



Call for Expression of Interest for Co-Chair of the UNCCD Communities of Learning and Practice (not remunerated)

Background

At COP 15, Parties requested the UNCCD Secretariat to encourage, support and facilitate communities of learning and practice to pursue co-learning and collaboration for drought risk reduction and resilience capacity-building issues.

As response to [Decision 23/COP. 15 Para 8](#), the UNCCD Secretariat in collaboration with GWP launched the Communities of Learning and Practice (CLPs) with the mission to pursue co-learning and collaboration for drought risk reduction and resilience capacity-building issues.

The Communities of Learning and Practice (CLPs) are peer-to-peer knowledge-sharing and co-learning initiative aiming to strengthen the capacities of National Focal Points (NFPs), Science and Technology Correspondents (STCs), and other key stakeholders involved in drought management and efforts to combat desertification.

A total of six CLPs have been established and currently operational: a [Global CLP](#) and five regional communities ([Africa CLP](#), [Asia CLP](#), [Latin America and the Caribbean CLP](#), [Northern Mediterranean CLP](#), and [Central and Eastern Europe CLP](#)). The CLPs are thus a mechanism to promote intra- but also inter-regional knowledge sharing that help turning local experience and knowhow into global insights.

Role Overview

The CLP Co-Chair will play a leading role in managing, coordinating, and moderating the UNCCD CLPs. Working closely with the other CLP Co-Chairs and the UNCCD Secretariat, the position is central to ensuring effective collaboration, knowledge exchange, and capacity-building among CLP members. The Co-Chair will facilitate discussions, coordinate events, represent the CLP at conferences, manage content, and support the strategic direction of the CLP to meet its objectives in drought resilience and sustainable management practices.

Key Responsibilities

1. Leadership and Coordination

- Work collaboratively with the other Co-Chairs and UNCCD Secretariat to provide strategic direction for the CLP on drought management.
- Establish and communicate a clear vision and objectives for the CLP, ensuring alignment with UNCCD's overarching goals.



- Coordinate and manage virtual and in-person meetings, events, and activities that foster knowledge exchange, networking, and capacity building among CLP members.
 - Represent the CLPs at conferences, including at UNCCD events such as COP and CRIC meetings.
2. **Community Engagement and Facilitation**
 - Engage actively with CLP members to foster a collaborative, inclusive, and dynamic community.
 - Facilitate discussions, ensuring a balanced and respectful exchange of ideas.
 - Moderate online forums, webinars, and other community spaces to maintain productive and focused conversations on drought management issues.
 3. **Content Development and Knowledge Management**
 - Support the creation and dissemination of knowledge products, including case studies, best practices, guidelines, and policy recommendations.
 - Work with CLP members and external partners to identify and curate relevant resources, tools, and data on drought management.
 - Ensure that content shared within the CLP is accurate, up-to-date, and aligned with UNCCD's strategic priorities.
 4. **Monitoring and Reporting**
 - Track the progress of CLP activities, member participation, and overall community engagement.
 - Provide regular updates and reports to the UNCCD Secretariat on community insights, engagement metrics, and identified challenges or opportunities.
 - Propose improvements based on member feedback and emerging trends in drought management.
 5. **Stakeholder Coordination and Partnership Building**
 - Act as a liaison between CLP members, UNCCD, and other relevant stakeholders, including NGOs, governments, and academic institutions.
 - Explore and foster partnerships that enhance the CLP's access to resources, technical expertise, and networking opportunities.
 - Represent the CLP in external meetings and forums related to drought management and resilience.

Criteria for selection

Experts applying to become co-chairs of the CLP should:

- Have an advanced degree in environmental science, sustainable development, water resource management, or a related field.
- Have a minimum of 5 years of experience in drought management, land degradation, or related areas, with a strong track record of community coordination or facilitation.
- Have proven leadership and facilitation skills, with experience in managing collaborative projects and engaging diverse stakeholders.



- Have excellent verbal and written communication skills; adept at moderating discussions and encouraging inclusive participation.
- Have a solid understanding of drought resilience, land management, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- be proficient in English required; additional UN languages (French, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Russian) highly desirable.

Additional desirable qualities:

- Solid knowledge of the UNCCD process, related UN and intergovernmental processes, and/or environment-conventions
- Extensive experience on drought related policy making process including technical, financing and legal options, particularly in the international context
- Demonstrated significant, peer-reviewed publications in international journals in the last 5-10 years.

Reporting and Accountability

The Co-Chair reports to the UNCCD Secretariat, represented where applicable either by the officer in charge of the CLP in the Advocacy and Regional Cooperation Unit of the secretariat.

Terms of appointment

Start date May 1st, 2025. Appointment for 24 months, with potential for renewal based on performance and community needs. The time commitment for the CLP Co-Chair position is estimated to 1-3 days per month, with periodic flexibility required to accommodate key events and meetings.

CLP co-chairs are not financially remunerated. However, as required, and subject to the availability of resources, costs for attending CLP related travels such as attending meetings and conferences will be covered by the UNCCD Secretariat in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations.

Application

Applications, which include a cover letter and a CV specifying relevant experience and including reference, should be submitted by e-mail to dtsegai@unccd.int **with a subject line "CLP-Chair"**. **The deadline for applications is 31th March 2025.** Please indicate for which of the 6 CLPs you wish to apply for as Co-Chair ([Global CLP](#), [Africa CLP](#), [Asia CLP](#), [Latin America and the Caribbean CLP](#), [Northern Mediterranean CLP](#), and [Central and Eastern Europe CLP](#)). Only applications submitted by the deadline will be considered.