



RCC West and Central Africa

Collaboration for Climate Action

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Title: **Senior Climate Change Specialist (onsite consultancy)**

Application deadline: **25 March 2024**

1. Background

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s secretariat (UN Climate Change) is the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change. The Convention has near universal membership (197 Parties) and is the parent treaty of the 2015 Paris Agreement. The main aim of the Paris Agreement is to keep the global average temperature rise this century as close as possible to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Focusing in its early years largely on facilitating the intergovernmental climate change negotiations, the secretariat today supports a complex architecture of bodies that serve to advance the implementation of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.

The UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre for West and Central Africa (RCC WAC Africa) support national climate action through capacity-building, technical assistance, and strategic networking – sourcing know-how and resources to drive sustainable development in West and Central Africa. RCC WAC Africa provides facilitative support to Parties and non-Party stakeholders in West and Central Africa towards the fulfilment of the mandates under the Kyoto Protocol, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015, the Centre also facilitates support towards the preparation and implementation of countries' National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and long-term low GHG emission development strategies (LT-LEDS).

2. Purpose of this role:

Under the direct supervision of the Regional Lead, RCC West and Central Africa, the Senior Climate Change Specialist will provide necessary support to and outputs related to the workplan of the RCC West and Central Africa. Expected outputs are related to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, regional and national climate strategies and policies with a focus both on technical substantive workstream activities and outreach & engagement in West and Central Africa.

3. Name of the Work

Senior Climate Change Specialist at the Regional Collaboration Centre for West and Central Africa

4. Outline of the Work

Details of implementation

The Senior Climate Change Specialist will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following tasks:

Support Mitigation related activities

- Support the Response Measure Unit (RMU) Team on KCI/Just Transition in gathering information and data regarding the impact of the implementation of response measures and in delivering regionally focused capacity building activities or scoping workshops
- Participate in regular regional Meetings through Issue-Based Coalition of regional UN Agencies to gather and share information on Just Transition/Coal Phase Down Working Group
- Contribute to ongoing regional events or knowledge products on the topic of Just Transition/ Coal Phase Down in collaboration with KCI Team

Support Means of Implementation in Technology and Capacity Building

- Support the circulation of communication products of the TEC and the Technology team (articles, policy brief, publication, etc.) at a regional and national level, and encourage regional and national stakeholders to further amplify messaging on their own
- Support the organization of regional event related to technology gaps and needs assessment, including communication and identification of relevant case studies and speakers from the respective regions
- Support the implementation of the mandates of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) particularly through the PCCB network and engagement in regional climate weeks
- Support addressing the identified Capacity Building Needs for Climate Action, in collaboration with private sector enterprises, SME Networks and Youth Networks in AP for UNFCCC Initiatives

Support Engagement and Participation in Climate Action of Non-Party Stakeholders

- Explore opportunities to work with regional and national partners in taking forward the climate agenda with private sector engagement, SME Networks, Youth, Women, and other stakeholders
- Support engagement with UN agencies (such as IOM, UN Women, UNICEF, UNDRR, UNECA, UNDP, ILO) and other local organization (e.g. youth organizations, LGUs, Universities, UN Global Compact) to build new partnerships and opportunities for cooperation, e.g. input to/co-organize events and meetings, collaborate on implementing joint activities.
- Coordinate and execute regional activities under the Global Stocktake, the Marrakesh Partnership Global Climate Action Agenda and Gender, in collaboration with and upon request from relevant Units
- Lead or supervise the activities within West and Central Africa, including inputs to project proposal and evaluation reports
- Support related activities in the West and Central Africa region under the UN Issue-based Coalitions by participating and contributing to regular meetings on relevant topics
- Support to maintain strategic partnerships with the Resident Coordinator Office in Togo and other countries, as applicable, in coordination with Bonn Workstream Units
- Upon request from Bonn team support the preparation of events, Workshop, seminars, securing speakers and documentation
- Support the Africa Climate Week and COP events, as applicable
- Provide inputs to project proposal and resource mobilization opportunities as relevant

Communication related activities

- Inputs to the RCC West and Central Africa achievements in relevant sections of the RCC Annual Report
- Inputs to reporting documents upon request from Bonn
- Taking stock of the outreach and engagement needs in the region, including opportunities to collaborate and build partnerships with UN Agencies and other stakeholders;
- Coordinate publishing of outreach materials (e.g. campaigns, newsletters, SIA or newsroom articles, story for blogs) in alignment with C&E Team of Bonn, with key inputs from Regional Experts/ colleagues in drafting of articles

- Supervise webpage updates with inputs from RCC West and Central Africa colleagues and in coordination with Bonn

Other areas of work

- Perform other functions as may be requested by the Regional Lead in pursuit of the implementation of the RCC West and Central Africa workplan.

Location and Duration

The assignment is for a period of one year with possibility of extension thereafter, starting as soon as possible. The expert will work in Lomé and travel in the region and beyond will be required as deemed necessary to deliver the outputs.

Supervision

The expert will work under the direct supervision of the Regional Lead RCC West and Central Africa including for performance and administrative issues, and under the overall guidance of the Team Lead of the NDC, LT-LEDS and Sectoral Support Unit of the UN Climate Change secretariat in Bonn, Germany.

The expert will be contracted by the West African Development Bank (BOAD), the RCC West and Central Africa host organization. The expert will therefore be under BOAD's employment terms and hence is not an employee of the UN Climate Change secretariat. The expert will receive the required ICT, office, and administrative support from the West African Development Bank.

Requirements

Education: Advanced university degree (Masters) in development studies, economics, business administration, international relations, environmental studies, or in a related discipline. A combination of a university degree plus substantial professional experience in the field may be accepted in lieu of an advanced degree in the relevant discipline.

Experience: At least five (5) years relevant professional working experience on climate change /environment, development cooperation, relationship management at an institutional level, stakeholder engagement and/or capacity building. Knowledge and experience of climate change are essential. Excellent oral and written communication skills, especially in communicating with technical experts and policy makers.

Language: Fluency in English (both oral and written) is required. Fluency or a good knowledge in French and other UN languages is an asset.

Competencies

- **Applying professional expertise:** Demonstrates a working knowledge and interest in the substantive functions of the work unit, including those not within own area of expertise; Manages effectively and fairly across different substantive functions to establish integrated, multidisciplinary teams to address complex issues; Coordinates the input of different functional specialists to achieve sound, integrated solutions; Drives others to develop their functional and substantive skillsets, and to build their understanding of related disciplines; Maintains and disseminates an understanding of best practice standards in all substantive areas represented within the work unit.
- **Communicating with impact:** Communicates with confidence to external audiences and credibly represents the organization; Negotiates effectively with individuals and groups; Encourages effective and open communications within the unit, holds regular meetings and actively fosters communication among staff members; Delivers engaging and persuasive presentations that hold the attention of the audience, and presents complex information in a

manner that is understandable to non-experts; Supports and coaches team members in the preparation of effective communication.

- **Delivering results:** Creates policies, programs, or processes which are mindful of minimizing potential negative social, economic and/or environmental impacts; Identifies the resources needed to deliver results, and manages their use to ensure the utmost efficiency, effectiveness and impact; Creates an environment where staff, regardless of their gender, family situation or other circumstances, are able to perform at their best; Promotes a mindset of results orientation, aligns systems and processes to support the achievement of results, and holds staff members to account for their commitment; Holds regular reviews to assess the results achieved against targets; Manages, reduces or mitigates risks without compromising results, where possible.

How to apply:

Interested candidates who wish to undertake this work should submit their CVs to RCCWACAfrica@unfccc.int copy to mkpeto@unfccc.int .