



TERMS OF REFERENCE

GGW Innovative Finance Consultant

Consultancy reference number: CCD/24/C/10

Background

The objective of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is to combat desertification and land degradation, and to mitigate the effects of drought (DLDD) in affected countries around the world, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels. Established in 1994, the UNCCD is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management.

The Global Mechanism (GM) is an institution of the UNCCD, 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 currently steering several activities related to the Green Great Wall Initiative, notably a project entitled "Strengthening Coordination and Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative", funded by ADA, the Austrian Development Agency.

In order to fully comply with ADA's objectives, for this project, UNCCD shall contribute to the identification of additional financial/technical resources for new GGW projects and activities, utilizing and benefitting from the enhanced M&E and data management system; UNCCD will, in coordination with the PA-GGW continue its global campaign with the view to promote innovative financing and drive investments in the GGW Initiative. This will occur through the organization of donor and investor meetings/outreach activities and participate in relevant investor conferences to identify new investment opportunities.

The Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall (PAGGW) is the implementing agency for the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI). Its missions include coordinating and monitoring the implementation of GGWI achievements, mobilizing necessary resources in collaboration with member states and partners.

However, institutional constraints at the organizational and technical levels, including financial resource mobilization, coordination of GGWI activities, insufficient monitoring system, operational governance on the ground, lack of visibility of the Initiative, and understanding of its transformative vision have been identified.

The current Terms of Reference (TDRs) relate to the recruitment of a consultant for a duration of eight months. The consultant will be placed at the disposal of UNCCD and the PAGGW within the framework of the Accelerator. Their responsibilities will include contributing to the 2025-2030 resource mobilization strategy for GGWI, ensuring enhanced mobilization results, and strengthened systems (such as monitoring) within PAGGW and around the GGW.

Objective of consultancy

The purpose of this assignment is to support consolidation of updated strategies for resource mobilization for the GGW in parallel with the Pan-African Agency of the Great Green Wall, along with partnerships support.

Duties and responsibilities

Under the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the UNCCD Global Mechanism, and the direct supervision of the assigned Officer, the consultant will:

- Develop an updated 2025-2030 strategy for Great Green Wall resource mobilization.



- Identify ongoing or planned programs, projects, and initiatives at the national, regional, and global levels that will constitute foundational investments for GGW partners.
- Support in establishing a mapping of potential partners and specific intervention areas.
- Refine an operationalization strategy for developed financial instruments (Carbon Bank, FARCDEL).
- Support any resource-mobilization-related tasks delegated by management.
- Work in close collaboration with other members of the GGW Accelerator Team

Deliverables

1. 1 Comprehensive Strategy Document for Great Green Wall Resource Mobilization with a Defined Model for each country and region.
2. 1 Comprehensive Investment Report Highlighting Ongoing or Planned Programs, Projects, and Initiatives at National, Regional, and Global Levels for GGW Partners consolidated from existing work.
3. 1 Partner Mapping Report Establishing Potential Partners and Specific Intervention Areas consolidated from existing work.
4. 1 Operationalization Strategy Document for Financial Instruments (Carbon Bank, FARCDEL) consolidated from existing work.

Contractual terms

The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be 08 months starting from March 2024. This contract is home-based, and payment is upon received deliverables. All products resulting from this contractual arrangement are the exclusive property of the UNCCD.

The consultant must be in possession of all the equipment and software necessary to conduct this work. The UNCCD will not purchase any equipment. Candidates are kindly requested to specify in their applications the software and equipment that will be used to carry out this assignment.

Requirements

- Advanced (Master's degree or equivalent) university degree in a field relevant to the assignment, for example in Strategy, Communications, Economics, Natural Resource Sciences, Agriculture, Journalism, environmental studies, social sciences, International Management political science or another relevant field.
- At least 5 years of proven ability and solid experience in the substantive area, at the international level, in innovative finance, including experience in developing and implementing communications strategies, and frameworks towards innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development.
- Demonstrated knowledge of financing instruments and mechanisms, including blended finance, impact investing, green bonds, and other innovative financing mechanisms.
- Demonstrated knowledge of Resource Mobilization Strategy and application.
- Proven track record working on sustainable issues especially for company ESG and/or sustainability measures of at least 5 years;
- Demonstrated experience in attracting private sector to sustainability issues of at least 5 years;
- Demonstrated experience in value chains and/or food systems of at least 4 years;
- Demonstrated network with global multi-nationals is considered an asset;
- Experience in working with the private sector and public institutions to mobilize resources for sustainable development.



- Strong analytical, writing and communication skills.
- Knowledge of the GGW and the UN system and experience in working with international organizations is an asset.
- Advanced Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages
- InDesign, Canva, and other layout and formatting tools is an asset.
- Fluency in both English and French language 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 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: **CCD/24/C/10**.

The deadline for applications is **22 February 2024**. 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 February 2024

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