

# STRENGTHENING THE AGRICULTURE AND AGRI- FOOD VALUE CHAIN AND IMPROVING TRADE POLICY IN IRAQ (SAAVI)

## QUALITY CHAMPIONS PROGRAMME

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

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- ✓ Are you passionate about food safety and quality?
  - ✓ Do you want to be part of national team of quality champions to support the Iraqi business community on a long term basis?
  - ✓ If so, this is for you and we encourage you to apply!

In the context of the European Union-funded project Strengthening the Agriculture and Agri-food Value Chain and Improving Trade Policy Project in Iraq (SAAVI) (<https://www.intracen.org/SAAVI/>), the International Trade Centre (ITC), a joint agency between the World Trade Organization and the United Nations, will offer support to **improve the quality of products and operations** in the agriculture and agri-food value chain in order to comply with national and relevant regional and international quality and food safety requirements.

As part of this support, a pool of **Quality Champions (QCs)** will be trained and qualified to serve Iraqi businesses as part-time trainers, coaches and advisers through relevant national institutions. Upon the successful completion of the course, participants will be given an international qualification and commit to serving on a long-term basis as QCs.

QCs will be equipped to manage quality-related activities in businesses and to improve food safety in the agriculture and agri-food value chain. The training will cover the **fundamentals of quality management, problem solving techniques, internal standardization, food safety and food safety standards, an introduction to ISO 9001 as well as training and advisory skills.**

The QC qualification also includes the implementation of a quality improvement project in enterprises under the guidance of international experts.

#### QUALITY CHAMPION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

- The international scene – mandatory market access requirements, WTO TBT & SPS agreements, standards, certification, conformity assessment...
- Quality Assurance, Control, Improvement, Planning, Management
- Standardizing Work
- Developing quality culture
- Basics of ISO 9001

#### Structured Problem Solving – Lean Six Sigma Green Belt

#### FOOD SAFETY & FS standards

#### ENTERPRISE QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

#### SOFT SKILLS

- Training skills
- Advisory skills

Once qualified, the QCs will be part of ITC's international network of Quality Champions with an online profile on the Iraq Platform for Quality.

**Key elements of the Quality Champions programme:**

1. A team of up to **30 Quality Champions** will be selected from the private and public sectors through an **open application process**. Selection criteria are among others relevant subject as well as sector experience in addition to long-term commitment.
2. The QC qualification programme will last approximately **12-15 months** and will include a series of **short technical workshops** and webinars with assignments in between, as well as the implementation of a **quality improvement project** in a processing company or similar.
3. QCs will be trained on using tools and techniques for ensuring quality and food safety in a business and building international requirements into operations. They are guided and overseen by international experts.
4. The quality improvement projects implemented by the QCs as part of their qualification will focus specifically on **complying with quality and food safety requirements** and include a series of coaching sessions and in between guidance and support.
5. Once qualified, QCs will be able to implement training and improvement projects without external support through national counterparts.

**Applicants must meet the following criteria to qualify for selection:**

- Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in quality management, production management, agro-processing, agricultural products, food safety or other relevant areas.
- Experts with less than 5 years' experience should have at least a Bachelor's degree in relevant field (e.g. Science, Agriculture, Business Management, Engineering, Food science, Food technology, Quality Management or equivalent)
- Fully familiar with Word, PowerPoint and Excel
- Availability to dedicate an average of 4 days per month over period of 1 year, out of which approximately 50% will be during working hours
- Commitment to be part of a network of trainers and advisors to help others grow and develop by serving as expert trainers and advisors as well as master trainers on a long term basis via national service providers.
- A good level of written and spoken English is desirable

***All training will be free of charge. If long-distance travel and accommodation is required to attend workshop or to carry out support to enterprises, this will be reimbursed based on current national rates. Otherwise no financial compensation will be given during the training and qualification period.***

*For more information please contact:*

*SAAVI Team Ms. Farah Al-Dabbagh, National Administrative Assistant*

*Email: [faldabbagh@intracen.org](mailto:faldabbagh@intracen.org), Mobile: No: 009647804944683, Ext. 2307*

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**APPLICATION FORM**

***To be filled in English and sent via email to Ms. Farah Al-Dabbagh, National Administrative Assistant no later than 9 May 2022***

Please send your application as **one pdf file**. Kindly name the file as follows: "Iraq QC application and your full name"

**NB: Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview as part of the selection process**

**General**

<b>Full Name:</b>	
<b>Date of Birth:</b>	
<b>Citizenship:</b>	

**Contact details**

<b>Physical address:</b>	
<b>Town, region:</b>	
<b>Phone number:</b>	
<b>Email address:</b>	
<b>Skype address (if available):</b>	

**Education:**

<b>Institutions:</b>	<b>Degree(s) or Diploma(s) obtained:</b>	<b>Specialization</b>

**Professional trainings undertaken if any**

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of institution</b>

**Employment record and experience starting with the current**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Employing organization and Contact info for references</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Summary of activities performed/ responsibilities</b>


**Membership in Professional Associations if any**

Professional body	Reference Number if applicable

**Language Skills (5 – excellent, 1 – poor)**

Language	Reading	Writing	Speaking

Use the space below to outline your key areas of expertise in relation to the programme

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Please indicate any previous experience you may have had as a trainer or advisor

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In case you are currently involved with any service provider other than your current employer (e.g. by delivering part time/evening time training and/or advisory services), please describe your role and the type of initiatives you are involved in

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**Please describe any specific quality or food safety related initiatives that you are/have been directly involved in**

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**What do you consider to be the main food safety or quality-related challenges for Iraqi SMEs in the agriculture and agri-foods value chain? You may use this space to share your personal experience or highlight general issues that you are aware of. If you wish, please also share any proposed solutions and ideas you may have regarding how to address the challenges.**

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**Please describe your main reasons for wanting to join this program**

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**Please elaborate on your commitment to serve as a trainer/advisor on a long term basis through national service providers upon qualification, including how much time would have available, any particular constraints, etc.**

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I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above information correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience, and I confirm my availability to participate fully in the trainings and enterprise support activities. I understand that any misstatement or misrepresentation described herein may lead to my disqualification.

Name of Applicant

Signature

Date