UN GCNI Sustainable Finance Workstream
Call for Applications

Position Title : Knowledge & Domain Consultant – Sustainable Finance Workstream

Duty Station : UN Global Compact Network India, Sector 16, Noida

Organisation : United Nations Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI)

Reporting To : Executive Director, UN GCNI/ in close coordination with the Workstream Lead

Contract Type
Full-Time Consultant / Fixed-Term Contract (Initial engagement for 6 months, with the possibility of extension based on performance and funding availability)

Compensation
₹9,00,000 – ₹10,00,000 per annum, commensurate with experience

Deadline for Application Submission: November 23, 2026

Background

UN GCNI is launching the Sustainable Finance Workstream to help Indian companies, particularly MSMEs and mid-sized enterprises, translate sustainability intent into financial decision-making and access to capital. Despite growing ESG ambition across Indian industry, most companies below the large-corporate segment lack visibility into the financial instruments available to them, and most financial institutions lack the technical familiarity to price and assess green and ESG-linked lending. The Workstream closes this gap by convening companies, MSMEs, banks, investors, and technical experts around a sequenced programmes: stakeholder consultation, Toolkit development, capability-building, and long-term platform engagement.

To deliver this, UN GCNI seeks to recruit a Knowledge & Domain Consultant who will provide the technical depth and subject-matter credibility required to anchor the Workstream's outputs, ensuring they meet the standard expected by CFOs, financial institutions, and investors.

Purpose of the Position

The Knowledge & Domain Consultant is the technical anchor of Sustainable Finance Workstream. This role focuses on guiding the strategy, building relationships with key companies, and ensuring the tools we create are useful and accurate. This position carries direct accountability for the substantive quality of everything the Workstream produces — the stakeholder consultation findings, the Toolkit and sector modules, the training curriculum, and the financing pathway frameworks developed with participating companies. The incumbent will convene and chair the Sustainable Finance Working Group, translating its technical guidance into Workstream's core deliverables, and will represent UN GCNI's subject-matter credibility in engagements with banks, CFOs, and investors. The Knowledge & Domain Consultant will work in close and continuous coordination with the Workstream Lead, who holds overall accountability for the Workstream's delivery, milestones, and outcomes — the Knowledge & Domain Consultant owns the technical quality of what is produced, while the Workstream Lead owns the programme's overall achievement against its targets.

Key Responsibilities

1. Stakeholder Consultation & Baseline Development

- Design and lead stakeholder consultations with companies, MSMEs, banks, and investors to surface real gaps, priorities, and readiness levels.
- Lead synthesis of consultation findings into a structured gap-analysis and baseline report, against which Year 1 outcomes will be measured.

2. Working Group Leadership

- Identify, onboard, and chair a Sustainable Finance Working Group of technical experts drawn from finance, ESG advisory, academia, and banking.
- Ensure Working Group findings are translated into concrete programme priorities and technical validation of all Workstream outputs.

3. Toolkit & Sector Module Development

- Lead the development of the Sustainable Finance Toolkit, its simplified MSME version, and 2–3 sector-specific modules, translating regulatory and policy language into practical, actionable guidance.
- Ensure alignment with global frameworks (Global CFO Coalition, PRI, UNEP FI) and the Indian regulatory context (SEBI BRSR, RBI ESG-lending guidance).

4. Capability-Building & Implementation Support

- Design the capability-building curriculum and oversee delivery of workshops for both companies and participating financial institutions.
- Provide direct technical support to selected companies on diagnostics, action plans, and identification of financing pathways.

5. Action Platform & Investor–Corporate Dialogue

- Support the design and ongoing operation of the Action Platform, sustaining engagement between the Working Group, companies, and financial institutions beyond individual training sessions.
- Facilitate structured dialogue between companies and capital providers.

6. Knowledge Outputs

- Guide the development of case studies and CFO perspective interviews from participating companies.
- Lead the Annual Knowledge Compendium, ensuring content quality suitable for external circulation and contribution to the global CFO Coalition evidence base.

Qualifications

Education
Postgraduate qualification in Finance, Sustainability, Economics, Business Administration, or a related field (preferred, not mandatory).

Experience

- 6–8 years of hands-on professional experience in sustainable finance, ESG advisory, responsible investment, or green/sustainability-linked lending.
- Demonstrated experience engaging banks, institutional investors, CFOs, or MSME ecosystems directly.
- Strong working knowledge of the Indian regulatory landscape (SEBI BRSR, RBI ESG-lending guidelines) and global sustainable finance frameworks (Global CFO Coalition, PRI, UNEP FI).
- Experience in chairing or coordinating multi-stakeholder or expert advisory groups is desirable.
- Familiarity with the UN system or international development organisations will be an advantage.

Behavioral Competencies

- Strong technical judgement and ability to defend content under scrutiny from banks, CFOs, and investors.
- Excellent facilitation skills, with the ability to chair a multi-institution expert group.
- Strong written communication, particularly the ability to translate technical/regulatory content into plain language.
- Ability to work independently while coordinating closely with UN GCNI's programme management function.
- Professional integrity and confidentiality.

Language Requirements

- Excellent written and spoken English.
- Working knowledge of Hindi will be an advantage.

Duration

Initial appointment for 12 months, with the possibility of extension subject to programme performance, funding availability, and Year 2 scale-up approval.

Application Submission Instructions

Interested candidates are requested to submit:

- A detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- A Cover Letter (maximum two pages) highlighting relevant technical experience and motivation for applying
- Contact details of two professional referees (to be provided upon request or at the interview stage)

Applications should be submitted via mail with the subject line:
Application – Knowledge & Domain Consultant - Sustainable Finance Workstream

Applications should be sent to: recruitment@globalcompact.in and CC to yogita.singh@globalcompact.in