

Terms of Reference: Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program – Independent Review



Location: Melbourne, Australia

Duration: Up to 5 months

Supervisor / Manager: M&E Adviser

Deadline for Application: 18 November 2022

About DT Global

DT Global partners with communities, governments, and the private sector to provide award-winning, technical expertise focused on promoting local leadership and global accountability to deliver innovative, sustainable, data-driven solutions and inclusive development.

Our business has a global presence—almost 2,500 staff and experts in over 100 countries—and a strong commitment to use and build local capacity and empower local voices. We meet communities on the development spectrum and help them navigate to where they want to be.

DT Global—launched in 2019—is built on legacy companies AECOM International Development’s Services Sector, Development Transformations, IMC Worldwide and Cardno International Development. Together, we bring over 60 years of experience, relationships, networks and technical excellence to improve lives around the world on behalf of our partners, clients, and stakeholders. To fulfill its profit-for-purpose mission, DT Global is a key donor to the DT Institute, an independent not-for-profit organisation, in support of DTI’s efforts to test new ideas or expand on donor partner priorities with the aim to improve as many lives as possible.

For more information, please see www.dt-global.com

About the Program

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), through the Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program (CCTCP), works with Southeast Asian and Pacific countries to improve cyber resilience within the region. The CCTCP aims to equip countries with the capacity to respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by cyberspace and critical technology.

The Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology Branch (CYB) within DFAT manages the CCTCP. CYB is supported by the Cyber Cooperation Support Unit (CCSU), which is managed by DT Global. The CCSU provides advisory services to support effective delivery of the CCTCP and its activities, including grants management, program and financial management, monitoring and evaluation, and advice on gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI).

The program commenced in 2016 with an investment portfolio of AUD4 million. This has since grown to AUD74 million over the period to June 2025.

The end of program outcome in the Investment Design Document (IDD) (July 2019 – June 2023) for what was then called the Cyber Cooperation Program (CCP) is that: ‘Selected states in ASEAN and the Pacific region increase awareness, commitment, action and international engagement to strengthen cyber resilience and build sustainable partners with Australia by 2023’. The IDD also articulates five intermediate outcome statements:

- An international cyber stability framework which promotes responsible state behaviour in cyberspace;

- Stronger cybercrime prevention, prosecution and cooperation;
- Building cyber security capability for a strong and resilient cyber security posture;
- Best practice use of technology to support economic growth and sustainable development; and
- Advocating and protecting human rights and democracy online.

The Program became the CCTCP with the launch of Australia's International Cyber and Critical Tech Engagement Strategy in April 2021. The same five intermediate outcomes continue to apply to the expanded program. The separate Southeast Asia (strengthening critical tech standards) (TSS) and Mekong Australia Partnership (MAP) funding streams commenced in 2021/22 and operate under the CCTCP with the same end of program outcomes, but additional eligibility criteria.

Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) is a Values Pillar of the Strategy and a cross-cutting theme of the CCTCP as outlined in the Program's GEDSI Strategy, launched April 2022. DFAT, through the CCTCP, is committed to ensuring that all its investments and diplomatic activities progress gender equality and socially inclusive outcomes, in line with the Australian Government's international commitments to sustainable development, gender equality and disability rights.

As the current phase and funding for the CCTCP will end June 2025, an independent review is required to make recommendations for a potential follow-on program.

DFAT (with assistance from CCSU) will engage an independent review team to design, plan and conduct the review, present an aide memoire and to develop a review report based on a document review and appropriate consultations.

Review Objectives

In the context of a possible new program, the objectives of the review are to assess and make recommendations with regard to:

- Relevance, Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Program.
- The appropriateness of program implementation modalities and their impact on program delivery
- The theory of change and monitoring and evaluation approach in the Investment Design Document

The review will be guided by the following key questions

1. To what extent were the partners and activities selected appropriate (ie did we select the right partners in the right locations on the right issues?)
2. To what extent have the program outcomes been achieved, or are in progress to being achieved?
3. What were the key factors contributing to successful achievement of outcomes?
4. Has the program selected options for implementation that use resources efficiently compared to alternatives?
5. How appropriate are CCTCPs implementation arrangements in relation to the outcomes sought?
6. To what extent have the program's monitoring and evaluation and communications arrangements been effective in reporting achievements and progress and in supporting achievement of the program goals?
7. Are changes required to the current CCTCP Theory of Change, M&E, and governance arrangements, to ensure a better alignment with the CCTCP's goals/outcomes and operating context?
8. What are the key lessons and recommendations for any follow-on program?
9. To what extent, has CCTCP integrated GEDSI considerations across the program and how could this be improved?

Approach and Workplan

The review will be conducted over 8-12 weeks commencing late 2022. The Review Team Leader will meet regularly with CYB throughout the assignment to periodically review progress and discuss key issues and challenges. The review process must be disability and socially inclusive, gender responsive and strongly driven by consultation with key stakeholders. Where possible, results should be reported with separate sections for each funding source (Indo-Pacific projects (CYB Base funding), Mekong-Australia Partnership (CY2 – MAP), and Critical Tech Standards in Southeast Asia (TSS funding). Findings and recommendations will be based on a range of sources including (but not limited to) interviews and discussions with key stakeholders. Interviews and discussion will mostly be online, but DFAT may consider proposals to hold in-person consultations in key locations.

