

S No	RFP document reference(s) (Section & page number)	Content of RFP requiring clarification(s)	Points of clarification	Reply to the queries
1	Pg 2: Eligibility and Experience Criteria – Livelihood PMC iii) Experience in Project Management & Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated experience in PMC / PMU / TSU-type roles • Coordination with government departments, SRLMs, field institutions, TSAs, and consultants 	We request clarification on whether any minimum or maximum number of relevant projects are to be shown in PMC/ PMU/ TSU-type roles.	Firms should demonstrate relevant experience in similar assignments, and evaluation will be based on the relevant projects handled.
2	Pg 2: Eligibility and Experience Criteria – Livelihood PMC iv) Geographical Experience	Experience of working in hill states, difficult terrain will be an added advantage	<p>We request clarification on whether any minimum or maximum number of projects are to be shown in this category.</p> <p>We request to clarify the eligible sectors for this criterion</p>	<p>Firms should demonstrate relevant experience in similar assignments, and evaluation will be based on the relevant projects handled.</p> <p>The sectors in which the experience and qualification have been sought under the tender shall be considered for this criterion.</p>

3	Pg 2: Eligibility and Experience Criteria – Livelihood PMC v) Disaster Project's Experience	Experience of working in disaster-affected regions	We request clarification on whether any minimum or maximum number of projects are to be shown in this category. We request to clarify the eligible sectors for this criterion	Firms should demonstrate relevant experience in similar assignments, and evaluation will be based on the relevant projects handled. The sectors in which the experience and qualification have been sought under the tender shall be considered for this criterion.
4	Pg 2: Eligibility and Experience Criteria – Livelihood PMC viii) Non-Blacklisting Declaration	The firm should not be blacklisted or debarred by any Central/State Government department or by the World Bank/ any other multilateral agency	We request the following modification in the statement: “The firm should not be blacklisted or debarred by any Central/State Government department or by the World Bank/ any other multilateral agency, as on date of bid submission ”	As per REoI
5	Pg no. 3: Important Note	Important Note: No proposals (Technical or Financial) are required at this stage. Based on the information provided by interested consulting firms, the Authority will prepare a shortlist of a single firm and subsequently seek detailed Technical and Financial proposals from the single firm.	We wanted clarification on whether a shortlist of a few firms will be done basis information provided at this stage or only a single firm will be shortlisted. Typically, in CQS, if a single firm is to be selected. they are first technically qualified (basis response to REoI) and then invited to submit only a Financial Proposal. However, in this case it is mentioned that only a single firm would be shortlisted,	A Consultant firm will finally be selected in accordance with the Consultant qualification method (CQS method based on the criteria set out in the World Bank's “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers” (February 2025)

			and they would then be asked to submit a Technical and Financial Proposal.	
6	Pg 13: Team Composition for PMC	(7 members, 5 full-time and 3 intermittent positions)	We request clarification on whether detailed CVs of proposed team members are to be submitted at this stage, or whether short profiles are to be included in our response to the REoI document	No, CVs are not required at this stage. The detail requirement of CVs will be sought from the shortlisted bidder.
7	Price Escalation / Financial Adjustment	Section M: Services and Facilities for Project Implementation – Pg. 20 “All such costs shall be deemed included in the Contract Value.”	Considering the five-year duration of the assignment, kindly clarify whether any price escalation / indexation mechanism will be permitted, or whether the financial quote is expected to remain fixed for the entire contract period.	Yes, price escalation will be as per the standard world bank procurement norms.
8	Performance-Based Contract Continuity	Section H: Duration – Pg. 11 “The performance shall be reviewed at the end of each year... The contract will be continued based on performance, project needs, and availability of funds.”	Kindly elaborate on the performance evaluation framework, including measurable indicators and review methodology.	A committee will be constituted for performance evaluation of the selected consulting firm. The review will happen annually and indicators will be decided later based on the scope of work provided.

9	Funding Risk / Early Termination Safeguards	Section H: Duration – Pg. 11	In the event of funding changes, project restructuring, or reduction in scope, please clarify the contractual safeguards, including notice periods and treatment of committed personnel and fixed costs.	As per the standard World Bank contract conditions. The draft contract will be provided to shortlisted consulting firm.
10	Personnel Replacement Flexibility	Section H: Duration – Pg. 11	Given the long-term nature of the engagement, please confirm whether replacement of key personnel with equivalent or higher-qualified resources will be permitted, subject to client approval.	Yes, as per the standard World Bank contract conditions.
11	Out-of-Pocket Expenses	Financial Proposal	Kindly confirm whether Out-of-Pocket Expenses (OPE), such as travel and lodging for district-level coordination and related activities, are to be factored into our financial proposal or will be reimbursed separately.	Financial Proposal is not sought at this REoI stage.
12	Monitoring & Evaluation specialist (1-member, Intermittent position) & Business Continuity Planning specialist (1member,	G. Scope of Work	We seek clarification on whether part-time resources must be mandatorily deployed on-site for this project, or whether they may operate from the firm's office and travel to client locations only as required. For example, specialists such as the M&E Specialist and the Business Continuity Planning Specialist could be based at firm's	Yes, part-time resources must be mandatorily deployed on-site for this project

