REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Republic of Moldova
Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project *(MWSSP)*
Credit No.: 7027-MD
Assignment Title: ***Consulting company for the development of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External water supply networks and installations"***
Reference No.: MD-PIU-NORLD-454228-CS-CQS
Date: October 03, 2024

The Government of the Republic of Moldova has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (MWSSP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") include the development of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External water supply networks and installations". The purpose of the assignment is to elaborate a new regulatory framework for the procedures of designing the engineering constructions of the water supply systems, which is a complex of engineering works, which ensures the transportation and drinking water treatment in accordance with the provisions of the national legislation on quality in constructions, applicable, for the entire duration of the constructions' existence. For the implementation of the proposed tasks are planned 480 calendar days of Consultant's input, for a period not exceeding 20 months.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: https://www.ondrl.gov.md (link: https://ondrl.gov.md/categorie/proiectul-saasm/anunturi-saasm/) or can be obtained at the email address given below.

The Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria are:

- The Consultant must be a registered firm or association/joint venture of firms having experience, technical and organizational capabilities to complete the assignment.
- Experience of at least 10 years in the development of technical documentation design in the field of water supply and sanitation, development of Moldovan Construction Normative.
- Specific experience of at least 3 completed projects during the last 10 years in development of Moldovan Construction Normative.
- The Consultants should demonstrate the availability of the key experts for the performance of the services described in the TOR. *Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage*.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers", dated November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the

case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the **Consultant's Qualification-based Selection** method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 09.00 to 17.00 local time in the Republic of Moldova.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by **October 25, 2024, 17:00 Moldova time,** indicating the assignment title in subject line (when sent by e-mail).

Contract address:
P.I. National Office for Regional and Local Development,
Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (PIU)
51A, Alexandru cel Bun Street, 2nd floor
mun. Chisinau, Republic of Moldova MD-2012
Tel.: +373 69265292; +373 69060896
E-mail: **tender@ondrl.gov.md**

See bellow Annex 1: Terms of Reference

Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (P173076)
within the P.I. National Office for Regional and Local Development

Consultant's Qualification based Selection (CQS)
Open, national market approach

Terms of Reference
for Consultancy Services

Consulting company for the development of the Moldavan Construction Normative "External water supply networks and installations"

I. MOLDOVA WATER SECURITY AND SANITATION PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Government of Moldova (GoM) is currently implementing a project supported by the World Bank (IDA) financing the **Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project (MWSSP).** The Moldova Water Security and Sanitation Project directly supports the Government's commitment to Sustainable Development Goal No.6: to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene by 2030 through its Action Program and the National Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy 2014-2028.

The World Bank's Water Security Diagnostic and Future Outlook[1] showed that there are several pressing challenges to Moldova's water security, such as (i) inequalities in access, inadequate quality of water supply in small towns and weak performance of service providers; (ii) poor environmental health and environmental pollution due to lack of sanitation and wastewater collection and treatment; (iii) weak institutions, fragmented financing streams and unresolved reform areas which hinder programmatic delivery of services.

Access in water supply and sanitation (WSS) is constrained by large coverage gaps in rural areas, compounded by income status. Compared to other countries in the Danube region, the share of population with access to basic water and sanitation services in Moldova is low. The gap between urban and rural remains one of the largest in Europe and is one of the key water security issues the country is facing. Based on JMP-data[2], gains were made in rural water supply access to drinking water services from piped networks, from 33 percent in 2000 to an estimate 40 percent in 2017, while urban piped service remained almost stable at 85 percent.

Household Budget Survey (HBS) (2019) data provides the picture on national access to a public piped water supply being 70 percent, with urban access at 92.4 percent and rural access at 52.2 percent. However, the water quality of rural piped system is often compromised and below drinking water quality standard. Those not served by public centralized systems rely on so-called self-supply, through private shallow wells. Around one in three people rely on self-supply for their drinking water with 80 percent of wells not compliant with drinking water

[1] https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34809
[2] Joint Monitoring Program data is derived based on linear extrapolations using national survey data and JMP population estimates; discrepancies between nationally reported data can be found due to differences in estimation methods and definitions. See also: https://washdata.org/data

norms (e.g. nitrates, e-coli). The poorest quintile of the rural population faces the largest obstacles to get connected to a public system and is least able to invest in private piped supply by wells (9 percent), with 42.2 percent of the poorest households collecting water with buckets or carts. In 2018, out of a total of 1,220 centralized water systems, 1,168 were functional, although performance data is not systematically available.

