

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EXPERTS / LECTURES

Terms of reference for onsite training missions or E-learning activities

Action code and partner country: SOCIEUX 2024-03 THAILAND

Action title: International Guest Expert lectures at Mahidol University: Health financing and Social Health Protection in Europe

Partner institution: ASEAN Institute for Health Development (AIHD), Mahidol University

Activity 1 – International Guest Expert Lecture at Mahidol University on Health Financing and Social Health Protection in Europe

Date of implementation of activity 1:

- At distance preparation start: 29 April 2024
- 23-24 May 2024 days of the online lectures, 8h00-10h00am CET, 13h00-15h00 Bangkok time)
- 31 May 2024 deadline for submitting reports

Modality of training: E-learning

Expert positions and responsibilities:

Activity 1 : Expert 1 Area(s) of expertise: Health insurance

Specific skill(s) of expertise: **1.2 Policy & Strategy making and development, 8. Individuals'** capacity building/training

Activity 1 : Expert 2 Area(s) of expertise: Health insurance, Social Security financing

Specific skill(s) of expertise: 2.1 Legislation & Regulation making and development, 8. Individuals' capacity building/training

Workload:

Activity 1 - Expert 1 : Total 7 days at distance Activity 1 - Expert 2 : Total 7 days at distance

Call for experts' reference: 24-03/THA/1

Version - #: ___ Draft 🛛 Final Date: 14 March 2024

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1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Country overview

Thailand, officially known as the Kingdom of Thailand, is an upper-income country and the only country in south-east Asia to have escaped colonial rule. Thailand covers an area of 514,000 square kilometres. It is bordered by Laos to the Northeast, Myanmar to the North and West, Cambodia to the East, and Malaysia to the South. It is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy.

Thailand has experienced significant economic growth over the past few decades and has transitioned from a low-income to a middle-income country. Its economy is diverse, with key sectors including manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, and services.

According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Thailand's HDI value for 2021 was at 0,800, ranking it in the very high human development category, positioning it at 66 out of 191 countries and territories.

1.2 Sector situation

Thailand's institutional framework for social protection encompasses a variety of policies, systems, and programs aimed at ensuring the well-being of its citizens, particularly those vulnerable to poverty, unemployment, illness, or other social risks. The country has made significant strides in expanding social protection coverage, with a focus on promoting inclusive growth and reducing inequalities.

Universal Healthcare Coverage (UHC): One of Thailand's landmark social policies is its universal healthcare system, known as the "30 Baht Scheme" or the "Universal Coverage Scheme (UCS)." Under this scheme, all Thai citizens have access to essential healthcare services with minimal outof-pocket expenses. The government funds the scheme through general taxation and contributions from the Social Security Fund and the Civil Servant Medical Benefit Scheme (CSMBS).

Social Assistance Programs: Thailand operates several social assistance programs to support vulnerable groups, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, children, and low-income households. These programs include the Elderly Allowance, Disability Allowance, Child Support Grant, and the Welfare Card Scheme, which provides cash assistance to eligible households.

Social Insurance Programs: Thailand's social insurance programs provide protection against income loss due to sickness, disability, unemployment, and old age. The main social insurance schemes include the Social Security Scheme (SSS) for private sector employees and the Government Pension Fund (GPF) for civil servants and state enterprise employees.

Social Security System: The Social Security Office (SSO) administers social security programs for private sector workers, including contributions, benefits administration, and enforcement of regulations. The SSO provides coverage for work-related injuries, sickness, maternity, disability, and death.

National Health Security Office (NHSO): The NHSO oversees Thailand's universal healthcare system and manages the UCS, ensuring access to quality healthcare services for all citizens. It coordinates with healthcare providers, establishes service standards, and manages healthcare financing.

Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW): The DSDW is responsible for implementing social assistance programs, including eligibility assessments, beneficiary registration, and distribution of benefits. It also provides rehabilitation services and support for vulnerable populations.

