

Terms of Reference – International Consultant EFI Kenya

Assignment title: Senior Advisor Leather Industry

Contract duration: 11 months

Duty station: Home Based

Travel: Yes

Background:

The ITC Poor Communities and Trade Programme (PCTP) and its Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI) reduces global poverty by enabling micro-entrepreneurs from the developing world in international and regional trade. The Programme supports marginalized communities of micro-entrepreneurs to become part of the international fashion value chain through a bespoke business infrastructure around a unique system of work that enables these communities – mostly women – to thrive in association with the talents of the fashion world. EFI works by creating a permanent linkage between the market and micro-producers, a link harnessed through social enterprises that run production and trade hubs. The four key stakeholder groups of this model are, consumers, buyers and businesses in the lifestyle sector, social enterprise running centralized production hubs and artisan micro-entrepreneurs grouped in legal entities.

The Agency of the Italian Development Cooperation (AICS) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) are working together on an ambitious project Designing the Future, a Green and Inclusive Fashion Ecosystem for Kenya. EFI follows a management logic based on Environmental Social and Governance Due Diligence System (ESG), encompassing a suite of tools to enable supply chain actors in the fashion value chain, to share principles of sustainable, fair and just work for all.

As part of its objective to create new opportunities for artisans and local producers, and in view of growing interest in Kenya for the leather sector, EFI seeks a Senior Advisor with expertise in leather and tanning. The incumbent will support the EFI Head with strategic guidance on global trends and shifts in the leather industry, particularly in the areas of sustainability and innovations in leather processing.

Description of Duties/Responsibilities:

Under the overall and direct supervision of the EFI Head, the Senior Advisor will perform the following tasks:

- Provide recommendations on best practices, innovations, and sustainability strategies in the fashion leather industry.

- Facilitate introductions to relevant stakeholders, including suppliers, brands, and industry experts, to enhance project networks and partnerships.

Expected Outputs and Timelines:

- Participate in 4 (four) strategic meetings (online and in person), offering insights on trends and sustainability advancements related to the global leather industry, by 31 December 2025.
- Provide concise and practical recommendations on leather typologies, certifications / compliance, new technologies for tanning, and overall trends in the leather sector, in the form of two short reports (1 page each), by 31 October 2025.
- Facilitate introduction to 3 industry relevant stakeholders, by 31 December 2024.

Skills:

- Strong technical skills ;
- Proactive and initiative-driven behaviour ;
- Excellent organizational skills ;
- Drive to create a positive impact.

Experience:

Minimum 25 years of experience in the leather or tanning industry.

Language:

Advanced knowledge of English.