

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

Component 2 macro-activities

(Annual Work Plan 2017 – Macro-Activity 2.6)

One European senior social security specialist

Topic 2.1.4

An integrated system for the coordinated management of the social assistance system

POLICY SUGGESTIONS

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:

- i. Component 1: Consolidation of institutional capacity for social protection policy development and reforms in collaboration with the National Development and Reform Commission (“NDRC”);
- ii. Component 2: Enhancing of institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social security funds in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance (“MoF”); and
- iii. 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”),

These ToR fall under Component 2 of the project.

2. **Description of the Assignment**

2.1. **Overall and Specific Objectives**

2.1.1 Overall Project Objectives

The overall scope of the SPRP project is to further develop social equity and inclusiveness of economic development throughout Chinese society. For the Component 2, the main target is to enhance the institutional capacity for financial management and supervision concerning social security funds.

In 2017, the Component 2 will analyze the following three topics:

2.1.4 An integrated system for the coordinated management of the social assistance system

2.3.1 Development of Old-age Service Industry and Long Term Care System

2.3.2 Investment strategies of social funds and risk control methodologies

This ToR is for the topic 2.1.4

2.1.2 Specific Objectives

In recent years, Chinese social assistance has rapidly progressed. The promulgation of the Interim Measures on Social Assistance (2014) has represented a fundamental step that has determined a better integration of funds and institutions, promoted a better coordination among departments and the rapid development of means-test procedures, as well as the identification and check of the beneficiaries. However, a notable level of fragmentation still exists and the 3rd Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee has stressed the need to pursue and fully realize the modernization of the governance system and the governance capacity of the country.

MoF underlined some of the main problems that affect the expenditure performance of the Chinese

Social Assistance system, hence challenging the poverty alleviation effectiveness:

- i. In the first place the **connection and coordination among schemes** are insufficient and the resources devoted to social assistance are too scattered, which leads to a sub-optimal articulation between programs and policies, and results in the use of social assistance funds less effective than desired
- ii. The **management** of the system needs improvement
- iii. The **sharing of information and resources** among departments is not adequate
- iv. Multi-departmental, overlapping and missed **delivery of benefits** co-exist in the system-

In relation to these problems, MoF listed the following challenges to be considered as priority:

- 1. Optimize institutional design and coordinate social assistance resources*
- 2. Strengthen the integration and coordination of social assistance funds*
- 3. Standardization and scientification of Social Assistance and increase of protection level in line with socioeconomic development*
- 4. Establish positive incentive mechanisms*
- 5. Establish mechanism to promote a reasonable balance of responsibilities among the state, the society, and the individuals*
- 6. Construct information sharing platforms and strengthen the mechanisms to check information*

2.3 Requested Services

Following up the outcomes of the Panel Discussion, the Expert will provide a policy recommendation report on the topic 2.1.4 based on the best practices from the EU. The expert will coordinate the research work with other EU experts involved in the panel discussion, Chinese expert and resident expert in order to provide a complete policy reference to be submitted to the MoF and discussed at the Workshop, in Beijing, scheduled between the end of January and beginning of February 2018.

The Expert will take all necessary action to provide the policy suggestion report to the satisfaction of the Project represented by the Component 2 coordinator (INPS). He will submit a mid term draft for comments and amendment suggestions by the project team. He will present the main results of the survey at the dedicated Workshop.

2.4. Outputs

- a paper of around 30 pages, in English
- an abstract of the paper, in English
- a power point presentation in English

The expert will also present the main contents of his work during the Workshop to be organized in Beijing between the end of January and beginning of February 2018.

3. Experts' Profile

The Expert's required qualifications are:

Requirements for Experts	Requirement/Asset
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Qualifications and skills	
University Degree within the relevant sectors of Demography, Social Protection, Law, Political Science, and Economics	R
Excellent organizational, communication, writing and interpersonal skills	R
Strong analytical and drafting skills	R
Previous experience in execution tasks in other international projects	A
Fluent in English both verbally and writing	A
Ability to develop and maintain good professional relations with stakeholders, particularly counterparts and staff members in an international setting	R
General professional experience	
At least 5 years of experience working in areas related to Social Protection and/or Employment policies	R
Public servant within one of the Applicant Entities of the Consortium or staff from public institutions cooperating with the Applicant Entities of the Consortium or researcher from the research institution outside Consortium. Public servants and staff from public institutions cooperating with the Applicant Entities who fulfill the requirements take precedence over candidates outside Consortium.	R
Previous working experience in international projects, preferably with EU funded projects	A
Previous working experience in China	A
Specific professional experience-related to action	
Possessing professional experience relevant to the ToR for his/her specific assignment	R
Previous experience in research or previous publications in the area of social sciences	A

3.1 Working Languages

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

4. Location, Duration and Budget

Location: Experts' countries and Beijing

Timing: November 2017 to February 2018. First draft of policy suggestion report by 20th December 2017, final document by 15th January 2018. Power point presentation by the Panel Discussion timing.

Working days: Maximum 20 w/days (including a short mission to Beijing)

5. How to apply

Interested Expert(s) are requested to submit three documents:

1. Candidacy – Letter of intents
2. A CV in English (Europass format suggested), possibly in word format
3. A copy of her/his Identification Document

Applications are to be sent to C2 Resident Expert, Mr. Michele Bruni: Michele.bruni@eucsprp.org and the C2 Coordinator, Ms. Valeria Bonavolontà: valeria.bonavolonta@inps.it by or before November 27, 2017.

6. Personal data protection

INPS – Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza sociale, based in Rome (Italy), Via Ciro il Grande 21, is the Responsible of personal data processing, as EU-China SPR Project Leader and Component 2

Coordinator. INPS informs you that your personal data contained in the application for the present ToR will be processed by the Component 2 Resident Expert of the EU-China SPR Project, his assistant and INPS employees involved in the EU-China SPR Project – Component 2, in compliance with the Italian Legislative Decree no. 196 dated 30/06/2003 on personal data protection, in order to process your application to the selection. Your personal data will be processed also with electronic instruments. Your data will be communicated to other public or private Institutions only in cases provided by the Italian laws. INPS informs you that, in accordance to art. 7 of the above mentioned decree, you are entitled, in particular, to have access to your personal data, to request rectification, updating or deleting of information if data are incomplete or wrong. You should contact INPS at the e-mail address: Comp2.InpsProgettoCina@inps.it to exercise the rights provided in art. 7.