13	Pg.2 / Section 3 (point ii) Relevant Project Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working on a minimum of 5 similar assignments in the last 5 years related to livelihoods, value chains, rural development, MSMEs, FPOs, or producer collectives • 2 similar assignments shall be funded by World Bank / multilateral/bilateral agencies. 	We would request the authorities to amend the clause as follows: - “Experience of working on a minimum of 4 similar assignments in the last 5 years related to livelihoods/ Skill development/ value chains/ rural development/ MSMEs/ FPOs/ or producer collectives with any state/central government/World Bank/ multilateral/ bilateral agencies”	As per the REoI
14	Pg. 3 / Notes (Point 1)	Similar assignment means livelihoods, value chain development, rural enterprise promotion, community institutions, or market-led interventions.	We would request the authorities to amend the clause as follows: - “Similar assignment means livelihood/Skill development/value chain development/ rural enterprise promotion/community institutions/ or market-led interventions.”	As per the REoI
15	Pg.2/ Section-3 (Point V) Disaster Project’s Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in disaster-affected regions 	We would request the authorities to remove the clause, as it will limit the participation of the capable firms.	As per the REoI
16	Pg.3 / Section 3	Shortlisting of Consultants will be done based on their relative ranking determined after evaluation of the experience and qualifications claimed by them, on the basis of the documents furnished with the Expression of Interest.	We would request the authorities to clarify how the marking will be done, or on what basis the ranking will be determined as scoring parameters are not mentioned.	Firms will be comparatively assessed based on relevance, scale, and quality of experience and qualifications submitted as per the shortlisting criteria, and ranked.
17	Pg. 3 Section 3	Important Note: No proposals (Technical or Financial) are required at this stage. Based on the information provided by interested consulting firms, the Authority will prepare a shortlist of a single firm and subsequently seek detailed Technical	We would request the authorities to clarify how single firm is being selected solely on the basis of EOI parameters without inviting technical and financial proposals from all the competitive firms. As, scoring criteria is also not mentioned. Or if it is a clerical mistake, we would request the	A Consultant firm will finally be selected in accordance with the Consultant qualification method (CQS method based on the criteria set out in the World Bank’s “Procurement

		and Financial proposals from the single firm.	authorities to kindly release the amendment.	Regulations for IPF Borrowers” (February 2025)
18	Pg. 17 /Note (point 4)	The Consultant shall, in consultation with and subject to approval of the CEO, deploy additional resources such as field teams, including enumerators, livelihood specialists, data analysts, MIS and administrative staff, to support planning, implementation support, and report preparation without any extra cost to the client.	<p>If any additional resources are required, the successful bidder must be paid additional cost to protect the project's financial feasibility.</p> <p>Thus, we would request the authorities to amend the clause as follows:- “The Consultant shall, in consultation with and subject to approval of the CEO, deploy additional resources such as field teams, including enumerators, livelihood specialists, data analysts, MIS and administrative staff, to support planning, implementation support, and report preparation. The additional cost shall be paid for such resources based on mutually agreed-upon cost or as per the per-resource quoted cost.”</p>	As per the REoI
19	Pg. 20 / Section-M: Services and Facilities for Project Implementation (Point 1)	The PMC shall make independent arrangements for office infrastructure, utilities, ICT equipment, software, transportation, travel, and logistics. All such costs shall be deemed included in the Contract Value.	<p>We would request the authorities to clarify what is meant by ‘utilities & ICT equipment.’</p> <p>Also, as in section L of Pg. 20, it is mentioned that the ‘SRLM will provide office space in Shimla, and any modifications, remodelling and alterations, such as office cabins/partition walls, additional office furniture, etc. will be in scope of SRLM.’</p>	<p>Utilities & ICT equipment refers to Desktop, Laptop, and Internet connectivity to run the assignment; these shall be arranged by the Consulting firm.</p> <p>The consulting firm will not do any civil/interior or related work for office setup.</p>