In conclusion, Thailand's institutional framework for social protection comprises a comprehensive set of policies, systems, programs, and stakeholders aimed at promoting social justice, reducing poverty, and ensuring the well-being of its citizens. Efforts to strengthen social protection systems and expand coverage remain ongoing challenges, requiring collaboration between government agencies, civil society, employers, and other stakeholders to address emerging social risks and promote inclusive development.

1.3 Role of partner institution in the sector

The ASEAN Institute for Health Development (AIHD) at Mahidol University incorporates the following Mission:

- Provide transformative education for graduates in order for them to become proficient leaders in health system management and sustainability;
- Enhance the health workforce's capacity to promote sustainable Health Development; and
- Develop and support innovative research for sustainable Health Development.

In order to achieve its mission, the AIHD further invests in the following strategies:

- Conduct research to support Health Policy Development related to Primary Health Care Management, Global Health, and Active Aging;
- Invest in education to support the development of future leaders in Primary Health Care Management, Health Policy, Health Development, Global Health, and Active Aging;
- Provide long-term capacity building of quality in order become a leader in Primary Health Care Management, Social Health Protection, Health Policy, Health Development, and Active Aging.

Mahidol University also contributes to the project "Support to the extension of social health protection in Southeast Asia", set up by ILO with funding from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The ultimate objective of the project is that more women and men in South-East Asia have access to adequate social health protection. Under this framework, Mahidol University contributes to strengthen individual and institutional capacities on social health protection (SHP).

The ASEAN Institute for Health Development (AHID) at Mahidol University, Thailand, has been delivering a Master's programme in Primary Healthcare Management (MPHM) since 1978, training around 800 health leaders from over 37 countries to date. In collaboration with the ILO, the AIHD has revised and supplemented the longstanding programme with a component dedicated to Social Health Protection (SHP) and successfully launched the first edition of the new track in August 2020.

The integration of specialised SHP training into the MPHM, is intended to contribute to the promotion of UHC in the region by equipping health and social protection professionals with the necessary expertise and knowledge to reinforce SHP systems in their home countries. The special track is composed of four specialised modules:

- 1. Strategic Purchasing for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- 2. Health Providers in Health Systems
- 3. Health Financing for Social Health Protection
- 4. Health Economics

As integral part of Module on Health Financing for Social Health Protection, Mahidol University and the ILO are planning a series of three specialised virtual seminars on subjects related to health financing from the region and Europe. To that purpose, the AIHD at Mahidol University has requested SOCIEUX+ support to mobilise two specialists from Europe via a peer-to-peer technical cooperation request with SOCIEUX+.

2 ACTION DESCRIPTION

2.1 Overall objective

• Awareness and knowledge on social protection and decent work is increased

2.2 Specific objective (s) (purpose)

• To strengthen participants' knowledge on European social health protection and financing

2.3 Expected results

- Knowledge about social health protection systems in at least two European countries, in terms of design and implementation, is provided.
- Financing of the various systems, including challenges and reforms, is covered.

2.4 Final deliverables

- Preparatory work for students (readings or other material to review ahead of the lecture)
- Two 2-hour lectures
- PPTs of presentations, ad hoc documents, videos or any other resource used in the framework of the lectures

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 General methodology (of the action)

The e-seminar will be organised in the context of a series of specialised lectures on health financing for social health protection of the MPHM at the AIHD, Mahidol University, Thailand. The objective of the virtual lectures is to enhance students' knowledge through presentation and discussions on the following topics:

Seminar one:

- The integrated social security system in France: coordination of the health and maternity branch with other social security benefits
- Concept of UHC through different EU examples

Seminar two:

- Preventive care in social health protection system in Europe: benefits, financing and coordination mechanisms
- Seminar two will also include a presentation on the organization and financing of preventive care in Asia (tentatively Thailand and/or) South-Korea within the social protection system. Experts will be mobilised by the ILO and Mahidol University directly.

