



Terms of Reference

Overview of Danish research competences and projects on Global Value Chains, Business and Development

1. Background

Private sector development is increasingly regarded as a key driver of poverty reduction and is therefore closely intertwined with the general development agenda. There is a broad consensus that achieving satisfactory results with regard to the 1st Millennium Development Goal (reducing by half the proportion of people living in poverty and suffering from hunger and achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people) is a challenge that only can be met through an enormous, inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

The Danish Development Research Network (DDRN) is a cross-disciplinary research and knowledge network counting members from research institutions, the private sector, NGOs and development practitioners. DDRN aims at establishing linkages between research-based knowledge and the development agenda. One of DDRN's approaches to achieve this objective is to promote the exchange of knowledge and information among researchers and between researchers and other stakeholders.

DDRN is organising a conference on Global Value Chain, Business and Development¹ to be held on December 9, 2008. As an input to the conference, DDRN have decided to elaborate a mapping of Danish 1) research competences and 2) ongoing and recently finished research projects within Global Value Chains (GVC) related to development countries from the perspectives of business and development. The mapping aims at facilitating the access of policy-makers and other relevant actors within GVC to Danish knowledge and expertise related to the overall theme of the conference. Moreover the mapping will be a useful tool in identifying partners and supporting the development of future joint research proposals.

The mapping should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following sub-themes and key-words/issues:

- 1) *Private sector development, public and private governance in trade, development intervention*
Key-words/issues: Business as development opportunity; income generation; employment opportunities; public and private standards; trading rules and development; foreign investments and outsourcing; trade and upgrading development; the role of new actors in GVC and economic growth; the political economy of sustainable growth.
- 2) *Global Value Chains, development and upgrading*
Key-words/issues: Global Value Chains (GVC) and developing countries; barriers and opportunities to benefits; regulation; financial services; technologies and market supply; small and medium enterprises; strategy development; local and global value chains; integrating the impact of GVC on other issues (environment, gender, and poverty).
- 3) *Global Value Chains, standards, Corporate Social Responsibility*
Key-words/issues: corporate social responsibility, challenges to GVC; quality standards, economic growth and social aspects of GVC; incentives to promote social responsible business.

The mapping will be presented at the DDRN conference on Global Value Chains, Business and Development.

¹ The concept note of the conference is available at: http://www.ddrn.dk/index.php?side_id=20

2. Tasks

The consultant will be responsible for compiling a report including:

- An overview of recent and current research projects by Danish research institutions that address issues related to the above-mentioned thematic areas. The geographic focus will be on Danish programme countries. However, significant work of general interest in relation to the conference topics should also be covered. The research to be covered includes research undertaken by individual researchers, research groups, departments and universities.
- A mapping of the Danish knowledge base focusing on individual experiences and competences in the above-mentioned thematic areas.
- A brief presentation of the main international research centers dealing with GVC in a development context.
- An oral presentation of the mapping at the conference on Global Value Chains, Business and Development.

3. Methodology and staffing

The consultancy will be carried out as a desk study in close collaboration with the DDRN secretariat. The mapping should cover research since 2003, but earlier highly relevant work may be included. The references to be consulted for the overview of the Danish resource base include research and project data bases and other information available at Danish universities, DDRN and Danida Fellowship Centre. The elaboration of electronic surveys targeted Danish researchers and interviews to key specialists have proven to be appropriate methods for data collection in previous DDRN overviews and may be considered. International research centres will be identified mainly through internet search.

The content of the mapping report should include an edited introduction, summary of results on Danish projects and competences, a brief presentation of the main international research centres, and a concluding chapter highlighting those thematic sub-areas where further research is needed. In addition, the consultant is expected to make recommendations on issues to be prioritised by Danish research institutions.

4. Duration and time frame

The consultancy will be carried out in 5 weeks within the period October 13 – December 9, 2008.

Deadlines:

- Oct. 20, 2008: Strategy and method presented to DDRN secretariat
- Nov. 3, 2008: First draft of the mapping to DDRN secretariat
- Nov. 21, 2008: Final draft of the mapping to DDRN board for comments
- Nov. 26, 2008: Comments from DDRN board to the consultant
- Dec. 3, 2008: Final report to DDRN board for final approval
- Dec. 5, 2008: Final report approved by the DDRN board

The consultant will be encouraged to present the mapping at the DDRN conference Politics, Business and Development, and to answer questions on the report.

5. Qualifications

The mapping can be compiled by a researcher within one of the mentioned research fields or by a person holding at least a Master's degree in one of the research fields and with documented relevant working experience. Knowledge of the Danish resource base within the areas to be covered is important.

Expressions of interest with curriculum vitae and proposed budget should be submitted by email no later than October 8, 2008 to:

Lluís Armangué, Coordinator DDRN
c/o Institute of Geography, University of Copenhagen
Øster Voldgade 10, 1350 Copenhagen K.
Email: la@ddrn.dk
Phone: + 45 35 32 41 82