



## **Terms of Reference**

### **SPS and Cold Chain Specialist**

#### **About the International Executive Service Corps (IESC)**

IESC is a US based nonprofit that creates and expands economic opportunities, helping to lift those we support out of poverty. We believe that helping enterprises grow is the most sustainable way for communities to have access to jobs and for families and people to have opportunities for a better quality of life. We have helped businesses in a variety of sectors, including trade and agriculture, create or save more than 1.5 million jobs in 137 countries across the world. Our major funders today are the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), among others.

IESC is the prime implementor of the USDA-funded Trade Safe (TraSa) Program in the Dominican Republic (DR). TraSa aims to build the capacity of Dominican government institutions to develop a modernized Sanitary/Phytosanitary (SPS) and food safety related policy and regulatory framework to respond to the needs of the Dominican Republic's trade agreements and international best practices, as well as Dominican consumers. TraSa is helping government institutions to implement science- and risk-based SPS and food safety measures, standards, and regulations to facilitate trade in food and agricultural products. The project is also supporting the development of cold chain policies in context of the domestic market and international trade. The project period of implementation is October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2025.

IESC is recruiting an SPS and Cold Chain Specialist to enhance collaboration among the public- and private-sector actors in order to invest in the development of a cold-chain systems and infrastructure that meet international standards for food safety and the prevention of foodborne diseases. This is a full-time position (40 hours per week) based in the program office in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Travel throughout the DR will be required.

Specifically, he/she will assess market opportunities for cold chain investments, facilitate public private partnerships to catalyze market driven investment in cold chain systems while also targeting pragmatic low-cost solutions for farmers.

**Counterpart relationships:** The Specialist will be responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Competitiveness Committee (CNC), and the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) on cold chain policy and technical issues. He/she will work with them on



implementation of presidential decree No. 346-2019 which mandates the establishment of the regulatory and monitoring mechanisms, to companies, ports, airports, cargo agents and transporters, to take correct actions and practices for the perishable handling under adequate cold chain conditions either in export and import activities. He/she will also work with the NTFC on cold chain actions to implement Section 7.9 for Perishable Products under the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).

### **Primary Responsibilities**

- Design and support the implementation of discrete technical assistance and training activities that contribute to project targets established in the Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP), particularly for but not limited to, indicator FFPr #16 "Total increase in installed storage capacity (dry and cold) as a result of USDA assistance" and Custom indicator #4 "Number of firms that use improved cold chain inspection areas".
- Establish linkages between the public and private sectors to facilitate the adoption of industry best practices that will strengthen the cold chain in the DR for safe, quality products for local and export consumption.
- Coordinate study tour for cold chain policy makers to gain knowledge of international best practices;
- Support the development and implementation of action plans, including specific technical and training assistance, for cold chain regulatory development to advance cold chain regulation and enforcement capacity;
- Help develop and adopt protocols for maintaining cold chain during inspections at key airports and seaports;
- Support the Grants Specialist in the design and implementation of a TraSa small subgrants program. This will include the management of subgrants for the development of cold chain infrastructure to enable implementation of SPS and food safety standards by farmer cooperatives and small businesses to receive support in building basic infrastructure, such as shade houses or purchasing cold chain equipment.
- Support the efforts of TraSa subpartner LixCap in their work conducting market opportunity studies, presentations, and investment facilitation for cold-chain systems, and manage follow-up actions to catalyze market driven investment in cold chain systems;
- Identify and deliver technical assistance and solutions to farmers that maintain product quality during post-harvest;
- Develop a plan to provide training in cold chain technologies and practices, as well as support cold chain traceability systems;



- Develop a scope of work for a study on return on investment of equipment donations and purchases including small equipment purchases (such as jet coolers) with the aim of demonstrating the business case for companies to purchase such technology.

### **Qualifications**

- University degree in a relevant field (Supply Chain Management, Cold Chain/Logistics, Business, or equivalent), Master of Science degree in above mentioned fields or MBA preferred;
- Minimum of 2 years of experience in supply chain and logistics, experience working in agricultural production and post-harvest activities preferred;
- Good knowledge of end-to-end supply chain processes and best practices, health and safety regulations;
- Experience managing and advising on cold chain activities;
- Demonstrated strong interest in international trade and trading systems;
- Ability to prioritize among multiple competing requests;
- Self-starter, detail-oriented, thorough and well organized;
- Well-developed interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills to support local teams and beneficiaries, as well as international consultants and volunteer experts effectively;
- Ability to travel domestically and internationally;
- Fluency Spanish and professional proficiency in English required;
- Experience with USDA, USAID, or other donor programs preferred.

Please apply in:

[https://phg.tbe.taleo.net/phg01/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=IESCORG&cw\\_s=39&rid=1625](https://phg.tbe.taleo.net/phg01/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=IESCORG&cw_s=39&rid=1625)

Applications will be received until August 15, 2021.