

TERMS OF REFERENCE

SENIOR PHYSICAL SITE PLANNER

JOB TITLE	Senior Physical Site Planner
DUTY STATION	Bassikounou, Mauritania
START DATE	01 August 2018
CONTRACT LENGTH	01 August 2018 – 31 October 2018
CONTRACT TYPE	International Consultant

BACKGROUND

- UNHCR manages Mbera camp which is located in south-east Mauritania and hosts some 56,000 refugees (approx. 15,000 families) who have fled conflict and ongoing insecurity in northern Mali since 2012. The situation in northern Mali is deteriorating and UNHCR is moving away from emergency assistance to long term programmes that will seek to provide assistance to refugees based on vulnerabilities and to promote refugees self-reliance and integration in the local economy. In this perspective, UNHCR Mauritania is seeking one individual that will review the current camp plan that was initially built on emergency standards and propose a structure and recommendations that will use Mauritanian urban standards to plan permanent shelter and family latrines, water distributing system and family plot that can promote self-reliance of refugees while nurturing mutually beneficial relationships for both refugee & host communities.
- The UNHCR- Settlement Master Plan approach is embedded in UNHCR's Strategy for Settlement and Shelter (2014-2018). The strategy sets UNHCR sectorial vision and defines two mutually reinforcing objectives which aim to improve ways UNHCR meets the settlement and shelter needs of its populations of concern. "Enable refugees to access and live in dignity in secure settlements that improve their social, economic and environmental quality of life as a community".
- Common synergies have been identified between the application of master plan approaches and responses for shelter and settlement within the Alternative to Camp Policy, for example "... where camps must be established or where they already exist, UNHCR will plan and implement the operational response in a way that enables camps to be phased out at the earliest possible stage. Where this is not possible or practical, UNHCR will pursue the progressive removal of restrictions on the ability of refugees to exercise their rights and seek to build linkages between the camp and host communities and anchor the camp within the local economy, infrastructure and national social protection and service delivery systems, in order to transform them into sustainable settlements..."
- In this regards Mauritania operation is proposing to engage the services of a consultant, recruited to provide capacity as a Senior Physical Site Planner. He / She is to provide technical, strategic capacity to operations with protracted refugee populations looking to ensure existing settlements are integrated within the national & local development plans. This recruitment will be through a UNHCR consultancy contract. He / she will report to Head of Sub-Office and the consultancy is proposed to run for initial period of three months.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF ASSIGNMENTS

In support of field operations, the consultant will deliver a number of tangible results in their endeavor to have traction on development and transition agendas:

- Analyze social, economic, environmental and infrastructure factors within existing settlements for both refugees and host community and develop a more appropriate layout addressing a transition from emergency to a permanent sustainable type settlement solution.
- Determine areas with inadequate services by measuring the absorption capacity of existing settlement based on infrastructure, environment and social factors, population and carrying capacity of available resources.
- Identify key settlement, shelter, infrastructure (i.e.: water network, latrines, schools, distribution centers) and service gaps.
- Determine spatial location for critical drivers that would aid support integration between the existing refugee settlement and host community.
- Critic and map potential spatial opportunities for social/economic integration between the existing refugee and host community settlement.
- Define strategic placement of service locations and their space requirements to support integration.
- Provide technical guidelines that would allow this approach to work and create integrated systems' that ensure the facilities, (Both hard and soft) support self-sustainability from inception to durable phase.
- Identify, appropriate settlement typology that promotes integration between refugee and host community.
- Identify, provide and alternative solutions to visually illustrate and depict the implications of different spatial decisions and alternatives. These models are to be used to recommend land use modifications.
- Identify the principles of village neighborhoods, specifically the layout of rural family homesteads for designing the plot dimensions and for enabling families to maintain some cultural values and traditions of homestead based livelihood support.format

Under the supervision of the Head of Sub-Office, the consultant shall undertake the following tasks and deliverables:

General

- Provide settlement layouts indicating the absorption capacity of the existing refugee and peripheral host community settlements respectively and develop a more appropriate layout addressing a transition from emergency to a permanent sustainable type settlement solution.
- Identify, list and rank key critical design drivers based on the specific environment and cultural characteristics of both the host community and refugee population.
- Assessment of the potential land use options.
- Design and provide appropriate settlement typology that promotes integration between refugee and host community. The design may be descriptive or predictive in nature to aid in understanding the planning area.
- Design and provide alternative solutions to visually illustrate and depict the implications of different spatial decisions and alternatives. These models are to be used to recommend land use modifications.
- Undertake site analysis and initial settlement zoning- Based on the environmental and social 'critical design drivers', provide an initial a site zoning that takes into account all of the predetermined factors.

