

**INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC)**  
**Upcoming Business Opportunity Notice**  
**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

**Important:** The purpose of this call for Expression of Interest (EOI) is to identify suitable Implementing Partners (IPs) who can potentially fulfil the requirements herein contained. The present call for EOI does not constitute an invitation to tender. Only suppliers/entities deemed qualified by ITC will be contacted for further cooperation.

**Reference: C229 – Eswatini: Promoting growth through competitive alliances III**

**Date of this Call for Expression of Interest (EOI): 26 June 2024**

**Closing Date for Receipt of EOI at ITC/PS: 10 July 2024**

**Terms of Reference (summary):**

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is the joint agency of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations. ITC is a development agency that is fully dedicated to supporting the internationalization of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

ITC's mission is to foster inclusive and sustainable economic development and contribute to achieving the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development. ITC works towards creating a 'trade impact for good'.

ITC is currently working with the Ministry of Agriculture to implement the Eswatini Livestock Value Chain Development Programme (ELVCDP), whose objective is to improve the performance of the livestock value chain in Eswatini, with special emphasis on the beef and goat value chains. The main result areas of the program are:

- To improve smallholder livestock productivity, with a more inclusive and sustainable management of assets at the community/household level.
- Inclusive, efficient, and transparent VC actors' alliances strengthened in the livestock value chain.
- MSMEs/Social Enterprises' competitiveness and value addition capabilities strengthened more sustainably and inclusively.

The development of the leather sector at the community level is of interest in terms of the value addition potential. For this purpose, ITC will contract an Implementing Partner (IP) to jointly implement the activities on the ground, adapting ITC's methodologies to the regional circumstances, reaching out to local partners and facilitating the implementation of activities on the ground.

**Required Conditions**

Interested Implementing Partners must satisfy the following criteria for the specific action:

A. Institutional set-up and mandate:

1. Not-for profit international entity
2. Involved in strengthening regional value chains

B. Programme Management capacities:

1. Proven track record and credentials in managing large projects ( $\geq$  100.000 USD) for international donors and multilateral organisations or other agencies, like the United Nations, the World Bank and/or similar organizations;
2. Accountability: proven record of legal and financial due diligence and reporting capacities;

C. Network and outreach

1. Outreach in the African continent.
2. Established relationships with academia and private sector in the leather sectors and think tanks in the area of leather sector development and related government policies.

D. Relevant operational and technical capacities:

1. Operational capability to coordinate project activities on the ground in Eswatini, manage a sizeable technical scope of work, as well as logistical and administrative capabilities;
2. Proven track record of provision of skills and technical training in technical training in leather sector development in Eswatini;
3. Competence and experience in supporting the development of commercially operating rural SMEs for value addition, business expansion and market access;
4. Capability to include gender and sustainability dimension into the delivered results.

**Exclusionary Criteria:**

**Interested Implementing Partners must certify the Annex I on UN Exclusionary Criteria and Commitment to SDGs.**

**Required documents for Expression of Interest (Eoi) submission:**

- Evidence of compliance with above criteria
- Three (3) last audited financial statements
- Official document of registration in Eswatini

**ITC invites interested Implementing Partners (companies/organizations) to forward their EOI by email before the closing date to:**

Bilal Qureshi  
Associate Sustainable Development Officer  
International Trade Centre  
[bqureshi@intracen.org](mailto:bqureshi@intracen.org)  
Website: [www.intracen.org](http://www.intracen.org)

Please indicate your vendor ID number and the reference of this EOI in your response. If not registered with ITC/UNOG or UNGM, please follow the Procedure for Registration as Potential Vendor at [www.ungm.org](http://www.ungm.org) as soon as possible.

ITC reserves the right to change or cancel this requirement at any time during the EOI and/or solicitation process.

Please note that only those Implementing Partners considered qualified by ITC for this project will be invited to provide further information for consideration.

For any further information on ITC, please consult our website: [www.intracen.org](http://www.intracen.org)

## Annex I – UN Exclusionary Criteria and Commitment to SGDs Certification

1. UN EXCLUSIONARY CRITERIA		
a. Is the entity listed in the <a href="#">UN List of Suspended and Removed Vendors</a> ?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b. Is the entity on the <a href="#">Anti-Terrorism Measures List</a> , established by UN Security Council Committee pursuant to Resolution 1267?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
c. Is the entity involved in ongoing lawsuits or legal actions or past convictions for unlawful activities?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, please provide background information)		
d. Is the entity involved in activities in a country where United Nations sanctions are in force?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, please provide background information)		
e. Has the entity respected its obligations under previous partnership or cooperation agreements with the ITC or other organizations?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if no, please provide background information)		
f. Does the entity have a potential or real conflict of interest exist with ITC?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, has the conflict of interest been appropriately disclosed?)		
g. Has the entity been involved in excluded sectors of activity? (complete below)		
Manufacture, sale or distribution of controversial weapons or their components, including cluster bombs, anti-personnel mines, biological or chemical weapons or nuclear weapons. <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Manufacture, sale or distribution of armaments and/or weapons or their components, including military supplies and equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Replica weapons marketed to children.	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Manufacture, sale or distribution of tobacco or tobacco products.	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Violations of UN sanctions and the relevant conventions, treaties, and resolutions, and inclusion in UN ineligibility lists or UN vendor sanctions list.	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Involvement in the manufacture, sale and distribution of pornography.	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

