

## United Nations Development Programme

Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People

برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي / برنامج مساعدة الشعب الفلسطيني



### Vacancy Announcement Regional Strategic Planning Expert

Duty Station:	Ramallah, oPt
Vacancy Type:	External
Application Deadline:	29 March 2007
Type of Contract:	SSA
Languages Required:	English
Starting Date:	1 May 2007
(date when the selected candidate is expected to start)	
Duration of Initial Contract:	2 months
Expected Duration of the Contract:	4 months

#### **Background of Project:**

The anticipated goal of the PRDPP is to institute participatory local democratic governance at the regional level through strengthening the planning capacity of authorities and organizations at national, regional and local levels in undertaking participatory strategic development planning.

The project has four main outputs:

- a) A participatory District Strategic Development Planning Methodology.
- b) A legal and regulatory environment that supports institutionalization, implementation and replication of the participatory District Strategic Development Planning Methodology.
- c) Enhancement of capacity of local civil society organizations (CSOs), citizens and local authorities to participate effectively in the local planning processes.
- d) Implementation of selected visible quick impact projects.

One of the main deliverables, of the project is the establishment of a **District (Regional) Strategic Development Plan (DSDP)**. Such plans will set up future development trends and the optimal resource allocations required to meet future development needs of the target development (district). The District Strategic Development Plan shall cover all the socio-economic aspects of the Development Area, including needs for public services, education, health, physical planning, transportation, infrastructure, business and entrepreneurship development, natural resources and environment protection. District Strategic Development Plans involve an integrated developmental approach that is multi-sectoral, which physical town plans are part of. The DSDPs are also crucial elements for the determination of the local development priorities and strategic directions. After successful completion of the project, the local level institutions in the District MOLG office together with LGUs and CSOs, will be in a position to lead the participatory development planning processes in full partnership with the citizens. They will also be capable of promoting and enforcing the DSDP as the framework that guides development investment in the Jenin District.

UNDP/PAPP in partnership with the Palestinian Ministry of Planning has developed a Methodology for Participatory Strategic Regional Planning. The purpose of this consultancy is to review and validate this Planning Methodology, and ensure national consensus by various stakeholders. In addition, the consultant will be responsible to coach the project team, and enrich their work with international best practices.



### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

The consultant will conduct the following tasks:

- Coordinate with relevant line ministries to ensure validation and ownership. This may include consensus workshops with various stakeholders.
- Provide technical assistance and guidance to the work of the project Technical Coordination Committee (TCC) composed of the Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Local Government.
- Determine a strategy for promoting the engagement of the civil society in the planning process and reflect this strategy in the participatory District Strategic methodology.
- Assess existing capacities of national institutions (private, public and academic) to undertake the envisaged strategic development planning process.
- Assess the capacity building and technical assistance needs of the national, local, and district counterparts.
- Assess internal and external risks and obstacles that could hinder the planning process and introduce relevant mitigation measures.
- Provide a detailed plan on how to operate the methodology.

### **Competencies:**

- Demonstrates the values of the United Nations in daily activities and behaviours
- Demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter
- Shows persistence when faced with difficult problems or challenges
- Shows respect for and understanding of diverse points of view and demonstrates this understanding in daily work and decision-making
- Listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately
- Demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed
- Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals
- Solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others
- Identifies priority activities and assignments; adjusts priorities as required
- Identifies strategic issues, opportunities and risks
- Clearly communicates links between the Organization's strategy and the work unit's goals

### **Qualifications:**

- A relevant postgraduate degree in Strategic Planning/Economics and/or Development Studies or equivalent.
- Minimum of seven years experience in community based development, local governance, planning & decentralization, or a related field.
- Extensive knowledge of local government systems in developed and under-developed countries. Knowledge of the Palestinian local government system is an asset.



- Solid experience in strategic development planning, capacity building for local authorities and participatory planning approaches and processes.
- Good oral and written communication skills; proficiency in spoken and written English.
- Familiarity with international standards and trends and the state of art regarding strategic development planning.
- Experience with facilitating inter-institutional cooperation, stakeholder involvement and working with teams.
- Readiness to work in areas characterized by political conflict, and unstable working environment.

**To Apply:**

- Interested candidates should send their application with a cover letter stating the reasons they are interested in the position to the UNDP/PAPP Office in Jerusalem, specifying the position: **Regional Strategic Planning Expert**, by E-mail to [hr.ps@undp.org](mailto:hr.ps@undp.org) or by fax to 02-6268223.
- Deadline: **29 March 2007.**