

General Terms of Contract governing the delivery of works and services commissioned by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (local)



May 2017

1. General principles and obligations

1.1. Scope of application

The General Terms of Contract (local) apply to contracts concluded for the implementation of German international cooperation projects with developing countries. Contractors shall clearly indicate that they are carrying out the tasks as part of a project promoted by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and in fulfilment of their contract with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH as the client, hereinafter referred to as GIZ.

1.2 Cooperation with other institutions

The Contractor undertakes to cooperate in an appropriate manner with the German mission abroad, with other experts engaged in German technical or financial cooperation activities in the country of assignment, and with representatives and experts of multilateral organisations, insofar as these have an impact on project activities.

1.3 Compliance with project agreements

The Contractor is obliged to comply with the agreements reached between the Federal Republic of Germany and the country of assignment under international law and, where applicable, with the project implementation agreement concluded between the project executing agency and GIZ.

1.4 Confidentiality

Contractors shall treat all commission-related data and other information of which they become aware when implementing the commission as confidential, both during and beyond the term of the contract. The use of such data and information for the Contractor's own purposes is not permitted.

Contractors shall not allow third parties to access documentation or work results of any kind, in particular reports, without the prior written consent of GIZ. For the purposes of this clause, the term 'third parties' includes the ultimate commissioning party.

1.5 Conduct in the country of assignment/Regulations of the country of assignment

Contractors are obliged to adapt their personal conduct to the local conditions.

Contractors shall observe all frontier-crossing regulations and any other national regulations in force at the time, and take account of the terms of the respective agreements/exchanges of notes and of foreign exchange regulations.

1.6 Design of business cards and business stationery

The use of project or programme-related business cards and/or business stationery by the Contractor requires the consent of GIZ.

1.7 Code of conduct

The Contractor shall take note that GIZ employees are obliged to observe the principles laid out in the respective currently valid version of GIZ's internal Code of Conduct, and undertakes to respect the directives and guidelines of this Code when dealing with GIZ employees.

The Contractor is obliged to act impartially and loyally at all times. Unless Contractors obtain the prior written approval of GIZ, they shall not enter into any commission-related procurement contracts with natural or legal persons with which they are connected personally or financially.

The Contractor shall not accept any additional remuneration from third parties in connection with the contract. Unless Contractors obtain the prior written approval of GIZ, they shall not accept any other commissions during the term of the contract for which a conflict of interest is to be anticipated for them due to the nature of the commission or due to their personal or financial connections with third parties. If a conflict of interest arises in the course of an existing contractual relationship, the Contractor shall disclose this to GIZ without delay and agree with GIZ upon the further procedure.

In the event of a breach of the above provisions, GIZ is entitled to terminate the contract immediately pursuant to section 8.3 of these

General Terms of Contract. This right of termination also applies if, in the course of an existing contractual relationship, a conflict of interest arises for the Contractor and if the Contractor and GIZ are unable to reach agreement on the further procedure.

1.8 Social standards

When implementing the commission, the Contractor is obliged to comply with the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work in accordance with the Declaration of the International Labour Organization (ILO) of 18 June 1998 (freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour, the abolition of child labour and the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation). When implementing the commission, the Contractor agrees in particular to comply with the regulations through which the respective core labour standards of the ILO (conventions No. 29, No. 87, No. 98, No. 100, No. 105, No. 111, No. 138 and No. 182) have been transposed into the law of the country of assignment. If the country of assignment has not ratified one or more core labour standards or not enacted them in national legislation, the Contractor is obliged to comply with those regulations in the country of assignment which pursue the same goal as the core labour standards.

1.9 Use of personal data by GIZ

The Contractor agrees that personal data may be stored and processed by GIZ and shall obtain written consent from any expert they employ that such expert also agrees to his/her personal data being processed by GIZ. GIZ shall process personal data only to the extent required in connection with the implementation of the contract. The Contractor shall observe the data protection regulations of the partner country when collecting, processing or using any personal data that may be required and essential for the completion of their contractual tasks.