- Provide a clear measure of site planning, shelter responses with regard to implementation of the alternative to camp policy.
- Carry out comprehensive dialogue with multiple sectors e.g. Protection, WASH, Livelihoods, Cash, etc. ensuring inclusion of multi-sectoral issues in the proposed settlement layout.
- Ensure Refugees, host communities, local authorities and national authorities are consulted and their opinions included.

Strategic

- Develop with support from the relevant authorities' conception of a local development plan including both refugees and host community through:
 - Engaging and advocacy with development agencies to define planned development strategy for the area under study.
 - Obtaining consensus from relevant stakeholder on possible shared facilities that ensure balanced distribution of infrastructure and basic services in support of harmonious, economic growth and livelihood building opportunities for both refugee and for the local host community.
- Review country settlement development plans and align settlement approaches with the strategic and financial planning context from development agencies such as World Bank, IFAD, IGAD, AFDB etc.
- Draft a guidance framework to align proposed settlement approaches with local development plans and national planning authorities.
- Draft a structured road map with clear milestone, deliverable, time schedule that aligns proposed settlement approaches with the strategic and financial planning context from development agencies such as World Bank, IFAD, IGAD, AFDB etc.

Advocacy

- Conduct, constructive and strategic brainstorming meetings with the refugees, UN agencies, development bodies, national and local government officials, Sector Ministries, to ensure a common understanding, build consensus on a more development integrated and out of camp thinking approach.
- Draw attention to the adoption of the master plan settlement approach as part of a wider integrated service role and development incentive contextualized to the host community within the catchment area to attract donor driven development funding.
- Identify / connect with relevant technical counterparts at country level. This includes governmental and non-governmental bodies. Highlight opportunities to interconnect with national development plans.
- Build consensus among stakeholders on priorities for shared use to promote integration through effective communication with stakeholders while ensuring the process is integrated at district level and with local government.

KEY DELIVERABLES

- Comprehensive narrative report with adequate suite of drawings annexed
 - Language(s): French
 - Number of copies: softcopy

Delivery Schedule:

- Draft narrative report October 14
- Final narrative report October 31

MONITORING AND PROGRESS CONTROLS

The senior physical site planner consultant (Master plan) will report to the Head of Sub-Office, closely coordinating with Representation, Bureau and relevant focal persons in SSS. S/he may also regularly interact with other experts, networks/communities of practice and stakeholders outside UNHCR as appropriate (e.g.–UNDP, World Bank, ILO, government counterparts).

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

The consultant should have the following minimum qualifications:

- University degree in Architecture or Civil-Engineering.
- Minimum of 15 years of relevant work experience in government, UN, bi/multilateral donor agencies, civil society or private sector; demonstrated experience in planning, designing/ implementing strategies especially community-based approaches would be added advantage;
- Excellent analytical, conceptual and communication ability;
- Excellent experience with strategic planning and strong coordination skills;
- Proven experience in leading teams and managing programmes/projects;
- Fluency in oral and written French with solid drafting skills;

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

- Working knowledge of English or other UN language appropriate to proposed mission locations desirable.

APPLICATION

Interested applicants should submit their up-to-date curriculum vitae accompanied by a letter of interest by **07 July 2018 midnight** (GMT) time to MAUNORECRUT@unhcr.org and with the subject line “**Application to Consultancy**”.

The UNHCR workforce consists of many diverse nationalities, cultures, languages and opinions. UNHCR seeks to sustain and strengthen this diversity to ensure equal opportunities as well as an inclusive working environment for its entire workforce. Applications are encouraged from all qualified candidates without distinction on grounds of race, colour, sex, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.