

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE SPECIAL SERVICE AGREEMENT (SSA)**

**REF: GEO/LDN/2023-Asso1**

**ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT:** Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

**JOB TITLE:** GEO Land Degradation Neutrality Associate

**DUTY STATION:** Remote

**DURATION:** 01/04/2023 to 30/09/2023

### BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT:

The incumbent will work with the Secretariat of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO). GEO is a global partnership of governments and partner organizations working to meet the need for timely, quality and long-term global environmental information as a basis for sound decision-making. GEO is currently developing its Post-2025 strategy to develop key recommendations for the future evolution of GEO. This strategy is exploring new models for a Post-2025 GEO Work Programme that emphasizes integration, innovative finance, operational solutions at scale, local impacts and public-private partnerships.

The GEO Land Degradation Neutrality (GEO LDN) Flagship helps national and local actors in all countries use Earth observations to reach land degradation neutrality and develop innovative solutions for integrated land use planning that can contribute to nature-based solutions.

The incumbent will support the identification of contributions by GEO LDN to the development of the Post-2025 GEO Work Programme, including through GEO's work on nature-based solutions. The incumbent will also directly support the GEO LDN on issues related to communication, governance and secretariat sustainability.

### ACCOUNTABILITIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the overall supervision of the *GEO Sustainable Development Goals Coordinator* and working closely with the GEO LDN co-chairs and GEO LDN Secretariat, the GEO LDN Associate will:

#### **1. Support GEO's work on Nature-based Solutions with the GEO Work Programme team.**

- Coordinate with GEO LDN Focal Points at UNCCD to develop narratives for the potential contribution of GEO LDN activities to Nature-based Solutions and their impacts on climate, biodiversity, disaster risk reduction and other related issues.
- Document best practices from GEO LDN, including geospatial tools, federated approach and data curation to inform the design and implementation of GEO Work Programme activities, especially on Nature-based Solutions.
- Advise on the relevance of GEO-LDN data, tools and methods to GEO's Nature-based Solutions portfolio and the development of Post-2025 GEO Work Programme.

#### **2. Support the GEO LDN Secretariat in the implementation of the GEO LDN Flagship activity, ensuring coordination with the GEO Work Programme team**

- Support the GEO LDN Secretariat in maintaining established and building new partnerships with stakeholders, institutions and individuals interested in LDN related issues from local to global levels.
- Support the GEO LDN Secretariat in updating the GEO LDN governance structure by organizing an online workshop.
- Support the GEO LDN Secretariat to identify and evaluate different options for staffing and financial and operational sustainability.

**3. Contribute to GEO LDN communication and visibility with the GEO Secretariat Communication team and the GEO LDN Communication team**

- Support the development of GEO LDN’s communications strategy and implementation plan in close consultation with UNCCD and the GEO Secretariat Communications team.
- Support the development and implementation of internal processes and tools to ensure GEO LDN effective internal and external communication to increase visibility of and support for GEO LDN activities.

**4. Provide support to resource mobilization activities with the GEO Secretariat Resource Mobilization team and the GEO LDN Secretariat.**

- Develop specific content and provide input for project proposals to source funding for the priorities identified by GEO LDN.
- Maintain and extend contacts with funding organizations and partner organizations.
- Support the coordination of resource mobilization efforts between the GEO LDN Secretariat and the GEO Secretariat.

Travel may be required and funded by the GEO Secretariat.

DELIVERABLES AT THE END OF THE CONTRACT:

1.1	Report on GEO LDN best practices, including the GEO LDN geospatial tools, federated approach, and data curation practices
2.1	Organize an on-line workshop on the GEO LDN Governance structure with the GEO LDN Secretariat.
2.2	Produce a report on the outputs of the workshop in 2.1, including options and recommendations for staffing and financial and operational sustainability of the GEO LDN Secretariat
3.1	Contribute to GEO LDN Communication strategy and detailed implementation plan
3.2	Contribute effectively to the development of internal processes and tools for GEO LDN internal and external communication
4.1	Provide the GEO Secretariat with GEO LDN input for resource mobilization activities

## QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

Education: Master of Science or equivalent in climatology, atmospheric sciences, physics, geophysics, oceanography, applied mathematics, Earth system science or a closely related field.

### Experience:

At least 3 year of experience in international cooperative project support in relevant land degradation neutrality studies or global change research and sustainable development programs. Experience in writing reports, documents and correspondence in English. Experience in communication and events organisation. Experience in working in multi-cultural environment and in international scientific partnerships to support multilateral environmental agreements. In-depth knowledge of at least one of the main topics of land degradation neutrality (i.e., integrated land use planning, SDG indicator 15.3.1, ecosystem services, geospatial data on land, monitoring neutrality, ...) as well as Earth observation would be an advantage. Familiarity with the procedures of international organizations and/or support to coordination of international scientific/technical projects would also be an advantage.

### Knowledge & Skills:

Excellent coordination/organisation skills and a solution-oriented attitude;

Versatility to undertake a wide range of support functions as required by *the Sustainable Development Goals Coordinator*; Proficiency in major common office software applications.

Demonstrated ability to work well both independently and within a multicultural team;

Good command of information and communication technology

Languages: Excellent knowledge of English. Knowledge of German as well as of other working and/or official languages of the WMO Secretariat would be an advantage. (Notes: The working language of the GEO Secretariat is English. The official languages of WMO are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.)

## HOW TO APPLY:

Please send your application to [jobs@geosec.org](mailto:jobs@geosec.org) with the reference "GEO/LDN/2023-Asso1" quoted in the email subject. Your application should include a CV and a motivation letter.

Deadline for applications is **26 March 2023**.