

CONSULTANT VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Issued on: 25 June 2014

ORGANIZATIONAL LOCATION:	UN-HABITAT
DUTY STATION:	Global
FUNCTIONAL TITLE:	Wastewater and Water Quality Management (WWQM) and Water Resource Management (WRM) Consultant
DURATION:	3 months
CLOSING DATE:	3 July

BACKGROUND

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat, is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. The main documents outlining the mandate of the organization are the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, the Habitat Agenda, the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and UN General Assembly Resolution A/56/206.

The United Nations Millennium Declaration recognizes the dire circumstances of the world's urban poor. It articulates the commitment of Member States improve the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020- Millennium Development Goal No. 7, Target 11 and within the same goal target 10 compels the member states to halve by 2015 proportion of the population without access to safe drinking water and sanitation and these form major part of the UN-HABITAT's mandate. As our cities and towns grow at unprecedented rates, setting the social, political, cultural and environmental trends of the world, sustainable urbanization is one of the most pressing challenges for the global community in the 21st century. In 1950, one-third of the world's population lived in cities. Just 50 years later, this proportion has risen to one-half and will continue to grow to two thirds, or six billion people, by 2050. Cities are now home to half of humankind. They are the hub for much national production, consumption and economic processes that generate wealth and opportunities. But they also create disease, crime, pollution and poverty. In many cities, especially in developing countries, slum dwellers number more than 50% of the population and have little or no access to shelter, water and sanitation. Furthermore, with MDG monitoring coming to close, the global community is already engaged on strategies to ensure post MDGs monitoring tools are established within the sustainable development goals (SDG) framework.

The assignment

At present, there is no global monitoring mechanism to track progress for the entire water sector. Sustainable water management needs to become a priority in the post-2015 period to reduce water related disease, protect the environment (including adaptation to climate change), manage demand from competing uses, promote the wise use of water and mitigate risk from water related disasters. This is especially important in view of demographic and social changes and the need for more equitable economic growth to sustainably reduce poverty.

Each year 1.8 million people die from diarrhoeal diseases, mostly children in the developing world. In a changing world with rapid unplanned urbanization, untreated wastewater from households, industry and agriculture is degrading water quality thereby reducing availability of water for drinking, bathing, industry or agriculture. Wastewater also releases strong climate pollutants.

As water demand increases equitable allocation balancing needs for food production, industry and domestic use alongside ecosystem needs is becoming increasingly difficult and competitive. Management of the water cycle also underpins economic growth and progress in other sectors including universal access to health, food security and disaster management. Ultimately, poor water management may lead to increased tension and conflict.

In the MDG period, goal 7 target 10 on access to safe water and basic sanitation was monitored under the JMP. The result was increased global attention and investment leading to the achievement of the MDG on

water and strong progress on sanitation in developing countries. However, water resources and wastewater and water quality were left out.

Key outputs in preparations for the post-2015 development agenda indicate the possibility of a broader water goal incorporating wastewater and water quality management (WWQM) and water resource management (WRM) relevant for developing and developed countries alike. To achieve this, a coherent and efficient monitoring system will be needed – it should provide global comparisons on progress and guide donor and national investment towards priority interventions.

Existing monitoring for WaSH is well established. By comparison, WWQM and WRM global monitoring capacity is weak, the sectors are more complex and existing data availability is sparse - especially for WWQM. Urgent work is needed to initiate a post-2015 monitoring mechanism for WWQM and WRM aspects of a water goal and to ensure a coherent approach for the sector.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the supervision of the Urban Basic Service Branch of the UN-HABITAT, assist in the preparation of technical options for global monitoring tools on “Industrial *Waste Water Treatment and Reuse*” using the indicators in the UN-Water recommendations for a water goal as a point of departure. The options will be presented in several fora and most feasible being taken forward for detailed development of a global monitoring mechanism to inform a baseline report for the post 2015 period. These will include:

1. Review current sources of data available from country and regional level data
2. Assess data gaps with regard to collection and global reporting against the proposed target/indicator
3. Assist in the preparation of an agenda and facilitation of a 2 day meeting of the task team to identify a range of monitoring for global data acquisition and reporting against the indicators.
4. Assist in drafting and facilitate task team members to prepare a comparison of the relative pros and cons of each option in terms of:
 - Data quality
 - Credibility
 - Comparability between countries
 - Cost of data acquisition and reporting
 - Capacity implications at country level
 - Institutional responsibility for data collection
5. Propose modifications to the indicators/targets as needed in response to measurability findings above.
6. Liaise with other working groups working on complementary indicators in particular “earth Observations and data integration” and “industrial wastewater and reuse”
7. Prepare a summary report outlining monitoring options reviewed by UNEP-UNHABITAT-WHO.
8. Participate in a seminar at Stockholm Water Week in September and either present report findings directly or assist in preparing presentation materials for a key task team member to present.
9. Incorporate feedback from SIWW and present at a meeting to be organised in Geneva

Provide input as needed to detailed proposal for monitoring mechanism development.

COMPETENCIES (maximum of five)

Demonstrated professional skills with proven understanding of the water sector particularly the water quality and water resource management, good communication skill and ability as a team player.

EDUCATION

Candidates to be considered for this assignment should preferably have degree from a recognised University in any of these disciplines; Sanitation Engineering, Chemistry, Environmental sciences or Social Science.

WORK EXPERIENCE

The successful candidate should have at least 10 years of active involvement in water and sanitation with focus on cities and urban centres. Demonstrated experience on water quality and water resource management will be an advantage

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English and French are the working languages of the UN Secretariat. For this assignment, fluency in English both oral and written is required; knowledge of other UN languages may be additional advantage.

OTHER SKILLS

REMUNERATION

Payments will be based on deliverables over the consultancy period. There are set remuneration rates for consultancies. The rate is determined by functions performed and experience of the consultant. The fees will be paid as per agreement.

Applications should include:

- Cover memo (maximum 1 page)
- CV in the PHP format, accessible through the INSPIRA website (inspira.un.org) Please note, if using INSPIRA for the first time, you need to register in order to activate your account, which will allow you to log in and create a personal History Profile.
- The PHP should be attached to the application as a PDF file.
- Summary CV (maximum 2 pages), indicating the following information:
 1. Educational Background (incl. dates)
 2. Professional Experience (assignments, tasks, achievements, duration by years/ months)
 3. Other Experience and Expertise (e.g. Internships/ voluntary work, etc.)
 4. Expertise and preferences regarding location of potential assignments
 5. Expectations regarding remuneration
- Cover memo (maximum 1 page)

Please also be advised that since April 15th 2010, applicants for consultancies must be part of the UN-HABITAT e-Roster in order for their application to be considered. You can reach the e-Roster through the following link: <http://e-roster.unhabitat.org>

All applications should be submitted to:

Ms. Helda Wandera

UN-HABITAT

P.O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Email: helda.wandera@unhabitat.org

Fax: + 254 20 7625088

Deadline for applications: Friday 4th July 2014

UN-HABITAT does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process. If you have any questions concerning persons or companies claiming to be recruiting on behalf of these offices and requesting the payment of a fee, please contact: recruitment@unon.org