

Term of Reference

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Consultant

1. Background to Aus4Reform

The Australia-Vietnam Economic Reform (Aus4Reform) Program works with the Vietnamese Government to boost productivity and competitiveness in Vietnam. The program supports the development of quality policies, laws, and institutions through advocacy, consultation, and by strengthening the evidence base for economic policies - drawing on international experience and expertise, especially from Australia.

Specific outcomes that the Program will contribute to by the end of 2020 include:

- a. An improved and more equitable business enabling environment resulting in the formal registration of at least one million private enterprises by 2020;
- b. More competitive and transparent product and factor markets;
- c. Stronger competition law institutions, including an amended competition law, and restructured competition agency and enforcement mechanisms;
- d. Improved evidence base on impact of efforts to accelerate rural restructuring;
- e. Increased evidence base and awareness of the links between Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE), reducing gender gaps in labour productivity, and accelerating productivity growth.

The Program will help the Government of Vietnam achieve these objectives via four targeted components

- Building more Competitive and Transparent Markets and Business Enabling Environment;
- Ensuring Markets Operate Competitively in Consumer and National Economic Interests;
- Facilitating the Restructuring of the Rural Economy;
- Greater Business and Women's Voice in Investment Climate and Economic Restructuring Issues;

In addition, a Flexible Fund to Respond to Emerging Bottlenecks to Productivity Growth and Innovation.

2. Activity Objectives

- To support the delivery of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) work for Aus4Reform Program;
- To assess the implementation of the Program against the Performance Assessment Framework;
- To recommend on the improvement of the Program's M&E system.

3. Consultant's duties and responsibilities

a. Review the Program's documents, including:

- The Program's Design Document, the Direct Funding Agreement, the Operation Manual
- The First and Second Annual Work Plans;

b. Review the Program's outputs and results;

c. Collect related data and evidence on the Program's activities and outputs and outcomes;

d. Write an M&E report to assess the implementation of the Program against the Program Performance Assessment Framework indicators;

e. Make recommendations on the improvement of the Program's M&E system.

4. Deliverables

a. The consultant will deliver a succinct and practical report addressing the following issues:

- Review on the implementation of the Program against the Performance Assessment Framework;
- Review on the Program's actual outputs vs the planned outputs;
- Links between the Program's outputs, results and contributions to the policy, regulatory and institutional reform;
- Stories and case studies illustrating positive changes in policy, regulatory and institutional reform that the programme has contributed to;

- Proposed areas to improve the Program implementation to achieve the agreed Performance Assessment Framework and indicators;
- Proposed areas and measures to improve the Program's M&E system including M&E framework and indicators, M&E database, M&E procedures etc...

5. Qualifications of the Consultant

Skills and Experience Required:

- Degree/expertise on program/project monitoring and evaluation, with expertise in economics and/or economic development;
- Proven experience in providing consultancy and/or conducting M&E related areas;
- Experience in similar assignments with other development partners is an advantage.

Competencies:

- Effective communication skills, ability to present information logically, clearly and concisely, ability to think creatively, to develop and implement innovative solutions in a challenging environment;
- Fluency in written Vietnamese and English language;
- Good knowledge on economic reform and restructuring issues, and experience in preparing and delivering high level policy advice;
- Proven ability to manage diverse and complex tasks;
- Ability to achieve results and meet strict deadlines in an effective manner, maintaining a high-quality standard throughout.

6. Timing

In May-June 2019.

7. Direction

The M&E Consultant will be responsible to the Senior Program Manager.

The Australian Embassy, the Aus4Reform's Senior Policy Advisor and implementing agencies will provide ongoing guidance and co-operation to the M&E Consultant.