

## United Nations Development Programme



COUNTRY: TAJIKISTAN

## INITIATION PLAN

**Project Title:** Support to Water Initiatives of Tajikistan

**Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s):** UNDAF Outcome 6: People in Tajikistan are more resilient to natural and human disasters benefiting from improved policy and operational frameworks for environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources.

**Expected CPD Output(s):** Output 6.1: Effective legislative, policy and institutional frameworks in place for conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit sharing of natural resources management, biodiversity, ecosystems

**Initiation Plan Start/End Dates:** 02 August 2021- 02 August 2022

**Implementing Agents:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan

**Implementing Partner:** UNDP Tajikistan

**Brief Description**

The overall *Objective* of the project to provide support in organization of the second International Conference within the framework of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, to be held on 20-22 June 2022 in Dushanbe.

The expected *Impact* of the project is the contribution to maintaining the leadership of the country on the water agenda and to encourage the stewardship of Tajikistan on water and on other relevant development issues.

Programme Period: 2021-2022

Award ID: 00137650

Atlas Output ID: 00128027

Gender Marker: GEN 1

Total resources required US\$ 100,000

**Total allocated resources: US\$ 100,000**

• Regular (TRAC) US\$ 100,000

Agreed by UNDP:

*Pratibha*

Ms. (Dr.) Pratibha Mehta, Resident Representative, UNDP Tajikistan

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## **I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT**

For the past few decades, water issues have been on top of Tajikistan's development agenda. The initiative to proclaim the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" 2005-2015 was launched by H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, in early 2003. Subsequently, on 23 December 2003 the UNGA at its 58<sup>th</sup> session adopted the resolution A/RES/58/217 initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan. In accordance with the resolution the period 2005 – 2015 was declared as the "International Decade for Action, "Water for Life". The main goal of the Decade was to promote efforts to fulfill international commitments made on water and water-related issues by the year 2015. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan being the initiator of the Decade has taken a number of measures at national, regional and global levels for its successful implementation. With this view the Government of Tajikistan in cooperation with the UN and other international organizations organized the following important international water events:

- 2003 International Fresh Water Forum.
- 2005: International Conference on Regional Cooperation in Trans-Boundary River Basins.
- 2008: International Conference on Water Related Disasters.
- 2010: High-Level International Conference on midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015.
- 2011: Towards the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Water Cooperation Issues
- 2013: High Level International Conference on Water Cooperation.
- 2015: High-level International Conference on implementation of "Water for Life" Decade.
- 2016: High-Level Symposium on SDG 6 and Targets: Ensuring that No One Is Left Behind in Access to Water and Sanitation.
- 2018: High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028

On the initiative of the Republic of Tajikistan, on 22 December 2016 the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus the resolution A/RES/71/222 supported by 177 United Nations Member States that proclaims the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development".

The Water Decade aims at supporting sustainable development and integrated management of water resources, while promoting cooperation and partnerships to support achieving internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In addition, the resolution highlights the importance of promoting efficient water usage at all levels, taking into account the water, food, energy and environment nexus. On 22 March 2018, the United Nations Secretary General's Plan for the Water Action Decade was released during a High-level Launch Event, convened by the President of the 73rd United Nations General Assembly. The plan outlines current activities and capabilities of the UN system and international organizations, and the operational setup planned to support Member States in the implementation of the Decade.

In this connection, the Government of Tajikistan, committed to continue providing a platform for policy dialogue, partnership and action, is organizing, with the support of the United Nations and other partners, high-level international conferences throughout the Water Action Decade, thus establishing the so-called "Dushanbe Water Process". The biennial conferences under the Dushanbe Water Process provide timely and valuable opportunities to create an enabling environment and platform for promotion of action, partnership and policy dialogue, review the implementation of the Decade, as well as to promote interlinkages with and contribute to other relevant processes. In particular, the Dushanbe Water Process continues to more support assessment of the progress on the water-related SDGs, linking it to the Water Action Decade.

The First High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028, was held in Dushanbe on 20-21 June 2018. The outcomes of the Conference included recommendations to the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development that took

place in 2018, for its in-depth review of the implementation of SDG 6. In the Final Declaration of the First Dushanbe Conference, participants indicated that the theme of the Second Water Action Decade Conference shall be “Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels” to achieve the goals of the Water Action Decade and water-related SDGs and targets.