2. Assignment and replacement of personnel

2.1 Assignment of personnel

Contractors shall ensure that they and any experts they assign possess the appropriate professional and personal qualifications needed to complete the stipulated tasks successfully.

2.2. Replacement of personnel

GIZ is entitled to demand the replacement of experts at the expense of the Contractor if an expert does not meet these requirements or contravenes the obligations imposed on him/her by the Contractor in connection with the fulfilment of the contract. The replacement of experts at the instigation of the Contractor requires GIZ's prior written consent, which may be refused only for good cause.

3. Rights of use/Documentation on work results

3.1 Waiving the author's or originator's right to be named, the Contractor shall assign to GIZ, for the duration of the statutory copyright period, an exclusive, assignable, sublicensable right without content-related restriction to reproduce, distribute, make publicly accessible, process and redesign the work results, including studies, drafts, documentation, articles, information, files, illustrations, drawings, calculations, materials and other documents ('work results') that are produced and/or procured in connection with the fulfilment of the contract. In particular, GIZ is entitled to reproduce, distribute and publish the work results in print and electronically via all known media, including newspapers, magazines, television, radio and the internet.

3.2 As far as required in order to use and derive benefit from the work results, the Contractor shall assign to GIZ a non-exclusive right also to use studies, drafts, documentation, articles, information, files, illustrations, sketches, drawings, calculations and other materials provided from the existing resources of the Contractor to the extent stipulated under section 3.1.

3.3 The contractually agreed remuneration for the implementation of the project by the Contractor includes the assignment of the rights of use as set out in sections 3.1 and 3.2.

3.4 Work results in the sense of section 3.1 also include computer programs that the Contractor creates, adapts, procures or provides in fulfilment of the contract. The right of use transferred to GIZ pursuant to the above provisions includes in particular the right to load, display, run, transmit, save, adjust, translate, edit and reproduce the programs. For the purpose of processing, the Contractor shall provide GIZ with the relevant source code and the program documentation, which GIZ may also pass on to third parties in the form of copies.

3.5 The obligation to grant rights of use as set out in section 3.1 also applies if the Contractor engages a third party to deliver the contractual works/services. The Contractor shall make arrangements with all persons involved in producing the work results that they are entitled to grant the rights of use to GIZ to the extent outlined in section 3.1.

3.6 The Contractor shall ensure that the work results are not encumbered with copyright or other rights of third parties that would restrict the use of the work results to the extent defined under section 3.1. The Contractor shall indemnify GIZ against all claims of third parties arising from the granting or exercise of the rights of use pursuant to section 3.1 and shall reimburse GIZ for all costs arising in connection with a corresponding legal defence.

4. Publications

Publications on the project or the activities of the Contractor within the framework of the project require the prior written approval of GIZ, even after acceptance and beyond the end of the contractually agreed period of assignment. Approval from GIZ is not required for brief descriptions of the commission and outlines of the work involved where these are designed for use in the public relations work of the Contractor. A statement on the content of the commission and the key results shall constitute a brief description of the commission. The Contractor shall always express in an appropriate way that its activities are being carried out on behalf of GIZ and shall also name the ultimate commissioning party and any other financing providers.

5. Keeping of documents

As a rule, documents and work results must be kept by the Contractor for ten years following acceptance or the expiry of the contractually agreed period of assignment and must be surrendered to GIZ for inspection on request.

6. Reports

6.1 Costs of reports

The costs of reports must be calculated as part of the billing rates for experts and will not be remunerated separately. If requested, the Contractor shall also provide the reports in electronic form.

6.2 Special reports

In the event of important incidents or circumstances, the Contractor shall, at no extra charge, without delay and without a specific request to that effect, draw up special reports. Important incidents or circumstances for the purposes of this section include major changes in terms of the risk assessment of the project; major time, development policy, financial or technical changes; and risks to the security or health of personnel.

7. Obligation to provide information

GIZ is entitled to review at any time the progress and results achieved during the implementation of the commission. The Contractor shall ensure that the documents necessary in this regard are available at all times and shall provide the information required. At the request of GIZ, the Contractor shall also furnish information to third parties and facilitate and cooperate appropriately with any inspections.

