

Terms of Reference

External collaborator to support policy and advocacy work in the agriculture sector for the Responsible Supply Chains in Asia (RSCA) Programme in Thailand

1. Background

The "Responsible Supply Chains in Asia" (RSCA) programme (RAS/16/13/EUR) is a programme developed by the European Union together with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The programme promotes corporate social responsibility (CSR) / responsible business conduct (RBC) with regard to the environment, decent work and the respect of human rights.

This initiative is a part of the EU's long-standing commitment to promote human rights, decent work and sustainable development, a pledge underpinned by the EU Treaties and reinforced in the European Commission's trade policy strategy of 2015 "Trade for All". It falls in particular under the Commission's commitment to identify opportunities for responsible supply chain partnerships and the EU's strategic approach to responsible business conduct, which is based on internationally agreed principles and guidelines. It will also contribute to the EU strategic approach to CSR/RBC as put forward in the Commission 2011 Communication "A renewed EU strategy 2011-14 for Corporate Social Responsibility."

The four-year programme (2018-2021), carried out in collaboration with Japan, China, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, has two broad objectives to:

- promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth by ensuring that investors and businesses have a better understanding of corporate social responsibility;
- create policy environments conducive to promoting responsible business conduct and increased opportunities for dialogue

In Thailand, the project focuses on two sectors: agriculture and vehicle parts sectors. Both sectors account for high numbers of workers and have important trade linkages to the EU. Agriculture exports from Thailand to the EU represent 15% of total exports. The sector accounts for approximately 31% of the employment in the country and 11.6 million workers. However, the sector also accounts for almost 60% of total informal employment in the country. Within the agricultural sector, the project will focus on the meat and fruit and vegetable sub-sectors, both of which account for a high number of jobs in the region and play an important role in trade linkages with the EU and in general within the Thai economy.

One of the four approaches of the programme is policy advocacy through the promotion of dialogue at different levels (national, regional/provincial, sectoral and at the enterprise level). The programme aims to foster coordination and collaboration to harness the benefits of FDI and MNE operations for the creation of more and better jobs. This dialogue with relevant Ministries and other stakeholders is crucial to building the right policy framework to support responsible business conduct.

While the programme has been conducting policy advocacy work by engaging with stakeholders in agriculture sector, its focus has been placed largely within the poultry sub-sector. For this purpose, the programme is looking to issue a consultancy to extend its coverage to fruit and vegetable sub-sector in Thailand,

2. Objective and scope of the assignment

The objective of the assignment is to support the policy and advocacy work of the programme within the fruit and vegetable sub-sector in Thailand. The consultant will be tasked to:

- Conduct a mapping of actors of the fruit and vegetable supply chains in Thailand to identify key actors that the programme should engage with. The actors include but are not limited to associations and individual enterprise/organisations;
- Engage and maintain relationship with stakeholders identified in the mapping to promote preliminary technical discussion on the labour dimension of responsible business conduct according to the programme's approach;
- Plan, organise and facilitate two Agricultural Task Force meetings. With technical support and approval the RSCA team, the consultant will prepare concept note and agenda of the meetings, extend invitation to participants, coordinate on logistics with the project coordinator and facilitate the meetings.

3. Expected outputs

The outputs of this consultancy are:

- Output 1: Submission of a mapping of the fruit and vegetable sub-sector in Thailand which a clear identification of key actors that the programme should engage;
- Output 2: Submission of concept notes and agendas for the two Agricultural Task Force Meeting in Thai and English, as well as a document containing the main conclusions and a summary of the points discussed;
- Output 3: Completion of organising and facilitating two Agricultural Task Force Meetings, including an action plan for further continue the work in this area;

4. Duration and payment schedule

The total contract duration is from 21 June – 15 September 2021.

The cost of the contract shall be the sole remuneration and includes provision for any incidental expenses. The consultant shall not in any circumstances be entitled to any payments other than those expressly provided for under the contract.

The payments for this consultancy will be made as follows:

- First payment of 30% after submission of Output 1 to the satisfaction of the RSCA Programme;
- Final payment of 70% after submission of all outputs to the satisfaction of the RSCA Programme.

5. Confidentiality Statement

All data and information received from ILO for the purpose of this assignment are to be treated confidentially and are only to be used in connection with the execution of these Terms of Reference (TOR). All intellectual property rights arising from the execution of these ToR are assigned to the ILO. The contents of written materials obtained and used in this assignment may not be disclosed to any third parties without the expressed advance written authorization of the ILO.

6. Administration, Reporting and Coordination

The contract for this assignment will be issued by the ILO Office in Thailand. The Office space, equipment, other logistics arrangements in the course of this work as well as travel insurance will be organized by the consultant himself/herself. The consultancy will be conducted under the direct supervision of the RSCA's Programme Manager and the Policy and Advocacy Officer.

Interested individuals or companies are invited to send CV or profile of companies, previous work samples and proposed fee, with break down cost, to RSCA@ilo.org and mokkhasen@iloquest.org by Sunday, 13 June 2021 (Bangkok time).