The target audience for the seminar includes:

- current students from the MPHM in Social Health Protection
- current students from the traditional MPHM program
- current students from other postgraduate programs related to primary health care, health policy and health financing
- current Ph.D. students in health and sustainable development program
- invited lecturers and academic staff from the AIHD and Mahidol University
- invited participants from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam

Each seminar will have a duration of a maximum of 2h00.

3.2 Planned activities (work plan of the action)

The following activity is currently planned for the action:

• Activity 1 – International Guest Expert Lecture at Mahidol University on Health Financing and Social Health Protection in Europe

The present terms of reference cover the services expected for activity 1 of the workplan.

3.3 Inclusion of cross-cutting issues

SOCIEUX+ recognises the importance to include cross-cutting issues in social protection, labour and employment policies and systems. The following cross-cutting issues are duly taken into account:

- Gender equality;
- Good governance;
- Human rights (including rights of children, people living with disabilities, vulnerable groups and minorities); and,
- Social and economic inclusion of vulnerable groups.

4 ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

4.1 Lecture format

The activity will be conducted via remote using the SOCIEUX+ e-learning platform (<u>https://elearning.socieux.eu</u>). Experts and the Partner Institution will receive support from SOCIEUX+ on the registration of accounts and general set up.

4.2 Learning objectives

Note objectives are likely to evolve during the preparation and exchanges with the University.

- 1. France's experience in coordination of its different branches through a single institution
- 2. Preventive care in social health protection system in Europe: benefits, financing and coordination mechanisms
- 3. Mix of private/public healthcare provision
- 4. Health insurance models
- 5. Road to universality of healthcare

4.3 General methodology

The principal expert will lead the remote mission. He/she/them will be responsible for the delivery of all deliverables of the activity (see below Section **Error! Reference source not found.**). He/she/them will be responsible for the preparation, coordination, implementation and reporting of the overall activity towards SOCIEUX+.

In the preparation phase, Experts will develop the learning sub-objectives and define the specific target audience. They will narrow and clarify the level of knowledge of the target audience of the training in collaboration with the Partner institution. It is recommended that a pre-assessment of the skills, knowledge and learning needs of the audience is made through structured interviews of key individuals at the partner institution or surveying of selected members of the audience.

A methodological note template is provided by SOCIEUX+. Experts will choose the appropriate activities format and mix of tools, and prepare the materials. For online trainings the majority of the activities are to be asynchronous.

Experts will develop activities and upload content of supporting materials, such as presentation and reference reading, on the SOCIEUX+ e-learning platform.

The Partner Institution will work together with Experts in supporting the preparation and implementation of the activity. The Partner institution shall provide one or more resource person(s) to support experts in the material and technical organisation of the trainings. The organisation of the logistics necessary for the activity is the responsibility of the Partner Institution.

During the remote implementation phase, Experts will conduct the trainings as per the methodology and agenda outlined in the methodological note approved by SOCIEUX+. The Partner Institution will have the responsibility to invite participants and ensure their attendance on the e-learning platform.

At the end of the trainings, upon assessment, an attendance certificate may be awarded to participants. Certification of participation will only be provided for trainings whereby final-scored assessments of and feedbacks by participants have been collected.

4.4 Main tasks of the expert team

4.4.1 Preparation

- 1. Get substantial knowledge of the local context; review relevant background documents provided by SOCIEUX+ and the Partner Institution;
- 2. Develop learning sub-objectives and specific target audience with the Partner institution, and co-develop the mission's methodology and agenda, to be validated by SOCIEUX+;
- 3. Prepare the lecture materials using SOCIEUX+ templates. Upload and set up the synchronous and asynchronous sessions on the e-learning platform;
- 4. Before the start of the course, run a test of the platform with participants;

- 5. Take part in a pre-training briefing with SOCIEUX+ team (around 1 week before the mission);
- 6. [Participate in a briefing and debriefing with the EU Delegation.]

4.4.2 Implementation:

- 7. Deliver the lectures according to planned thematical focus, modalities, teaching, evaluation method and audience;
- 8. Provide feedback to participants on assessments and key messages to take home;
- 9. Conduct a short session to direct participants towards the feedback <u>online</u> questionnaire (PAF) (link/activity on the e-learning platform provided).

