TERMS OF REFERENCE

National consultant – Design of LDN Transformative Project/Programme in Dominican Republic

Consultancy reference number: CCD/19/GM/37 - Re-advertised

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) of the UNCCD emphasized the critical role of Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Transformative Projects and Programmes for the implementation of the Convention.

The government of Dominican Republic is fully committed to achieve SDGs, particularly the LDN Targets (SDG 15.3). Following the establishment of voluntary LDN targets, the Government is now in the process to plan for LDN implementation, including through the design of LDN Transformative Projects/Programmes. In this context, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD is committed to provide support in identifying and designing such a project/programme concept note through the provision of a national consultant.

Consultant tasks
Under the direct supervision of the Programme Officer in charge of the LDN Transformative Projects and Programmes, and the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism, and under the guidance of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Dominican Republic, the consultant will carry out the following tasks:

In the first stage of the assignment, the consultant will be specifically responsible for:

- Further defining the LDN project/programme concept based on desk reviews and interviews with national institutions and potential technical and financial partners;
- Ensuring the project concept contributes to achieve the LDN targets (SDG 15.3), with a focus on the identified LDN hotspots, and fully integrates the LDN conceptual framework guiding principles;
• Identifying the main targeted funding source(s) for the project, as well as other key co-financing opportunities relevant to the identified project concept, as well as building the financial scheme involving several potential donors;
• In coordination with the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, engaging with relevant potential implementing partners, including local producers, cooperatives and NGOs, and defining a viable implementing arrangement for the project;
• Ensuring sound liaison with the UNCCD national focal point to further develop the project concept.

In the second stage of the assignment, once the project concept is agreed between relevant national stakeholders and the financial scheme is defined, the consultant will be specifically responsible for:

• Producing a draft project concept note according to the required standard templates from the main identified targeted funding source, taking into account the LDN features checklist as well as paying a particular attention to mainstreaming gender to be reviewed thanks to national consultations; Facilitating, under the guidance of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources and implementing partner, national/local multi-stakeholder consultation workshops to foster dialogue and consensus on the project;
• Producing final project concept note integrating comments from involved stakeholders for submission to the selected funding source.

**Deliverables**
The consultant will provide following deliverables:

- ✓ Workplan / timeline that covers central tasks at the inception of the consultancy,
- ✓ Draft project concept note according to the required standard templates from the identified targeted funding source,
- ✓ Final project concept note(s) for submission to the selected funding source(s).

All final documents must be delivered in Spanish and/or English as needed.

**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 concepts and full project documents, meeting criteria and requirements of relevant financing sources such as the GEF, GCF, or AF, among others;
- Proven work experience as a technical advisor on projects development and preparation in at least one of the following thematic areas: forest and landscape restoration, sustainable forest management, REDD+, climate smart agriculture, agricultural development, ecosystem-based adaptation, natural ecosystems management, biodiversity conservation, etc.;
• Solid knowledge of the LDN process in Dominican Republic is an asset;
• Fluency in Spanish and English (both oral and written) is required;

**Contractual terms**
The consultant should be based in Dominican Republic. The services of the selected consultant will be required for a period of 5 months. Start date, as soon as possible. Detailed work plan with deliverables will be provided on beginning of the assignment.

**Submission of applications**
Applications should be submitted by e-mail to staffing@unccd.int together with a UN Personal History Form¹ and/or CV specifying reference number: CCD/19/GM/37-readvertised.

The **deadline for applications is 30 September 2019**. Only applications submitted by the deadline will be considered. No telephone calls will be returned.

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: 29 August 2019

¹ [https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/inline-files/UNCCD%20Form_1.pdf](https://www.unccd.int/sites/default/files/inline-files/UNCCD%20Form_1.pdf)