Where possible, the Review Team should coordinate with the concurrent Mekong-Australia Partnership: Strategic Review.

The review is to be conducted in line with DFAT’s Monitoring and Evaluation Standards that meet DFAT’s accessibility requirements and in line with DFAT’s Ethical Research and Evaluation Guidance

The Review Report may be published on DFAT’s website.

The proposed work plan for the Review Team is as follows:

| | Preferred Timeframe |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Inception meeting with DFAT and CCSU on scope and key questions | November 2022 |
| 2. Compile documentation and notify partners | December 2022 |
| 3. Preparation of Review Plan | December 2022 |
| 4. Data collection and synthesis | January 2023 |
| 5. Aide Memoire presentation of initial findings to DFAT for discussion | January 2023 |
| 6. Preparation of the Draft Review Report for submission to DFAT | February 2023 |
| 7. Finalisation of Review Report and recommendations | March 2023 |

Roles of Key Parties

Lead Reviewer - responsible for the proper conduct of the review and the meeting of all requirements under the contract.

DFAT – select the review team, oversight the conduct of the review, hold regular meetings with the Lead Reviewer to provide advice and respond to emerging issues, approve the plan for the review, coordinate an aide memoire presentation with appropriate departmental representation, provide comments on the draft report and approve final reporting.

CCSU – advertise the review opportunity, contract the review team, provide logistical support to the review team, facilitate access to all project and program information and reporting, hold regular meetings with the Lead Reviewer to provide advice and respond to emerging issues.

Anticipated Team Composition –Team of 2-3 people to jointly provide the following expertise

| Title | Experience | Key Roles |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Review Lead | Program design, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning. Design of M&E frameworks. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and manage review process Lead and quality assure the work of the other team members Lead consultations with key partnership stakeholders. Prepare and present (as required) draft and final reports |
| GEDSI Expertise | GEDSI experience. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and provide recommendations on CCTCP approach to gender equality, disability and social inclusion Contribute to review reports as directed by the Review Lead |
| Cyber Security Expertise | Cyber security and critical technology experience. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and provide recommendations on cyber security and critical technology. Contribute to review reports as directed by the Review Lead |

Deliverables

The Review Team will prepare and submit the following presentation/reports:

1. **Aide Memoire Presentation** – summarises the provisional initial findings from the data collection phase; for discussion with DFAT to help frame recommendations.
2. **Draft Review Report** – 20-25 pages documenting methodology, key findings, and recommendations.
3. **Final Review Report** – finalised after DFAT feedback on the draft report.

How to Apply

All applications to be submitted by email to: ID.Talent@dt-global.com with the words 'Independent Review Team' in the email subject

- Provide a statement outlining (no more than 5 pages, plus CVs and financial proposal):
 - Relevant experience of team members - describe how your skills and past experience are applicable to the scope of work;
 - Approach to scope and methodology – describe the appropriateness of the methodology, anticipated challenges, risks, and your approach to conducting the review;
 - When the team is available to commence the assignment and timeframe to complete required tasks;
 - Financial proposal – provide a detailed costing in MS Excel (as a separate document) including anticipated inputs, fees, any management fee, and operational costs (e.g. communications). Costs for proposed travel (flights, accommodation) will be considered and – if agreed to by DFAT – included in the amount payable by the CCTCP.
 - Curriculum Vitae for nominated team members - include names and contact details of three professional referees for each team member.
- **Applications close by COB Friday, 11 November 2022**

| Criteria / Scoring Table | Weighting % |
|--|-------------|
| Professional experience of the consultant team relevant to project scope. | 50% |
| Proposed approach/methodology, scheduling and resourcing demonstrating an understanding of the evaluation requirements | 30% |
| Financial proposal | 20% |
| TOTAL | 100% |

Key Documents

Investment Concept: Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program
Cyber Cooperation Program Investment Design – An Investment to Support Australia's International Cyber Engagement Strategy, July 2019 to June 2023.
Australia's International Cyber and Critical Tech Engagement Strategy, 2021
Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) Strategy – launched April 2022
Annual Progress Report 2021, Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program
DFAT Monitoring and Evaluation Standards, October 2022.

Other Information

Amendments to the position's terms of reference may be made during the period of the engagement as required.

DT Global Asia Pacific Pty Ltd is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, gender identity, or national origin. DT Global Asia Pacific Pty Ltd prohibits discriminating against employees and job applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant.

Our organisation is committed to child protection and safeguarding the welfare of children in the delivery of our international development programs. Recruitment and selection procedures reflect this commitment. We are committed to safety and the prevention of sexual abuse and harassment, child protection and bribery prevention.

We want to engage with the right people to deliver our client programs. As part of our approach, you will be subjected to formal background screening, criminal record checks, employment verification, and periodic compliance checks. All our staff receive safety, compliance and safeguards training and are responsible for contributing to a safer working culture.