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## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Consultancy to design a land tenure toolbox for transformative projects

Consultancy reference number: **CCD/22/GM/C/73**

#### Background

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The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is the sole legally binding international agreement linking the environment, poverty and development to sustainable land management in the drylands. Its objective is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels.

Secure land tenure is a core aspect of responsible land governance and a fundamental driver of biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, ecosystem restoration, and other nature-based solutions for combatting desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD). In 2019, with wide support from Civil Society Organizations, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNCCD adopted a landmark decision 26/COP14 on land tenure, acknowledging the importance of tenure security to enhance the implementation of the convention.

At the 15th COP in 2022, countries further strengthened their commitment to promoting more secure land tenure, especially for women, youth, and those in vulnerable situations. In decision 27/COP15 on land tenure, the Parties specifically requested the UNCCD secretariat and the Global Mechanism along with relevant partners to further develop guidance on the ways and means to integrate land tenure into LDN, to identify financing opportunities to strengthen land governance and to build a business case for responsible and sustainable public and private investments in land tenure within the context of activities to combat desertification/land degradation and drought.

The Global Mechanism is the UNCCD's institution 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. The Global Mechanism is assisting the countries in transitioning their LDN Targets and Drought Plans into implementation.

Identifying and disseminating information on the available financial and technical support opportunities on enhancing secure tenure, can enhance the integration of land tenure into interventions combatting desertification, land degradation and drought. The objective of this consultancy is to develop guidance for countries on why and how to integrate actions to enhance tenure security into transformative projects and programmes, particularly with regards to the financial and technical support needed.

#### Objective of consultancy

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The final expected output from the consultant will be a land tenure toolbox with the following components:

1. Business case for responsible and sustainable public and private investments in land tenure within the context of activities to combat desertification/land degradation and drought including a value proposition on why to invest in improving tenure security as part of transformative projects and programmes and identifying the benefits and risks
2. Identifying financing opportunities and mapping the requirements for gender and tenure mainstreaming of key financing institutions and donors
3. Mapping key international, national and local stakeholders working on gender and tenure issues and the potential technical support they can provide in integrating actions enhancing land tenure security into transformative projects and programmes
4. Compilation of case studies on projects where enhanced tenure security has resulted in successful interventions to combat DLDD, particularly gender-responsive projects.



5. Contribute to a tenure checklist for transformative projects and programmes.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

Under the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and under the direct supervision of the assigned officers, the consultant will be responsible for the following duties:

- Familiarize themselves with the content of the technical guide on the integration of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) into the implementation of the UNCCD and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)
- Build a business case for responsible and sustainable public and private investments in land tenure within the context of activities to combat desertification/land degradation and drought
- Identify financing opportunities for increasing tenure security using a gender equality and social inclusion lens, including from different funding instruments, as well as public, private and innovative financing sources
- Map the requirements for gender and tenure mainstreaming of key funding sources (such as Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, and Adaptation Fund, among others) that contribute to the implementation of the UNCCD
- Map key international, national and local stakeholders working on gender and tenure issues and the potential technical support they can provide in integrating land tenure into transformative projects and programmes
- Compile case studies on projects where enhanced tenure security has resulted in successful interventions to combat DLDD, particularly gender-responsive projects
- Contribute to a tenure checklist for transformative projects and programmes to ensure that the checklist is aligned with the requirements for gender and tenure mainstreaming of financing institutions and donors – the checklist will prompt project developers to consider local tenure issues in the design of project proposals

### **Deliverables**

Key deliverables:

- Inception report for the tenure toolbox, workplan with key milestones and methodology for mapping financing opportunities, key tenure stakeholders, and case studies: 2 weeks after contract signature
- Draft tenure toolbox with the business case, mapping of financing opportunities, stakeholders and case studies for internal UNCCD review: 3 months after contract signature
- External consultation including key informant interviews and incorporation of inputs into the land tenure toolbox: 5 months after contract signature
- Final review and consultation internally and externally, and refinement of the land tenure toolbox: 6 months after contract signature.

### **Contractual terms**

The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for a period of 6 months. This contract is based on deliverables and payment is defined by outputs. The consultancy is home based, part-time. Start date: as soon as possible.

### **Requirements**

- Advanced university degree in development finance, land tenure, gender equality and women's empowerment, environmental science and management (including disaster risk reduction, agriculture, forestry, climate change, soil sciences), environmental economics, business development and management, public policy or related fields
- A minimum of seven years of experience in project development, natural resources management, land administration, land tenure, development finance, climate finance, blended finance, gender or other relevant field.



- In depth knowledge of development financing and project preparation
- Proven working experience on developing project proposals for financing institutions such as the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund
- Knowledge and experience working on issues regarding land tenure, LDN, land restoration, gender or other relevant field is an strong asset
- Experience engaging with private sector stakeholders is an asset
- Fluency in English, both oral and written is required. Fluency in another UN language 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](mailto:staffing@unccd.int) with a UNCCD Personal History Form<sup>1</sup>, CV/P11 and cover letter, specifying the reference number: **CCD/22/GM/C/73**.

The deadline for applications is **31 January 2023**. 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: 13 December 2022

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