



INTERNSHIP

Junior Analyst – donor relations, value chains and private sector Global Mechanism

Background

The objective of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification around the world, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas.

The Global Mechanism (GM) assists countries in the mobilization of resources from the public and private sector for activities that prevent, control or reverse desertification, land degradation and drought.

Viable, adequate and sustained financing for effectively combating desertification, land degradation and drought worldwide can only be achieved through a significant involvement of the private sector (i.e. investors, financial intermediaries, businesses, consumers, and civil society including philanthropic foundations). In this context, public development finance is expected to play a crucial catalytic and supplementary role as part of a whole range of enabling governmental and intergovernmental activities. Investments in and via the UNCCD help to facilitate policy reform, leverage large investments and initiate change at the national level.

Closing the USD 1 billion per day financial gap needed to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) requires increased funding, particularly from the private sector. To accelerate this, it is essential to integrate UNCCD's strategic objectives into existing target-setting and disclosure frameworks for environment, nature, and climate. This includes developing investor checklists and designing campaigns based on business cases, and success stories of Champions that highlight the economic benefits of double materiality and investments in transformative solutions—making business operations more resilient to shocks.

Currently, only 6% of identified LDN investments come from the private sector. The newly created Business 4 Land Expert Group will play a pivotal role in scaling up corporate investments by leveraging existing methodologies in target setting and disclosure, while the B4L Steering Committee will design strategies to strengthen advocacy for sustainable land and water management.

Duties and Responsibilities

Interns will work closely with UNCCD experts, under the supervision of the Donor relations and value chains officer, gaining hands-on experience in global sustainability efforts. As part of the team, interns will:

- Dive into cutting-edge research on land degradation, climate change, and sustainability, contributing to real-world solutions.
- Support the **Business 4 Land initiative**, exploring how businesses can drive land restoration through innovative strategies, sustainability practices, and impactful partnerships.



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- Contribute to the **Resource Mobilization Strategy**, identifying exciting funding opportunities and researching groundbreaking financial mechanisms to scale up land restoration efforts, and mainstream UNCCD’s goals into existing financial schemes.
 - Play a key role in preparing dynamic reports, presentations, and policy briefs that influence decision-makers worldwide.
 - Help organize high-level events, meetings, and conferences, gaining firsthand experience in international collaboration.
 - Get creative with outreach and communication efforts—craft engaging articles and social media content that spread awareness on land sustainability.
 - Gain organizational and logistical skills by supporting administrative tasks essential for program success.

This internship is a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of global environmental action while developing skills that will propel your career forward!

Competencies

Communication: Speaks and writes clearly and effectively; listens to others; asks questions to clarify, and exhibits interest in having two-way communication; tailors language, tone, style and format to match the audience; demonstrates openness in sharing information and keeping people informed.

Teamwork: Works collaboratively with colleagues to achieve organizational goals; solicits input by genuinely valuing others’ ideas and expertise; is willing to learn from others; supports and acts in accordance with final group decision.

Client Orientation: Considers all those to whom services are provided to be “clients” and seeks to see things from clients’ point of view; identifies clients’ needs and matches them to appropriate solutions; meets timeline for delivery of products or services to client.

Creativity: Actively seeks to improve programmes or services; offers new and different options to solve problems or meet client needs; promotes and persuades others to consider new ideas; takes an interest in new ideas and new ways of doing things.

Expected Qualifications/Skills

To qualify for an internship with the United Nations Internship Programme, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in, or have completed, a graduate school programme (second university degree or equivalent, or higher); or,
- Be enrolled in, or have completed, the final academic year of a first university degree programme (minimum bachelor’s level or equivalent).
- have graduated with a university degree and must commence the internship within a one-year period of graduation.
- research skills: ability to perform effective and efficient internet searches, and desk research.



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- writing skills: ability to draft and edit content for publication in the language he/she shall be working in, i.e. English, French or Spanish;
 - planning and organizing ability to work in an organized and structured way
 - computer literate, with sound knowledge of and ability to use Microsoft Office Suite

Language requirements

For this internship, excellent oral and written ability is required in English language. Knowledge of other official UN languages is an asset.

Work Experience

Applicants are not required to have professional work experience to be accepted for this internship.

Duration

This internship can be based in Bonn, Germany, at UNCCD Headquarters office, or remotely. It is part time, i.e. 4 days a week, 8 hours per day, for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 months starting as soon as possible, within the period **April 2025 to December 2025**. The exact period will be determined based on the availability of the intern and the needs of the Unit.

Submission of application

Internship application forms can be found at :

<https://www.unccd.int/convention/opportunities/internships>

Your completed application form including ALL of the documents listed below are required and should be submitted by e-mail to staffing@unccd.int, specifying in the subject line: GM Junior Analyst internship.

******The deadline for applications is 30 April 2025******

Only applications submitted by the deadline and meeting the requirements will be considered.

No telephone calls will be returned. Please address your application as indicated below and please do not address or copy your application to an individual at the Secretariat.

******Incomplete applications will not be considered******

Applicants must attach ALL of the following documents to each application:

1. UNCCD internship application form; acceptance and undertaking (conditions and annex form-available on the above link);
2. cover letter stating the reasons for applying.
3. Proof of enrolment from current University (if not graduated) or copy of degree certificate (if you have already graduated);
4. For applicants willing to work from UNCCD Headquarters in Germany, a scanned copy of the applicant's valid medical insurance or a signed statement confirming intent to obtain medical insurance while in Germany.

Your Cover Letter must include:

- ✓ your availability (dates) for the internship;



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- ✓ your Degree Programme (what are you currently studying or have recently graduated from?); your graduation date (when will you graduate or when did you graduate from the programme?); explain why you are a good candidate for this internship;
 - ✓ explain your interest in the UNCCD
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Potential candidates will be contacted by hiring manager directly for further consideration. Due to a high volume of applications received, ONLY successful candidates will be contacted.

Special Notice

Internship with UNCCD is unpaid. Interns are not financially remunerated by the UNCCD. Costs and arrangements for travel, visas, accommodation and living expenses are the responsibility of the intern or his/her sponsoring institution.

Applicants who are children or siblings of a staff member shall not be eligible to apply for an internship at the UNCCD. Applicants who are otherwise related to a staff member may be engaged as interns, provided that they are neither assigned to the same work unit as such staff member nor placed under the direct or indirect supervision of such staff member. For purposes of this instruction, "child" means: (a) the child of a staff member; (b) the child of the spouse of a staff member (stepchild); or (c) the son- or daughter-in-law of a staff member. "Sibling" includes a half-sibling or step sibling.

For a remote internship, candidates will require a laptop or desktop PC with Windows 11, Linux (a recent and actively supported distribution), or Mac (with the latest macOS update), as well as a reliable, high-speed internet connection.

If available, an Office 365 license will be provided by UNCCD to enable access to official emails, SharePoint, OneDrive, and other office applications such as Word and Excel.

Further Computer Requirements:

- An antivirus application with regular updates enabled.
- A modern web browser (e.g., Edge, Chrome, Firefox) with automatic updates enabled.
- For Windows PCs, Windows Update must be enabled to receive the latest security updates.
- For Linux systems, candidates should be familiar with applying system updates and ensuring compatibility with Office 365 web applications.

Additionally, a mobile phone is required to enable Multifactor Authentication (MFA) via SMS or the Microsoft Authenticator App.