



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Land and Ecosystem Management Specialist (India)

Consultancy reference number: CCD/22/GI/C/77

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 in addressing 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.

In December 2022, India will take over the presidency of the G20. India has identified the restoration of abandoned mining areas and also restoration of areas affected by forest fire as two priority areas. We need an expert on land restoration who can coordinate the support from the UNCCD G20 Global Initiative team.

Objective of consultancy

1. Government of India is satisfied with the degree of support provided by the G20 Global Land Initiative team
2. UNCCDs credibility is enhanced as a partner for work in the Government of India
3. UNCCD G20 Global Initiative is visible across the G20 activities in India, including engagement groups, and
4. Long-term collaboration agreed between UNCCD, IIFM, and ICFRE.

Duties and Responsibilities

The consultant is expected to accomplish the following tasks:

1. To Liaise with the Government of India agencies on activities relating to the G20 Presidency Environment and Climate Change Working Group
2. To Liaise with various UN Agencies and NGOs in India regarding activities relating to the G20 Presidency Environment and Climate Change Working Group
3. To facilitate the organization of the corporate round table on mine restoration in New Delhi and provide technical inputs
4. To support and provide technical inputs to the organization of the Academic Conference at Azim Premji University on Socio-Economic Enablers of Land and Habitat Restoration
5. To facilitate the establishment of long-term collaboration with IIFM and UNCCD on capacity building and provide technical inputs
6. To support developing the strategy for the Center of Excellence in Land Restoration at ICFRE and provide technical inputs
7. To coordinate site visit to Angul to provide a roadmap for the restoration of abandoned mines in the area.



8. To finalize the concept including the theory of change and log frame developed in consultations with UNEP for land restoration in India
9. Speak on behalf of the G20 Global Initiative in meetings and side events based on agreed speaking notes
10. Provide support to visiting UNCCD Staff members, experts, and consultants in terms of technology and logistics aspects
11. Support with liaison with engagement groups of G20 by attending meetings, speaking on events etc

Deliverables

Key deliverables:

- ✓ Monthly reports on the activities undertaken in the above areas
- ✓ Mission reports, meeting reports, photographs
- ✓ A project concept including the theory of change and log frame developed in consultations with UNEP for land restoration in India
- ✓ A final report explaining key activities and achievements of the UNCCD G20 Global Initiative during the India presidency of G20

Contractual terms

The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for 130 days within the period from 01 January 2023 until 31 December 2023. The consultancy is home based. Few travel missions to/from Bonn will be organized and paid separately. All products resulting from this contractual arrangement are the exclusive property of the UNCCD.

Requirements

- A PhD in science-related topic
- At least 20 years of experience in biodiversity and ecosystem management and related topics.
- Experience organizing meetings and preparing briefing notes
- Demonstrated experience in ecosystem management, ecosystem restoration, organizing events.
- Fluency of English language 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

The following documents should be sent to staffing@unccd.int as **one document**: UNCCD Personal History Form¹ /CV and cover letter, specifying the following in the email subject line: unccd22/GI/C/77.

The deadline for applications is **21 December 2022**. Only applications submitted by the deadline and with complete documentation will be taken into consideration.

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



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: 15 December 2022