



Terms of Reference – International consultant

Assignment title: Bag Designer/ Product Developer

Contract duration: ASAP for an initial period of 6 months.

Duty station: International

Travel: International

Background

The Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI) is a flagship programme of the International Trade Centre (ITC), a joint development agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. ITC's mission is to foster inclusive and sustainable economic development by contributing to the internationalization of MSMEs in transition and developing economies and by doing so to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. EFI connects marginalized artisan communities with global lifestyle brands operating in the field of fashion, interior design and food. By producing for these international brands, artisans and micro entrepreneurs can improve their lives through ethical work that values their craft and heritage. EFI's unique business and development model is centred on the private sector and enables the production of luxury goods in some of the most challenging and remote locations.

EFI has ongoing work aimed at developing a B2C vehicle for its large network of producers. This role refers to an international consultant to work on producing a new collection of bags and capable of including the whole EFI network in their making, with reference to the following material inputs:

- Fabric from Burkina Faso, Mali, Ivory Coast and Afghanistan (if possible also Tajikistan and Uzbekistan)
- Metal fittings and accessories from Kenya
- Embroidery and screen-printing from Kenya and Tajikistan
- Glass from Afghanistan
- Recycled plastics from Uganda
- Cow horn from Kenya
- Bamboo weaving from the DRC

The above will be coupled with leather and canvas from different origins, with a preference for vegetable tanned leather and with clear traceability for all measures of environmental protection adopted in their production.

The product development centre/prototyping for this collection will be organised with Lai Momo and their social enterprise, Cartiera, in Sasso Marconi (Bologna, Italy). Production will take place in Kenya at the social enterprise of EFI.

The EFI Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) and the MD of the social enterprise in Kenya will agree on a preliminary design brief with the consultant.

Description of Duties/Responsibilities:

- 1) Design a collection of handbags according to decided brief.
- 2) Manage the product development of designs with EFI social enterprise partners.
- 3) Liaise with production unit on production of collection.

Expected Deliverables:

- 1) Fully designed handbag collection incorporating the work of all EFI social enterprises.
- 2) Samples of all designs, approved by management of production hub and CTA.

Competencies:

- Proven expertise in bag design and product development.

Education:

- Undergraduate degree (BA/BSC or other) design, fashion, or other related field;
- Significant experience in the field of fashion design accepted instead of the degree.

Experience:

25 years of experience in luxury apparel design, accessories production or similar field.

Languages:

Working knowledge of English.