

16 January 2017

DCI-ASIE/2014/350-601
EU-China Social Protection Reform Project

Component 1 Macro-Activity 1.1

**Relationship between social-economic development
and the redistribution function of social security**

1 Short-Term Chinese Expert

(Annual Work Plan 2017– Activity 1.1.7)

TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

1. Background

1.1 General

The purpose of the EU-China Social Protection Reform Project (“the Project”) is to contribute to the improvement and inclusiveness of China’s social protection system through strengthening the institutional capability for developing policies, for implementing legal and regulatory frameworks and for supervising systems of social insurances, social assistance and financial management in the area of social security. In particular, the Project’s purpose will be pursued through the following three components in relation to which specific Chinese government entities playing the role of partner of the consortium have been identified:

Component 1: Consolidation of institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms in collaboration with the National Development and Reform Commission (“NDRC”);

Component 2: Enhancing of institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social security funds in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance (“MoF”); and

Component 3: Improving of legal framework and policy for social assistance in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Affairs (“MoCA” and, together with NDRC and MoF, the “Chinese Ministries”),

This ToR falls under Component 1 of the Project.

2. Description of the Assignment

2.1 Overall and Specific Objectives

2.1.1 Overall Objective:

The overall scope of the SPRP project is to further develop social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society. Under the leadership of the NDRC, coordination of policy making among government agencies in areas related to social protection reform is strengthened.

The research activities to be considered in 2017 focus on the relevance and social efficiency of a reformed pension system such as parameters, Gender issues and policy evaluation.

And there is a topic to be continued based on the study by Prof. Li Shi:

1.4.2 Relationship between social-economic development and redistribution function of social security;

This ToR is only for the topic 1.4.2

2.1.2 Specific Objective:

As a very powerful social transfer mechanism, social security policies may play a major role in ensuring the progressive emergence of a “new normal” economic growth pattern in China, more centered than over previous decades on national consumption of resident population, currently or formerly active.

The redistribution function of social security is effected within a given context of socio-economic development. Redistribution through social security mechanisms should therefore be compatible with the conditions of socio-economic development on the one hand, and contribute to the amplification and growing relevance of the same development on the other hand.

It was therefore decided to recruit one short-term Chinese expert - Prof. Li Shi from Beijing Normal University (hereafter referred to as “the Expert”) to continue this study and analysis of the Relationship between social-economic development and redistribution function of social security in China and to formulate some policy recommendations conducive to a economically and socially more efficient contribution of social security to socio-economic development through optimized use of the redistribution function of the former.

Prof. Li Shi has submitted his study report on Redistribution Effects of Social Security in China in August 2016

2.2 Requested Services

The Expert will perform this assignment under supervision of the EU C1 Resident Expert and NDRC, in close collaboration with the main Chinese Expert for research. He/she will take part in briefing and peer review sessions organized in the course of his/her assignment and submit a mid term draft for comments and amendment suggestions by the project team.

The Expert will produce in English a detailed study and thorough analysis of the Relationship between social-economic development and redistribution function of social security in China as regards notably:

- Economic Development and Social Security works conducted on income redistribution through social security mechanism in China should be continued in relation with the plan for parametric reform such as retirement age, retirement benefits - personal saving and retirement behavior, social average wages, indexing of reference income and benefits in payment, benefit formula and other affected indicators;
- The role and importance of social security of the Relationship between social-economic development and redistribution function of social security (pensions, medical insurance and social care) in China. Redistribution function in China concerning short and long term cash benefits and access to health and other social care protection;
- The issues and deficiencies of social protection policies in the function of promoting income redistribution in China;
- The different models of social security as regards income redistribution in EU Member States what are their advantages and disadvantages and their sensitivity to parametric reforms
- The quantitative and qualitative importance of social security coverage in China with regard to the level of social and economic development – concerning both financing and payment of benefits;

- The structural concerns related to redistribution function of social security in China in view of current methods for financing and computation of benefits;
- The suggested policies and reform thoughts for positioning social security in the structure of income redistribution to reach the objective of optimizing redistribution through social security in China in view of the current and desired levels and characteristics of socio-economic development.

The works considered under the present ToR will be used as a direct reference for a one day International Workshop envisaged to be organized in France around the topics of Parametric Reform and Income Redistribution through Social Security in China and Europe in the fall of 2017.

During the period covered by his/her assignment, the Expert will, as requested, take part in briefing sessions for group of officials to undertake overseas activities in areas related to his/her assignment topic.

2.3. Expected Results

The result of the assignment will provide useful top-level ideas on issues, challenges and options in the context of the redistribution function of social security in view of socio-economic development conditions in China.

The outputs of the assignment will be:

- a research report of 50 pages in English and Chinese;
- an executive summary of 5 pages in English
- a bilingual power point presentation for the above-mentioned international workshop .

3. Experts' Profile

The Expert's required qualifications are:

Professional qualification:

Relevant University Degree within the relevant sectors of Demographic Analysis, Social Protection, Law, Political Science, and Economics Study;

Experience

- 10 years experience of working in areas related to Social Protection and/or Economic policies at the domestic and international levels
- A proven record of accomplishment in preparing and implementing EU or other donor technical cooperation funded projects.
- Excellent organizational, communication, writing and interpersonal skills

Working Languages

The incumbent should be fluent in English and in Chinese both verbally and in writing.

4. Location, Duration and Budget

Location: Beijing

Timing: 01 March - 31 October 2017

Working days: Study and analysis maximum 25 w/days for a net fee of 150 Euros a day. For participation in the International workshop, additional 5 w/d plus transportation cost and per diem according to project rules.

Fees will be paid at the end of the assignment completed at the satisfaction of the project authorities.

5. Proposed CV:

Candidatures to be submitted to Expertise France within 3 weeks of the publication of these ToR