

Terms of Reference for Individual Contracts

(Individual Contractors, Consultants and Fellows)

(This work assignment description forms an integral part of the individual contract)

1. **Requesting Office (hiring entity):** UNHCR

2. **Project details (or ABOD details):**

Title of project: UNHCR Innovation fund

Consultancy Title: Junior consultant in Energy and Environment

Purpose of project: Implementation of the clean cooking energy access project (LPG) under the pay-as-you-go financial model.

P: 2024-INNV ABC-OPS-95014; T: 95014-VE1C000109; E and O: (To be selected by the REQ Preparer)

Project no.: E11265

3. **Duration and dates of the assignment:**

From: 2 months

Work 100% (fulltime) during above-mentioned period: Yes No (if no specify)

Working Hours (*check one*). () Applicable Monday to Thursday 8.00 to 17.45hrs (including one hour lunch break) Fridays 8.00 to 13:00hrs (X) Not Applicable :consultants are flexible about working hours but only have an obligation to provide reports.

4. **Location(s) (specify if working from home):** Bassikounou, Mauritania.

5. **Assignment and/or Mission travel applicable** Yes No

If yes, specify destination(s) and period(s):

6. **Suggested fee (daily/weekly/monthly/lump sum) and currency:**

Total budgetary amount allocated for individual contract (incl. travel and DSA etc.): 5000 USD

Payment schedule: 50% after one month working day and 50% at the end of the contract.

7. **General Background of Project or Assignment:**

The UNHCR in Mauritania provides protection and assistance to approximately 140,000 Malian refugees in the arid southeastern region, where the Mbera refugee camp is located, as well as around 19,000 urban refugees and asylum seekers in the cities of Nouakchott and Nouadhibou.

The security situation in Mali remains volatile, and no large-scale returns are anticipated. Malians continue to arrive in Mauritania as part of mixed migration flows.

The Sahel is the region most affected by climate change, with a scenario of a +3-degree increase compared to the global average of 1.5 degrees by 2050. In recent years, the region has experienced an overall decrease in precipitation, as well as soil depletion due to agricultural overexploitation and the progressive deforestation of original savannahs, a consequence of firewood cutting, bushfires, and animal grazing. The crisis now makes it even more difficult and dangerous for nomadic herders to access pastures and for farmers to access their lands during critical periods of the growing season, which could threaten food security as well as peaceful coexistence with the host community.

In Mauritania, specifically in the Hodh Chargui region where the Mbera refugee camp is located, the impact of the refugee influx on the environment and the natural resources available for transhumant herding and cooking has led to rapid deforestation and competition for scarce water sources. Although relations between refugees and host communities remain peaceful, in the long term, they could be compromised by significant pressure on natural resources. The UNHCR is currently implementing several initiatives in the Mbera camp and surrounding communities to preserve the remaining natural resources in the region. It is within this framework that the UNHCR Office in Mauritania is currently seeking to conduct a comprehensive environmental study to guide its interventions.

8. Occupational Safety and Health Considerations

To view occupational safety and health considerations for specific duty stations, please visit this link: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>

9. Overall Purpose and Scope of Assignment:

The consultant, under the direct supervision of UNHCR's energy and environment administrators, will be tasked with:

- T1. Assessing cooking habits of camp residents, including types of fuels used (wood, charcoal, gas, etc.), cooking appliances utilized, and quantities of fuel consumed.
- T2. Conducting an analysis of gas bottle commercialization mechanisms within the camp, examining suppliers, prices, gas availability and quality, as well as distribution channels used.
- T3. Identifying challenges and obstacles to gas cooking usage within the camp, such as cost, accessibility, safety, and cultural or religious preferences.
- T4. Evaluating the feasibility of integrating "pay as you go" gas bottle payment systems, examining available technologies, associated costs, and potential benefits for refugees and gas suppliers.
- T5. Providing training and technical support to camp residents on safe and efficient use of gas stoves and "pay as you go" payment systems, to promote a transition towards more sustainable and environmentally friendly cooking practices.
- T6. Collaborating with local authorities, humanitarian organizations, and private partners to implement recommended solutions and ensure regular monitoring of intervention impacts on cooking habits and camp environment.
- T7. Studying payment needs and capacities of vulnerable households within the refugee camp, considering factors such as income, access to financial services, and payment preferences.
- T8. Identifying specific challenges and obstacles faced by vulnerable households in using "pay as you go" payment systems, such as liquidity constraints, transaction costs, and linguistic or technological barriers.
- T9. Proposing innovative solutions to make "pay as you go" payment systems more accessible and user-friendly for vulnerable households, exploring options such as mobile payments, prepaid cards, or credit mechanisms.
- T10. Testing and evaluating the viability and effectiveness of proposed solutions with

- vulnerable households, conducting pilots or demonstrations within the refugee camp and gathering feedback from users.
- T11. Performing a comparative analysis of different available technologies for managing "pay as you go" payment systems, examining their technical features, costs, reliability, and adaptability to the needs of vulnerable households.
- T12. Assessing infrastructure and connectivity requirements for implementing "pay as you go" payment technologies within the refugee camp, considering electricity availability, internet access, and communication equipment.
- T13. Identifying potential technology partners, such as mobile payment solution providers, telecommunications operators, or financial technology companies, and establishing strategic partnerships to support project implementation.
- T14. Designing a detailed implementation plan to integrate selected technologies within the "pay as you go" project framework, defining key steps, required resources, and monitoring and evaluation indicators to measure the impact of technological innovations on access to and usage of clean cooking services by vulnerable households.