In the meantime, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 75/212 on the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028. The Conference will take place from 22 to 24 March 2023 in New York and will be co-hosted by Tajikistan and the Netherlands. The resolution “welcomes the generous offer of the Government of Tajikistan to convene a high-level international conference in 2022 in Dushanbe to support an effective preparation for the midterm comprehensive review”, explicitly mentioning it as a key event, alongside other initiatives.

The Government of Tajikistan will therefore host in cooperation with the United Nations and other partners a Second High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028” entitled “Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels”. The Conference will be held in June 2022. The Conference will be co-chaired by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan and the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

The overall *Objective* of the project is to provide support with organization of the Second High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028” entitled “Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels”, to be held on 20-22 June 2020 in Dushanbe.

The expected *Impact* of the project is the contribution to maintaining the leadership of the country on the water agenda and to encourage the stewardship of Tajikistan on water and on other relevant development issues.

The project will also support an effective preparation for the midterm comprehensive review of the Water Action Decade, especially in view of the 2023 UN Water Conference in New York; accelerate the implementation of internationally agreed water-related goals and targets at the regional and national level, particularly through the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework; promote science-based solutions and tools, including data, technologies and innovations; improve capacity building, knowledge and education through sharing information and best practices; showcase successful partnerships, advocacy and networking actions by stakeholders at all levels; strengthen cooperation at different levels by promoting dialogue, partnership and cross-sectoral approaches.

Below are the major ***Project OUTPUTS:***

**Output 1. International Conference within the framework of the International for Decade Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028 entitled “Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels” organized.**

Under this output the technical and expert support will be provided to the Conference Secretariat to develop the Concept Note of the Conference, Conference Program, Terms of Reference for panel sessions, forums and side events, Concept Note and ToRs for the Exhibition, Concept Note of the Marathon from Fedchenko Glacier to Dushanbe and other cultural events of the Conference. Meetings of the International Advisory Committee of the Conference will be convened and appropriate Minutes will be prepared and circulated among the IAC members. Outcome documents of the Conference will be developed. The Water Decade website will be redesigned. Invitation letters on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to the UN member states, UN institutions, international, regional and basin organizations, financial institutions, NGOs, academia and other stakeholders will be prepared and sent. This will also entail visibility to UNDP’s national, regional and global activities that are to be highlighted in the plenary sessions, thematic sessions and side events where UNDP acts as co-organizer, UNDP staff participates as chairs, co-chairs, keynote

speakers, moderators or rapporteurs. The outcomes of the Conference will be presented to the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the 2023 UN Water Conference in New York dedicated to midterm comprehensive review of the Water Action Decade.

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## **II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The intervention will be directly implemented in accordance with DIM guidelines in close cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Energy and Water Resources.

From UNDP perspective, the following officers/structures will be directly involved in the implementation and monitoring of this particular project:

Ms. Nargizakhon Usmanova, Team Leader, Climate Change, Disaster Risk Management, Energy and Environment.

Ms. Malika Khakimova, Programme Associate, Climate Change, Disaster Risk Management, Energy and Environment.

The following individuals will work as a team to implement the planned activities in the Initiation Plan under the supervision of Ms. Nargizakhon Usmanova and Ms. Malika Khakimova.

Mr. Khurshed Kholov, Energy and Environment Programme Manager

Mr. Akbar Rasulov, Admin/Finance Assistant, Energy and Environment Programme Manager.

The International Consultant will be hired to contribute to the achievement of major project outputs. The detailed terms of reference of the International Consultant is attached to this Project Implementation Plan as Annex I.

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## **III. MONITORING**

The Initiation Phase Report will be prepared at the end of the Initiation Plan, using the standard format available in the [Executive Snapshot](#).

