



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Research Associate India Presidency

Consultancy reference number: CCD/22/GI/C/41

Background

Desertification, along with climate change and the loss of biodiversity were identified as the greatest challenges to sustainable development during the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Established in 1994, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. The Convention seeks to support countries to address Desertification, Land Degradation, and Drought (DLDD). (www.unccd.int)

The G20 (or Group of Twenty) is the annual international forum for the governments of 19 industrialized countries and the European Union (EU). The G20 Leaders' Declaration, issued on Sunday, 22 November 2020, launched a "Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation and Enhancing Conservation of Terrestrial Habitats". Building on existing initiatives and on a voluntary basis, the G20 countries share the ambition to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the amount of degraded land by 2040. The Global Initiative (GI) with oversight from UNCCD, will focus on capacity building, engaging the private sector and civil society and showcasing success. The Director, under the oversight of the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, manages the Initiative Coordination Office (ICO).

In 2023, India will hold the Presidency of the G20 and in order to ensure that the Global Initiative is fully integrated into the India Presidency, this consultancy is required to conduct extensive desk research on the existing commitments, capacity building efforts and institutions in India in the domain of land restoration and habitat conservation.

Objective of consultancy

Proactive information received regarding the plans of the India presidency. Environmental concerns are mainstreamed into India's plans for G20. A number of events are organized linking environment to G20. A project proposal is developed to implement land restoration in India.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Director Global Initiative the incumbent will undertake the following tasks:

- Follow the plans of the India Presidency, particularly referring to sustainable development, environment, land and habitat conservation.
- Identify suitable opportunities for G20 Initiative to engage with the activities of the India Presidency
- Identify interesting cases of land restoration and terrestrial habitat conservation in India which could be promoted, including by developing a documentary film
- Develop concepts for national level awareness raising activities on land restoration and terrestrial habitat conservation
- Identify key partners in India, in Government, Academia, NGOs and Private Sector, whom the G20 initiative could work with to develop concepts and campaigns
- Develop proposals for land restoration and conservation which can be used for resource mobilization during the India presidency.
- Support in organizing events during the G20 India presidency in India



Deliverables

Key deliverables are:

- ✓ Written reports on the plans of the India presidency particularly referring to sustainable development, environment, land and habitat conservation.
- ✓ Report on opportunities for collaboration with partners to raise awareness.
- ✓ Events organized (at least 2)
- ✓ Project proposal for land restoration

Contractual terms

The services of the selected individual contractor will be required for 16 months starting from August 2022 until December 2023; Contract will need to be based in UNCCD office, Bonn, Germany. All products resulting from this contractual arrangement are the exclusive property of the Global Initiative/UNCCD.

Requirements

- Master's Degree in Science, Engineering, Social Science, Law or related area is required.
- At least 2 years of experience in desk research, communication, and event management.
- Excellent writing, editing and oral communication skills in English and Hindi are required.

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/GI/C/41](#)

The deadline for applications is **31 July 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 Initiative. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful.

Date of issuance: 11 July 2022

¹ UNCCD P-11 form in electronic fill-in .pdf OR .docx format available: [Guidelines | UNCCD](#)