8. Termination

8.1 GIZ may terminate the contract at any time either wholly or in respect of individual parts of the works or services.

8.2 If GIZ terminates the contract on grounds for which the Contractor is not responsible, the Contractor shall be entitled to demand the agreed sum in remuneration. However, the Contractor shall agree to the deduction of non-incurred or avoidable expenses and of any amounts which it earns by working elsewhere, or by malicious intent fails to earn.

8.3 If GIZ terminates the contract on grounds for which the Contractor is responsible, remuneration shall be paid for the

works/services already executed, to the extent that GIZ can make use of them, in accordance with the contract prices, or that part actually executed shall be remunerated as a proportion of the total contractual works/services on the basis of the contract prices.

Expenses will be remunerated in the same proportion. The work that has been executed but that GIZ cannot utilise shall be returned to the Contractor at the latter's expense. Insofar as the contract involves rendering services, the services rendered up to the date of termination shall be treated as usable. The right of GIZ to claim damages remains unaffected.

8.4 GIZ is entitled to terminate the contract immediately in accordance with section 8.3 if the Contractor or a person acting on their behalf gives or offers a gift or other benefit to a GIZ employee, a family member of a GIZ employee, or any other person associated with the employee in connection with the award or execution of the commission. The same applies if the Contractor or a person acting on its behalf accepts gifts or other benefits from third parties in connection with the execution of the commission.

9. Health requirements and exclusion of liability

Contractors are responsible for ensuring that they and the personnel assigned by them to the project satisfy the health requirements for work in the country of assignment. The Contractor shall ensure that the necessary inoculations are obtained. GIZ disclaims any liability for property damage, sickness, personal injury or death in respect of the Contractor and the personnel assigned by the Contractor to the project. The Contractor undertakes to purchase sufficient insurance cover for itself and for the personnel it assigns to the project. The Contractor must provide evidence of compliance with this requirement if requested by GIZ. GIZ will not reimburse the Contractor for the cost of taking out health, life and accident insurance.

10. Remuneration and terms of payment

10.1 The contractually agreed remuneration rates are binding.

10.2 The Contractor's fee rate or the fee rate of any expert assigned by the Contractor covers all personnel costs, including ancillary personnel costs; backstopping, communication and reporting costs; and all overheads, profit, interest, risks, etc. The Contractor must provide evidence of all time worked.

10.3 The fee is based on the contractually agreed unit (e.g. expert hour, expert day, expert month). Units other than those agreed cannot be invoiced. If expert months are agreed in the contract, an expert month is 30 calendar days.

10.4 As a rule, payments will be made only on receipt of the relevant forms. All the necessary vouchers must be attached in the original.

10.5 Any rebates, discounts, refunds and other price reductions must be passed on to GIZ.

10.6 The Contractor shall submit the final invoice together with the certificate of performance/acceptance signed by the officer responsible for the commission immediately after the end of the contractually agreed period of assignment or the contractually agreed time for completion of the work. The invoice must be verifiable and contain all the necessary details (and all the required documentary evidence). Immediately after invoicing, the Contractor shall reimburse to GIZ those amounts paid by the latter in excess of its liability for payment.

If the Contractor does not submit the final invoice within fifteen days of receipt of a reminder from GIZ, it shall be obliged to refund the advance payment immediately.

The claims of the Contractor fall due upon expiry of a verification period of fifteen days after receipt of the final invoice, and if applicable, acceptance of the work. The partial or final payment will be made no later than thirty days after the claims become due, in the amount established and, where applicable, corrected by GIZ.

10.7 The claims of the Contractor to remuneration arising from the contract will become statute-barred if they are not presented to GIZ in writing within one year.

10.8 Costs in a foreign currency will be settled, as a general

rule, at the rate shown by the corresponding vouchers for the purchase of foreign exchange to be attached to the Contractor's invoices. If such vouchers are not attached, currencies included in the monthly GIZ

exchange-rate list will be converted at the applicable rate given in this list.

