# **Aasaman Nepal**

# **Terms of Reference for a consultant**

# **On**

# **Organization to conduct a study to identify market-oriented trades and select the potential skill development training center to implement newly identified trades.**

1. **Background**

**Swisscontact:**

Swisscontact is a Zurich-based organization founded in 1959 by members of the Swiss private sector and academia for sustainable development cooperation. It aims to contribute to poverty alleviation by promoting economic and social development in selected developing countries. Swisscontact is also implementing its projects in Nepal and is registered with the Social Welfare Council (SWC) of Nepal.

**Step-Up Project:**

Step Up is a four-year project that aims to increase the income of the unemployed youths especially women, returnee migrants and those who have lost their jobs due to COVID‐19, through productive and sustained employment which will contribute towards poverty reduction and resilient livelihoods. The project will be implemented in 3 municipalities of Province 1, across the Biratnagar‐Itahari economic corridor. The project strives to contribute to the economic development of the target groups and municipalities by strengthening the employment ecosystem and increasing access to improved services. Step Up will achieve the broader objectives by working with both public and private sector to strengthen labour market information, labour market insertion services, and entrepreneurship support services to increase opportunities for productive employment and income.

Step Up intends to achieve the desired goals through three interlinked intervention areas:

Intervention Area 1: Institutionalizing and strengthening the labour market insertion services.

Intervention Area 2: Promoting demand-based vocational and entrepreneurship trainings.

Intervention Area 3: Introducing improved entrepreneurship and business development support services.

1. **Rational of study**

Under Intervention area 2, Step Up is intending to promote demand based vocational training

and exploring new potential trades and occupations as one of the suitable means of improved livelihood. Under this backdrop, Step Up is looking to conduct a study to identify new market-oriented trades and occupations that could provide sizeable employment opportunities in both formal and informal labor market for job seekers.

1. **Objectives**

The objective of the study has two folds, 1. To identify new market-oriented trades that could create new employment opportunities in labor market. 2. To select potential skill development training center, who could run the training program in identified trades in partnership and with sustainable modality. The study is being conducted to collect information in the following areas:

* 1. Identification of new market-oriented trades/occupations that could offer sizeable gainful employment (both wage and self) opportunities for job seekers in Biratnagar-Itahari economical corridor.
  2. Explore new employment opportunities in formal as well as in informal labor market.
  3. Mapping the available skill development training centers in Biratnagar-Itahari economical corridor and to identify the potential three for the possibility and willingness of collaboration with Swisscontact (including cost sharing) to implement skill development trainings in newly identified trades.
  4. Additionally explore the interest and willingness of the industries and its associations to implement the skill development training in their industries if new trades/occupations are identified. If they agree, find out their main concern for collaboration.

1. **Location of study**

The proposed study will be conducted in the Biratnagar Itahari economical corridor. The study must focus on major market centers and industries of Biratnagar, Duhabi and Itahari municipalities and collect most of the primary information from these municipalities. However, project is also intending to collect information from Budhiganga municipality as well.

1. **Methodology**

Literature review, in-depth interviews with key informants, focus group discussion, visits and observations. During the entire process, the consultant will work in close collaboration with Step Up team.

1. **Timeline**

The total time allocated for this task is 25 (twenty-five) days.

1. **Deliverables**
2. A short report (maximum ten pages excluding annexes) including information mentioned in Section 3.
3. Copies of relevant reports/ studies used for the study.
4. Relevant data used for the study.
5. A list of identified market-oriented trades and list of potential skill development training centers and industries with their contacts details (emails and telephone numbers).
6. **Reporting**

The consultant/s will report to and work in close coordination with Aasaman Nepal and Swisscontact under the project Step Up.

1. **Terms of Payment**

As per Aasaman Nepal procurement policies, norms, and mutual agreement.

1. **Qualifications and required documents (Individual consultant/firm)**

The consultant must meet the following qualification requirements:

* Sound track record of 5 to 7 years in development sector of Nepal.
* Profound knowledge and practical experience with skills development projects including labor market context at macro to micro level.
* Familiar with the context and location of the project (target group, short term training and industries setting).
* Experience in study and survey.
* Have good accessibility in industries and employers in those areas.
* Have good knowledge of Nepal’s TVET policies and regulations.
* Excellent analytical skills and writing skills in English.
* Legal documents of individual consultants/firms.

1. **Application Procedures:**

Interested private firms and individuals, who meet the above requirements, should apply by submitting their Expression of Interest (EoI) with Concept Note (not more than 5 pages). The outlines should include the methodology, similar work experiences, brief technical description and capacity of team proposed and estimated budget to accomplish the aforementioned tasks with subject line **“Organization to conduct a study to identify market-oriented trades and select the potential skill development training center to implement newly identified trades.”** to the following email address. Hard copy can be submitted to the Aasaman Nepal address below.

The closing date for applications is 1st December, 2021. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for interview. The short-listed applicant will be required to present their proposed methodology and previous similar experience. Any decision for disqualification rests solely with ASN.

The candidates must adhere to Aasaman Nepal's policies and internal procedures, protocols, code of conduct with special attention to Child Safeguarding and Protection and Do No Harm Policies.

Aasaman Nepal, Mahalaxmisthan, Lalitpur

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