<sup>1</sup> [The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, ICRC, Ethical Investment Research Services](#) and [Ethix Sri Advisors Guidance to institutional investors](#) also covers **non-detectable fragments, blinding laser weapons, incendiary weapons, booby traps and depleted uranium ammunition.**

Manufacture, sale or distribution of substances subject to international bans or phase-outs <sup>2</sup> , and wildlife or products regulated under the CITES <sup>3</sup> .	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Gambling including casinos, betting etc. (excluding lotteries with charitable objectives).	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Violation of human rights (including toleration of and/or complicity in abuses - including forced and child labour).	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

## 2. ENTITY'S COMMITMENT TO ESG ISSUES

Human rights		
Does the entity have a policy and a monitoring system that seeks to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts, especially on the local communities, that are <b>directly linked to its operations</b> ? <sup>4</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and a monitoring system cover <b>occupational health and safety issues</b> , ensuring that workers are afforded safe, suitable and sanitary working conditions? <sup>5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system cover land or property issues, i.e. does the entity ensure that all affected owners and users of the land or property used by the entity have been <b>adequately consulted and compensated</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system cover the rights of <b>indigenous peoples</b> , and in particular the principles of self-determination and self-governance, the right to lands and natural resources, including issues of resettlement, and the right to free, prior and informed consent?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system cover the entity's <b>security arrangements</b> , i.e. whether or not they comply with international human rights principles for law enforcement and the use of force (e.g. have security personnel received adequate human rights training)? <sup>6</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity have an appropriate <b>dispute resolution mechanism</b> that is in line with the human rights norms and principles?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity have a policy and a monitoring system that seeks to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to products and services by its <b>business relationships</b> (business partners, entities in its value chain, other non-State or State entities)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Labour		
Does the entity have a policy and a monitoring system to ensure fair labour practices <sup>7</sup> <b>at its operations</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system adequately ensure <b>equal opportunity to all</b> employees and applicants regardless of ethnic origin, colour, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, marital status?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

<sup>2</sup> Initiatives and activities with private sector entities falling under the auspices of the Montreal Protocol; and the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions on Ozone depleting substances, POPs and Mercury respectively, will not be covered under this policy but under their specific guidelines.

<sup>3</sup> CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. <http://www.cites.org>

<sup>4</sup> An example of a [framework specifically designed for human rights](#)

<sup>5</sup> Useful resources can be found at [ILO website](#)

<sup>6</sup> Useful resources can be found at [Global Compact website](#)

<sup>7</sup> International Labor Standards provide a framework for fair labor practices. The fundamental conventions include: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948; Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949; Forced Labour Convention, 1930; Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138); Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999; Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951; and Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958. ([ILO](#))

Does the entity have a policy and a monitoring system that seeks to promote fair labour practices in its interactions with <b>suppliers and business partners</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system ensure <b>freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system ensure the elimination of <b>forced or compulsory labour</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the policy and monitoring system ensure the elimination of <b>child labour</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Environment:</b>		
Does the entity have a policy and a monitoring system to minimize environmental damage <b>at its operations</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity have a policy and a monitoring system which it applies to working with suppliers to improve environmental performance, extending responsibility down the <b>supply chain</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity has a policy and a monitoring system to reduce <b>emissions</b> (emissions to air, waste and effluents)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity has a policy and a monitoring system to ensure that <b>natural resources</b> are used in a sustainable manner?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity takes action to reduce <b>energy consumption</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity prevents, minimizes and remedies significant impacts on <b>biodiversity</b> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity have <b>emergency procedures</b> in place to prevent and address industrial accidents affecting the environment and human health effectively?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Internal Policies</b>		
Are there major products or services of the entity that may be detrimental to the Environment?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity contribute to environment causes?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Does the entity show an interest in the environment of its local communities?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Good governance:</b>		
Does the private actor entity have a policy and a monitoring system stating that it will not engage in corruption at any time or in any form in its interaction with suppliers, intermediaries, governments and business partners?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<b>Ethical Information</b>		

1. Mission statement (attach if available):
2. Human Rights Assessment (attach copies of any relevant company policies, news articles or other documents)
2a. Do entity policies indicate fair treatment of employees (including minorities, women and an absence of child labour, see Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention 182) and Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (Convention 138) at <a href="http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm">http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm</a> )? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2b. Is the entity involved in activities which do not comply with United Nations ideals and principles (e.g., proved non-respect of human rights, production or distribution of weapons, illegal production of drugs and narcotics and other health damaging products)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2c. Do entity policies agree with Global Compact and prevention of sexual abuse? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Social Responsibility</b>
a. Does the entity have a historic of corporate philanthropy or corporate giving? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Include name of corporate foundation, website, background information, if relevant:
b. Does the entity give to trade-related issues or causes? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, please provide relevant information)
c. Does the entity produce an Annual Report on Social Responsibility? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, attach if available)
d. Does the entity's marketing and advertising practices abide by standards of ethical conduct, e.g. as laid down in <a href="#">ICC International Code on Advertising Practices</a> ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
e. If applicable, does the entity adhere to the <a href="#">Principles for Responsible Investment</a> ? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
f. Is there evidence of either past or current involvement of the entity in any controversial activity that could adversely reflect on ITC? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if yes, please indicate which activities and provide supporting evidence)

Name of the Entity: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and title of signatory: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_