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## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Consultancy: Expert – Urban Forests

Consultancy reference number: CCD/23/C/70

#### 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 in addressing 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 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.

The G20 Global Land Initiative plan to promote urban forests, including Miyawaki forests, as a way to increase awareness among students and urban residents. We are looking for a consultant to provide advice on the same.

#### Objective of consultancy

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1. A review of existing programmes and guidance on urban forests around the world.
2. A handbook, including outline of documentary for urban forests.
3. A network of professionals working in the domain of urban forests.
4. A programme for organising an international conference on urban forests.
5. Lectures delivered in schools and community on Miyawaki Forests.

#### Duties and responsibilities

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1. To prepare a global scanning of urban forests and Miyawaki forests including guidance, database and videos
2. To review any ongoing national or international programmes for introduction of urban forests or Miyawaki forests into schools
3. To prepare a handbook on establishing urban forests including tentative designs to be used by schools and communities.
4. To help with preparation of video guidance on urban forests and Miyawaki Forests
5. To help with creating a mobile app to link those who are interested in creating urban forests and Miyawaki forests.
6. To provide lectures in colleges and communities on Urban Forests and Miyawaki Forests
7. To prepare a plan for organising an international expert group meeting on Urban Forests in Japan along with Japanese institutions.
8. To help with creating a network of experts and enthusiasts of urban forests and Miyawaki forests.

#### Deliverables

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Key deliverables are:

1. Monthly reports on the activities undertaken in the above areas.



2. Mission reports, meeting reports, photographs.
3. A review of existing programmes and guidance on urban forests around the world.
4. A handbook, including outline of documentary for urban forests.
5. A programme for organising an international conference on urban forests.

### Contractual terms

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The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for 30 days during the period from 15 September 2023 until 31 July 2024. This contract is based on deliverables and payment is defined by days worked and submission of a timesheet. The consultancy is home based, however, if needed to travel on missions, travel will be paid for and organized separately.

### Requirements

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- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in botany, forestry, urban planning, environmental science, ecology, landscape architecture, journalism, commerce, management or similar is required.
- Strong knowledge and experience in urban forestry, agroforestry, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land use practices is required.
- Experience in preparing guidance and documentaries, expertise in setting up urban forests, including Miyawaki forests is required.
- Experience in creating educational materials such as handbooks, videos, and databases related to urban forests and Miyawaki forests is desirable.
- Experience in public speaking to deliver lectures in colleges and communities is desirable.
- Good written and oral presentation skills.
- Fluency in English language, both oral and written, is required.

### 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 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

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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/70**.

The deadline for applications is **29 August 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 : 15 August 2023

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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>