



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Support the preparation of Gender responsive Transformative Projects and Programme

Consultancy reference number: CCD/22/GM/C/48

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 mainstreamed 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:

- Revised Projects related documents (Project idea notes, Project Concept Notes, full project proposals, gender analysis and action plan, environmental and social analysis)
- Briefings and guidance on how to access existing and innovative financing mechanisms, adapted to each project/programme.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Programme Coordinator, LDN and Land Restoration, the consultant will be responsible to support the activities implemented by the Programme Team. Specifically, the consultant will be responsible for the following duties:

- Support the development of multi-country, regional or sub-regional project concept notes and project documents in accordance with the requirements of the targeted funding source.
- Support development of project concept notes and project documents, in consultation with national TPP consultants working on the ground, which may entail reviewing and revising the initial concept notes prepared by local consultants, review project concepts notes prepared by other partners and reviewing project documents and required technical annexes including project budgets, workplans and gender action plans among others in accordance with the requirements of the targeted funding source.
- Facilitating communication between national consultants, and international and national stakeholders, private sector as well as getting inputs from local authorities.



- Support the identification of relevant past, on-going and planned projects and initiatives to ensure synergies and avoid duplication.
- Identify key gaps that need to be addressed to have a more developed concept note and taking into account LDN features in line with the scientific conceptual framework for LDN (e.g. LDN features checklist), National Drought Plans and other initiatives such as the Great Green Wall initiatives and the 3S “Sustainability, Stability and Security” initiative.
- Ensure synergies with other sectors including contribution to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Biodiversity Targets among others.
- Provide expert advice and guidance on potential sources of funding and the financial structuring including co-financing and blended financing, as well as private sector.
- Perform any other related activities required to achieve the goals and objectives of the team

Deliverables

Key deliverables:

- Quarterly workplan highlighting countries to be supported on the TPP processes and deliverables. The first workplan will be submitted after the first meeting with the GM lead. Subsequent workplans for the next quarter should be submitted during the last week of the previous quarter after a meeting with the GM lead
- Draft or final concept notes with inputs and comments incorporated by the last day of every month
- Quarterly progress report highlighting specific inputs, reviews and other support provided to project concept notes and proposals assigned. Progress reports should be submitted 2 weeks after the last day of the completed quarter.

All submissions to be made electronically using email in the language of the concept note or proposal

Contractual terms

The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for a period of 12 months subject to satisfactory progress in the preparatory activities identified under this term of reference. This contract is based on deliverables and payment is defined by output. The consultancy is home based, part-time. Women are encouraged to apply. Start date: as soon as possible

Requirements

- Advanced university degree in environmental finance, environmental science, agriculture, forestry, climate change, soil sciences, environmental economics, business development and management, public policy or related fields
- Proven work experience as a technical advisor on project development and preparation in at least one of the following thematic areas: sustainable land and water management, forest and landscape restoration, sustainable forest management, REDD+, climate-smart agriculture, agricultural development, ecosystem-based adaptation, natural ecosystems management, biodiversity conservation, water resources management, renewable energy etc.;
- First-hand experience in producing project documents for the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund, and Multilateral Development Bank (writing sample may be requested as part of the assessment) is a strong asset;
- Experience with private sector stakeholders and gender mainstreaming is an asset;
- Fluency in English and French language, both oral and written, is 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/GM/C/48**.

The deadline for applications is **26 August 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: 22 August 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>