

Terms of Reference

Project Title: Trade for Sustainable Development

Assignment title: Consultant – Sustainable Investment

Duty station: Home-based

Travel: Not applicable

Duration: 40 working days distributed over 3 months

Expected start date: 15 January 2019

Background:

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is a joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization for trade-related technical cooperation in developing countries. ITC assists small and medium-sized enterprises in developing and transition economies to become more competitive in global markets, thereby contributing to sustainable economic development within the frameworks of the Aid-for-Trade agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Trade for Sustainable Development (T4SD) Programme is a partnership-based programme which helps businesses, regardless of their position in the value chain, chart their path to more sustainable trade by better understanding the sustainability initiatives landscape and to connect with business partners. T4SD provides targeted solutions and training programmes based on web platforms and solid expertise in the areas of voluntary standards, sustainable sourcing and climate-smart exports.

T4SD is seeking an International Consultant to contribute to the research and development of a guide on sustainable and responsible investment for foreign investors in Africa. The guide aims at providing a step-by-step approach for Chinese investors in selected African countries (Ethiopia, Zambia, Mozambique and Kenya) to help them mainstream social and environmental business practices in compliance with local and international standards. The guide also gathers best practices of sustainable and responsible business practices applied by foreign and local investors in the selected African countries.

Description of Duties/Responsibilities

The Consultant will work under the direct guidance of the Head of the T4SD, as well as the Associate Sustainability Experts of the T4SD Programme.

The Consultant will have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Conduct desk research on sustainable investment practices of foreign/Chinese investors in selected African countries;

- Support the development of the methodology of the guide and identification of key topics related to sustainable and responsible investment to be included in the guide;
- Compile case studies based on existing best practices of sustainable foreign investment applied by Chinese companies in Africa, and help identify new case studies. This will include contacting, together with ITC, relevant stakeholders in the selected African countries such as investment promotion agencies, local and international commercial banks and others.
- Draft a guide, focusing on mainstream social and environmental business practices in compliance with local and international standards and which should entail:
 - Overview on the business case for sustainable and responsible investment in the context of Chinese investment in selected African countries.
 - Step-by-step approach on different measures based on best practices that foreign investors can apply to implement sustainable/responsible investment practices.
 - Brief overview of country-specific sustainability policies and related requirements for investments and the institutional landscape supporting sustainable/responsible foreign investment.
 - Case studies showcasing best practices on sustainable investment applied by foreign/local investors in selected African countries;The outline of the report and type of information to be provided will be structured together with ITC.
- Document the phone interviews conducted and their related content.

Expected Outputs and Timelines

- Outline of report and structure of profiles created (late February)
- Final report completed (early April)

Experience/Skills

- Ability to gather and synthesize research material from academic and non-academic sources and form sound conclusions;
- Excellent verbal and written communication;
- Willingness to understand African countries' sustainability strategies and investment policy;
- Knowledge of the current and emerging trends in China's sustainability and outbound investment policies;
- Knowledge of the private sector in China;
- Experience with investment facilitation is an asset;
- Experience with research on sustainable investment practices applied by Chinese companies is an asset;
- Fully proficient computer skills and use of relevant software and other applications, e.g. word processing, spreadsheets, internet, power point;
- Ability to work independently, with flexibility and deliver results under time pressure;

Education

Advanced degree in economics, finance, international relations, international development, business administration, or related field.

Experience required

At least 5 years of experience working in the areas of sustainable and responsible investment, economic development and/or investment promotion. Work experience in China is an asset.

Language

Fluency in English, knowledge of Chinese is an asset.

Contact

Prospective candidates are invited to apply by sending their CV and cover letter to batalhone@intracen.org, mwilcox@intracen.org with the subject "Consultancy application: Sustainable Investment".

Selected candidates must submit their application to the Consultants Roster:

<https://hrapps.intracen.org/registration/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fepfh%2fPHF.aspx%3flang%3den%26vacancy%3d234234%26passby%3d1&lang=en&vacancy=234234&passby=1>