

Terms of Reference – International consultant

Assignment title: EFI WOOL AND MOHAIR TEXTILE SPECIALIST

Contract duration: 2 months (November - December 2022)

Duty station: HOME BASED

Travel: Yes, to South Africa and Lesotho

Background:

The INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER (ITC) and its program Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI) aim to reduce global poverty by involving micro-entrepreneurs from the developing world in international and regional trade. In other words, the program enables marginalized communities of microentrepreneurs to be part of the international fashion value chain through a business infrastructure, tailored around a unique system of work that enables these communities - mostly women - to thrive in association with the talents of the fashion world. This system of work also involves consumers, through the application of a specific marketing strategy, geared to increase awareness on the story behind each product and allowing people to make informed choices in their purchasing behavior.

The Ethical Fashion Initiative is defining the detailed work plan of a project in Lesotho. This job description outlines the work to assess and frame capacities and possibilities available in the region and the investments needed in the country. The work envisages traveling to South Africa and Lesotho.

Description of Duties/Responsibilities:

The International Consultant will be the responsible wool and mohair processing expert, under the overall supervision of the Chief Technical Adviser of the EFI and in collaboration with EFI textile engineer to complete the following tasks:

- Facilitate fibers and yarns (including dyed yarns) quality tests to ensure premium market interest
- Review project documentation before field visit
- Participate in site visits of South African processors and Lesotho cottage industry
- Develop best approach in Lesotho for the transformation of wool and mohair into handwoven fabric and handmade knit: which might include setting up an industrial spinning and dyeing facility.
- Define lists of equipment to facilitate sourcing
- Evaluate global industry mentorship and collaboration
- Evaluate eventual investors in the Lesotho Wool and Mohair supply chain

Expected Deliverables:

By November 15th,

- Quality tests carried out
- Project documentation review before field visit
- Evaluate global industry mentorship and collaboration
- Evaluate eventual investors in the Lesotho Wool and Mohair supply chain

Beginning of December :

- Field mission to South Africa and Lesotho

By December 30th:

- Best approach and systems for wool and mohair transformation validated
- Lists of equipment and sourcing contacts
- Industry mentorship, collaboration and potential investors in the Lesotho Wool and Mohair supply chain (List and first exchanges with EFI team).

Competencies:

- Recognized expertise working in wool and mohair transformation and textile development for the international fashion industry;
- Textile production operations in the international high-end luxury market;
- Computer literate and ability to multitask.
- Excellent writing skills;
- Be able to work with many different people from different backgrounds. Considering the multi-cultural working environment as well as the type of assignment proposed, the consultant is reminded to follow the UN code of conduct, in particular in the fields of mutual respect and integrity.

Education:

Graduate or undergraduate degree in textile production

Experience:

Extensive experience working in wool and mohair textile production.
Experience in setting up new operations is an asset.

Languages:

Proficiency in English. Other UN languages are an asset.