In response to these challenges, the Project Development Objective (PDO) of the MWSSP is **to increase access to safely managed water supply and sanitation services in selected rural areas and towns, and to strengthen institutional capacities for water supply and sanitation service delivery.** Strengthening institutional capacities for water supply and sanitation service delivery refers to both national level planning and sector development capacities, as well as to improved operational efficiency and delivery at utility level.

The Project has four components:

Component 1: Increasing access to safely managed WSS services in selected rural areas and towns This component will develop new and rehabilitate existing WSS infrastructure and WASH facilities in rural areas and towns, thus expanding access and quality of services for households, businesses, and public institutions and supporting resilience. Component 1 supports climate adaption through (a) providing reliable centralized water supply protecting vulnerable households from drought and poor water quality; (b) improving wastewater systems, sanitation, and WASH facilities, reducing environmental exposure to pathogens exacerbated by flooding, particularly in towns facing frequent flooding; and (c) ensuring climate-resilient design of all infrastructure for robust functioning under extreme weather events. It consists of two subcomponents:

Subcomponent 1.1: Expanding access and quality of WSS services. This subcomponent will finance climate-resilient investments in towns and rural areas. This includes the following:

(a) **Water supply investments:** Expansion and rehabilitation of the regional water systems for water supply production and distribution, and service connections for LPAs in selected districts, including the preparation of relevant technical studies and management documents; technical supervision; and citizen engagement activities. This refers to water supply infrastructure in two preliminarily identified subprojects, that is, regional water system expansion for LPAs in Cahul District and the ATU of Gagauzia and a regional water supply system with a surface water treatment plant in Riscani District. Many LPAs, particularly in the south (Cahul) as well as in the northern part along the Prut (Riscani), face shortages of water in the summer, with shallow wells/springs posing a challenge such as in the Prut cluster villages, in the Vulcanesti town, and other villages in Cahul District.

(b) **Wastewater investments:** Expansion and rehabilitation of wastewater systems in selected towns, including the construction and rehabilitation of sewer networks and service connections, and the construction of new wastewater treatment plants, including the preparation of relevant technical studies and management documents; technical supervision; and citizen engagement activities. This refers to two preliminarily identified subprojects in Soroca and Comrat towns. There are areas in the Comrat town that face frequent flooding, and the Soroca town is also vulnerable directly on the right bank of the Dniester. The project will support the assessment of flood risk and impact at the household level and, in addition to ensuring resilient design of infrastructure, provide measures to reduce the impact of floods where possible.

(c) **Pilot for on-site household sanitation:** selected rural or peri-urban villages, will benefit from the improvement of on-site household sanitation following a demand-led approach

through the provision of technical assistance, the implementation of information campaigns, and the carrying out of civil works. The pilot will be co-financed through the ADA grant. This pilot will demonstrate the use of climate-resilient low-cost technologies for rural sanitation.

Subcomponent 1.2: Improving resilient WASH facilities in public social institutions. This subcomponent will finance works, goods, consulting services, non-consulting services and training/workshops to realize climate-resilient WASH facilities in HCFs and education institutions and implement hygiene education and behavior change communication program.

Component 2: Strengthening institutional capacity at national and local levels for WSS service delivery. This component focusses on institutional capacities of national and subnational entities and WSS operators for management, planning, regulation and reform implementation, and performance improvement of service providers for green, resilience, and inclusive service delivery. At the national level, development of plans, policies, and regulatory documents will support climate adaptation through climate-resilient planning, and at the local level, performance improvements will deliver climate benefits through reduction of NRW and improvement of energy efficiency. It consists of two subcomponents:

Subcomponent 2.1: Building national institutional capacity for WSS. This subcomponent aims to strengthen critical functions of facilitating and implementing WSS sector reform, investment planning and monitoring, and sector modernization and build capacities to this end of the assigned lead unit/entity within MIRD's structure. It finances goods, non-consulting services, consulting services, and training/workshops for activities that strengthen institutional capacities for planning, financing, economic regulation, performance monitoring, professional development, and the revision and development of new policies and normative documents.

