



CONSULTANCY
(Individual Contractor)
ADAPTATION PROGRAMME
Impacts, Vulnerability and Risks Sub-programme

ANNOUNCEMENT NO:	12/CON08/A
PUBLICATION/TRANSMISSION DATE:	14 August 2012
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION:	28 August 2012
CONSULTANCY:	Preparation of a technical paper on slow onset events
DURATION OF CONSULTANCY:	30 days during period 1 September 2012 to 20 November 2012
DUTY STATIONS:	Consultant's home

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the focus of the international political process to address climate change. The UNFCCC secretariat supports the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol through a range of activities, including substantive and organizational support to meetings of the Parties.

The Adaptation programme supports Parties, in particular developing country Parties, in assessing, developing and implementing adaptation plans, policies and actions aimed at reducing vulnerability and building resilience and in improving the scientific basis for international climate policy and action, including through the review of the adequacy of the long-term global goal.

Background

The Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF) as part of the Cancun Agreements (decision 1/CP.16) at the 2010 Climate Change Conference in Cancun, Mexico (COP 16/CMP 6). The objective of the CAF is to enhance action on adaptation in order to reduce vulnerability and build resilience in developing country Parties, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing countries that are particularly vulnerable.

Under the CAF, the COP established a work programme to consider approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change (Decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 25–29).

The elements for consideration in the context of the work programme include:

- Possible development of a climate risk insurance facility to address impacts associated with severe weather events;
- Options for risk management and reduction, risk sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance, including options for micro-insurance, and resilience-building, including through economic diversification;
- Approaches for addressing rehabilitation measures associated with slow onset events;
- Engagement of stakeholders with relevant specialized expertise.

The COP, then, requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI):

- To agree on activities to be undertaken under the work programme;
- To make recommendations on loss and damage to the COP for its consideration at COP 18 (November/December 2012)

At the thirty-fourth session of the SBI (June 2011), Parties agreed on the following three broad thematic areas in the implementation of the work programme on loss and damage

- Thematic area 1: Assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change and the current knowledge on the same;
- Thematic area 2: A range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events, taking into consideration experience at all levels;
- Thematic area 3: The role of the Convention in enhancing the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

At the thirty-fourth session of the SBI/COP 17 (November–December 2011), Parties agreed on activities to be undertaken in the course of 2012, including the development of a technical paper on slow onset events (Decision 7/CP.17, para 8(c)).

The paper is to be developed in the context of Thematic area 2 above, and take into consideration the outcomes of the three expert meetings (Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, and Latin America) held at the regional level, and one expert meeting for the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), which will likely take place in October in order to address issues related to Thematic area 2 mentioned above.

Mandate

In the context of Thematic area 2 mentioned above, the consultant is required to prepare a technical paper on slow onset events, taking into consideration the outcomes of the four regional expert meetings.

The aim of this technical paper is to generate an adequate knowledge-base on approaches to address loss and damage in relation to impacts related to slow onset events, with a view to assisting Parties to make informed decisions on loss and damage as a follow up to the current activities under the loss and damage work programme.

The paper should not be longer than 50 pages (excluding annexes) and contain an executive summary of 2–3 pages.

Requirements and qualifications

- Advanced university degree, in climate change science, adaptation, development or related field.
- At least 7 years of extensive research experience/expertise in climate change adaptation related issues, including in impact assessment, analysis on a range of adaptation options at different levels and a range of sectors and ecosystems, and linkages with sustainable development, as well as in observational science.
- Understanding of the UNFCCC intergovernmental process is desirable.
- A demonstrated proficiency in English-language and good writing skill are required. Familiarity with the UN editorial style is an asset.

To apply

Candidates whose qualifications and experience match the requirements for this consultancy should use the on-line application system available at <http://unfccc.int/secretariat/employment/recruitment>.

Please note:

1. **Qualified women candidates and candidates from developing countries are especially encouraged to apply.**
2. **We will confirm receipt of your application. However, only candidates under serious consideration and contacted for an interview will receive notice of the final outcome of the selection process.**