



Independent Review of Effectiveness of Regular Budget Supplementary Accounts (RBSA) supported interventions in delivering Decent Work Results, 2013-2017

The ILO Evaluation Office (EVAL) (<http://www.ilo.org/eval>) seeks expressions of interest (EOIs) from qualified individuals/teams and/or companies with experience in meta-evaluations, synthesis reviews and evaluation quality appraisals to start work in September 2018.

EVAL is commissioning an independent review of effectiveness of the ILO's RBSA supported interventions in delivering Decent Work results. The review will be based on available evaluations (25-30) of RBSA supported projects and/or country programme outcomes (CPOs) from across all regions for the duration 2013-2017. It will also entail quality appraisal (QA) of the available evaluations.

The review has two main components. Under the first component, the effectiveness of RBSA supported interventions in attaining Decent Work Results will be examined. It will take a meta-evaluation approach, using the methodology applied under the last DW results study of EVAL¹. The key questions to be addressed under this component are:

1. How effective are the RBSA funded projects/projects with significant RBSA components in delivering Decent Work results?
2. How do they compare with the findings of DW results and effectiveness of ILO operations 2013-16?
3. Whether and to what extent, does the RBSA funding modality makes it possible for ILO to be more efficient and effective in delivering results at global, regional and country levels?
4. What are the evidences of RBSA being used for 'catalytic actions' and/or adding value to ongoing interventions.
5. How effectively does RBSA contribute to ILO's normative mandate and its cross cutting policy drivers?
6. What are the key factors that uphold the importance of this funding modality, and
7. What are the factors that undermine the optimal use of RBSA (objectives of the modality vs its actual use)

Under the second component quality appraisal of evaluations of RBSA funded projects/CPOs will be undertaken. The quality appraisal will use the methodology applied in the latest 'Quality Appraisal of ILO Evaluations (2015-2017)' by EVAL² and analyse whether and on what parameters do the quality of evaluations of RBSA funded projects differ from that of DC project evaluations? Considering the scope of the review, a limited number of skype/phone based interviews (approx. 8) with representatives from PROGRAM, PARDEV and Regional Offices will be required.

¹ The DW results and effectiveness of ILO operations: A meta-analysis of development cooperation, 2013-2016, ILO 2017; available at http://www.ilo.ch/global/docs/WCMS_625809/lang--en/index.htm

² The Quality Appraisal of ILO Evaluations 2015-2017 was done by external consultants. It used 86 available evaluations of which four were of RBSA funded projects/CPOs while the rest were evaluations of development cooperation projects.

The reference database of evaluations for both the components will remain the same. Methodology used for effectiveness review and quality appraisal will be made available by EVAL at a later stage.

The detail Terms of reference is being finalized and will be made available to shortlisted candidates. The review is likely to take 25-30 days spread over three months (September to November 2018), either from one individual or split amongst a team of consultants. Ideally, the reviewer/team should be able to work in English, French and Spanish. The expected deliverables include an inception report, a draft report, a final report and a 4-6 page summary that could serve as a standalone piece for wider dissemination.

Interested consultants or companies should send ILO EVAL an expression of interest. Each expression of interest should contain full CV(s) of the applicant individual/team and a two-page note outlining how past experience/credentials are specifically relevant for the assignment. Fee structure, tentative indication of the proposed level of efforts and availability should be included in this two- pager.

Fees will be based on UN system relevant levels. References for similar work should be provided. Please send your proposal to EVAL@ILO.ORG with a copy to thakur@ilo.org with subject heading "Independent Review of RBSA Effectiveness". The deadline for the expression of interest is 30th August 2018 although submissions will be considered on a rolling basis.

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