CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Local implementation of grievance mechanisms for VSSs’ members in alignment with UNGP and OECD

[ISEAL Innovations Fund / SECO Funded Project]

About Bonsucro

Bonsucro is the global sustainability platform for sugarcane, one of the world’s most important crops. Its purpose is to collectively accelerate the sustainable production and uses of sugarcane - for farmers, millers, buyers, and end users. It convenes its members and other partners to address critical challenges in the sugarcane sector, and drive performance and impact through its system of sustainability standards for sugarcane.

Bonsucro works across all sugarcane products and derivatives – sugar, ethanol, molasses, and bagasse. It also works across both traditional and newer market sectors, from sugar and alcohol to biofuels and bioplastics.

Bonsucro manages a community of more than 270 members in over 50 countries from across the sugarcane supply chain, representing 27% of production and 20% of buyers – from farmers and millers to traders and end users.

About the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC)

Founded in 2005, the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) is the world’s leading standard-setting organisation for the jewellery and watch industry.

The RJC is a member organization, bringing together over 1,500 companies of all shapes and sizes in more than 70 countries, and promoting standards that underpin people’s trust in the worldwide jewellery and watch supply chain.

The RJC Code of Practices (COP) mandatory standard focuses on business ethics and responsible supply chains and covers all the primary minerals and metals used in the manufacture of jewellery: gold, silver, platinum group metals, diamonds and coloured gemstones.

About the Project
Bonsucro, an ISEAL Code Compliant member, has been awarded a grant by the ISEAL Innovations Fund (funded through SECO), with the aim of enabling ISEAL, ISEAL Community members and their stakeholders to access learning and good practice on the implementation of due diligence systems & Grievance Mechanisms, in alignment with the UNGP and the OECD Instruments on Due Diligence for Responsible Business Conduct (RBC). Bonsucro is partnering with the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) to deliver the project, using the two organisations’ own experience, and learning to contribute to the development of the specific project outputs, which are intended for public sharing.

RJC and Bonsucro are looking for an experienced researcher or team to carry out the consultancy outlined below as part of this project.

**Deadline for submission of proposals is 2nd February 2022**

**Project Timeline**
- Appointment of Consultant: mid-February 2022
- Consultancy delivered: mid-February – early May 2022
- Communication and sharing: June 2022

**Objective of the consultancy**
To develop a short guidance/terms of reference & test their applicability in high-risk areas/sectors to identify organisations that can support the implementation of grievance mechanisms locally to increase access to remedy by rights holders.

**Deliverables**
1) Develop a short guidance/Terms of reference, available to ISEAL members and, if deemed applicable, to the general public, for identifying and selecting third party organisations, that can support complainants in different regions and languages to access VSSs Grievance Mechanisms and remediation.

The Terms of Reference will:
- include recommendations on the key selection criteria and scope of work for organisations that can support communities and workers at
local level, through increasing awareness and accessibility of Grievance Mechanisms and remediation in different countries and/or regions

- be tested (remotely) in relation to a small sample of high-risk areas/sectors to identify potential organisations
- be developed with input from Bonsucro, RJC, and potentially other ISEAL members, experience and networks.

Methodology

We expect this to be a short desk-based research, with the testing carried out remotely with a small sample of potential areas/organisations, to confirm the applicability of the key criteria identified. The expectations are commensurate to the budget available for the consultancy.

The guidance/ToRs will need to be in alignment with the UNGP criteria in relation to access to remedy and OECD Guidelines and informed by the challenges and learning from Bonsucro, RJC and potentially other ISEAL members.

The proposed approach will need to balance credibility, practicality/applicability, and resource efficiency.

Qualifications of Researcher/team

Essential qualifications/experience of the consultant or team:

- Extensive experience on local implementation of grievance mechanisms for VSSs’ members in alignment with UNGP and OECD
- Experience in development of TORs
- Familiarity with sustainable commodity sourcing
- Experience with voluntary sustainability standards
- Familiarity with supply chain due diligence processes

How to apply

Please submit a proposal that includes the following:

- A full proposal based on a clear understanding of the expected deliverables, including a proposed methodology and work plan (5 pages maximum).
• A detailed CV or resume outlining relevant research experience, qualifications, publication record and references.

• At least one recent relevant piece of work authored by the researcher/company (optional)

• Itemised quote for the work, including details of daily rates for consultancy and number of days required to do this work.

**Terms of Service**

Consultants/ researchers should declare all potential conflicts of interest. Conflict of interest is understood as any personal, family or loyalty interests that conflict with the best interests of the project, Bonsucro, RJC and/or ISEAL. The consultant will be required to sign and disclose a Conflict of Interest form.

The deliverables above will be property of Bonsucro, RJC and of the ISEAL Innovations Fund and no publication other than by Bonsucro, ISEAL or RJC is allowed.

The researcher/consultant will be required to sign a Service contract that includes a confidentiality clause prior to commencement of the work.

Interested researchers should contact Rafael Seixas (rafael@bonsucro.com) for any queries regarding this opportunity. Closing date for submissions of proposals is 2nd February 2022.

Proposals should be sent to rafael@bonsucro.com

**Budget**

The budget for the consultancy is £5,000.