

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Title of post:	International Consultant, Climate Risk Assessment, Agricultural Value Chains
Duration:	30 days
Duty station:	Home-based
Tentative start date	1 November 2021

Background

Climate hazards disrupt agricultural supply chains and are detrimental to economic development and food security. Extreme weather events, flooding, higher temperatures, shifted seasonality and ocean acidification are pervasive and result in a range of negative impacts including increased incidence of pests and diseases; damage of road infrastructure, processing and production facilities; reduced availability of water supplies and reduction in soil yields and quality of output. For small businesses and farmers, these impacts mean higher costs, fluctuating quality and disruptions to delivery of products to market. These impacts place food security at risk.

There are, however, cases where climate change is opening opportunities in climate change services and sustainable markets. Services include the delivery of technologies and expertise to meet the challenges of both adaptation and mitigation. In product markets, consumers are increasingly willing to pay a premium for environmentally friendly products due to concern over environmental issues. Processing firms and exporters can capitalize on this trend by sourcing more sustainably and marketing certified products.

There is currently *a lack of information about climate risks and opportunities facing value chains in developing countries, their financial impacts on companies and the management strategies* required to build resilience. Analysis of climate related risks (physical and transition) and opportunities is necessary in order to improve decision making at both the policy and private sector levels. This will facilitate the transition to a more climate resilient economy.

ITC is developing a web-based tool to present analysis of climate related risks and opportunities facing SMEs in selected agricultural value chains in developing and emerging economies. The tool will make information readily available online in an easily accessible manner.

A consultant is required to advise on the use of climate related risk and opportunity assessment methodologies applied to SME development, agriculture and trade.

Description of Duties/Responsibilities

The Consultant will work under the direct guidance of Senior Advisor in the Sustainable and Inclusive Value Chains (SIVC) section in ITC and will undertake the following duties to support the development of the CERA tool

1. Advisory report covering the following issues
 - The climate risk assessment space with respect to actors, stakeholders and methodologies. Validation of ITC's methodology with respect to this space.
 - Link between climate related risks and opportunities and trade development and recommendations for extension of the ITC methodology to include trade elements.
 - Review of the proposed metrics and indicators in the methodology and if/how these can be adapted to better align with SME trade development.
 - Recommendation on if/how type of indicators and data to incorporate to show exposure of agricultural trade to climate change risks
 - To validate the key audience for the tool

The report will be based on the consultant's own expertise as well as a synthesis of the findings of his consultation with experts. The consultant will interview 10-15 experts, stakeholders from trade and development community including developing country agri-business, Aid for Trade practitioners and researchers. ITC will facilitate access to these experts. The consultant will be expected also to propose contacts to interview.

The experts to consult will be discussed and agreed with the consultant. A list of questions for a semi structured interview will be developed by the consultant and agreed with ITC.

Expected Outputs and Timelines

An advisory report (15-20 pages plus Annexes) as described under Duties.

A draft report will be submitted with a powerpoint presentation to ITC 30 days after starting the contract. The final report based on comments from ITC and discussions with the consultant will be provide 50 days after starting the contract.

Travel

No

Skills

- Competent user of Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)
- Attention to detail
- Ability to work independently and to solve problems
- Flexibility and ability to work under pressure and tight deadlines
- Excellent communications skills, both oral and written
- Excellent communication, diplomatic, presentation skills and ability to maintain effective partnerships and working relations in a multi-cultural environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity

Education

Advanced degree (MA/MSc or other)

Field of studies:

Agri-business, applied economics, agronomy, environmental management or related area

Experience required (number of years in which area)

At least 7 years of experience working in agriculture, trade, environment and/or development issues (teaching, research and/or consulting). Deep understanding of challenges facing value chains with respect to climate risks and opportunities, related data issues and interface with policy. Experience in the value chains, climate policy and Aid for Trade desirable.

Language

Fluency in English.

Prospective candidates should send their CVs to **Alexander Kasterine** (kasterine@intracen.org) by **23 October midnight CET**. Please include a cover letter highlighting your experience and knowledge that would apply to this ToR and the approach you would take to the assignment.