



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Support to Land restoration and LDN-related communication, knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation activities

Consultancy reference number: CCD/22/GM/C/09

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 (GM) 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 the main expected result, 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 October 2015, the 12th session of the Conference of Parties (COP) of the UNCCD defined Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and endorsed the concept as a strong vehicle for the implementation of the Convention and invited country parties to formulate national voluntary targets to achieve LDN and mainstream LDN Targets in national strategies and action plans.

In September 2017, the 13th session of the COP emphasized the critical role of LDN Transformative Projects and Programmes (TPP) for the implementation of the Convention. This has been reaffirmed at the 14th session of the COP in New Delhi in September 2019.

Objective of consultancy

The final expected output from the International Consultant will be:

- Regularly updated LDN TSP and TPPs dashboards and related background documents and briefing notes.
- LDN and land restoration Programme publications and other outreach material.
- LDN and land restoration Programme preparatory work for COP 15 supported.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and the Team Leader and team members of the LDN and Land Restoration Programme, the consultant will perform the following duties:

- Support the GM’s knowledge management and communication activities on land restoration and LDN, ensuring the quality of all communication materials produced and that key technical and communication documents are available and regularly updated.
- Maintain and update the GM’s web content (on the UNCCD website and Knowledge Hub) for the LDN and land restoration Programme.
- Support the LDN and land restoration Programme Team Leader with Programme monitoring (TSP and TPPs dashboard regular update and preparation of various written outputs, accordingly) and the review and editing of final LDN country reports and ensure their public dissemination.
- Coordinate the production of key LDN Programme publications and other outreach material.



-
- Support LDN Programme preparatory work for COP 15 (publications, infographics, briefings, side events, etc.),
 - Support the preparatory work for the launch of the LDN TSP 2.0 (i.e., new technical guidelines and translations to UN languages, call for expression of interests, launch event).
 - Support GM's contributions to STI and ERPA's work related to upcoming development of the LDN Targets Tracking Tool and future global assessments of LDN targets and their contribution to NDCs.
 - Support GM preparatory work for the launch of the Enabling Activity Project on Integrating LDN into Land Use Planning Frameworks (i.e., production of technical guidelines building on SPI's work, translations to UN languages, preparatory work for project launch).

Deliverables

Key deliverables are:

- ✓ A progress report, every 2 months, highlighting the support provided to the LDN and land restoration Programme. The progress reports should be submitted 2 weeks after the last day of the completed 2 months period. As annexes to the progress reports, the following deliverables should be attached:
 - Draft or final documents produced or supported
 - Links for the online supported outputs (on the UNCCD website, Knowledge Hub, social media, and SharePoint ...)

Contractual terms

The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for a period of 08 months subject to satisfactory progress in the preparatory activities identified under these terms of reference. This contract is based on deliverables and payment is defined by outputs. The consultancy is home based, part-time. Women are encouraged to apply. Start date: as soon as possible.

Requirements

- University degree (Bachelor's or equivalent) from a recognized university in a relevant field of work (e.g. communications, external relations, natural resources management, knowledge and/or project management);
- A minimum of 2 years of experience in the field of communications, external relations, or corporate communications
- Experience in providing communications or programme support within the United Nations system or a comparable international organization is desirable
- Knowledge on the UNCCD or related Conventions processes is desirable. Experience in working with UNCCD stakeholders and on LDN is an asset.
- Applicant is expected to be adaptable to an international, multicultural and multilingual environment and should have demonstrated communication skills and show initiative and flexibility.
- Professional working knowledge of English is required. Knowledge of other UN languages is an asset.

Special notice

Only individuals who can act as independent, individual economical operators are qualified to apply. Individuals who can provide their services only on account of an institution or enterprise not in their individual capacity are not eligible under this procedure.

Individuals engaged under a consultancy or individual contract will not be considered "staff members" under the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations Secretariat and will not be entitled to benefits provided therein (such as leave entitlements and medical insurance coverage). Their conditions of service will be governed by their contract and the General Conditions of Contracts for the Services



of Consultants and Individual Contractors. Consultant and individual contractor is responsible for determining tax liabilities and for the payment of any taxes and/or duties, in accordance with local or other applicable laws.

Submission of application

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to staffing@unccd.int with a UNCCD Personal History Form¹, CV and cover letter, specifying the reference number: [CCD/22/GM/C/09](#).

The deadline for applications is **25 February 2022**. Only applications submitted by the deadline and with complete documentation will be taken into consideration.

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 or Global Mechanism. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful.

Date of issuance: 18 February 2022

¹ UNCCD P-11 form in electronic fill-in .pdf OR .docx format available: <https://www.unccd.int/about-us/secretariat/vacancies/applying-unccd>