



THIRST Research & Communication Consultant

Terms of Reference

Introduction

THIRST is The International Roundtable for Sustainable Tea (Registered Charity Number 1189499). Our vision is of a fair and sustainable tea industry where workers and farmers are empowered and their rights are protected, within a system that is shaped by 21st century values and systems rather than 19th century ones.

Our mission is to provide a platform for civil society actors and tea workers and farmers, to come together to challenge the tea industry and governments to reform the system, and support them in doing this.

THIRST is currently conducting a three-year tea sector-wide Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) in partnership with other expert civil society organisations in order to provide a strong evidence base for future advocacy and action by civil society, companies and governments to reduce the risk of human rights breaches and provide remedy where such breaches have occurred.

THIRST also publishes a monthly news update on issues affecting tea workers and farmers, runs a programme of TEA talks, and provides a Knowledge Hub that is regularly updated with key reports on these issues around the world.

THIRST is now seeking a consultant to support with the drafting of the HRIA literature review report and with aspects of our communications.

Tasks

- **Support the HRIA:** Assist with research on human rights impacts in the tea sector and draft allocated sections of the literature review. This will include reviewing literature, interviewing relevant stakeholders, and writing up case studies of examples of good practice.
- **Update the Knowledge Hub:** Review and update THIRST's Knowledge Hub with any missing resources on human rights and environmental issues in the tea sector, including the latest relevant academic, media and civil society reports and government, civil society and corporate initiatives.
- **Boost THIRST social media profile:** Set up THIRST LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram profiles for fundraising and to help raise public awareness of human rights and environmental issues in the tea sector and what needs to be done to address them.

Qualities, Skills and Experience required

- Strong research and report-writing skills and experience
- Fluency in English (fluency in additional languages of tea producing countries would be an additional advantage)

- Proficiency in using on-line conferencing tools, especially Zoom, plus a range of social media platforms
- Ability to use own initiative and work independently, while knowing when to ask for help
- Commitment to human rights, ethical trade and the environment
- Administrative experience, good time-management skills and attention to detail
- A positive and constructive attitude!

Time

24 days: two days a week for three months (January – March 2022)

Rate

£300 per day

Location

The role can be carried out remotely as long as there is good enough internet connectivity to maintain communication with the CEO and carry out the duties required.

Occasional face to face meetings in the UK will be required.

Contact

For more information please contact Sabita Banerji, CEO at sabita@THIRST.international or call +44 (0) 7773949787