

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

Component 2 macro-activities

2 European senior social security specialists

(Annual Work Plan 2016 – Macro-Activity 2.2 to 2.12)

Topic 2.1.4

Social security benefits and the assessment of the household socio-economic conditions

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.

2.1.2 Specific Objectives

The project Grant application form notably specifies that “EU MS will carry out a widespread research regarding the EU MS Social Protection systems and their Best Practices related to the topic analyzed. (...); moreover, each EU MS will prepare an additional report on the **most interesting Best Practices to be proposed to MoF, when available**, on different topics about which it has proposed its participation. (...)”. According to the needs expressed by the MoF, these researches will help China's policy makers to identify European models and Best Practices to be potentially introduced in China in order to achieve the expected project results.

Furthermore, according to the 2016 Activity Plan, from 16th to 30th October 2016, C2 will organize a training program in Italy for 15 MoF officials. As indicated by MoF, one of the priority issues to be included in the Training is topic “**Social security benefits and the assessment of the household socio-economic conditions**” (2.1.4).

In order to reach the specific goal of the project, the specific objective of the current assignment is to hire two EU experts, each one being responsible:

- To prepare and deliver a lecture in the Training course on the topic “**The means-testing experience in EU countries**”.
- To follow and to provide support to the research carried out by the Chinese short term expert (Prof. Jiang Zhen) on the situational analysis on the same topic.

- To provide a draft report including a critical analysis of the main results of the Chinese report and suggestions on how to pursue the analysis. The observations contained in the draft report should recall and reflect the relevant EU experiences.
- To deliver and discuss the main results of the research report on the Panel Discussion of December, in Beijing

2.3 Requested Services

More specifically, the Experts will, in close cooperation with the C2 Resident expert, prepare and deliver a lecture during the Training course, as well as the relevant training materials (abstract and power point presentation). The lecture should present the means testing experience in the incumbent's country, and/or in other EU countries.

After the end of the Training course, the expert will:

- Read and analyze the intermediate reports submitted by the Chinese expert and provide suggestions on how to improve his ongoing research activities;
- Once the Chinese report is concluded, each expert will provide a critical assessment, especially in the area of his specialization;
- Provide MoF and other Chinese stakeholders with needed information related to EU best practices on the topic under analysis;
- If possible, take part to the Panel Discussion of December 2016 (Beijing), and other relevant meetings among C2 team, Chinese experts and MoF official;.
- After the Panel Discussion, finalize the paper, providing suggestions on how to continue the research on the basis of EU best practices.

The Panel Discussion will take place in December 2016 in Beijing. The experts could be requested to be in Beijing few days before and few days after to participate to meetings and other activities related to the Panel.

2.4. Outputs

- Training materials related to the lecture (October 2016).
- A presentation during the Panel Discussion of the main results and conclusions of the report submitted by the Chinese expert, supported by relevant EU practices (mid-December 2016).
- A paper containing suggestions on how to continue the research on the basis of selected EU experiences (end of December).
- One mission report (by the end of December 2016).

3. Experts' Profile

3.1 Experience and Category

The proposed experts have the professional qualifications and experience required to successfully cover all the activities as indicated in these ToR.

Requirements Short Term Expert	Requirement/asset
Qualifications and skills	
University degree in Economy, Law, Statistics, Political Science, ICT, Social Sciences or related relevant field	R
Fluent in English	R
Strong analytical and drafting skills	R

Ability to develop and maintain good professional relations with stakeholders, particularly counterparts and staff members in an international setting	R
Ability to work in team and share knowledge relating to social security to the counterpart	R
Previous experience in similar tasks in other international projects	A
Strong communication skills	R
General professional experience	
At least 5 years of experience in the subject matter of the mission	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	
Professional and research experience related to Topic 2.1.4	R

3.2 Working Languages

The incumbent should be fluent in English both verbally and in writing. A knowledge of other European languages in addition to the incumbent's mother tongue would be an advantage, as would be the knowledge of the Chinese language

4. Location, Duration and Budget

Location: Florence (Italy) and Beijing (if possible)

Timing: The mission will be conducted during the period: October 1st to 31st December 2016

Working days: **maximum 20 days**

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 Mr. Michele Bruni mbbruni.44@gmail.com and Mr. Antonello Crudo antonello.crudo@inps.it with copy to Comp2.InpsProgettoCina@inps.it within the established deadline of 27 September 2016.

