**Senior Expert on Biodiversity Protection (Category 1)**

**1. Objective(s) and Linkages to Reforms**

The Reform Support Team (RST) at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine (MEPNR) is composed of a group of Ukrainian professionals (non-civil servants) funded on a temporary basis by international donors to provide targeted technical support and assist the Ministry in the design and implementation of priority reforms. The RST will assist in filling the capacity gaps in the design and implementation of priority reform strategies and programmes, while strengthening links and partnerships between the MEPNR’s priorities and relevant donor support.

**2. Position and Reporting Line**

A highly qualified professional is needed in order to draft, supervise and support the necessary products (documents) related to Ukraine’s European integration agenda in the field of environmental protection.

The Senior Expert will be subordinated to the RST Director.

**3. Duration and Proposed Timeframe**

The initial consultancy assignment is expected to start in September 2023 and has an estimated duration of 10 months. The assignment may be extended subject to the availability of funding, consultant’s performance, and the specific needs of the RST.

**4. Main Duties and Responsibilities**

* Preparation of the update of the draft Law "On the Territories of the Emerald Network"
* Preparation of a draft law on determining the powers of central executive bodies (for the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Agrarian Policy, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development, the State Forestry Agency, the State Fisheries Agency, the State Production and Consumer Service, the State Customs Service) regarding the handling of invasive alien species of flora and fauna, including the introduction of countermeasures and prevention of spread of such species
* Preparation of proposals (in the form of drafts of relevant acts) on amendments to regulatory acts on defining the mechanism and procedure for preventing the penetration, removal, implementation of control over the spread and mitigation (minimization) of the adverse impact of invasive alien species of flora and fauna in various spheres of economic activity (acts of the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Agrarian Policy, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development, the Ministry of Health, the State Eco-Inspection, the State Fisheries Agency, the State Forestry Agency, the State Production and Consumer Service, the State Customs Service)
* Support the Ministry in the coordination of development of the strategic documents in the field of biodiversity, a draft biodiversity strategy for the period up to 2030, National Recovery Plan in the chapter “Ecological safety”, land legislation
* Ensure coordination and coherence of biodiversity policy with other policies, e.g. forestry policy, water policy, etc. and relevant EU and other international regulations and conventions ratified by Ukraine
* Provide technical advice on the implementation of biodiversity and ecosystems national frameworks

**5. Qualifications, Skills and Experience**

 **5.1 Qualifications and skills**:

* Master’s degree in Forestry or Biodiversity conservation/ Law/ Environmental science/ Environmental management / Ecology/ Biology
* Excellent knowledge of Ukrainian, EU and relevant international legislation, conventions, standards pertaining to the biodiversity impacts assessment and management
* Minimum 5 years of proven practical experience in undertaking biodiversity assessment (e.g. EIA, Environmental Due Diligence and Audit), implementation of biodiversity protection programs and plans, as well as biodiversity monitoring
* Good understanding of the principles and requirements to establishment and management of the protected areas of national and international designation
* Strong analytical, communication and presentation skills
* Experience of developing regulatory frameworks, standards, policy papers and management plans
* PC literacy (advanced PowerPoint, Project, Excel, Word skills)
* Fluency in Ukrainian and English

 **5.2 Professional experience:**

* Minimum 7 years of general professional experience
* At least 5 years of relevant experience, expertise in the field of biodiversity conservation would be considered an advantage

 **5.3 Other competencies:**

* Good understanding of the environmental agenda and familiarity with the reform agenda in Ukraine is an asset
* Experience with reform implementation in Ukraine
* Experience with government entities and their mandate and processes is an asset
* Prior experience of work in donor funded projects or in public authorities is an asset

**6. Funding Source**

The funding source of this assignment is the EBRD Ukraine Stabilization and Sustainable Growth Multi-Donor Account (MDA). Contributors to the MDA are Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union, the largest donor.

Selection and contracting will be subject to the availability of funding.

**7. Submissions**

Submissions must be prepared in English only and be delivered electronically by 23.59 (Kyiv time), 22 August 2023 to rst.mepr@gmail.com. All submissions must include a completed **Application Form**, **NDA Form**, the candidate’s **Curriculum Vitae** and **Reference Letter** from a recent supervisor (original in English, or Ukrainian with English translation) together with the contact details for two further referees who, if contacted, can attest to the professional and/or educational background of the candidate.

Only applications which have been submitted using the correct template and are fully completed will be considered.

**8. Selection Procedure**

Following the evaluation of all applications received, selected candidates may be invited to the tests. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to the interview.