

Terms of Reference

Strategic and Technical Support to the Responsible Supply Chains in Asia Programme

Background

The "Responsible Supply Chains in Asia" (RSCA) project (RAS/16/13/EUR) is a three years programme conducted by the ILO and the OECD and funded by the EU. The programme aims at contributing to an enhanced respect for human rights, labour and environmental standards by businesses engaged in supply chains in Asia including Japan, in line with international instruments on CSR, RBC and Business and HR. This initiative is one of the expressions 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.

The programme is being implemented in six Asian countries, namely China, Japan, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. These countries are key trading partners of the EU. Many imported goods and services in the EU originate from these countries and businesses in the EU and Asia have increasing strong linkages.

The overarching objective of the programme is to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth by ensuring that investors and businesses have a better understanding and practical examples of responsible behaviour. Specifically, the programme aims at creating policy environments conducive to promoting responsible conduct and increasing opportunities for policy dialogue in this topic. In this context, and for the sake of broadening impact and outreach, the RSCA programme will establish linkages and coordination with relevant partners within the UN system.

The RSCA programme aims at 1) increasing understanding and knowledge on CSR/RBC from the perspective of decent work and 2) creating a policy environment conducive to promoting a socially responsible conduct among businesses and other relevant actors in the 6 countries covered by the programme. In this context, the programme will implement a series of activities with the private sector and government institutions aimed at increasing awareness on CSR/RBC and advocating for the implementation of policies and actions aimed at promoting socially responsible labour practices at the enterprise level.

As the programme has reached the fourth year of implementation, the ILO sees the need to finalise activities, including those at the regional level, the publication of research conducted during the three years of operation and the finalisation of policy briefs with the main outcomes and learnings of the implementation of the RSCA programme.

Purpose and objective of the assignment

To provide technical support to the implementation of remaining activities in the context of the implementation of the RSCA in coordination with country offices, the ILO regional office for Asia Pacific and the MULTI Unit of the Enterprises Department of the ILO (Geneva).

Activities to be conducted under this consultancy

The consultant would be required to:

- Provide technical support for the finalisation and publication of the research undertaken during the length of the RSCA programme
- Give technical support to the elaboration and finalisation of the policy briefs including the respective support to get the technical insights for the briefs in question
- Strategically advise the RSCA programme on how to institutionalise the outcomes of the RSCA programme in the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
- Provide technical inputs in the shaping of the pending activities at the national as well as the regional level in the context of the RSCA programme, including seminars, panel discussions and workshops as per the action plan agreed with the donor.
- Assist the Multi Unit in the drafting and finalisation of country stories based on the implementation of RSCA activities at the country level and, where relevant, prepare short concept notes that could support potential resource mobilisation for selected countries.
- Provide support in the knowledge management of the RSCA programme for online repositories such as Sharepoint and MULTI i-Drive, and produce user-guidelines and handover notes for usage after finalization of the programme
- Provide other technical assistance in the finalisation of the activities of the RSCA programme as requested.

Outputs to be delivered under this consultancy

The consultant will deliver the following main outputs:

- Deliverable 1: Country stories following the format suggested by the MULTI Unit
- Deliverable 2: Finalisation of the research documents initiated under the RSCA programme
- Deliverable 3: Policy briefs finalised for publication including the conclusions and policy recommendations.
- Deliverable 4: support for the organisation and implementation of regional activities in Q1 2022
- Deliverable 5: Re-organized and up-to-date SharePoint and i-Drive folders, with accompanying guidelines on RSCA programme Knowledge Management Strategy.
- Deliverable 6: Short concept notes to support potential resource mobilisation for selected countries where relevant.
- Deliverable 7: A short final report summarising the consultancy work.

Terms of Contract for Consultant

An agreement will be made between the ILO and the service provider who will be responsible for all activities and deliverables in the terms of reference.

Time for the assignment

Total number of days and period of time that the consultant will be committed to are 75 working days, which is to be worked from 11th January to 27 April 2022.

Reporting

The service provider will report to programme manager of the project RSCA and will work closely with the MULTI unit of the Enterprises department of the ILO.

Travel required for this assignment

Any travel required for the completion of the activities included in these ToR will be borne by the ILO in accordance with ILO rules and regulations.

Interested individuals are invited to send CV and proposed fee, with break down cost in USD, to RSCA@ilo.org and guayacan@ilo.org by 15 January, 2022.