



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultant – Design of a LDN Transformative Project/Programm in Colombia

Consultancy reference number: CCD/17/GM/31

Background

The Global Mechanism is an institution of the UNCCD, mandated to assist countries in the mobilization of financial resources from the public and private sector for activities that prevent, control or reverse desertification, land degradation and drought. As the operational arm of the convention, the Global Mechanism supports countries to translate the Convention into action.

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, including goal 15, which aims to “protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”. As main expected results it defines under target 15.3 to “combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world” by 2030.

In September 2017, the 13th session of the Conference of Parties (COP) invited Parties and partners to step up support in the implementation of land degradation neutrality targets. This includes identifying project opportunities and connecting respective partners with countries for the development and implementation of transformative LDN projects and programmes.

The Government of Colombia is exceptionally committed to achieving LDN; has already technically validated targets; and is exploring multiple implementation measures. The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD stands ready to provide support to countries in identifying and designing transformative projects and programs that can contribute with the achievement of LDN targets and tap into innovative and increasing sources of finance for sustainable development such as GEF; GCF or Adaptation Fund.

Consultant tasks

Under the direct supervision of the Programme Officer “Land Use & Climate Change” in charge of the LDN Transformative Projects and Programmes team (TTP), in close coordination with other team members and under the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, the consultant will be responsible to support the identification and development of a

LDN transformative project/programme proposal, and provide support to the related activities implemented by the LDN Transformative Projects and Programmes Team in Colombia.

Specifically, the consultant will be responsible for the following duties:

- Identify a LDN transformative project/programme idea based on desk reviews and interviews with national relevant institutions and potential technical and financial partners;
- Ensure the project idea contributes to achieve the national LDN targets; is aligned with the national priorities; and integrates the LDN conceptual framework;
- Target one specific funding source, e.g. the Global Environmental Facility (GEF); Green Climate Fund (GCF); Adaptation Fund (AF); LDN Fund, relevant and suitable to the identified project idea;
- In concertation with national authorities, identifies the relevant implementing partners, including multilateral banks such as IDB and the Colombia Sustainable Initiative;
- Ensure sound coordination with the national focal point for the selected funding source
- Produce a draft project idea note, and further integrate comments from involved parties to deliver a final project idea note;
- When relevant, facilitate a multi-stakeholder workshop to foster dialogue on the project idea note;
- Produce a draft full project document, and further integrate comments from involved parties to deliver a final full project concept document following the outline provided.

Deliverables

The consultant will provide following deliverables:

1. Workplan/timeline that covers central tasks submitted to the TPP team within the first week after starting of the consultancy;
2. Draft project idea note that should contain (max 20 pages):
 - Project/programme basic information (name; objectives; timeline; etc.) (Max. 2 pages);
 - Project/programme details, including: baseline; indicative description of project components; expected results; financing/cost information; targeted funding source and justification for this selection; sustainability of the project; identification of relevant national agencies and partners and potential roles.
3. Full project document (60-70 pages), addressing comments provided and jointly approved by the country and the TTP team.

Note: Timelines for handover of deliverables will be agreed upon at the beginning of the consultancy.

Requirements

- Advanced university degree in environmental finance, environmental sciences, agriculture, forestry, climate change, soil sciences, environmental economics, business development and management or related fields;
- A minimum of 5 years of progressively responsible experience in natural resources' policy; project development, resource mobilization and innovative finance;
- Experience in drafting and preparing project idea notes/concept notes and full project documents, meeting criteria and requirements of the GEF and/or GCF and/or AF;
- Proven work experience as a technical advisor on projects development and preparation in at least one of the following thematic: forest and landscape restoration, sustainable forest management, REDD+, climate smart agriculture, agricultural development, ecosystem-based adaptation, natural ecosystems management, biodiversity conservation;
- Proven work experience in related areas in Colombia or in the region;
- Fluency in Spanish and English (both oral and written) is required.

Contractual terms

The consultant should be based in Colombia. The services of the selected consultant will be required for a period of 5 months. Start date, as soon as possible. Consultancy fee will be based on qualifications and the level of experience.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to staffing@unccd.int together with a UN Personal History Form or CV, specifying the position: **CCD/17/GM/31 – Consultant – Support to LDN Transformative Projects and Programmes.**

The **deadline for applications is 18 December 2017**. Only applications submitted by the deadline will be considered. No telephone calls will be returned. Please address your application as indicated above and do not address or copy your application to an individual at the Secretariat or the GM of the UNCCD.

Due to the volume of applications received, receipt of applications cannot be acknowledged individually. Please address your application as indicated above and please do not address or copy your application to an individual at the Secretariat. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful.

Date of issuance: 12 December 2017