4.4.3 Reporting:

- 10. Submit to SOCIEUX+ all the final deliverables (10 working days after the activity). An additional round of adjustments may be conducted in interaction with SOCIEUX+ and the Partner;
- 11. Convey visibility and knowledge development materials to SOCIEUX+ as appropriate. Any materials must be taken/used with the consent of participants;
- 12. Participate in a debriefing with SOCIEUX+ team.

4.5 Deliverables

4.5.1 Pre-mission deliverables

- P1: A methodological note, detailing the learning objectives, audience, working approach, tools and methods to employ, a risks analysis, etc. A compulsory template will be provided for this note.
- P2: A activity/mission agenda, detailing the meetings and working sessions to be held, list of participants, etc. The Activity/mission Agenda shall not exceed 2 pages.

4.5.2 Final deliverables

- D1: An individual Expert Mission Report (ExMR) in SOCIEUX+ format (template provided). This report is a confidential product intended solely for and use by SOCIEUX+. The expert team may also submit a single-joint ExMR report if they prefer to do so (see instructions on the template).
- D2: An individual completed Expert Feedback Form (ExF) completed online (see instructions and link on the ExMR template).
- D3: A collective Activity Report (AcR) in SOCIEUX+ format (template provided). This AcR is to be produced jointly by the mission team. It is intended for the Partner Institution, and will be shared, most probably, with key stakeholders of the action. The report will reflect the tasks conducted in during the activity. It shall provide a meaningful contribution towards the final deliverables of the action.
- Annex to AcR: All training materials, including assessments and tools developed during the presentations.

5 REPORTING AND SUBMISSION OF DELIVERABLES

5.1 Formats

<u>All deliverables and products of the activity</u> (notes, reports, presentations, etc) shall comply with the formats and templates provided by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

All deliverables are to be submitted in electronic in <u>electronic editable versions</u> [Microsoft Word 97-2003 [doc], PowerPoint 97-2003 [ppt] and Excel 97-2003 [xls]; or in equivalent OpenDocument format). Non-editable electronic document such as in Portable Document Format (PDF) shall not be accepted.

<u>Templates for electronic presentations</u> during the activity/mission are provided by the SOCIEUX+ Team. These templates are in Microsoft PowerPoint format and comply with the SOCIEUX+ Corporate Image standards. These templates are to be used as a sole format by all members of the expert mission team. They are to be used <u>for all presentations by the experts</u> during and for the activity/mission. The use by the experts of their own, or their organisation(s), templates or formats are not allowed unless otherwise instructed in written [by email] to the experts by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

All versions of deliverables or other products used or produced during activity/mission by the experts shall include the following disclaimer:

"Disclaimer:

The responsibility of this publication sole lies with its authors. The European Union, the European Commission, the implementation partners of SOCIEUX+ and the SOCIEUX+ Staff are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein."

<u>Please refer to the expert information package for further guidance on communication and templates.</u>

All deliverables are to be provided in English.

5.2 Submission and approval

<u>All deliverables versions (drafts, final or other)</u> shall <u>be submitted directly and only to SOCIEUX+</u> <u>Team, unless otherwise instructed in written [by email] to the experts by the SOCIEUX+ Team.</u>

5.2.1 Pre-mission deliverables

- Pre-mission deliverables shall be submitted <u>no later than 5 working days before the start of</u> activity or departure of the mission of the experts, whichever is the earliest.
- Pre-mission deliverables will be shared and reviewed by the SOCIEUX+ and the Partner Institution. *Feedback on the deliverables should be provided to the Principal Expert at latest 2 days before the start of activity* or departure of the mission of the experts, whichever is the earliest. Comments and recommendation of this feedback shall be taken into account for the implementation of the activity/mission by the experts. *Only the mission agenda shall be resubmitted* with revision if requested by the SOCIEUX+ Team.

