KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA NATION – RELIGION – KING

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MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
ENHANCED INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK (EIF)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR LEAD INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT (REF: EIF/2014/027)

AND

NATIONAL EVALUATION INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT (REF: EIF/2014/028)

- 1. In December 2007, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) launched the Cambodia Trade Integration Strategy (DTIS 2007), which describes a comprehensive reform program to improve the business environment and create the conditions to help exporters strengthen their supply capacity. Cambodia exporters are bound to improve their competitiveness to offset the negative impact of disappearing tariff preferences and advantages and to take advantage of market access offered under bilateral and multilateral trade arrangements. In this perspective, urgent reforms are imperative in trade facilitation, investment facilitation, intellectual property protection, technical standards and packaging, sanitary and phyto-sanitary standards, trade information and promotion. To operationalize the DTIS 2007, the Ministry of Commerce, in partnership with key stakeholders and the support of Cambodia's development partners, launched in 2008 a Trade Sector-wide Approach (aka Trade SWAp), structuring the DTIS implementation along three pillars: (1) Reforms and cross-cutting issues, (2) Products and services development and (3) Capacity development for trade.
- 2. In 2011, Cambodia's undertook a trade policy review (TPR) under the WTO. While praising Cambodia's for its robust economic development and steady growth, the WTO TPR members recommended Cambodia's accelerate its trade diversification, both in terms of products and services. Trade expansion and trade-related investment are critical ingredients to achieving the economic growth objectives stated in the RGC Rectangular Strategy. The competitiveness of Cambodian exporters can increase only if the RGC contributes to improving the business environment, by implementing trade reforms and improving governance in the trade sector.
- 3. Consequently, the Trade SWAp's vision is the following: "In the next ten years, the RGC will be increasingly valued for its integrity, for its capacity to articulate and implement trade policies and strategies in consultation with all trade stakeholders and for its ability to enforce trade regulations aiming at strengthening competitiveness in existing export industries and at promoting export diversification". The vision will be pursued by maximizing the benefit of AfT and enhancing policy dialogue with the private sector, civil society and development partners.
- 4. The CEDEP I project, approved for a duration of three years to cover the period 2013-2016, seeks to increase the export of Cambodia's milled rice, high-value silks and to improve the capacity of the Ministry of Commerce to monitor and evaluate the SWAp in general and the contribution made by CEDEP I to the overall Trade SWAp goals. The CEDEP I project therefore comprises three components, implemented by three different agencies or "Main Implementation Entities (MIE): the International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group) is responsible for the project component on milled rice; the International Trade Centre (ITC) is responsible for the project component on high-value silk; the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Commerce (MoC) will implement the Evaluation Function Component and will support the conduct of the mid-term and final evaluations of CEDEP I. The total project value is US\$3.3M out of which US\$2.4M is provided by the EIF.
- 5. The D/ICO, MoC, serving as Secretariat to the Trade SWAp and NIU is implementing Evaluation Component of CEDEP I, is recruiting two individual of Lead International and National Evaluation Consultants, who will be based in the D/ICO at the Ministry of Commerce, and will be responsible for providing professional assistance to D/ICO to conduct CEDEP I mid-term evaluation in line with OECD/DAC evaluation criteria and

the recommendations of the EIF/ES¹ the effectiveness of the current Trade SWAp structure and implementation and make recommendations on ways and means to improve its efficiency.

- 6. The main purpose of this consultancy services is to help the Ministry of Commerce to carry out a comprehensive independent review of whether the CEDEP I in order to assess progress made against project planned results and how these are contributing to the achievement of the overall project objectives. After 18 months (mid-term) in order to define ways and means to improve its implementation to reach its stated objective of trade diversification and expansion.
- 7. This position is output-based and the consultants' assignment is expected to be for a period of **30** (**thirty**) **working days**, most of them in-country. International travel is needed as part of this assignment, unless the selected consultant currently resides in Cambodia.
- 8. The Lead International Evaluation Consultant will at a minimum possess the following:
 - ➤ Master Degree in International Trade, International Economics or Development Studies or closely related field:
 - > Proven 8-year experience in developing and evaluating strategies, program and project documents in the context of trade-related technical assistance projects and programs in least-developed countries
 - ➤ Good knowledge of trade, particularly Aid for Trade, sector-specific issues, and development issues; good understanding of the EIF will be an added advantage;
 - ➤ Proven experience in working with Governments and networking with national and international stakeholders, preferably in Asian LDCs in trade mainstreaming and trade related technical assistance;
 - Familiarity with donor agencies procedures, Monitoring and Evaluation practices and in the use of basket funds, trust funds and budget support for development projects;
 - ➤ Knowledge of, and experience in, applying qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods;
 - Data analysis and interpretation skills; and Good report writing skills
- 9. The National Evaluation Consultant will at a minimum possess the following:
 - > Master Degree in International Trade, International Economics or Development Studies or closely related field:
 - ➤ Proven 3-year experience in evaluating strategies, program and project documents in the context of traderelated technical assistance projects and programs in least-developed countries;
 - ➤ Good understanding of economic and trade development issues;
 - > Proven experience in working with Governments and networking with national stakeholders in technical assistance projects;
 - Familiarity with donor agencies procedures, Monitoring and Evaluation practices and in the use of basket funds, trust funds and budget support for development projects;
 - ➤ Good data analysis and interpretation skills; and Good report writing skills.
- 10. In submitting their expressions of interest, consultants are kindly requested to indicate the following reference: Ref: EIF/2014/027 or Ref: EIF/2014/028. Interested consultants must provide their updated curriculum vitae, indicating personal and technical skills, academic qualifications, experience in similar assignments, and experience in Cambodia and/or other developing countries along with the names of at least three (3) referees with contact information (e-mail address, telephone or fax numbers). Expressions of Interest shall be submitted in hard copy followed by an electronic copy.
- 11. Interested consultants may obtain copies of the detailed Terms of Reference (in English) for the assignment by sending a request by Email or from the address below during office hours from 8:30 to 12:00 and from 14:00 to 17:30 hours, Monday through Friday, except public holidays.
- 12. Expressions of interest must be submitted to the address below no later than 15th May 2014 (before 17:00 hours).

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¹ EIF/ES, EIF Tier 2 Mid-Term Evaluation Guidance Note (2013)