Subcomponent 2.2: Improving performance of WSS service providers. Subcomponent 2.2 will finance works, goods, consulting services, non-consulting services, and training to support the implementation of a prioritized rolling multiyear PIP of selected WSS operators involved under Subcomponent 1.1. WSS operators will carry out annual assessments on PIP implementation and KPIs, including publication of results and feedback rounds with customers. The financing for selected WSS operators will be allocated based on results. Investments and TA activities identified in the PIPs are based on utility diagnostics and include, but are not limited to, the following: improving technical and commercial operations, improving financial management (FM), HR management, and organization and strategy aspects, including improving asset management systems and inventories, energy efficiency, NRW reduction programs, water metering practices and equipment to improve climate resilience, water safety, and business continuity, and enhancing responsiveness to customers.

Component 3: Project management and coordination. This component will finance operational costs, consulting services, non-consulting services, goods, and training to finance the overall project management cost, including the project team at the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), implementation support consultants at the regional level within MIRD's RDAs for environmental and social standards implementation, and, at the national level, MIRD as the project implementing entity (PIE). It will finance training costs, including for capacity building in procurement, environmental, and social standards, specialized short-term implementation support consultants, financial audits, project communication and citizen consultations, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

Component 4: Contingent emergency response component (CERC). A provisional zero-amount component is included, which will allow for rapid reallocation of credit/loan proceeds

from other components during an emergency under streamlined procurement and disbursement procedures. This component allows the Government to request the World Bank to recategorize and reallocate financing from other project components to cover emergency response and recovery costs.

II. WATER SUPPLY INFRASTRUCTER: THE CURRENT SITUATION

Access to WSS is lowest among European countries and constrained by large coverage gaps in rural areas, compounded by income status. Stark disparities continue to exist in access and quality of water and sanitation services between urban and rural areas. Reliable services are vital for industry and businesses and for people to live productive lives. However, almost a million Moldovans rely on shallow wells, often polluted, and drought-prone wells for drinking, while pollution from untreated wastewater and the large-scale alteration of natural ecosystems threaten system resilience. Based on Joint Monitoring Program (JMP) population access to water services has increased from 33 percent in 2000 to 57 percent in 2020, while urban access to piped services increased from 81 to 93 percent. However, compared to other countries, for example in the Danube region, the share of population with access to basic water and sanitation services in Moldova is low, and the gap between urban and rural remains one of the largest in Europe and is one of the key water security issues facing the country. Income levels also play a role in access to public water supply. Based on HBS 2019 data, within the rural population, households in the richest quintile are 11 percentage points more likely to be connected than rural households in the poorest quintile. The poorest quintile of the rural population faces the largest obstacles to connect to public systems with 10.6 percent using private wells with indoor piping and 40.7 percent collecting water with buckets or carts from wells in the street. In 2018, out of a total of 1,220 centralized water systems in Moldova, 1,168 were functional, although performance data are not systematically available for these systems. At the same time, according to the data, the total length of the networks is 20,830 km, with only 19,647 km of functional water supply, to which about 904,485 households are connected.

Currently, the construction of the infrastructure of external water supply infrastructure and installations is regulated by the following documents:

- **СНиП 2.04.02-84** Водоснабжение. Наружные сети и сооружени (Water supply. External networks and structures);
- **СНиП 3.05.04-85** Наружные сети и сооружения водоснабжения и канализации (External water supply and sewerage networks and facilities);
- **СН 496-77** Временная инструкция по проектированию сооружений для очистки - поверхностных сточных вод (Temporary Instruction for the Design of Surface Wastewater Treatment Facilities);
- **СН 481-75** Временные рекомендации по проектированию сооружений для очистки поверхностного стока с территорий промышленных предприятий и расчету условий выпуска его вводные объекты (Temporary recommendations for the design of facilities for the treatment of surface runoff from the territories of industrial enterprises and the calculation of the conditions of its release to the input facilities). Approved in 1982;
- **Пособие к СНиП 2.07.01-89** Пособие по водоснабжению и канализации городских и сельских поселений (Manual on Water Supply and Sewerage in Urban and Rural Settlements);

- **CP G.03.08:2020** Proiectarea și construcția sistemelor exterioare de alimentare cu apă potabilă, cu un debit sub 200 m3/zi, pentru localități de până la 3000 locuitori (Design and construction of external drinking water supply systems, with a flow rate below 200 m3/day, for localities up to 3000 inhabitants);
- **NCM G.03.02:2015** Instalaţii şi reţele de alimentare cu apă şi canalizare. Reţele şi instalaţii exterioare de canalizare (Water supply and sewerage installations and networks. Outside sewerage networks and installations).