10.9 If a Contractor is obliged to provide collateral in the form of a bank guarantee, the content must be approved by GIZ. Such guarantees must be issued by a bank acceptable to GIZ, must be without any time limitation and must contain an explicit waiver of any plea or objection. Moreover, they must be payable upon the first written demand of GIZ and contain a declaration that the place of jurisdiction will be Frankfurt am Main, Federal Republic of Germany.

11. Procurement of materials and equipment

In the case of the contractually agreed procurement of materials and equipment, confirmation of handover to the recipient designated in the contract must be submitted in addition to the vouchers required pursuant to section 10.4. Procurement orders may only be placed with qualified and competent providers on cost-efficient terms and on the basis of competition. The Contractor must exercise due care with regard to transparency, equality of treatment and the eligibility of bidders. In general, three comparable bids must be obtained. The Contractor shall observe the 'GIZ rules for inventoring and handing over equipment and materials' (see the GIZ homepage www.giz.de under 'Procurement' and then 'Important documents – Service contracts').

12. Sanctions list check

When implementing the contract, the Contractor must take appropriate steps to ensure that it enters into and maintains business relations only with such third parties that are reliable and to whom no statutory ban on entering into business applies. In particular, the Contractor shall ensure that the funds and economic resources provided are neither directly nor indirectly made available to third parties that are listed on a sanctions list issued by the United Nations Security Council, the EU or the Federal Republic of Germany. Furthermore, when implementing its contract, the Contractor shall ensure that it does not engage in any activity that would constitute a breach of embargoes or any other trade restrictions issued by the United Nations, the EU or the Federal Republic of Germany.

13. Acceptance/Certificate of performance

Confirmation that the work has been accepted/performed must be provided by the officer responsible for the commission named in the contract within sixty days after receiving the written notification of readiness for acceptance/performance of the works/services or delivery of the work to the officer responsible for the commission. Acceptance/performance of the works or services shall be documented by means of the certificate of performance/acceptance signed by the officer responsible for the commission. Advance payments and payments on account do not constitute partial acceptance. However, partial acceptance procedures may be agreed for sections of the work. Final payment by GIZ does not constitute acceptance.

14. Covenant against assignment

The assignment of claims arising from the contract is excluded, unless GIZ has agreed to such assignment in writing.

15. Contractual penalty

15.1 If the Contractor fails to meet the agreed delivery dates and deadlines, or to deliver the work within the period of grace set by GIZ, then GIZ is entitled, as soon as the period of grace has expired, to demand a contractual penalty of 1% of the remuneration for each week that begins after expiry of the set period of grace; however, the contractual penalty shall not exceed a total of 10% of the remuneration.

15.2 In each of the cases specified in section 8.4, the Contractor is obliged to pay GIZ a contractual penalty of EUR 25,000 for each commission; however, the penalty payable shall amount to at least the value of the benefit granted. Further rights of GIZ to claim damages shall remain unaffected. However, the contractual penalty shall be deducted from such claims for damages.

16. Liability

The contractual liability of the Contractor is limited to EUR 300,000. If the total contract value exceeds this figure, the Contractor's liability shall be limited to the total contract value. This limitation of liability does not apply in cases of intent or gross negligence on the part of the

Contractor. Furthermore, it does not apply to loss of life, bodily injury or damage to health.

17. Applicable law/Place of jurisdiction

The contract is subject to the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany. The exclusive places of jurisdiction are Bonn and Frankfurt/Main if the Contractor is a merchant or a legal entity or a special fund under public law, or does not have a general place of jurisdiction in the Federal Republic of Germany. GIZ may also institute proceedings against the Contractor before the competent court for the latter's place of residence or place of business or habitual place of residence.

18. Amendments/Written form

The contract, any amendments and additions to the contract and all material communications must be made in writing in order to be valid.

19. Components of the contract

The components of the contract are:

1. the contract with its annexes
2. these General Terms of Contract (local)

In the event that there is any discrepancy or contradiction between the components of the contract, the above components of the contract apply in the order in which they are listed.

In the event of any discrepancy or contradictions between annexes, the provision in the annex with the lower number shall apply.

The Contractor's general terms and conditions of business or payment shall not apply.