

## *Vacancy Announcement—Internal/External*

<b>VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT</b>	<b>CCD/17/P/INT&amp;EXT/02</b>
<b>DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS</b>	<b>02 March 2017</b>
<b>POST TITLE AND LEVEL</b>	<b>Lead Scientist, P-4</b>
<b>DURATION</b>	<b>One year with possibility for an extension</b>
<b>DUTY STATION</b>	<b>Bonn, Germany</b>
<b>ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT</b>	<b>Science, Technology and Implementation (STI) Unit of the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)</b>
<b>INDICATIVE NET ANNUAL SALARY</b>	<b>USD 70,647</b>

### INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT APPOINTMENT LIMITED TO SERVICE WITH UNCCD

The objective of this Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification around the world, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements, in the framework of an integrated approach which is consistent with Agenda 21, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas.

The functions of the secretariat are, among others, (a) to make arrangements for sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies established under the Convention and to provide them with services as required; (b) to compile and transmit reports submitted to it; (c) to facilitate assistance to affected developing country Parties, on request, particularly those in Africa, in the compilation and communication of information required under the Convention; (d) to coordinate its activities with the secretariats of other relevant international bodies and conventions.

The Science, Technology and Implementation unit (STI) serves the UNCCD Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC). The unit facilitates the use of the latest scientific knowledge in policy-making concerning desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD), and coordinates cooperation with scientific platforms and institutions working on issues relevant to desertification land degradation and drought

The unit is advising and supporting the CST Bureau in the implementation of the work programme and plan of the CST by organizing meetings of the CST bureau and the CST sessions and by preparing substantive documentation for their consideration. STI also stands as support to the involvement and participation of the scientific community, in particular the Science and Policy Interface (SPI), through the promotion of scientific partnerships and networks that provide scientific advice and expertise on desertification, land degradation and drought to the UNCCD process.

The unit is involved in the development of monitoring guidelines for countries to report on the progress towards the strategic objectives of the UNCCD and the achievement of the Land Degradation Neutrality targets. Finally, STI also plays a key role in the dissemination of scientific data, studies and research on DLDD and serve as a platform of exchange and cooperation on lessons learned, case studies and best practices to reverse the effects of desertification and land degradation as well as mitigate the effects of drought.

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the general guidance of and in consultation with the Unit Coordinator, the incumbent is responsible for supporting to the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) and its Bureau, serving as secretary to the CST, and strengthening scientific implementation of the Convention through interactions with the scientific community, working on such issues as Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD), to develop increased participation, interest and contribution to the CST activities. Specifically, the incumbent will:

**1. Coordinate, supervise and support the work of the CST, and its Bureau, and other scientific and technical committees and expert groups under the Convention**

- Coordinate, manage and supervise the provision of programme management, technical and substantive support to the Programme of Work (PoW) of the CST;
- Manage and support the implementation of the Science Policy Interface (SPI) work programme;
- Advising on how to translate relevant scientific findings into policy-relevant recommendations;
- Promote, strengthen and develop networking to establish scientific partnerships with relevant institutions at all levels to support the scientific accuracy of the CST work by preparing, updating and implementing a strategic approach;
- Ensuring appropriate communication and links among the UNCCD, the CST and the SPI with networks of scientist, relevant research programmes, scientific bodies of other multilateral environmental agreements and other existing scientific panels including IPCC, IPBES, ITPS, GEF-STAP and UNEP-IRP
- Managing evolution of the international research agenda by identifying gaps, data and current research as pertinent to DLDD
- Keeping scientific partners posted on the programmatic orientations, activities and events related to DLDD and CST
- Organizing and providing substantive support to meetings involving scientific community and experts
- Representing the UNCCD at external meetings, conferences and other events with regard to scientific and technical issues

**2. Provide scientific and technical guidance to the implementation of UNCCD's mandate**

- Manage and supervise the provision of technical and methodological advice on indicators, data sources, and monitoring and target setting approaches to Parties to report on progress made in implementing the Convention including progress toward SDG15.3 on LDN
- Advocate effective utilization within UNCCD of scientific knowledge based on the best-available research and data, in addressing global and emergent issues concerned DLLD and sustainable development
- Provide scientific and technical inputs and guidance for the production of the UNCCD Secretariat's publications, policy papers, speeches and other information materials

**3. Perform any other job related activity required to achieve the goals and objectives of the unit, sub-unit, programme or the secretariat.**

**REQUIREMENTS**

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- Advance university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in environmental sciences, natural resources management, agronomy, forestry, geography and/or related disciplines.
- A minimum of seven (7) years of experience of working on scientific and technical matters pertaining to land degradation, desertification and droughts of which up to 2 should have been at international level, preferably at the United Nations or its agencies to ensure familiarity with United Nations processes and procedures. Proven experience and achievement of networking activities with the scientific community. Experience of project management will be an asset.
- Fluency in written and spoken English is essential. Working knowledge of another United Nations language is an asset

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**Professionalism:** Knowledge on environmental and sustainable development monitoring and assessment. Knowledge on the scientific work of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Up to date knowledge of the mode of operation and functioning of the academic scientific community. Ability to establish, plan, prioritise and implement programs effectively. Ability to provide sound scientific and technical advice. Shows pride in work and in achievements; demonstrates professional competence and mastery of subject matter. Is conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results. Remains calm in stressful situations

**Communication:** Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; Listens to others, correctly interprets messages from others and responds appropriately; Asks questions to clarify, and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; Tailors language, tone, style and format to match audience; Demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

**Teamwork:** Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; Solicits input by genuinely valuing others' ideas and expertise; Is willing to learn from others; places team agenda before personal agenda; Supports and acts in accordance with final group decision, even when such decisions may not entirely reflect own position; Shares credit for team accomplishments and accepts joint responsibility for team shortcomings.

**Client orientation:** Ability to organize and coordinate meetings and workshops. Considers all those to whom services are provided to be "clients" and seeks to see things from clients' point of view. Establishes and maintains productive partnerships with clients by gaining their trust and respect; identifies clients' needs and matches them to appropriate solutions. Monitors ongoing developments inside and outside the clients' environment to keep informed and anticipate problems. Keeps clients informed of progress or setbacks in projects.

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All applicants are requested to complete a United Nations Personal History form (P.11) form available online at <http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/The-Secretariat/Vacancies-and-consultancies/Pages/default.aspx> or at your local UN Office.

Interested UN staff members at the level of the post or one level below should attach their last two up-to-date PAS. Provision of the PAS is the responsibility of the applicant, and is MANDATORY for further consideration for this position.

PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED as per ST/AI/1999/8.

All applications should be sent by e-mail to [staffing@unccd.int](mailto:staffing@unccd.int) with reference to **CCD/17/P/INT&EXT/02**. Please address your application as indicated above and please do not address or copy your application to an individual at the Secretariat.

Staff members are subject to the authority of the Secretary-General and to assignment by him or her. In this context, all staff are expected to move periodically to new functions in their careers in accordance with established rules and procedures.

The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs (Charter of the United Nations – Chapter 3, article 8).

PLEASE INDICATE THE VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER ON THE APPLICATION. No telephone calls will be returned. Applications will not be acknowledged; only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within two months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful.

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**Date of issuance: 01 February 2017**