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## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Consultancy Senior Expert Economics of Land Restoration

Consultancy reference number: CCD/23/C/21

#### Background

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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](http://www.unccd.int))

The G20 (or Group of Twenty) is the annual international forum for the governments from 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 Land Initiative (GLI) 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).

#### Objective of consultancy

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Continuation of the work and research on developing a National System for Land restoration with the aim to identify and understand the challenges/enablers of land restoration in selected countries/regions. Contribute to capacity building activities on the topic of economic aspects of land restoration. Channels include but not restricted to trainings, webinars, events and written materials such as blogs and publications.

#### Duties and responsibilities

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Under the overall supervision of the Director of the G20 Global Land Initiative, and the direct supervision of the Associate Programme Management Officer, the senior consultant is expected to accomplish the following tasks:

- Identify and understand the challenges/enablers of land restoration in selected countries/regions by using the national system framework. Use the conclusions and lessons for policy advocacy.
- Initiate discussions and planning towards a meeting on "public policies and restoration" in 2024 in Brazil as part of its upcoming G20 presidency.
- Organize an international expert group meeting on social, economic and institutional aspects of land restoration in Q2 and facilitate the generation of policy briefs on different sub-themes.
- Explore opportunities for large-scale capacity building on economic and social aspects of land restoration in collaborating with academics/universities in different countries of global south.
- Generate materials and support the production of knowledge and communication products on economic and financing aspects of Land Restoration and Terrestrial Habitat Conservation which will enhance public understanding. i.e. blogs, articles.
- To represent the G20 Global Land Initiative in international fora, webinars, training sessions or other events, upon request from the Director of the G20 Global Land Initiative.



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## Deliverables

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Key deliverables are:

- ✓ Report on the challenges/enablers of land restoration in selected countries/regions.
- ✓ Draft summary report or outline on initial discussions and planning towards a meeting on “public policies and restoration” in 2024 in Brazil.
- ✓ Successful organisation of international expert group meeting and generation of policy briefs on different sub-themes.
- ✓ Establishment of meetings with potential academics/universities to explore opportunities for large-scale capacity building.
- ✓ Produce one blog article on financial aspects of land restoration per month during the duration of the consultancy.
- ✓ To represent the G20 Initiative in international fora, webinars, training sessions or other events, upon request from the Director of the G20 Global Land Initiative.

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## Contractual terms

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The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for 80 days during the period from 20 April 2023 until 31st December 2023. This contract is based on deliverables and payment is defined by days worked. The consultancy is home based, however, if needed to travel on missions, travel will be paid for and organized separately.

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## Requirements

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- Doctorate degree in economics, science, social sciences or engineering or any other related field relevant for the consultancy
- At least 20 years of international experience in economics, natural resources management or land restoration is required.
- At least 10 years of experience in research is required.
- Experience in conducting training programmes is required.
- Experience in organizing events such as conferences, meetings and webinars is required.
- Record of academic publications is an asset.
- Solid knowledge of the UNCCD, related UN and intergovernmental processes, and environment-related policy issues would be a great asset.
- Excellent writing, editing and oral communication skills in English is required.
- Fluency in both verbal and written English language is required.

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## Special notice

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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.

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## Submission of application

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The following documents should be sent to [staffing@unccd.int](mailto:staffing@unccd.int) as **one document**: UNCCD Personal History Form<sup>1</sup> /CV and cover letter, specifying the following in the email subject line: **CCD/23/C/21**.

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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>



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The deadline for applications is **12 April 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 : 06 April 2023