Thus, based on the above, we can conclude that the Republic of Moldova has not approved new regulations in the field of construction of water supply infrastructure, being used in the process of design and execution of works, the Soviet versions of the documents regulating these processes. For this reason, it is important to initiate the process of elaboration and approval of updated norms in accordance with technical norms adjusted to the European Union standards (EN) and international standards (ISO), based on new technologies and construction practices, which can positively influence both costs for construction and for operating and maintenance costs after finalizing the construction. It is important to develop a new Moldovan Normative in Construction "External water supply networks and installations".

Also, the need to develop a new normative in construction is also established in the „Thematic Plan for the elaboration of normative documents in construction for the year 2024" developed by the specialized Department for Spatial Planning, Territorial Planning Regulations, Constructions and Housing Policies and approved by the Minister of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

III. OBJECTIVES

The objective of this assignment is to support P.I. The National Office for Regional and Local Development (Project Implementation Unit (PIU)) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development (MIRD) in the elaboration of the new *Construction Normative of Moldova* „External water supply networks and installations".

IV. SCOPE OF WORK

The purpose of the assignment is to elaborate a new regulatory framework for the procedures of designing the engineering constructions of the water supply systems, which is a complex of engineering works, which ensures the transportation and drinking water treatment in accordance with the provisions of the national legislation on quality in constructions, applicable, for the entire duration of the constructions' existence.

The new developed document *Construction Normative of Moldova* „External water supply networks and installations will be addressed to all factors involved in the construction investment process: designers, project verifiers, technical experts, executors, technical managers, investors, owners, administrators and users, personnel responsible for operating the objectives, operators of public water and sewage services, as well as local public administration authorities and control/verification bodies. It is addressed to the factors involved in the project conception, realization and exploitation, as well as in their post-use, according to the responsibilities of each one, under the conditions of the law.

The Consultant shall deploy the necessary methods and resources to fulfill the scope and objectives of this assignment, addressing the key points in the general approach outlined above and covering the key activities under each task as outlined below. The following sections provide an outline of the key tasks to be carried out as a minimum, under each phase of the process.

The present ToR serves as a guide to the Consultant in the preparation of technical and financial proposals. It is the sole responsibility of the Consultant to ensure that all necessary tasks, assignments and associated costs required for the successful completion of the services are included in its technical and financial proposal.

The expected results are described in detail in the next sections.

The Consultant shall undertake the following obligations and tasks:

a. the elaboration of the normative in construction according to the provisions of regulation R.01.03 "Regulation on the manner of elaboration of normative documents in construction", approved by order of the Minister of Economy and Infrastructure no. 591 of 13.12.2018.

b. the adoption of solutions to guarantee the quality assurance of the works for the realization of the water supply system, including the use of materials suitable for the purpose in terms of quality.

c. the elaboration of the structure of the normative document will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the regulation R.01.07:2018 "Regulation on the form of presentation of normative documents in construction", approved by order of the Minister of Economy and Infrastructure no. 583 of December 12, 2018.

d. the elaboration of the norm is carried out according to the following phases:

   - the preliminary draft, draft for the committee, draft for the public consultations, draft final document, should be presented according to the provisions of the regulation R.01.03:2018 " Regulation on the manner of elaboration of normative documents in construction";
   - the final drafting of the document that will comply with the provisions of the R.01.04:2018 „Regulation on the rules for drafting normative documents”;
   - the final presentation of the document must correspond to the form established in the regulation R.01.07:2018 „Regarding the form of presentation of normative documents in construction”.

e. the draft document must be correlated with the following normative documents:

