1. **Background**

Nepal has made a strong commitment to the SDGs. It was one of the world’s first countries to prepare a preliminary SDG position paper in 2015 immediately after the endorsement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its goals by the UN General Assembly. The 2030 Agenda envisions a world in which “every woman and girl (irrespective of their social groups) enjoys full gender equality”. The vision conceives the removal of all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment. Addressing gender equality and social inclusion is an essential part of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), a guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda. With the enactment of the 2015 Constitution, Nepal became a federal country. Its 753 non-hierarchical local government bodies and seven provincial governments came into existence after the 2017 election. Provincial and local governments have crucial roles in delivering the SDGs, particularly after the substantial devolution of responsibilities and resources to sub-national governments.

Under the overarching framework of the UN Development Assistance Framework (2018-2022) and UNDP Country Programme for Nepal (2018-2022), UNDP is working to accelerate progress and address key barriers towards SDG localization. In this regard UNDP, in partnership with national and sub-national government agencies and associations, private sector actors and civil society organizations, is going to implement the project ‘Fostering Partnerships for Achievement of SDGs in Nepal’ in 2019-2020, with one of its key objectives to promote joint implementation of high impact projects to be expanded and up-scaled by local and provincial governments. To achieve this objective, UNDP is willing to partner with selected local governments and service providers/NGOs for the implementation of selected model projects based on the priorities set in the respective local government plans. Guided by the principle of ‘Leaving No One Behind’, and with a focus on gender equality and social inclusion, these model projects will contribute to achieving the SDGs. The model projects will demonstrate innovative approaches to SDG localization and directly contribute to UNDP’s Country Programme Document (CPD) outcomes agreed with the government. While partial financial support will be provided by UNDP, the selected projects must leverage resources from multiple sources, forging partnerships with the private sector and engaging civil society and other actors while also building resilience and minimizing social and environmental risks. The main focus of the model projects will be to showcase innovative approaches and to advocate wider replication and scaling up of successful projects with other local governments in order to accelerate SDG implementation. At least two Model Projects will be implemented in each of the seven provinces.

2. **Rationale**

Aligned to the new federal structure and the constitutional mandates given to the newly-established local and provincial governments for taking lead on development decisions that fulfill people’s aspirations in partnership with the private sector and through meaningful participation of the citizens, the modality for delivery of development projects on the ground
needs to change to make it more collaborative and participatory. In that sense, federalization brings tremendous opportunities for sub-national governments to exercise their constitutional powers to plan, budget and implement development projects in line with their local priorities. However, a lack of policy coherence, technical guidance and collaboration mechanisms means that the challenge of delivering development results in a timely, efficient and cost-effective manner remains. To address this, sub-national government development plans must be guided by long-term thinking on resilient, sustainable development along with lasting partnerships with the private sector and other actors. That, in turn, needs to be aligned with on-going work on SDGs localization at federal and provincial levels with explicit recognition of the interconnected roles of all actors working towards the achievement of the SDGs. To support the provincial and local government in localization of SDGs, UNDP Nepal is implementing the project ‘Fostering Partnerships for Achievement of SDGs’. A minimum of fourteen model projects will be selected, at least two in each province, to accelerate the SDGs localization in line with the plans of the 14 local governments. For this purpose, UNDP Nepal seeks to establish a roster of service providers/NGOs to implement the selected SDGs Model Projects in selected Municipalities.

3. OBJECTIVE
This ToR elaborates the work and requirements for a service provider/NGO for implementing the selected model projects of SDGs localization under the UNDP project, ‘Fostering Partnerships for Achievement of SDGs’, in collaboration with local governments. The objective of the call for Expression of Interests is to prepare a roster of service providers/NGOs to implement the model projects of SDGs in selected municipalities.

4. SCOPE OF THE WORK
The service providers/NGOs have to perform the following responsibilities:

- Facilitate building partnerships with the selected Municipalities for resource sharing as well as effective implementation of the selected model projects.
- Implement selected model project of SDGs localization in selected municipality following UNDP guidelines and procedures (the tentative model projects of the respective district are indicated below. The detail implementation plan and implementation modality will be developed once EOI is finalized).
- Leverage resources from multiple partners including local government, private sector and other possible development partners.
- Ensure community and civil society actors’ engagement in implementing projects.
- Produce visible impacts with potential for future replicability and scaling-up.
- Collaborate and coordinate with the other UNDP/Government-implemented projects and other projects implemented by UN agencies and development partners to capitalize on potential synergies.
- Support in knowledge management and documentation based on the achievements and learnings.
- Advocate wider replication and scaling up of successful projects with other local governments.
- Monitoring and periodic reporting of the project to UNDP.

5. PROCEDURES FOR THE SELECTION OF POTENTIAL SERVICE PROVIDER/NGO THROUGH EOI
- EOI will be assessed and UNDP will prepare a roster of eligible service providers/NGOs for each of the selected model projects.
• Model projects will be finalized together with the local government. Detailed proposals and implementation plan will be developed together with service providers/NGOs and selected municipalities.
• Final selection of Service Providers/NGOs will be carried out following UNDP procedure and contract will be awarded to the selected NGO/service provider.
• UNDP will be co-funding for the selected model projects whereas the service provider/NGOs must leverage resources from multiple sources including the local government.
• The project work will be monitored following the UNDP monitoring guidelines.

6. PROJECT DURATION
The implementation of the model projects will be started in July 2019 and will be completed by March 2020.

7. MUNICIPALITY AND PROPOSED MODEL PROJECT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Directly Related Sustainable Development Goals and UNDAF Outcomes</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Possible Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Province 1</td>
<td>SDG 13 (Climate Action) UNDAF Outcome Area 3 (Resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation)</td>
<td>Dhankuta Municipality (Dhankuta)</td>
<td>Climate Smart Village Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT
The service providers/NGOs will work under overall guidance of UNDP and selected Municipality whereas UNDP will provide regular support and guidance in regular basis. The service providers/NGOs will coordinate regularly with UNDP while organizing events and for implementation of major activities. UNDP will monitor the progress of the model projects and provide necessary inputs based on the requirements.

9. EXPERTISE AND REQUIREMENT FOR SUBMISSION OF EOI
• The service providers/NGOs must have working experience in the thematic area related to the proposed project.
• The service providers/NGOs must have at least 3 years of experience in implementing similar type of development projects and working experience with development partners including UN agencies.
• The service providers/NGOs must be registered within the district in which it proposes to implement projects.

10. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH EOI
○ Brief Expression of Interest outlining the organizations comparative advantage to implement UNDP SDG localization model project
- Brief statement on how Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) will be addressed in project implementation
- Organizational Profile
- CV of the Key personnel to be involved in project implementation
- Valid registration certificate, tax clearance certificate, recent audit report
- Evidence of working experience (such as recommendation letter, contract copy) with development partners including UN agencies
- Evidence of working experience with local governments (Municipalities), if any.

## 11. **TIME FRAME**
EOI can be submitted either hard copy delivered to UNDP Country Office, UN House Pulchowk or through email at: registry.np@undp.org by 25 July 2019. The project implementation period will be July 2019 to March 2020.