5.2.2 Final deliverables

- The first draft versions of the final deliverables are to be submitted <u>no later than 10 working</u> <u>days upon completion</u> of the activity or return of the experts.
- Feedback to the first draft version of the report should be provided 10 working days after its submission.
- Inclusion of the feedback on drafts versions is expected 5 working days upon reception of the comments by the principal expert. (In general, no more than one round of feedback and revision is required, unless the quality of the deliverables is considered unsatisfactory by the SOCIEUX+ Team or/and the Partner Institution.)
- Final versions of the deliverables should be approved or rejected no later than 10 working days upon their submission to the SOCIEUX+ Team.
- Final payments and reimbursement of travel costs to experts can only be authorised upon approval of the final version of the deliverables by SOCIEUX+.

6 REQUIRED EXPERTISE

6.1 Expertise profile

Principal expert (Expert #1): Social Health Protection Expert

Area(s) of expertise: Health insurance

Specific skill(s) of expertise: 1.2 Policy & Strategy making and development, 8. Individuals' capacity building/training

Requirements (essential/required):

• The education type and level required:

"Master's" degree (or equivalent advanced academic degree or diploma requiring 4 years of formal education) in the areas of expertise (see above), or another directly related discipline. In its absence, the master's degree can be replaced by a combination of academic degree(s) with relevant years of work/professional experience combining the area of expertise and specific skills requested:

- An intermediate academic degree ("Bachelor", equivalent degree or diploma requiring three (3) years of formal education) with an additional three (3) years of working/professional experience; or,
- A first-level academic degree ("License", equivalent degree or diploma requiring two (2) years of formal education) with an additional five (5) years of working/professional experience.

The additional work experience used in calculating academic equivalence <u>shall not count</u> towards the <u>minimum general professional experience</u>.

- Education: university level (Masters or PhD relating to the subject are considered a plus)
- At least 10 years of professional experience within EU public administrations or, international organisations, academia, social partners, civil society organizations
- Proven experience working in Social Security Institutions in Europe;
- Specific experience and skills in health insurance policies and strategies;
- Specific knowledge of health systems' design, implementation, financing, challenges and reforms in at least one of the following EU countries: Germany, France, Sweden;
- Expertise on the institutional strengthening of universal health coverage;
- Knowledge and/or research on the investments needed for the development of comprehensive social protection systems
- Specific knowledge of health systems;
- Fluent in English

Additional assets (advantageous in selection):

- Experience working with Universities/ higher education institutions and strong communication skills to knowledgably and effectively interact with the key participants (students and academic staff) is highly desirable.
- A previous experience in delivering short-term technical assistance in international cooperation;
- A previous professional experience in South-East Asia.

Expert #2: Senior Health Financing Expert

Area(s) of expertise: Health insurance, Social Security financing

Specific skill(s) of expertise: 2.1 Legislation & Regulation making and development, 8. Individuals' capacity building/training

Requirements (essential/required):

• The education type and level required:

"Master's" degree (or equivalent advanced academic degree or diploma requiring 4 years of formal education) in the areas of expertise (see above), or another directly related discipline. In its absence, the master's degree can be replaced by a combination of academic degree(s) with relevant years of work/professional experience combining the area of expertise and specific skills requested:

- An intermediate academic degree ("Bachelor", equivalent degree or diploma requiring three (3) years of formal education) with an additional three (3) years of working/professional experience; or,
- A first-level academic degree ("License", equivalent degree or diploma requiring two (2) years of formal education) with an additional five (5) years of working/professional experience.

The additional work experience used in calculating academic equivalence <u>shall not count</u> towards the <u>minimum general professional experience</u>.

