



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mapping & development of minimum standards to be met for LDN investment for rangelands

Consultancy reference number: CCD/22/GM/C/47 re-advertised

Background

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. Rangelands make up 54% of the world's terrestrial surface but represent an underutilized opportunity in terms of investment potential. Rangelands are often neglected in the land restoration agenda despite being a major store of carbon with great potential for sustainable development. Rangelands not only provide large ecosystem services including carbon storage but also extensive livelihoods opportunities in niche crops, forage and feed, as well as animal fiber and other animal products. Large parts of rangelands are also expected to face impact from climate change, as highlighted by the rangeland Atlas.

Despite the extensive global coverage, rangeland management approaches have not been standardized, nor has there been a sustainability relevant standard applied to rangeland issued products. In addition, there still remain significant gaps in the data and knowledge for rangeland management that needs to be addressed.

Objective of consultancy

In-depth analysis of existing rangeland related standards and work that revolve around sustainability and linkages to LDN targets.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and reporting to the assigned Programme Officer, the consultant will perform the following tasks:

- Research, compile, analyze, summarize existing rangeland related standards/benchmarks with special reference to the fiber sector or any other high-impact or high-value chain in view of the development of a globally recognized standard to be applied by companies. Include detailed linkage with the WBCSD soil investment approach to already existing sustainable rangeland standards. The work should include details on the standard in terms of requirements, testing and monitoring approaches, associated cost, as well as highlight any overlaps with LDN standards.
- Highlight the main players within the standards sector for rangelands, as well as identify main private sector players driving better standards in rangeland productions.
- Develop concrete recommendations for the implementation of a global standard for rangeland that could be of high value to the private sector while at the same time protecting rangelands, putting value addition on production and supporting the implementation of LDN targets, as well as the WBCSD soil investment approach. This should also include recommendations for the possible structure of the standard.

Deliverables

Key deliverables:

Deliverable	Due date	Days
Deliverable 1: Map of existing standards/benchmarks related to sustainable production in rangelands. This should include a detailed analysis of existing	20 days after contract signature	10



standards/benchmarks in terms of requirements, monitoring, associated cost, as well as highlight any overlaps with LDN standards.		
Deliverable 2: Stakeholder mapping highlighting the main players in the standards sector, as well as drivers within the private sector especially within the fiber sector.	30 days after contract signature	10
Deliverable 3: Concrete recommendations of next steps for the implementation of a global standard for rangeland that could be of high value to the private sector while at the same time protecting rangelands, putting value addition on production and supporting the implementation of LDN targets, as well as the WBCSD soil investment approach. This should also include recommendations for the possible structure of the standard.	70 days after contact signature	15

Contractual terms

The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for 35 days within the period from September/October until December 2022. This contract is based on deliverables and payment is defined by outputs. The consultancy is home based. Start date: September/October 2022.

Requirements

- University degree in a relevant social science
- Minimum of 6 years of relevant professional experience with evidence of achievements in the area of standards and private sector engagement – preferably in rangeland issues.
- Proven track record working on sustainable land management related issues of at least 5 years
- Demonstrated experience in project design and stakeholder coordination of at least 5 years
- Demonstrated experience in value chains and food systems of at least 4 years, preferably in rangeland systems
- Demonstrated network with global multi-nationals is considered an asset
- Knowledge of the UNCCD and related intergovernmental processes (asset)
- Professional working knowledge of English 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/47](https://www.unccd.int/about-us/secretariat/vacancies/applying-unccd).

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



The deadline for applications is **22 September 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: 08 September 2022