10. Required level, qualifications, and work experience:

Level of responsibilities required (mark as appropriate) for individual contractors and fellows:

Entry Level Support Mid-Level Support Senior Level Support Local Professional Level Junior Level Professional Senior Level Professional

OR

The assignment is for an Individual Consultant

Qualification and experience required (degree required, years of work experience, field of expertise, language required):

Education: University degree in renewable engineering, environment, social science, or related field

Experience: Have at least 1 year of experience in project management related to energy access or in projects related to environmental protection.

**Knowledge
& Skills:**

The expert should have the following qualifications and skills:

1. **Educational Background:** A minimum of a bachelor's degree (Bac+3) specializing in renewable energy or sustainable development with specific skills such as project management and computer literacy.
2. **Technical Knowledge:** An in-depth understanding of various clean cooking technologies such as high-efficiency stoves, solar ovens, improved biomass cookstoves, etc., is necessary. This also includes knowledge of alternative fuels such as biogas, biofuels, etc.
3. **Renewable Energy Expertise:** A solid understanding of renewable energy sources applicable in a refugee camp context is essential. This includes the ability to assess available resources such as sunlight, wind, etc.
4. **Project Management Skills:** The ability to plan, coordinate, and implement clean cooking projects in complex environments such as refugee camps is crucial. This involves efficient management of resources, timelines, and budgets.
5. **Cultural Sensitivity:** An in-depth understanding of the cultural and social contexts of refugees is necessary to adapt clean cooking solutions appropriately and respectfully.
6. **Communication Skills:** The ability to communicate effectively with various stakeholders, including humanitarian agencies, camp officials, and refugees themselves, is crucial for project success.
7. **Needs Assessment Skills:** Ability to assess the specific energy needs of refugee populations, considering factors such as the number of people, types of meals prepared, etc.
8. **Adaptability:** Being able to quickly adapt to changing and unforeseen situations is indispensable in a dynamic humanitarian context like refugee camps.

11. Monitoring and Progress Controls (report requirements, periodicity, format, deadlines):

- a. The final product (e.g. survey completed, data collected, workshop conducted, research documents produced specify):

DELIVERABLES AT THE END OF THE CONTRACT:

The estimated duration of the consultancy is 2 months. The format of each deliverable for each task will be agreed upon mutually, whether it's in the form of an email, study report, PowerPoint presentation, teleconference, etc. The frequency of each deliverable will be specified for each task during the pre-execution phase.

- R1. Increased access of vulnerable households to clean cooking gas through the adoption of a more accessible and user-friendly payment system.
- R3. Improvement in food security and health of camp residents through a reduction in risks associated with wood or charcoal cooking.
- R4. Strengthening of vulnerable households' resilience to economic shocks through flexible payment mechanisms tailored to their needs.
- R5. Enhancement of refugee communities' capacities to manage and effectively utilize "pay as you go" payment technologies.
- R6. Promotion of innovation and sustainable development in the field of clean cooking energy in humanitarian contexts.
- R7. Enhancement of partnerships among humanitarian actors, local governments, energy service providers, and civil society organizations to support project implementation and sustainability.
- R8. Collection of data and tracking indicators to assess the long-term impact of the project on reducing energy poverty, improving quality of life, and preserving the environment.
- R9. Awareness-raising and mobilization of camp residents about the benefits and opportunities

associated with the use of clean cooking gas and technological innovations in this field.

- b. Work on the basis of time employed: Yes No
- c. If it is to result in a written product specify: Handover note and documentation of progress against workplan highlighting outstanding deliverables, if any.
 - a. Number of pages: n/a
 - b. Language(s): French or English
 - c. Number of copies: 2

12. Supervisor of Project/Individual Contract (Name and title):

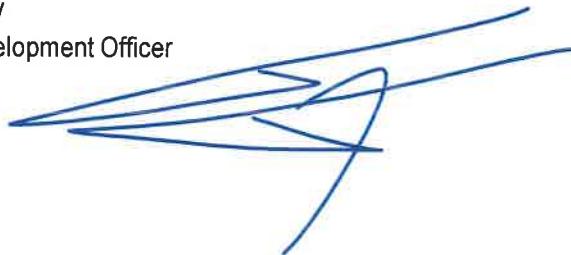
Fabrice Igor Chuenta Tejiom – Energy & Environment Technical , UNHCR

13. Name, title, and signature of Hiring Manager (project owner and/or supervisor):

Name: Louis Falcy

Title: Senior Development Officer

Signature:



14. Authorized by:

Name: Elizabeth Eyster

Title: Representative

Signature:

