

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

CALL  
FOR SUBMISSIONS  
01 APRIL  
2024

## TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE WOMEN-LED SOLUTIONS FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

### Rationale

Established in 1994, the **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** is the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. The UNCCD recognizes that addressing and reversing land degradation is one of the key sustainable development priorities for the majority of its 168 affected countries' Parties.

UNCCD also recognizes that droughts are the most far-reaching of natural disasters, causing short and long-term economic and ecological losses as well as significant secondary and tertiary impacts. To reduce societal vulnerability to droughts, there is a need to overcome the prevailing structures of reactive, post-hazard management approaches and move towards proactive and risk-management approaches that build resilience to drought at the local, national, and regional levels. Additionally, within this context, the Convention stresses the importance of ensuring the full and equal participation of both men and women at all levels in programmes and policies to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought.

With the view to strengthening knowledge on gender issues, the UNCCD secretariat has commissioned and produced several policy-relevant researches and various strategic communications publications to facilitate insight debate and

discourse on a new and transformative vision for land management policy, planning, governance, and practice at global and national scales. In this context, and in response to Decision 24/COP.15, which approved a "road map to guide and accelerate the implementation of the Gender Action Plan through gender-responsive and transformative approaches," on track with this roadmap, **this call will identify and analyze innovative gender-responsive and transformative approaches from many corners of the world.**

FAO Policy on Gender Equality 2020-2030 highlighted that mainstreaming gender equality is critical to ensure that the gender dimensions are adequately addressed in relevant national plans and policies. In this context, the **WeCaN Nurturing Community of Knowledge Practice for Women** in dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems provides a South-South mutual learning space for women leaders to share experiences, good practices and policies, through knowledge exchanges, partnership building and capacity development opportunities. WeCaN community has mapped and involved over 250 members across the dryland regions, among grassroot and women-led organizations, civil society and community-based entities, practitioners, public institutions, and researchers committed to supporting the adoption of gender-responsive approaches in the management of dryland areas.

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



United Nations  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

For this study, **UNCCD and FAO will collaborate** in a joint effort, and with complementary resources, to identify the most innovative and effective women-led initiatives, drawing on WeCaN Community and the Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Impact Program (DSL-IP). This flagship initiative financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and led by FAO, offers a catalytic, country-driven and innovative outlook on how to avoid, reduce and reverse degradation and deforestation of land and ecosystems in drylands. Operating in 11 countries across three dryland eco-regions, the DSL-IP seeks to achieve transformational, durable and replicable change at scale by addressing common management challenges. The programme takes a programmatic, integrated and gender-responsive approach to connect, align, and harmonize the knowledge management dots between the stakeholders involved.

## Awardees

**The top three winners will be awarded during COP16**, which provides a magnificent platform for this dissemination on the world stage. The aim is to recognize primarily the women who have led the actions, celebrating their leadership and resourcefulness, rather than just recognizing the project.

**A report featuring the best 20 promising practices** will be launched initially on the International Day of Rural Women, 15 October 2024. The same report will be designed and distributed during the Conference of Parties (COP16) to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (02 - 13 December 2024). It will be presented and discussed during a session of the UNCCD Gender Caucus at COP16.



Case studies should be sent by **April 1, 2024**, to the following address: [gender@unccd.int](mailto:gender@unccd.int)

**The template to be used is found in the next page.**

Case studies submitted in English, French, or Spanish will be reviewed and collated, and the Secretariat may follow up to gather further information on individual projects or case studies.

Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at [gender@unccd.int](mailto:gender@unccd.int)

## Goal of the Call for Submissions

Identify examples of the essential role played by women in sustainable land management in drought-prone locations and regions so that their initiatives may be duly valued, expanded, and replicated and potentially attract resources to scale up these women-led actions.



# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



## TEMPLATE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE WOMEN-LED SOLUTIONS FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Country(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTACT PERSON

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in organization: \_\_\_\_\_

### ABOUT THE PROJECT/INITIATIVE

What is the context or background of your initiative? (300 words)

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



## TEMPLATE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE WOMEN-LED SOLUTIONS FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

General description of the initiative (400 words)

A large, empty rectangular box with a light gray background, intended for the general description of the initiative.

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



## TEMPLATE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE WOMEN-LED SOLUTIONS FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

Describe the essential role(s) played by women in sustainable land management in your drought-prone location and region (700 words)

A large, empty rectangular box intended for the submission of text, representing the 700-word response area.

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



## TEMPLATE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE WOMEN-LED SOLUTIONS FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

Profile of the women “champions” in your project at the community/national/regional level (one paragraph per woman, as needed)

A large, empty rectangular box with a light gray background, intended for submitting profiles of women champions.

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



## TEMPLATE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE WOMEN-LED SOLUTIONS FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

Mention some of the challenges or gaps encountered (400 words)

Share any publications you consider pertinent related to your case study (web links are welcome).

**!** Case studies should be sent by **April 1, 2024**, to the following address: [gender@unccd.int](mailto:gender@unccd.int)