

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

Component 1 Macro-Activity 1.1

Policy and regulations for income distribution

1 Short-Term Chinese Expert

(Annual Work Plan 2018 – Activity 1.1.2)

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”),

These 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.

There are 5 topics of Component 1 to be considered for deep study this year according to the Plan Activities 2018:

1.1.1 Methods and experiences of strengthening vocational training;

1.1.2 Policy and Regulations for Income Distribution;

1.1.3 Employment and Social security issues under the background of population movement;

1.1.4 Gender considerations in employment and social security

1.1.5 Prospects of using resident pensions as basic layer for universal pensions in China.

This ToR is only for the topic 1.1.2

2.1.2 Specific Objective:

Primary income redistribution is crucial to the development of a harmonious society, especially when inequalities in primary income distribution are high, as is the case in China. After reviewing in 2016 and 2017 the influence of social protection, notably in old-age, over income redistribution in China, it is proposed to now include in the analysis the different tools available for income redistribution, which are direct and indirect taxation, social security contributions be they or not assessed on salaries, access to public services and public subsidies, social security and social assistance benefits, determination of wage levels and levels of remuneration for capital investment, etc. Such an analysis would evidence the complementarity among these mechanisms, and details the reasons and consequences of putting more emphasis on one or the other.

It was therefore decided to recruit one short-term Chinese expert (hereafter referred to as “the Expert”) to conduct a study and analysis of the tools for redistribution of primary income (direct and indirect taxation, subsidies, access to public services, social security contributions and benefits) and their use in China and to formulate policy recommendations in that respect.

To help in his/her assignment, the Expert will use related national information as well as information from selected European countries having a solid and broad experience in redistribution of primary income.

His/her work will be used as pre-briefing training material for a two weeks training session for high level officials to held in Italy in September 2018 on the Influence of the adjustment of economic and industrial restructuring on income distribution. (provisional title).

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. He/she will also take part in the dedicated pre-training briefing session referred to in paragraph 2.1.2 above.

The Expert will produce in English a detailed study and thorough analysis accompanied by policy recommendations on the tools for redistribution of primary income and their use in China which may include:

- Current status of policies and regulations regarding income distribution in major European countries with the focus on regulative tools for salary, income tax, property tax, and social protection;
- Changes in orientation in the field of income distribution in major European countries;
- Rationale and key measures in adjusting income distribution policies in selected European countries;
- A current account of the policy and regulations for income distribution in China and its changing orientation;
- The implication on China of referring to European experience in the field of policy shifts for income distribution.

The international context especially the actual experience in selected EU countries with most relevant experience in broad mechanisms for redistribution of primary income will also be addressed in the report.

2.3. Expected Results

The result of the assignment will provide an informed input into the State council considerations of redistribution of primary income in China.

The outputs of the assignment will be:

- a research report of 50 pages in English
- an executive summary of 5 pages in English
- a power point corresponding to a 30 minutes presentation in English and Chinese.

The expert will also, as requested, present the main contents of his/her work during the one-day pre-training briefing session on the Influence of the adjustment of economic and industrial restructuring on income distribution (provisional title) to be organized in Beijing in September 2018.

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 Employment policies at the domestic and international levels with specific reference to the contents of these ToR.
- 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: 15 April to 31 October 2018

Working days: maximum 35 w/days for a net fee of 150 Euros a day for the report
Fees will be paid at the end of the assignment completed at the satisfaction of the project authorities.

Deadline First draft of report by mid-May 2018

5. Proposed CV:

Incumbents should address their CVs plus a letter of motivation to the project Component 1 Resident Expert in Beijing contact@sprp-cn.eu before 10 April 2018