- At least 10 years of professional experience within EU public administrations or, international organisations, academia, social partners, civil society organizations
- Proven experience working in Social Security Institutions in Europe;
- Specific experience and skills in health insurance policies and strategies;
- Specific knowledge of health systems' design, implementation, financing, challenges and reforms in at least one of the following EU countries: Germany, France, Sweden;
- Previous experience in designing, documenting and delivering academic courses to Master students, in the area of public health;
- Specific knowledge of health systems;
- Fluent in English

Additional assets (advantageous in selection):

- Experience working with Universities/ higher education institutions and strong communication skills to knowledgably and effectively interact with the key participants (students and academic staff) is highly desirable.
- A previous experience in delivering short-term technical assistance in international cooperation;
- A previous professional experience in South-East Asia.

Collaborative institutions:

Public or publicly mandated institutions from European Union Member States with relevant expertise and competencies as outlined above are also encouraged to directly apply and contact SOCIEUX+ to provide expertise and participate in these/this activity. Focal points and responsible staff may directly contact the SOCIEUX+ Team at:

<u>experts@socieux.eu</u>, indicating the reference of the call for experts.

6.2 Estimated workload¹

	Preparation	Day of e-lectures	Reporting & deliverables	Total
Principal expert (#1)	4	1	2	7
Expert (#2)	4	1	2	7
Total experts	8	2	4	14

¹ Please note that travel days are not considered as working days.

7 APPLICATIONS

7.1 Call for experts

All calls for experts for SOCIEUX+ activities are published online on the SOCIEUX+ website. Interested experts should submit their application on the SOCIEUX+ on-line expert database: https://pmt.socieux.eu (currently only available in English). The application process is:

- 1. If they have not already, experts create their SOCIEUX+ account by clicking on "Create an account" using an email address.
- 2. Login details for their account will be sent to experts by email, experts should create and submit their profile for review by²:
 - a. Providing contact details
 - b. Providing information on the competences, skills and working history of the expert. Experts are required to provide only limited information through fields marked with an asterisk. However, <u>experts are encouraged to complete in most detail de sections</u> <u>on skills and competences</u> as the SOCIEUX+ Team also regularly reviews profiles in the roster to identify and contact potential experts for future missions.
 - c. Uploading of a curriculum vitae, preferably in Europass format³.
- 3. Once their profile is approved by the SOCIEUX+ Team, they can apply to any available calls for experts accessible under the tab "Call for experts" and click on "Apply."

If more information is needed, please contact SOCIEUX+ by email at <u>experts@socieux.eu</u> with the reference number of the application.

Collaborative or interested institutions wishing to make expertise available for a specific call for application may directly contact the team of SOCIEUX+ at <u>experts@socieux.eu.</u>

7.2 Selection of experts

In principle, SOCIEUX+ mobilises experts from the public administrations and mandated bodies of EU member states, and practitioners working for social partners, including:

- Practitioners, civil servants and employees from publicly mandated bodies;
- Collaborators and employees of social partner institutions, such as trade unions and employer associations; and,
- Academic and research institutions.

Active public experts from collaborative institutions are given priority in the selection. Private consultants may also apply. Their application will be considered in case an appropriate public expert cannot be identified.

Only short-listed applicants may be contacted. The selection process may include interviews by phone or other communication means.

Interested candidates may download the **Guide for Experts and Collaborative Institutions** with detailed information on contracting with SOCIEUX+ at <u>www.socieux.eu</u>

7.3 Contracting of public experts

Public experts can be in active duty or retired. Retired employees from international specialised agencies or cooperation agencies can also be mobilised, without regard to their former employer's collaborating with SOCIEUX+ on a specific action. Retired experts are considered as public experts for all purposes, benefits, and financial compensation provided by SOCIEUX+.

 $^{^2}$ SOCIEUX+ expert database and other management tools comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) -Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

³ Europass templates for CVs are available here: <u>http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions</u>

Short-listed candidates may be required to provide the contact of employer or proof of their ability to be directly contracted under their status as civil servant or public employee.

Various options for contracting :

• Active French Public Expert (Contracted by Expertise France)

Engagement letter (+ Cumulation of activities form signed by the hierarchical superior)

• Active Spanish Public Expert

Spanish public servant will be contracted by FIIAPP according to its internal rules.

