about the gender-related legal framework and international instruments in the countries of focus.

The workshop will also aim at identifying gender gaps in Nexus sectors, sharing best practices from the countries and beyond, and create a platform for sharing of experiences in addressing identified gaps and challenges. Potential coordination amongst countries will be explored and identified.

The participants will also contribute with their knowledge and experience to identify potential steps to coordinate and work jointly in enhancing gender dimensions in policy making and management practices in the Nexus sectors in their countries.

In that regard, the workshops will aim to:

- introduce the concept of Nexus to gender-related institutions and organisations; provide an introduction on key gender definitions and aspects and on why gender equality, women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming are important in the context of Sustainable development
- briefly present and discuss the current situation on gender in the riparian countries, as well as the relevant institutional and policy framework, including links to the EU acquis
- discuss specific barriers, challenges and opportunities for increased women's active participation and engagement in sustainable development especially in Nexus-related fields (water resources, agriculture/land use, energy, environmental protection); discuss potential policies, measures or support schemes that could remove such barriers and enhance related opportunities
- present and share successful stories and case studies from the Region and beyond to demonstrate related opportunities as well as the importance and value of considering gender issues in the context of sustainable development; discuss further networking, coordination and next steps

## **Participants**

Each workshop will be open to interested stakeholders from the riparian countries, with priority given to:

- Gender Focal Points or experts in Nexus-related Ministries, Agencies and utilities, or staff nominated by them having a strong record of activities and ability to assist with promoting change towards gender equality
- Representatives of public authorities and Institutions relevant to gender issues
- Representatives of civil society organisations, Academia, private sector entities, consultancies, regional organisations, development partners dedicated to or interested in the promotion of gender / equal opportunities as well as youth

### ***Tasks – Requested Services***

The Consultant, in full coordination with and with the support of GWP-Med’s Senior Gender Advisor as well as local officers, and the Project Manager should:

1. Prepare a Concept Note – Background Document providing in a consolidated manner an overview of the issues and dimensions to be addressed in the workshops
2. Prepare and run a pre-workshop survey among key stakeholders from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia (to be potentially replicated in the case of the Drin basin as well), to harvest experience and perspectives on key challenges, and elaborate the findings and present results at the Drina workshop. The findings will serve as background for better tailoring the context of the Workshops.
3. Prepare the Workshops’ Agendas, including a brief description of objectives and expected outcomes for each session
4. Identify and invite appropriate experts and stakeholders as speakers (if applicable, fees for such experts will be covered by the consultant)
5. Identify the institutions and organisations that will be invited to send participants-trainees in the workshops
6. Draft up to 3 case studies for each workshop that would facilitate capacity-building
7. Give presentations and facilitate-moderate the sessions of the workshops, including the discussions
8. Capture any recommendations or other outcomes from the discussions during the workshops, thus prepare the Reports of the Workshops and update and enhance the Concept Notes, as relevant
9. Assist the GWP-Med Communications Team in effectively organising the meeting as well as in its wider communication. The consultant should among others:
  - a. provide text relating to the meeting’s curriculum and outcomes in a simple language to be used for communications purposes (e.g. press release, social media posts, web article)
  - b. assist in preparing the structure and content of the dedicated webpage where the webinar will be hosted. The presentations will be recorded and may be available online
  - c. assist in the dissemination of the workshops and their outcomes

### **Contract Price, Deliverables and Schedule of Payment**

The maximum fee for this assignment is 12.000 EUR. This amount includes all other costs, income taxes and any other amount payable or cost that may be required for the completion of the work/service, including VAT.

### **Selection Criteria (Pass/Fail)**

Successful participants must have: (in case of a group of experts / company the experience listed below applies for the lead expert).

- MSc on Gender issues OR Social Sciences OR Communication (for the Team Leader in case the participant is a legal entity)
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English and in at least one of the languages spoken in SEE (Proficiency level at a minimum).

### **Qualification and Experience**

The required and desired qualifications (for the company or/and the lead expert) are presented below.

**Failure to provide the minimum required qualifications is considered ground for disqualification.**

Qualifications additional to the minimum requested per category will receive additional score under the evaluation process as described in the section Evaluation of Technical offers. Desired qualifications will be awarded additional points as indicated in section Evaluation.

#### Work experience (Required)

- Minimum one assignment/project implemented in SEE on gender issues in direct relation to water resources management OR sustainable energy OR agriculture/rural development OR environmental protection
- Minimum 4 years of experience in SEE relevant to water resources management OR sustainable energy OR agriculture/rural development OR environmental protection
- Responsible for the organisation/management of at least 2 workshops/meetings/events in SEE in the past 5 years relevant to gender and/or Nexus-related issues

#### Work experience (Desired)

- Minimum 4 years of experience in Communication / Stakeholders engagement / Public Affairs in SEE relevant to gender issues OR water resources management OR sustainable energy OR agriculture/rural development OR environmental protection

### **Awarding Criterion and Evaluation process**

The Award criterion is the most economically advantageous tender on the basis of best price / quality ratio.

Offers shall be evaluated as follows:

Offers qualified in terms of exclusion grounds and selection criteria will be further evaluated on the basis of the requirements presented under section "Qualification and Experience", as follows:

Name of Firm / Participant:
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(1) Criterion	(2) weighting (w)	(3) points of criterion (c) 100p Base +10p for extra criteria over base up to 50 additional points	(4) Score  = (2) x (3)
<b>Required qualifications</b>			
<b>Minimum</b> one assignment/project implemented in SEE on gender issues in direct relation to water resources management OR sustainable energy OR agriculture/rural development OR environmental protection	40%		
<b>Minimum</b> 4 years of experience in SEE relevant to water resources management OR sustainable energy OR agriculture/rural development OR environmental protection	25%		
Responsible for the organisation/management of at least 2 workshops/meetings/events in SEE in the past 5 years relevant to gender and/or Nexus-related issues	25%		
<b>Desired qualifications</b>			
Minimum 4 years of experience in Communication / Stakeholders engagement / Public Affairs in SEE relevant to gender issues OR water resources management OR sustainable energy OR agriculture/rural development OR environmental protection	10%		
<b>Total</b>	100%		

**Failure to provide the minimum requirements in any of the above is considered ground for disqualification**

Each Section/evaluation criterion is evaluated autonomously. The final scoring of each evaluation criterion is the outcome of its scoring multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor. The overall score of the technical offer is the sum of the final scoring of all the Sections/evaluation criteria. The overall score of the technical offer is calculated on the basis of the following formula:

$$B_i = w_1 \times c_1 + w_2 \times c_2 + \dots$$

For the overall score which will determine the ranking of offers, technical evaluation will be weighted with 90%, and the financial offer with 10%.

The final listing of the most advantageous offers will be made on the basis of the following formula:

$$\Lambda_i = 0,9 * (B_i/B_{max}) + 0,1 * (K_{min}/K_i).$$

Where:

B<sub>max</sub>: the max score received by the best of the technical offers received

B<sub>i</sub>: the score of the technical offer

K<sub>min</sub>: The cost of the financial offer with the minimum price offered.

K<sub>i</sub>: The cost of the financial offer

The most advantageous offers is the one with the greater value of  $\Lambda$ .

In case of equality of overall scores, the retained proposal is the one whose corresponding technical proposal received the highest rating.

#### **Duration of the Contract**

The overall duration of the contract will be maximum 4 months.