

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

[India]

[Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project]

Loan No/Credit No.: IDA-56950.

Assignment Title: Consultancy services to undertake Cluster Development activities in Willow Wicker Cluster of Ganderbal, Jammu and Kashmir

Reference No. JTFRP/JK/IC/HD/WW/C035/19-2

1. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir through Government of India has applied for financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.
2. The Project Management Unit(PMU) of Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project (JTFRP) is seeking an consultancy firm to carry out the cluster development activities in the willow wicker cluster located in the Ganderbal District of the state. The objective of the consultancy is under take end-to-end cluster development activities in willow wicker cluster(Ganderbal) of Jammu & Kashmir, including facilitating the establishment of sustainable artisan-owned institutions, skill upgradation, design / product development, creating marketing linkages, building pipeline of orders for artisan institutions and facilitating participation in marketing events. The broad tasks involved in this exercise will be as follows:
 - Diagnostic Study and Intervention Plan
 - Formation and Registration of Artisan Institutions / Producer Collectives
 - Marketing Activities and support.
 - Skill Up-gradation and Capacity Building of the artisans
 - New Product Development and Training
 - Facilitation in Production and infrastructure development with the cluster
 - Formation and development of sustainable business within the cluster.
3. PMU now invites eligible consultancy firms to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested consultancy firms should provide information in the prescribed format (Annexure A) demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the task. The shortlisting criteria are:
 - At least 10 years of organizational experience in cluster development and promoting and marketing artisanal products, particularly in willow wicker, cane and bamboo or similar natural fibres.
 - Average turnover of at least Rs 0.60 crores during the last 3 financial years.
 - Experience working with at least 1500 artisans across a minimum of 2 states in India.
 - Created and supported at least one artisan producer company/group.
 - Fully functional e-commerce portal or designated page in leading e-commerce portals specialized in artisan products.
 - At least one retail store marketing handicrafts/handloom products in metro cities or tie up with leading retail store/outlet.

- Proven track record in participating in major exhibitions nationally or internationally.
 - Prior experience of working with UNDP, ADB, World Bank, Ford Foundation, National/State Development Agencies such as NABARD, SIDBI, Development Commissioner of Handicrafts (DCH) or any other multilateral development agency.
 - Fair trade accreditation is a plus.
 - Experience of working in J&K is a plus.
4. The attention of interested consultancy firms is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's [*Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants \[under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants\] by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011 modified in July 2014*](#) ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. The Guidelines are available at www.worldbank.org/procure
 5. Consultancy firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. However formation of consortium among firms/consultancies is not accepted. Further lead partner should at least satisfy 50% and JV partner should satisfy at least 25% of the average annual turnover and overall the lead and joint venture should satisfy 100% of the requisite turnover for the last 3 years.
 6. Consultants/Firms will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection Method (QCBS) set out in hiring of the Consultant Guidelines of World Bank.
 7. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form in the prescribed Format (Annexure A) to the address below (in person, or by mail) no later than **1500 hours on 12.12.2019**. The EoIs shall be opened on **12-12-2019 at 1530 hours**.
 8. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 1000 hours to 1630 hours.

[*Iftikhar A. Hakim*]

[Director Planning and Coordination, PMU JTFRP]

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Annexure A

Project Management Unit JTFRP

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Project Name	
Assignment	

i. Consulting Firm Information:

Consultant Name: Acronym:	Country and date of Incorporation:
EOI Submission Authorized by:	Position:

Associations (Joint Venture)

Consultant	Acronym	Country and date of Incorporation	Joint Venture(JV)	EOI Submission Authorized by	Position

Present the rationale for and benefits of working in association (JV) with others rather than undertaking the assignment independently (as appropriate). Describe the proposed management and coordination approach of the association and the role of each firm.

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I confirm that:

- Documentation regarding our corporate structure including beneficial ownership has been attached.
- Written agreement to associate for the purpose of this Expression of Interest has been signed between the Joint Venture partners and has been attached.

Once your team is shortlisted and invited for submission of the Proposal, it is not permissible to transfer the invitation to any other firm, such as Consultant's parent companies, subsidiaries and affiliates.

ii. Assignment Specific Qualification and Experience.

A. Technical Competence

Cross-referencing from your profile projects in Section D. Project References, highlight the technical qualifications of your entity/Joint Venture in undertaking similar assignments. Provide details of past experiences working with similar project authorities.

B. Geographical Experience

Cross-referencing from your profile projects in Section D. Project References, present experiences in similar geographic areas.

1. How will your firm/Joint Venture handle complaints concerning the performance of experts or quality of the reports submitted for this assignment? What internal controls are in place to address and resolve complaints?

2. How will you ensure the quality of your firm's/Joint Venture's performance over the life of this assignment?

3. Describe standard policies, procedures and practices that your firm has put in place to avoid changes/replacements of personnel and to ensure the continuity of professional services once contracted.

4. Describes what social protection practise you have in place to safeguard the well-being of your proposed experts? Specifically describe arrangements you have in place for medical, accident, and life insurance coverage during the assignment.

C. Other Information (maximum of 500 words)

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D. Project References

Please select most relevant projects to demonstrate the firm’s technical qualifications and geographical experience (maximum 10 projects).

S.No	Project	Period	Client	Country	Cost of project	Value of Consultancy
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

Project summary

SN 1	
Project Title	
Country/ Region	
Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous /Intermittent	
Client	
Funding Source	
Description	(Indicate your role and input in person-months)

SN 2	
Project Title	
Country/ Region	
Start Date	
Completion Date	
Continuous /Intermittent	
Client	
Funding Source	
Description	(Indicate your role and input in person-months)

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(Please insert more tables as necessary)

III. EOI Attachments

SN	Description
1	Certificate of Incorporation of the lead member
2	Certificate of Incorporation of the JV member (for each member)
3	Certificate of Incorporation of the Sub-Consultant (for each member)
4	Letter of Association
5	Audited balance sheets of last three financial Years

(Please insert more rows as necessary)

IV. Eligibility Declaration

We, the undersigned, certify to the best of our knowledge and belief:

- We have read the advertisement, including scope of work, for this assignment.
- Neither the consulting firm nor its JV member or sub-consultant or any of its experts prepared the scope of work for this activity.
- We confirm that the project references submitted as part of this EOI accurately reflect the experience of the specified firm/Joint Venture.
- The lead entity and JV member are not currently sanctioned by the Government of India or any state govt. or any semi-public agency of any state govt.
- JV member named in this EOI confirmed their interest in this activity in writing.
- JV member named in this EOI, authorized us in writing to represent them in expressing interest in this activity.
- We understand that any misrepresentation that knowingly or recklessly mislead, or attempt to mislead may lead to the automatic rejection of the proposal or cancellation of the contract, if awarded, and may result in further remedial action.
- We confirm our availability to commence work on the indicative commencement date specified in the consulting services recruitment notice for this assignment.