- UE Public Expert (including French and Spanish retired or private experts)
 - Service contract with expert (+ Authorization document from employer indicating the dates of the activity + a tax identification number (TIN) to be able to issue an invoice; or
 - Umbrella company: experts who do not have a tax identification number allowing them to invoice for services in their country, but they are authorized to sign temporary employment contracts according to local legislation, or
 - Service contract with institution: experts who do not have a tax identification number that allows them to work in their country and cannot sign an employment contract according to local legislation.

7.4 Financial compensations

Contract officials or active-duty or retired employees are entitled to standard fixed allowances of 350 euros per working day worked. The fees of private consultants are negotiated according to their number of years of relevant expertise and the standard scale of SOCIEUX+.

Retired experts are assimilated to public employees for all intents and purposes, benefits and financial compensation provided by SOCIEUX+.

National regulations on remuneration and compensation of public employees and civil servants applies, and may limit the payment of allowances by SOCIEUX+. The responsibility for compliance and verification lies with individual experts and their institutions of origin. The payment of income or other taxes is the sole responsibility of the mobilised experts and/or their organisations.

7.5 Travel costs

All travel expenses for the mobilised experts (public, private or international institutions) are covered by SOCIEUX in accordance with the **Guide for Experts and Collaborative institutions** with detailed information on contracting with SOCIEUX+ (version as on date of signature of the contract).

8 COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY

SOCIEUX + can use its communication channels, such as the web, newsletter and other media, to share information about the implementation and results of the activities. For this, contributions of the experts mobilised are expected. The experts may be requested to provide such contributions in the field of communication as photographs, provide short texts, and interviews.

Short briefings, before and after the mission, with the Communication Officer of SOCIEUX+. This briefings will provide the opportunity to identify communication opportunities and strategies.

For specific activities, visibility products, such as brochures, USB sticks, notebooks and pens, can be made available to experts for on-site distribution.

9 CODE OF CONDUCT

The experts mobilised by SOCIEUX+ will provide technical assistance from the preparatory stages of each activity to the delivery of products. The SOCIEUX+ Team will assist experts to fulfil their assignments by supporting and advising on the preparation of background materials before meetings. The SOCIEUX+ team will collect feedback from partner institutions and relevant stakeholders to ensure that mission reports and recommendations are delivered to national authorities, the EU Delegations in the partner countries and DG INTPA.

The experts mobilised are not representing SOCIEUX+ or the EU. Technical opinions and recommendations expressed are their own. They shall not express negative opinions on the implementation of actions supported by SOCIEUX+ to third-parties. Nevertheless, they shall be aware of SOCIEUX+'s objectives and functioning, and promote its services at the best of their knowledge, whenever possible and feasible.

The experts shall perform their duties in the Partner Country in a way that is fully compliant with and respectful of the local institutions, policies and cultural behaviours. They shall particularly adopt a culturally-sensitive behaviour in their way to deal with the local counterparts.

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ABOUT SOCIEUX+

The SOCIEUX+ Facility was established and funded by the EU through the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) and Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR). The Facility is co-funded by France, Spain, and Belgium. It is implemented by a partnership composed of Expertise France (the partnership lead), Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas (FIIAPP) from Spain, Belgian International Cooperation on Social Protection (BELINCOSOC), and the Belgian Development Agency (Enabel).

The Facility's general objective is to expand and improve access to better employment opportunities and inclusive Social Protection systems in Partner Countries. Its specific objective is to enhance Partner Countries' capacity to design, manage, and monitor inclusive, effective, and sustainable employment strategies and Social Protection systems through short-term, peer-to-peer technical assistance and knowledge development.

SOCIEUX+ recognises the impact of Social Protection and employment in reducing poverty and vulnerability. It supports the efforts of partner governments in promoting inclusive and sustainable Social Protection and employment systems. SOCIEUX+ also complements the efforts made through other EU initiatives.

The Facility is an expansion of SOCIEUX Social Protection EU Expertise in Development Cooperation, established in 2013.

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