**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**for a**

**Comparison of Vietnamese Strategies in the fields of Climate Change and Green Growth, Poverty Reduction, and General Development of the Country**

**Background of the Study:**

Since the economic reforms of the 1980s, Vietnam has experienced an enormous growth, which helped to lift an impressive number of people out of poverty. In recent years, however, the voices calling for a more sustainable development have grown stronger both within and outside of the Vietnamese government. With the Green Growths Strategy (GGS) of 2012, the Vietnamese government outlined an ecologically sound growth model. However, this “green shift” in the Vietnamese economy has still to be implemented.

While the Vietnamese government has been praised for

1. developing a country undergone wars and cut off from international trade by sanctions very quickly,
2. lifting a significant part of the population out of poverty,
3. and for developing a GGS which is seen as a role model world wide

it remains to be seen whether success in the three policy areas related to Green Growth – overall economic development, social inclusiveness, and ecologic sustainability – can be reached at the same time. Against this background, it is important to ensure that the key strategies from those three policy areas are linked to each other, in order to create synergies, or that they at least do not contradict each other. In order to support the Vietnamese government, decision makers, relevant stakeholders and implementers of strategies to analyse the degree of integration among the various strategies and action plans and identify room for improvement, these ToR describe a study/research paper, which is commissioned by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and aims to reach the following objective:

**Objective of the study and Assignment:**

A research paper is available, which summarizes Vietnamese key strategies and identifies synergies and contradictions among them as well as provides recommendations for improvements.

The author shall fulfil the following tasks:

* Prepare a research proposal, describing the methods used, outline of report contents as well as time frame and costs calculated.
* identify, thoroughly study and describe the key strategies from the fields of a) overall economic development, b) poverty reduction, and c) climate change and green growth,[[1]](#footnote-1) since Doi Moi (“Renovation”)
* check the strategies for direct references to the other fields (i.e. poverty reduction mentioned in the preamble of the GGS),
* analyse in which points of the strategies are overlapping, or complement each other, so that synergies could be created,
* analyse in in which points the strategies are contradicting, , ideally with the help of case studies/examples
* develop policy recommendations how contradictions could be avoided, and how the strategies could be harmonized.

**Methodology**

The author shall first conduct an extensive desk review. In addition to that, in-depths and/or semi-structured interviews can be conducted with key stakeholders.

**Conditions and Requirements**

Profile of the consultant:

* Relevant academic background, minimum BA degree.
* In-depths knowledge of Vietnamese policies and strategies, especially in the field of green growth/climate change.
* Relevant experience in preparing research/policy papers in English language.
* Availability during the period indicated below.

**Schedule**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **What ?** | **Suggested working days** | **Until when ?** |
| Preparation of research proposal  | 2 | Until May 23rd, 2014  |
| Conducting desk study and interviews, writing draft report | 20 | Until August 22nd, 2014 |
| Integrating comments, finalizing report  | 8 | Until September 30th, 2014 |

The results of the study, whose final report should be about 30 pages in length (excluding annexes) shall be summarized in an abstract (max 1 page), as well as in policy recommendations (max 3 pages).

The study shall be written in English. A Vietnamese translation is requested at additional cost.

**Budget**

The honorarium should be agreed between Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)/Vietnam office and the consultant, based on the consultants offer and the FES cost norms.

Payment of the honorarium will be done by bank transfer according to the following schedule:

1. Instalment of 30 % upon commencement of the assignment.

2. Instalment of 40 % upon submission of draft report.

3. Instalment of 30% latest 10 days after the acceptance of the final report.

Please send your proposal, including your suggested consultancy rate, to Dr. Sonja Schirmbeck, (j-ex@fesvietnam.org) until Monday, 26 May 2014 4 p.m.

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
Dr. Sonja Schirmbeck, email: j-ex@fesvietnam.org

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1. It is expected that the following documents are included, among others: The Green Growths Strategy, the National Action Plan for the Green Growth Strategy, the National Strategy on Climate Change, the National Energy Strategy, and the National Strategy on Rural Development. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)