

AMRO Consultancy Program

Under the AMRO Technical Assistance Program, AMRO provides technical support to ASEAN+3 members with a focus on strengthening the capacities of these economies. Towards this aim, AMRO is seeking to engage individual consultants, experts or consulting entities to implement the following Technical Assistance project.

Study on Available Financing Mechanisms to Meet Private Sector, especially MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), Credit Demand in the Post-Covid Recovery Period

1. Project Name	Study on Available Financing Mechanisms to Meet the Private Sector, especially MSMEs, Credit Demand in the Post-Covid Recovery Period
2. Project Beneficiary	Ministry of Economy and Finance, Cambodia (CMEF)
3. Project Objective	Starting from an assessment of the key constraints facing the private sector (especially MSMEs) in accessing formal finance, this study will help design effective, efficient and innovative financing mechanisms to increase MSMEs' access to formal finance in Cambodia in the context of digitalization and the post-COVID recovery period.
4. Project Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The development of MSMEs is critical for Cambodia. According to the Cambodia Inter-censal Economic Survey 2014, the MSMEs accounted for 98% of all businesses and contributed to 70% of total employment in Cambodia. However, the informality of the sector, combined with many structural constraints, has hindered their further development.• The Covid pandemic has impacted Cambodia's economy, especially on MSMEs, mainly due to weakening demand. The Fourth Round of the World Bank's Monitoring the Impact of COVID-19 on Households in Cambodia in March 2021 indicated that about 60% of businesses are earning less and employment remains below pre-pandemic levels.• Declining household income and negative business profit has led to loan restructuring. As of the first semester in 2021, banking and financial institutions restructured USD 5.5 billion in loans for over 367,000 borrowers.• MSMEs' access to finance remains one of the key challenges, though the government has adopted various measures to address major structural constraints.
5. Project Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize seminars/workshops to share industry insights and key findings with CMEF, as well as to incorporate comments from the Cambodian authorities and academia into the study.• Submit a final report outlining a range of effective, efficient and innovative financing mechanisms for MSMEs in Cambodia, and advising on the implementation arrangement. The final report should also mobilize similar studies that have been done in the past by other IOs and academia.

6. Project Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 February, 2022: Close advertisement • 9 March, 2022: Selection of Consultant • By the end of March, 2022: Finalize contract and commence consulting service • By the end of June, 2022: Submit the inception report • By the end of September, 2022: Submit the interim report • By the end of November, 2022: Submit the final report <p>* Several seminars/workshops will be conducted as needed to exchange views on important issues and discuss findings and recommendations.</p>
7. Requirements for Consultants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have in-depth understanding of MSMEs financing issue at the regional and global levels. • Possess a clear knowledge of the current situation for MSMEs financing in Cambodia. • Able to develop practical recommendations through targeted data collection and analysis. • Able to establish and maintain good relationships with stakeholders, especially the Cambodian authorities. • Possess excellent oral and written communication skills in English.
8. Contact information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMRO_TA@amro-asia.org

Interested consultants should submit:

- a) An updated CV or introductory brochure (if the consulting party is an entity)
- b) A brief description of past consulting experience, including notable achievements
- c) A concrete proposal for the project (up to 5 pages)
- d) Declaration of (no) conflict of interest (please send a disclosure statement whether there is any actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this Project)

Please send all applications and/or enquiries to: AMRO_TA@amro-asia.org