## IV. WORK PLAN

Period<sup>1</sup>: 02 August 2021 – 02 August 2022

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, associated indicators and annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
<p><b>Output 1. International Conference within the framework of the International for Decade Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028 entitled “Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels» organized.</b></p> <p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p>-International Conference within the framework of the International for Decade Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, organized.</p> <p>-Outcome document(s) of International Conference within the framework of the International for Decade Action “Water for Sustainable</p>	<p><u>Activity result 1.</u> International Conference within the framework of the International for Decade Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028 entitled “Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels” organized.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u></p> <p>1.1 Establishment of the Secretariat of the International Conference.</p> <p>1.2 Development of the draft Concept Note of the Conference, Program (including Conference invitation letters on behalf of the Government), Terms of References for panel sessions, forums, and side events</p> <p>1.3 Development of the draft Concept Note and ToRs for the Exhibition, Marathon and other cultural events of the Conference.</p> <p>1.4 Organization of the regular Meetings of the International Advisory Committee of the Conference</p> <p>1.5 Redesigning the conference website “Water Action Decade”.</p> <p>1.6 Support to visibility to the plenary sessions, thematic sessions and side events where</p>					<p><i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i></p> <p><i>Ministry of Energy and Water Resources</i></p>	UNDP	<p><b>Sub-total:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 71200: International Consultants</li> <li>▪ 71300: Local Consultants</li> <li>▪ 72505: Stationery</li> <li>▪ 72800 Information Technology Equipment</li> </ul>	<p><b>USD 85,000</b></p> <p>USD 25,000</p> <p>USD 58,800</p> <p>USD 600</p> <p>USD 600</p>

<sup>1</sup> 12 months

<p>Development”, 2018-2028, are publicly available.</p> <p>-Assistance to the International Advisory Committee members of the water decade events provided.</p>	<p>UNDP acts as co-organizer, UNDP staff participates as chairs, co-chairs, keynote speakers, moderators or rapporteurs.</p>								
<p><b>Total for Output 1:</b></p>									<p><b>USD 85,000</b></p>
<p><b>Project Management and Office Support Costs (including Bank charges, UPL and Misc)</b></p>									<p><b>USD 15,000</b></p>
<p><b>Total for All</b></p>									<p><b>USD 100,000</b></p>

## **Annex 1. Terms of Reference for International Consultant**

<b>Post Title:</b>	International Consultant for organization and facilitation of activities related to the <i>Second High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” 2018-2028</i>
<b>Duty station:</b>	Dushanbe
<b>Type of contract:</b>	Individual Contract (IC)
<b>Duration:</b>	80 working days (during the period of September 2021 – July 2022) including visits to Dushanbe.

### **I. Context:**

The overall objective of this assignment is to support organization and facilitate activities related to the Second High-Level International Conference within the framework of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, that will take place in Dushanbe on 20-22 June 2022. The primary goals of the 2nd Conference are accelerating the implementation of internationally agreed water-related goals and targets particularly through the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework, promoting science-based solutions and tools, improving capacity building, knowledge and education, showcasing successful partnerships, advocacy and networking actions and strengthening cooperation and partnership at all levels. In achieving the project objectives, the underlying strategic implementation approach is to ensure that the country follows up towards the water-related initiatives in the framework of the “*International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028*” as declared in the Resolution A/RES/71/222 of the UN General Assembly (GA). To fully benefit from the momentum built by the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” and represent its national vision at the adequate level, Tajikistan as the initiator of the UN GA resolution and in cooperation with the UN institutions, particularly the UN-Water and other partners and UN Member States, has developed a comprehensive plan of activities. As part of planned activities, Tajikistan is expected to hold the Second High-Level International Conference within the framework of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, on 20-22 June 2022, in Dushanbe.

The United Nations Development Programme in Tajikistan, based on the request of the Government of Tajikistan, agreed to provide assistance in preparation to and conducting of the International Conference, in particular, development of the agenda, preparation of the list of participants, invitations and discussion papers, organization of the International Steering Committee and interaction with global networks, like UN-Water, as well as bilateral and multilateral donor agencies.

### **II. Scope of work**

Under the overall guidance of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan and, in coordination with relevant CO Resilience Team, and in partnership with UN contributing agencies, the International Consultant is expected to work closely with the

1. To facilitate and support the organization of the Second International Conference within the framework of the “*International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028*”.

Under Task 1 above, the Consultant is expected to facilitate and support the organization of the Second International Conference within the framework of the “*International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028*”. More specifically, the incumbent is expected to:

