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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **Consultancy - Support to Land restoration and LDN-related communication, knowledge management and monitoring and evaluation activities**

**Consultancy reference number: CCD/24/C/84**

#### **Background**

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The Global Mechanism 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. As the operational arm of the convention, the Global Mechanism (GM) supports countries to translate the Convention into action.

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, including goal 15, which aims to “protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”. As the main expected result, it defines under target 15.3 to “combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world” by 2030.

In October 2015, the 12th session of the Conference of Parties (COP) of the UNCCD defined Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and endorsed the concept as a strong vehicle for the implementation of the Convention and invited country parties to formulate national voluntary targets to achieve LDN and mainstream LDN Targets in national strategies and action plans.

In September 2017, the 13th session of the COP emphasized the critical role of LDN Transformative Projects and Programmes (TPP) for the implementation of the Convention. This has been reaffirmed at the 14th session of the COP in New Delhi in September 2019 and the 15th session of the COP held in Abidjan in May 2022.

#### **Objective of consultancy**

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The final expected output from the International Consultant will be:

- Regularly updated LDN TSP and TPPs data and dashboards and related background documents and briefing notes.
- LDN and land restoration Programme publications and other outreach material.
- LDN and land restoration Programme preparatory work for COP16/CRIC23 supported.
- Development of concept notes and proposals for LDN transformative projects and programmes (TPPs) supported

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

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Under the overall supervision of the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and the Programme Coordinator and team members of the LDN and Land Restoration Programme, the consultant will perform the following duties:

- Support the GM’s knowledge management and communication activities on land restoration and LDN, ensuring the quality of all communication materials produced and that key technical and communication documents are available and regularly updated.



- Maintain and update the GM's web content (on the UNCCD website) for the LDN and land restoration Programme.
- Support the LDN and land restoration Programme Coordinator and team with programme monitoring (by regularly updating the TSP and TPPs data and dashboards), data analysis and preparation of various knowledge and communication outputs, accordingly.
  - Review and editing of final LDN country reports and ensure their public dissemination.
- Coordinate the production of key LDN Programme publications, presentations and other outreach material.
- Support LDN Programme preparatory work for COP 16 and CRIC 23 (plenary sessions, publications, infographics, briefings, side events, etc.).
- Support the updating and refinement of the LDN TSP 2.0 supplementary technical guidelines and its translations to UN languages, editing, layout and graphic design work for its eventual publication at CRIC 23.
- Support GM's contributions to Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) and Global Policies and Regional Cooperation (GPARC) unit's work related to the development of the LDN Targets Tracking Tool and future global assessments of LDN targets and their contribution to NDCs, NAPs and NBSAPs.
- Support GM preparatory work for the launch of the Enabling Activity Project on Integrating LDN into Land Use Planning Frameworks (i.e., production of technical guidelines building on SPI, GIZ and FAO work, translations to UN languages, preparatory work for project launch).
- Support the development of concept notes and proposals for LDN transformative projects and programmes (TPPs)

### Deliverables

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The consultant will provide the following deliverables:

- ✓ A progress report, every 2 months, highlighting the support provided to the LDN and land restoration Programme. The progress reports should be submitted 2 weeks after the last day of the completed 2 months period. As annexes to the progress reports, the following deliverables should be attached:
  - Draft or final documents produced or supported
  - Links for the online supported outputs (on the UNCCD website, social media, and SharePoint).

### Contractual terms

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The service of the selected consultant is estimated to be for 12 months (part-time) subject to satisfactory progress in the preparatory activities identified under this term of reference. This consultancy is home based (part-time). Payments will be made upon submission of deliverables with an approval of the hiring manager of the Global Mechanism and defined by output. Start date as soon as possible. The candidates will be evaluated based on their experience, knowledge, language skills and academic qualifications. All products resulting from this contractual arrangement are the exclusive property of the UNCCD.

### Requirements

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- University degree (Bachelor's or equivalent) from a recognized university in a relevant field of work (e.g. communications, statistics, external relations, natural resources management, knowledge and/or project management); Post-graduate university degree (Master's or equivalent) is an asset
- A minimum of 2 years of experience in the field of knowledge management, project management, research and/or corporate communications
- Experience in providing knowledge management, data analysis, communications or programme support within the United Nations system or a comparable international organization.
- Strong technical skills in Microsoft Office Suite, particularly Excel and SharePoint. Technical experience working on websites and/or dashboards is an asset.



- Knowledge on the UNCCD or related Conventions processes is desirable.
- Experience in working with UNCCD stakeholders and on LDN is an asset.
- Applicant is expected to be adaptable to an international, multicultural and multilingual environment and should demonstrate initiative and flexibility.
- Professional working knowledge of English is required. Knowledge of other UN languages, particularly French and/or Spanish, 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**

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/24/C/84**.

The deadline for applications is **14 November 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. Candidates who do not receive any feedback within three months of the deadline should consider their application as unsuccessful.

Date of issuance: 07 November 2024

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<sup>1</sup>UNCCD P-11 form in electronic fill-in .pdf OR .docx format available: <https://www.unccd.int/convention/opportunities/vacancies/guidelines>