



## Terms of Reference for

# ELABORATION OF THE SECOND GENERATION SOUTHERN AFRICA DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SUBREGIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

## 1. Background

The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) has 15 member states and an approximate population of 280 million people which is growing at an average rate of 3%. The Region experiences GDP growth of 5.14%, with a very significant part of the economy in the industrial (32% GDP) and service (51%) sectors. These factors — population growth and industrialisation — converge to pose a number of significant threats on the region's environment, including land degradation, depletion and extinction of species (loss of biodiversity), increasing frequencies of droughts, water stress, and dwindling production and productivity.

Realising these threats, all Member States have signed the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The UNCCD was opened for signature in 1994, and entered into force in 1996. In 2007 the parties adopted a Ten-Year Strategic Plan and Framework to Enhance the Implementation of the UNCCD (2008–2018) (Decision 3 of the Conference of Parties No 8). The Ten Year Strategy includes the following strategic objectives:

- ✓ To improve the living conditions of affected populations;
- ✓ To improve the condition of affected ecosystems;
- ✓ To generate global benefits through effective implementation of the UNCCD;
- ✓ To mobilize resources to support implementation of the Convention through building effective partnerships between national and international actors.

Member States are aware that a coordinated regional approach is needed to deliver on UNCCD activities. There have been regional efforts to address land degradation and combat desertification through initiatives such as the development of the Regional Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, promulgation of the SADC Protocol on Environment and elaboration of the Regional Climate Change Programme. The SADC Sub-regional Action Programme to Combat Desertification (SRAP) was developed in 1997. Although a number of transboundary initiatives linked to the SRAP have taken place, these have not been fully coordinated or scaled up and opportunities still remain that require consideration. The SADC SRAP is also now outdated and not aligned to the needs of the Region, the ten year UNCCD strategy and current goals of the Convention such as Land Degradation Neutrality.

With this in mind, the SADC Secretariat in partnership with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) initiated the SRAP review process to revive action on the United Nations Convention to

Combat Desertification (UNCCD) during the preparations for the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP 11) which was successfully hosted in the region.

A workshop was held 18 - 20 June 2013 in Pretoria which granted SADC Member States the opportunity to review the SADC SRAP and share progress made in the region towards UNCCD activities. At the same workshop the SADC position for the UNCCD COP 11 which took place in Namibia was formulated.

It is on this background that SADC Secretariat in collaboration with IUCN seeks the services of a consultant to prepare a situation analysis and develop the second generation Sub-Regional Action Programme.

## **2. Objectives of the Consultancy**

The overall objectives are to:

- Undertake a review of relevant past and ongoing global, regional and national processes and initiatives and prepare a situation analysis;
- Elaborate and develop the new updated SRAP based on a review of the old SRAP, the results of this review process and of the regional workshop as well as consultations with member states and relevant stakeholders.

## **3. Specific Tasks**

Working in close consultation with SADC Secretariat and IUCN, the consultant/s will carry out the following tasks:

1. Undertake a literature review and electronic consultation process to establish relevant developments in the last 15 years on the following:
  - a. Global trends and initiatives with a specific focus on the UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC, MDG's, Rio +20, Climate Change, REDD+, TEEB, SDG's, the Green Economy and improvements in data and monitoring of land degradation;
  - b. Regional trends and initiatives with a specific focus on the AU, NEPAD, SADC institutions and policies, regional and transboundary developments, initiatives such as TerrAfrica, CAADP, major investments and practices, regional projects, relevant data sets and maps on land degradation and desertification;
  - c. Regionally significant national level initiatives such as land care programmes, Country Pilot Partnership Programmes, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, Land reform programmes, CBNRM etc
2. Review of current statuses of land degradation in the SADC region based on LADA, other assessments and Remote Sensing data
3. Undertake a stakeholder analysis which should be informed by existing literature, relevant networks, electronic survey and email correspondence as required;
4. Review the status of implementation and impact of the existing SRAP and document successes, weaknesses, lessons learned and gaps;
5. Identify information and gaps in the SADC Region in relation to the Strategic Plan for UNCCD and land degradation neutrality;

6. Identify DLDD threats and solutions that require action or policy at the sub-regional or transboundary level;
7. Identify linkages between DLDD, biodiversity loss and climate change and potential synergies to be captured within the revised SRAP
8. Establish new draft structure for the SRAP on the basis of the Strategic Plan for UNCCD, inputs from the regional workshop, and current trends and priorities in the implementation of the UNCCD;
9. The consultant must take the following into consideration:
  - The SRAP should be comprehensive and designed to cover all the provisions of the UNCCD that can be implemented at regional scale;
  - The SRAP should be strategic and prioritized with realistic and achievable goals;
  - The SRAP should be developed through a wide but targeted participatory process;
  - The SRAP should be integrated with biodiversity, climate change policies, including REDD+ policies, and thereby promote coherence in the implementation of the three Rio conventions;
  - The SRAP should highlight the need for community-based management and for preserving traditional knowledge;
  - The SRAP should provide a platform for consolidating national implementation of the UNCCD provisions at the regional scale.
10. Present the situation analysis and revised SRAP in the final validation workshop for the review process of the SRAP.
11. Incorporate comments received from major stakeholders and provide recommendations about the interventions, procedures and institutional arrangements required for the implementation of the final document.
12. Prepare and present final document for lay-out and printing to SADC and IUCN for approval and sign off

## **4. Detailed Outputs**

4.1 Draft situation analysis and draft SRAP by 31 July 2015

4.3 Final situation analysis and final SRAP by 31 August 2015

## **5. Qualifications and requirement of the consultant**

- A Master degree in environmental management, land management, development studies, natural resources management, or any related fields;
- At least 10 years of proven working experience in desertification, land degradation and drought; sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation across the SADC Region;
- In-depth understanding of the UNCCD;
- Strong reporting, analytic and writing abilities;
- Good understanding of multi-lateral environmental agreement approaches, in particular the UNCCD.

## **6. Time Frame and Reporting**

The services of the consultant(s) are needed from approximately 6 July 2015 to 31 August 2015. The consultant will report to the Senior Programme Officer, IUCN South Africa Office and the Senior Programme Officer: Environment and Sustainable Development of the SADC Directorate of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources.

## **7. Application Requirements**

Applicants who meet the above requirements are requested to submit by email their applications in English including a detailed CV, brief proposal with timeline/ activity schedule and budget to: [cathrine.mutambirwa@iucn.org](mailto:cathrine.mutambirwa@iucn.org) and copy to: [jucnsa@iucn.org](mailto:jucnsa@iucn.org) by **Tuesday 30 June 2015**.