

Announcement – Call for Interest

As an international cooperation enterprise with worldwide operations, the German government owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH operates on behalf of German ministries, the governments of other countries and international clients to provide tailor-made, cost-efficient and effective services for sustainable development. We are looking for **a consultant** to provide due service for **the Piloting Sustainable Use of Rice Straw Project**.

Consultant contract of Supporting GIZ in the Implementation of a Feasibility Study on Business Models for Rice Straw Valorization in Thailand with respect to the conceptualization and implementation of the project:

“Piloting Sustainable Use of Rice Straw”

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is a federal enterprise supporting the German Government in promoting international cooperation for sustainable development and international education work. The registered offices of GIZ are in Bonn and Eschborn. In Germany, GIZ's main clients are the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) along with a number of other German Government agencies.

The target group of the project are political decision-makers in the ASEAN countries and in the ASEAN Secretariat, private companies engaged in rice cultivation and rice farmers in the Region. The project is carried out in cooperation with Urmatt Limited, a socially oriented company in the organic rice cultivation, Naturland e.V., a German association for organic farming, the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops (ASWGC) and the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Division (FAFD) of ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Secretariat. The political partner is the ASEAN Secretariat, represented by the FAFD's Department for ASEAN Economic Community.

On site in Thailand, the project is carried out in cooperation with the private partner Urmatt Limited. Urmatt has started a work process with the ASEAN Secretariat to combat the problem of burning rice straw. The partner is said to be pioneering the development of innovative business models for rice straw, e.g. in the manufacturing of organic fertilizer from crop residues and the extraction of cellulose from rice straw for production of paper or packaging material (e.g. biodegradable food packaging).

The pilot activities will focus on Thailand, followed by knowledge transfer and South-South exchanges in the ASEAN region. Results are to be transmitted to another ASEAN country with a focus on Cambodia. In addition, the knowledge is gained in the formulation of recommendations for a broader policy process by the ASEAN Secretariat, led by the Senior Officials Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM-AMAF).

The present SFF individual measure (SFF-Einzelmaßnahme) is intended to carry out studies and pilot possible approaches to develop methods for collecting, processing and recycling agricultural residues in rice cultivation. These include the use of rice straw as organic fertilizer, the production of packaging material and paper from rice residues, and the extraction of silica (silicic acid) from rice hulls. The SFF individual measure is active as part of the core topic: Life without hunger – transformation of agricultural and food systems in all three fields of action: food security, rural development and agriculture.

Main objective of the project is to facilitate methods and pilots to reduce open field burning in ASEAN, through demonstrating feasible use cases and business models for rice straw valorization in order to induce behavioural changes by farmers; and by facilitating a regional knowledge exchange.

Responsibilities: Two main objectives of the assignment are below.

- a) conceptualize, design, direct and deliver a broader feasibility study on rice straw valorization business models in the ASEAN region. This shall cover both technical and economic aspects of feasibility.
- b) Direct external consultancies providing input to the feasibility study as listed below:
 1. Study on rice straw collection incentives and success factors to avoid burning (including one field visit to Thailand, inclusive of travel), including development of training brochures in Thai language
 2. Study on ASEAN regional strategies for reduction of burning and utilization of straw, including policy recommendations and workshops, incl. GIS
 3. Local study for rice straw biofertilizer formula and rice husk silica

If you are interested, please confirm your interest via email to TH_Quotation@giz.de within 19 May 2023. Kindly put **email Subject: Call for Interest (for tender 83437049)** and attach your contact information and company profile.

Tender bidding process will be carried out after the Call for Interest. Invitation for Bidding will be sent out by third week of May.

GIZ Office Bangkok