

Terms of Reference

Senior Consultant on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement

Background

The UNFCCC secretariat is the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change. UNFCCC stands for United Nations Framework Convention on 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 preindustrial levels. Focusing on 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 Mitigation division supports Parties to facilitate, catalyse, and cooperate in the implementation of ambitious climate action in line with global efforts to limit temperature increase to well below 2°C and pursue efforts to limit this increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Parties are supported in developing, communicating, and effectively implementing ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and LT-LEDS in a manner that facilitates just transitions and including through the use of collaborative approaches, mechanisms, framework engagements and economic instruments that broaden mitigation action and drive sustainable development.

The Markets and Non-Markets Support and Stakeholders Interaction subdivision provides effective support on matters relating to intergovernmental, substantive, and technical support to Article 6.2, 6.4 and 6.8, Carbon Pricing, stakeholders' interaction, regulations development, delivering mandates under Article 6.2 (including review) and capacity-building on Article 6. The Markets and Non-Markets Support and Stakeholders Interaction subdivision consists of four units: Market & Non-Market Strategy and Policy Unit, Article 6 Regulations Development Unit, Article 6.2 Review Unit, Article 6 Capacity Building Unit, and Article 6 stakeholder interaction Unit.

[The Regional Collaboration Centers \(RCCs\)](#) support national climate action through capacity-building, technical assistance, and strategic networking. Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015, the RCCs have had the broader task of supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

The UN Climate Change secretariat and its partner organizations operate six RCCs worldwide, of which RCC West and Central Africa facilitates the acceleration of climate action in 26 countries in the region. RCC West and Central Africa was established in 2013 by signing an MoU between UN Climate Change and the West African Development Bank (BOAD).

Purpose

The purpose of this consultancy is to support the implementation and strengthen the capacity of selected Africa countries to engage in Article 6 of the Paris Agreement by:

- Conducting readiness assessments and institutional gap analyses
- Providing targeted technical and capacity-building support
- Developing tools to guide Article 6 engagement
- Linking Article 6 opportunities with national NDC finance strategies



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- Supporting national coordination and access to carbon market finance

Target countries: to be determined

Country	Paris Agreement Status	Needs & Gaps (examples)
TBD	Party	A6 readiness, lack of carbon market framework, institutional setup required
TBD	Party	Assumed A6 readiness support; institutional and legal framework absent
TBD	Party	Outreach begun; DNA and national strategy not in place
TBD	Party	Linked to NDC Partnership; no structured A6 engagement
TBD	Party	No formal A6 strategy; institutional readiness undefined
TBD	Not a Party	Awareness-building support only (pre-accession)

Tasks

The consultant will carry out their responsibilities under the overall guidance of the Manager and in close liaison with the Team Lead of the assigned RCC, and substantive team from the secretariat in Bonn.

Phase 1 – Readiness Assessment & Strategic Alignment

- Review submitted NDCs, including conditionality, sectoral targets, and existing support
- Map current climate finance flows (GCF, GEF, NDCP, bilateral)
- Identify technical gaps and sectoral entry points for A6 engagement (energy, AFOLU, waste)

Deliverables:

- a. Country fact sheets summarizing NDC targets, gaps, and A6 finance entry points
- b. Regional matrix linking priority sectors, emission potential, and carbon market applicability

Phase 2 – Stakeholder Engagement & Institutional Capacity Building

- Engage national climate authorities and focal points
- Deliver virtual or hybrid consultations and technical trainings
- Support countries in designing institutional structures for A6 implementation (DNA setup, roles)

Deliverables:

- a) Consultation reports for each country
- b) Capacity-building materials (slides, handouts, recordings)
- c) Institutional readiness reports and proposals for A6 governance setup

Phase 3 – Development of Tools and Carbon Finance Strategy

- Draft a Carbon Market Playbook for fragile and LDC contexts, including:
- A6.2 and A6.4 eligibility, procedures, benefit-sharing, MRV
- Templates for authorization and carbon project appraisal



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- Develop a Carbon Finance Leverage Framework showing how A6 crediting can co-finance conditional NDC targets
- Prepare sectoral briefs with emission reduction and revenue potential modeling

Deliverables:

- a) Carbon Market Playbook
- b) Sectoral carbon finance briefs (energy, forestry, waste)
- c) Finance leverage matrix for target countries

Phase 4 – Final Roadmaps and Integration

- Draft national Article 6 engagement strategies aligned with NDC implementation plans
- Provide Africa with a roadmap for targeted support over 2025–2026
- Propose coordination models with other TA providers (UNDP, GGGI, NDCP, GEF)

Deliverables:

- a) Article 6 country engagement roadmaps
- b) Final report summarizing all outputs, tools, and strategic recommendations
- c) Presentation to UNFCCC and RCC on the outcome and outputs.

Performance indicators :

All the inputs to be delivered in time and of good quality.

Timeframe

The assignment will comprise 60 working days over a 6-month period, commencing on 15 September 2026. Payments will be made monthly, subject to confirmation of satisfactory performance. The selected consultant to provide detailed work plan on the above deliverables.

Duty station and places of travel

The assignment is expected to be conducted remotely. Any required travel will be covered separately.

Requirements

The consultant is expected to possess the following competencies and qualifications:

- A Master's degree in international relations, climate change, environmental science, engineering, economics, finance, management, development studies, social sciences, or a closely related field
- A minimum of 15 years of experience in carbon markets, delivering capacity building to developing countries.
- At least of 10 years of engagement in the UNFCCC intergovernmental process, with particular emphasis on Article 6 and associated capacity-building efforts
- Proficiency in spoken and written in English; and French knowledge of another official UN language is considered an asset



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How to apply

- Interested candidates who wish to undertake this work should submit their letter of motivation and CVs to RCCWACAfrica@unfccc.int copy to mkpeto@unfccc.int and ywabo@unfccc.int. **The deadline for application is September 15, 2025.**