- Provide assistance in Tajikistan’s follow-up towards the water-related initiatives in the framework of the "International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028" that was declared in accordance with the Resolution A/RES/71/222 of the UN General Assembly (GA);
- Assist and facilitate the Government of Tajikistan, the initiator of the UN GA resolution, in implementing a comprehensive plan of activities towards holding the *Second High-Level International Conference within the framework of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”*, planned to be held on 20-22 June 2022 in Dushanbe. This is to be performed in cooperation with UNDP and other contributing UN institutions, other development community partners and UN Member States. In particular:
  - Preparation of the draft background document for the conference, its subsequent posting on the Conference Website, further improvement as a result of e-consultations, the International Advisory Committee as well as the conference proceedings.
  - Development of the agenda, preparation of the list of participants, invitations and discussion papers, organization of sub-groups and sessions, and interaction with global networks, like UN-Water and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, including within meetings of International Advisory Committee.
  - Preparation of background (analysis) reports on the global affairs with consideration of international best experience around water cooperation issues.
  - Development of the agenda, structure of the conference programs, order of conducting opening and closing ceremonies of the conference, pre-conference events, exhibition, etc.;
  - Preparation of Terms of Reference for each plenary and thematic sessions and organization of support towards their convening.
  - Support to invitation of highly qualified professionals, chairmen and moderators, as well as speakers for respective sessions, events, as well as the plenary.
  - Support to inviting of competent representatives of international and non-government organizations to the work of the Conference.
  - Development of concept notes and programs for all events and interventions under UNDP’s leadership or participation that are planned to be held in the framework of the International Conference, including on different aspects of the water issues relevant to UNDP activities in Tajikistan and support to organization of such events, including to development related speeches, interventions, publications, brochures and other materials, as necessary.
  - Development and publication of handouts and preparatory materials for the events and the Conference, which will ensure the informational coverage of the participants and improved access of general public to reference and resource materials.

## **II. Deliverables and timelines**

The following deliverables and indicative schedule are expected from the consultancy contract. The final schedule will be agreed upon in the beginning of consultancy assignment.

<b>DELIVERABLE / MILESTONE</b>	<b>TIME-FRAME</b>
<b>Deliverable #1:</b> The Conference background documents, including, but not limited to, conference program, ToRs for plenary sessions and forums, etc. prepared and agreed with the respective Government counterpart and UNDP Tajikistan.	October 2021
<b>Deliverable #2:</b> The 5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Advisory Committee organized, and the Minutes prepared.	December 2021
<b>Deliverable #3:</b> The Conference Outcome Document, and final report on the assignment, including the lessons learned, prepared and cleared by Government counterpart and UNDP Tajikistan.	July 2022



#### **IV. ASSIGNMENT DURATION AND LOCATION**

The assignment will be for a period from September 2021 to July 2022 and the International Consultant will be based in Dushanbe during most period.

#### **V. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

##### **A. Academic Qualifications:**

- Postgraduate or other advanced university degree related to water management or any development related field;

##### **B. Years of experience:**

- At least 7 years of relevant work experience in organization and facilitation of international water cooperation events at regional and global levels;
- Experience with organization and delivery of high level thematic conferences on water or other related themes;
- Previous experience with UNDP and familiarity with UNDP community development programs is an asset;
- Demonstrated experience in capacity development initiatives, notably at the systemic and institutional levels, preferably at the global and international levels;
- Previous work experience in Central Asia and especially in Tajikistan is an important asset.

##### **C. Language:**

- Fluent in English language and ability to work in a multi-cultural, mixed nationality environment regardless of personal feelings or political ideology. Working knowledge of Tajik and/or Russian is a significant asset.

##### **Corporate Competencies:**

- Demonstrates integrity by modeling the UN's values and ethical standard;
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of the UN;
- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality, and age sensitivity and adaptability;
- Treats all people fairly without favoritism.

##### **Functional Competencies:**

- Knowledge and experience of the political, socio-economic and environmental trends related to water cooperation issues and water resources management approaches at global, regional and national (Tajikistan) levels;
- Skills in organization and facilitation of international conferences, events, workshops and broad-based consultative processes/programmes/project documents on water cooperation issues and water sector development;
- An independent, reliable, responsible self-motivator able work under pressure;
- Excellent communication, team-building and diplomatic skills to develop partnerships;
- Familiarity with UNDP, multilateral and bilateral partners' programming policies, templates and requirements.

##### **Development and Operational Effectiveness**

- Proven problem-solving skills creative thinking to organize and facilitate water cooperation policy consultation platforms, conferences, and other related events on issues related to water cooperation initiatives and water resources development at regional and global levels;
- Familiarity with global water agenda, SDG context; and with Demand Responsive Approach;
- Proven ability to develop high level policy briefs, strategies, and outcome documents.

## **VI. Payments and reporting**

- This is a lump-sum contract that should include costs of consultancy and travel costs required to produce the above deliverables.
- Payments are based upon output, i.e. upon delivery of the services specified in the TOR that contributed to the overall project deliverables as stated above under “Expected Deliverables and Timelines”.