   - MCN E.03.02-2014 „Fire protection of buildings and installations”;
   - MCN A.07.02-2012 „The procedure for elaboration, approval, approval and the framework content of the project documentation for constructions”;
   - SM SR EN 805:2011 „Water supplies. Conditions for external building systems and components”;
   - SM SR ISO 24510:2011 „Activities related to drinking water and sewage services. Guidelines for evaluating and improving services provided to consumers”;
   - Code of Urbanism and Construction;

- Law 303/2013 on public water supply and sewerage services.

f. during elaboration of the document, should be identified other possible related normative documents, which fall under the fundamental requirements that apply to construction works and that can influence the essential characteristics of a construction product, in particular the "Hygiene, health and environment" requirement.

g. the list of main sources used in the elaboration of the normative document should be specified in the compartment "Normative references" (based on European standards, adopted as national) and "Bibliography" of the normative document elaborated, in accordance with the methodology in force.

h. When drafting the normative document, the regulations recommended by European and international organizations will be taken into account:

- ISO/CEI Directive, part 2:2011 Rules for the structure and elaboration of international standards;
- CEN/CENELEC internal regulation, part 3:2003 Rules for the structure and elaboration of CEN/CENELEC publications;
- Internal Regulations, Part 3:2017 Principles and rules for the structure and drafting of CEN and CENELEC documents (ISO/IEC Directives - Part 2:2016, modified).

i. the list of organizations to which the draft normative document must be obligatory sent for an opinion:

- I.P. Office for Spatial Planning, Town and Country Planning, Construction and Housing;
- IMP „CHIŞINAUPROIECT";
- JSC „Apa-Canal Chisinau" and other licensed operators;
- S.E. State Service for Verification and Expertise of Projects and Constructions;
- Standardization Institute of Moldova;
- National Energy Regulatory Agency;
- National Inspectorate for Technical Supervision;
- Other interested institutions at the request of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

j. the draft document will be subject to the following types of expertise:

- technical-scientific;
- terminology;
- legal control.

k. special aspects:

The document to be developed shall correspond to the legislation of the Republic of Moldova in the field of construction and the regulations on the way of elaboration and structure of the norms in construction.

l. The normative document must contain:

- scope of application of the normative document;
- the role of the document in the construction quality assurance system;

- the interconnection of the normative document with other technical regulations;
- alignment with European practices and norms used or in the process of being adopted;
- ensuring the legal framework for achieving in better conditions the objectives established in the field of construction quality;
- other relevant provisions.

V. DELIVERABLES

Table. 1 Details of key deliverables and time lines

Phases	Deliverable	Deadline	Number of copies	Phase completion
Phase I	Concept of the document (including the structure of the document)	60 calendar days from the date of signing the contract	3 copies: - 2 hard copy in Ro - 1 electronic copy in Ro	Approval of the Concept document by the MIRD (30 calendar days*)
Phase II	Draft document (Version I)	90 days from the date of approval by the MIRD of the Concept of the document	3 copies: - 2 hard copy in Ro - 1 electronic copy in Ro	Approval of the Draft document (Version I) by the MIRD (30 calendar days*)
Phase III	Draft document (Version II) presented for the Technical Committee	60 days from the date of approval by the MIRD of the Draft document (Version I)	3 copies: - 2 hard copy in Ro - 1 electronic copy in Ro	Approval of the Draft document (Version II) by the Technical Committee
Phase IV	Draft document for public consultation (Version III)	60 days from the date of approval by the Technical Committee of the Draft document (Version II)	3 copies: - 2 hard copy in Ro - 1 electronic copy in Ro	MIRD draws up the Summary Table and will present it to the author for completion of any necessary amendments.
Phase V	Final version of the Document + Summary table from Version II + Summary table from the public consultation	90 days from the date of receipt of objections and proposals in public consultations (Version III)	6 copies: - 2 hard copy in Ro - 2 hard copy in Ru - 1 electronic copy in Ro - 1 electronic copy in Ru	Approval of the Final document (Version III) by the Technical Committee and

* *The deadline for consideration by the MIRD and the Technical Committee may be extended on the basis of arguments presented*

VI. PROFILE OF THE CONSULTANT

The Consultant is required to provide independent, impartial technical, cost, strategic, management, financial and legal advice.

