

Terms of Reference

International Consultant - Natural Sciences

Duty Station: Addis Ababa

Type of contract: Consultancy contract

Duration of contract: 1 to 6 months

Recruitment open to: Internal and External candidates

Application Deadline: 21 June 2023 (Midnight Addis Time)

UNESCO Core Values: Commitment to the Organization, Integrity, Respect for Diversity, Professionalism and Gender Equality

Under the overall authority of the Director of the UNESCO Addis Ababa Liaison Office to the AU and UNECA, the incumbent will contribute to the implementation of the Natural Sciences programme, the management of activities/projects as well as the overall visibility of the actions. The incumbent works in the framework of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy (C/4s), the Approved Programme and Budget (C/5), the Global Development Plans, notably the Agenda 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063 (Africa We Want).

The incumbent will be expected to perform the following functions:

- a) Participate in the conceptualization, design, planning, developing, coordination, monitoring and implementation of the Liaison Office's Natural Sciences strategies and corresponding programmes, in biodiversity conservation, water resources management; Science, Technology and Innovation (STI); Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics (STEM) Education; Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR); Earth Science; and Gender;
- b) Research, recommend and contribute to the development and expansion of a knowledge base on Natural Sciences programmes and priorities including the definition of intersectoral activities in Water; Biodiversity; Earth Science; STI, STEM Education and DRR;
- c) Maintain close contacts with the AU, concerned (sub-) regional/national/local authorities and contribute to the development of national science policies. In this context, maintain and ensure relations with science and technology institutions and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Support the development and implementation of science related programmes and activities in partnership with National Commissions, UNESCO Chairs, science-related Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, tertiary education and research and development (R&D) institutions, and the AUC
- d) Identify, design, and implement extrabudgetary projects to reinforce the office's Regular Programme and contribute to resource mobilization in support of interdisciplinary programme activities in water, biodiversity, STI, STEM, DRR and Earth Science for the implementation of national and/or regional strategies for sustainable development.

Key deliverables of the assignment include:

The incumbent will be required to submit monthly reports which will be approved before payment. The report must reflect progress on the below key deliverables:

- a) Intellectual leadership provided for the monitoring and completion of on-going activities in the Science Programme;
- b) SISTER reports completed for activities executed in the 2022/2023 biennium based on reports of previous and on-going activities;

- c) Work plans developed for next biennium (2024/2025) for activities in MAB, IHP, DRR and STI based on stakeholder engagements;
- d) Communication products developed for enhanced dissemination and visibility of the science programme
- e) Baselines established for the development of a climate-smart conservation plan for the Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve
- f) Follow ups and possible revisions of concept notes sent to Qatar, UAE, Portugal, and UK embassies in Addis Ababa
- g) Roadmap developed for strengthening IHP and MAB national Committees
- h) Strategy developed for operationalizing UNESCO family (Chairs, Category 2 institutes, IHP and MAB committees) in Ethiopia
- i) Technical services provided to AUC-ESTI for the review of STISA-2024 and iteration of STISA-2034

COMPETENCIES (Core/Managerial)

Accountability (C)

Communication (C)

Innovation (C)

Knowledge sharing and continuous improvement (C)

Planning and organizing (C)

Results focus (C)

Teamwork (C)

Professionalism (C)

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education

- Advanced university degree (Master's or equivalent) in Basic Sciences, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Science, Engineering or a related field in Natural Science

Work Experience

- Minimum 7 years of experience related to Science-Policy, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Science, Water Science or related field in Natural Sciences, of which preferably 3 years acquired at international level;
- Experience in project development and management, including coordination of activities, information/knowledge management and project reporting.
- Experience with organization of international events;
- Demonstrated experience in support to local, national and international organizations, including support to non-profit and non-government organizations.

Skills/Competencies

- Excellent coordination, facilitation and negotiation skills;
- Demonstrated capacity in strategic planning and problem-solving skills;
- Excellent organizational skills, high attention to details and ability to multi-task;
- Ability to work collaboratively in a multi-cultural environment and to engage effectively with existing and potential institutional beneficiaries and collaborators;
- Demonstrated experience in support to national and international organizations;
- Excellent analytical, reporting, writing, editing, and verbal communication skills in English;
- Flexibility and ability to work under tight deadlines;

Languages

- Excellent knowledge of English (written and spoken).

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Skills/Competencies

- Ph.D in the relevant field;
- French proficiency
- Familiarity with the United Nation system, African Union and their rules and regulations.

SELECTION AND RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Interested applicants should send their CV, a motivational letter, and academic documents by email to aa.recruitment@unesco.org and Cc: td.kebede@unesco.org by latest 21 June 2023 at midnight.

Please include your monthly financial proposal.

Short listed candidates will be invited for a written and or oral interview for further assessment.