The Consultant will be responsible for delivering the results defined in these Terms of Reference to achieve the assignment goals and objectives. The Consultant shall furnish documentary evidence (including information about the completed contracts and contact information of clients from whom the references could be taken) to demonstrate that it and its key experts meet at least the experience requirements listed below.

The Consultant must be a registered firm or association/joint venture of firms having experience, technical and organizational capabilities and qualified personnel to complete the assignment. The Consultant shall have qualified Experts and other professionals, competent enough to carry out their duties in accordance with responsibilities and/or authorities that are specified in these ToR. The Consultant must be with a strong track record and demonstrable

experience and expertise in the design of Water Supply Infrastructure, Construction of Water Treatment Plant.

The following criteria will be applied to evaluate experience of the consultant:

Core business and years in business:

- at least 10 years of experience in development of technical documentation design in the field of water supply and sanitation, development of Moldovan Construction Normative.

As a proof of compliance, the consultant shall provide the following documents in the Technical Proposal (in case of JV must be provided for each partner):

a. copy of valid business license from country of origin (if such activity is subject to licensing in the consultant's country) and copy of the registration certificate;

b. copy of articles of incorporation;

c. list of completed projects as a firm.

Qualifications in the field of the assignment:

- at least 3 completed projects during the last 10 years in development of Moldovan Construction Normative.

As a proof of compliance with the above requirements, the consultant shall provide a list of relevant Contracts, incl. amounts, brief description of the assignment, contacts for reference check, letter/letter of acceptance or reference letter from the client.

Qualification of Personnel:

In the Client view, the Consultant Team of Key Experts shall comprise the following key personnel:

Position	Qualification Requirements
Project Manager (Team Leader)	- Minimum University degree in water supply and sanitation engineering; - Minimum 7 years' planning, designing and implementation projects, with regard to water and wastewater infrastructure; - Minimum 3 years' experience as Project Manager or Team Leader of multi-disciplinary teams in the design and construction; - Permanent employee of the Consultant for a period of minimum 3 years within last 7 years.
Specialist in Water Supply and Sanitation	- University degree or equivalent in water supply and sanitation engineering; - Technical writing skills in Romanian; - Good knowledge of English and Russian; - Availability of Certificate of Designer or Design verifier or technical expert, according to the RM legislation in the field of construction, specialization: Water Supply and Sanitation (external pipeline networks); - At least 5 years' experience as certified specialist in the field of designing / verification/expertise of the detailed engineering design documentation for the construction and installation of

Position	Qualification Requirements
	external water supply and sewerage networks and treatment plants (to present a list of the most important works carried out); - At least 5 years' experience in participation in elaboration of the design documentation for construction and installation of exterior water supply and sewerage networks and treatment plants (to present a list of the most important works executed); - Proven knowledge of the RM legislation and normative documents in construction.
Legal expert	- University Degree in economics, law, public administration or other relevant fields; - Previous experience with international organizations in the WSS sector; - Technical writing skills in Romanian; - Good knowledge of English and Russian; - Minimum 5 years of proven experience in providing consulting services to the public sector; - Proven experience in the development of legal documents in accordance with national methodologies; - Knowledge of EU policies and legislation in the fields of water supply and sanitation. - Knowledge of the mechanism of the EU approximation policies and legislation will be an advantage; - Ability to analyze, plan, communicate effectively with stakeholders and present ideas clearly and effectively.

VII. TIMING

For the implementation of the proposed tasks are planned 480 calendar days, for a period not exceeding 20 months.

VIII. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Consultant's activity will be carried out in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the delegated persons from the Department for Spatial Planning, Territorial Planning Regulations, Constructions and Housing Policies and the Department for Water Supply and Sanitation Policies, under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

The Consultant's deliverables will be approved for financing only as a result of the signing of an Acceptance Certificate signed between the representatives of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development as the final beneficiary, I.P. National Office for Regional and Local Development in the role of institutions with fiduciary responsibilities and the Consultant as a service provider and being attached all decisions approved with no objection by the Technical Committee established within the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

For each of the required deliverable, the Consultant shall organize a meeting, where the document is first presented and then discussed. The Consultant is obliged to present the final version of any report or deliverable according to the required terms included in the „*Table. 1 Details of key deliverables and time lines"*.

One final workshop shall be organized and paid for by the Consultant, where they will present the Draft Normative Document to relevant stakeholders.