			We would request the authorities to kindly clarify the same.	
20	Background, RFP Page no.01	PMC will be supported by field-level teams for the implementation of field-level work	We would like to respectfully state that our understanding is that HPSRLM has a district-level team in place that will provide facilitation for all field-level activities and data requirements. We request you to kindly confirm whether this understanding is correct?	<p>The field teams shall facilitate the PMC to the extent afforded by their operations and implementation of HPSRLM activities.</p> <p>There are other field-level teams that will be deployed for specific purposes as per the implementation plan.</p>
21	Objective of the assignment, Page no. 01	The PMC shall provide comprehensive support to HPSRLM across the full project lifecycle, including planning, inter- agency coordination, implementing 12 value chains for livelihood, monitoring and reporting, capacity building, procurement support, contract administration, and financial management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that the role of the PMC is purely advisory in nature. We request confirmation of this understanding. • Kindly share the final list of 12 value chains or as applicable along with their geographical distributions (Districts/blocks), approximate number of producers/beneficiaries per value chain, and current stage of implementation to enable us to accurately assess the scope of work and estimate the required level of effort for the proposed deliverables. • We would also appreciate clarity on the expected number of capacity-building workshops to be conducted as part of the assignment. • We understand that all costs related to conducting capacity-building workshops, procurement support, contract administration, and financial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the ToR provided with REol. • It will be provided to shortlisted firm at RFP stage with all other details.

			<p>management will be borne by HPSRLM and not by the selected agency. We request confirmation on this point.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will be provided to shortlisted firm at RFP stage with all other details. • Yes, confirmed.
22	<p>Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Experience of the Firm Page no. 2</p>	<p>Minimum 10 years of experience in providing consultancy/project management services at the National and/or State level in India or abroad.</p> <p>Self-declaration of years of experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would like to respectfully state that we are providing the Incorporation Certificate to meet this criterion. • We request you to kindly share the self-declaration template and clarify the competent authority from whom such a declaration will be accepted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To satisfy the 10-year experience requirement, the firm should submit the Certificate of Incorporation (as supporting proof of the firm's age), along with relevant Work Orders/Contracts/Agreements, Completion Certificates, Client Certificates, Project citations in the prescribed format. • Self-declaration to be provided on the letter head of the organization and declaration need to be signed from authorized signatory of the firm.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, we request clarification on whether any other documents are required to fully comply with this criterion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above
23	<p>Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Relevant Project Experience Page no. 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working on a minimum of 5 similar assignments in the last 5 years related to livelihoods, value chains, rural development, MSMEs, FPOs, or producer collectives 2 Similar assignment shall be funded by World Bank / multilateral/bilateral agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We respectfully request HPSRLM to consider extending the experience timeline to 10 years and revising the requirement as follows: • <i>“Experience of working on a minimum of 5 similar assignments in the last 10 years related to livelihoods, value chains, rural development, MSMEs, FPOs, or producer collectives.”</i> • We believe that the current provision may limit the participation of highly qualified and experienced organisations, and the proposed revision would help ensure wider competition and inclusion of capable agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI
24	<p>Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Experience in Project Management & Coordination Page no. 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated experience in PMC / PMU / TSU-type roles • Coordination with government departments, SRLMs, field institutions, TSAs, and consultants 	<p>We would like to respectfully bring to your attention the fact that many Government clients now commonly use terminologies such as <i>State Technical Support Agency (STSA)</i> and <i>Technical Support Agency (TSA)</i>, which are broadly synonymous with PMC/PMU/TSU-type roles. In this context, we kindly request that these terminologies be included, and the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No modification in the wording of the clause is required, as equivalent experience will be duly taken into account based on the demonstrated scope of services.

			<p>requirement be modified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Demonstrated experience in PMC / PMU / TSA / STSA / TSU-type roles.”</i> <p>We believe that this revision will ensure a more accurate reflection of the evolving terminology used in the sector and allow for broader participation by qualified agencies.</p>	
25	<p>Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Disaster project experience Page no. 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience working in disaster affected regions 	<p>We understand that, under this criterion, the bidder is required to submit details of projects that have been implemented <i>in disaster-affected regions</i>, and not necessarily projects that are specifically <i>disaster-related</i> interventions.</p> <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes correct.
26	<p>Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Note: Point no.02 Page no. 3</p>	<p>For the purpose of assessing Relevant Project Experience, bidders must demonstrate either completed projects or ongoing projects that have been in implementation for at least one year.</p>	<p>We respectfully request the department to consider projects that have been under implementation for a minimum duration of six months, as this will enable wider participation by capable organisations.</p> <p>Accordingly, we propose that the eligibility criterion be amended as follows:</p> <p><i>“For the purpose of assessing Relevant Project Experience, bidders may submit evidence of either completed projects or ongoing projects that have been in implementation for at least six months.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI
27	<p>Eligibility and</p>	<p>Expressions of Interest (EoI) must be</p>	<p>Please confirm whether the EOI needs to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI

	Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Page no. 3	uploaded on clearly marked “Expression of Interest for Project Management Consultancy for SRLM HP- on the hptenders.gov.in before 16:00 hours (IST) on 27- •02-2026	be submitted only on the HP Tender website or if a hard-copy submission is also required	
28	Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC, Important Note: Page no. 3	No proposals (Technical or Financial) are required at this stage. Based on the information provided by interested consulting firms, the Authority will prepare a shortlist of a single firm and subsequently seek detailed Technical and Financial proposals from the single firm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that bidders are not required to submit the Technical Proposal (Approach and Methodology) or the Financial Proposal at this stage of the EOI process. • We also understand that the scope of work will remain the same when HPSRLM later invites the shortlisted bidders to submit their detailed Technical and Financial Proposals. • We also like to understand if any binding norms are kept for the agencies. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether our understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • The Scope of work provided with the REoI is indicative broader scope of work. During the RFP stage it will be more elaborated, refined and close to the requirements. • No additional binding norms have been prescribed.
29	ToR Specific	Coordinate with TSAs across 12 value chains for progress updates,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that min 5-6 Value Chains by Feb 2027 is to be set up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI.

	Objectives, Page no. 05	phased onboarding (min 5-6 VCs by Feb 2026), and execution of activity plans.	We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct.	
30	ToR PMC Responsibilities, Page no. 05	In addition, the PMC shall manage time-bound milestones, including development of ToRs, onboarding of Area/Cluster Coordinators and TSAs , facilitation of STEP training, and timely release of advance payments to TSAs. The PMC will ensure compliance with approved procurement methods and World Bank requirements throughout implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We understand that the bidder's role under this scope is advisory in nature, including activities such as drafting job descriptions and conducting profile scrutiny. We also understand that the any costs related to Area Coordinators, Cluster Coordinators, and the TSA will be borne by HPSRLM and not by the bidder. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per the REoI, further details will be provided to the shortlisted bidder at RFP stage.
31	ToR PMC Responsibilities, Page no. 05	The PMC will be accountable for value chain maturity and market outcomes, including registration and operationalization of producer group companies, facilitation of market linkages and business tie-ups, achievement of minimum confirmed market orders , and submission of TSA completion reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We request clarification on the minimum value or quantity of confirmed market orders that bidders are expected to demonstrate as part of this criterion. We also understand that the bidder's role is limited to mobilising buyers and facilitating market linkages and does not include responsibility for product sales or securing orders. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per the REoI, further details will be provided to the shortlisted bidder at RFP stage.
32	ToR Outline of the Tasks to be	PMC will be responsible for recruiting community/cluster coordinators in each value chain specific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We understand that the bidder's role under this scope is advisory in nature, including activities such as drafting job 	Please refer to clause 2 of REoI wherein it has been clearly been mentioned that

	<p>Carried Out (Scope of the Services): Overall Management of the Subcomponent 2.4 (Resilient Livelihood) Page no.06</p>	<p>regions/districts preferably from the community who are the beneficiary of the said intervention. PMC will be issuing ToR and managing the recruitment process for this position, and ensuring the hiring process has been completed before the TSA onboarding and the subsequent intervention.</p>	<p>descriptions and conducting profile scrutiny. We also understand that the costs related to community/cluster coordinators will be borne by HPSRLM and not by the bidder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct. 	<p>the PMC shall be responsible for operationalization and implementing the livelihood interventions in line with the concept note and approved project arrangements, further the scope of work given in the tender document may also be referred. Furthermore, scope shall be defined in the RFP to be issued subsequently to the evaluation of REoI</p>
<p>33</p>	<p>ToR Outline of the Tasks to be Carried Out (Scope of the Services): Management of the Technical Service Agencies (TSAs) Page no.06</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMC will ensure TSA onboarding processes are completed in time to begin the intervention in all 12 value chains in a phased manner. PMC will need to get approval for the implementation phases, in which the first phase needs to target a minimum of 5/6 value chain development activities starting by 28th February 2026. <p>PMC will be responsible for ensuring TSA is onboarded in compliance with World Bank norms and HPFR 2009 and other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that the bidder's role is limited to advisory functions, including drafting the scope of work, facilitating the issuance of EOI/RFP for hiring TSAs, evaluating received proposals, submitting the evaluation report to the department, and drafting the contract document. • We further understand that the department will be responsible for issuing the Letter of Award and executing the contract with the selected TSA. • We also state that any activity or outcome that is not within the bidder's control should not be considered the responsibility of the bidder. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI • Yes • As per the REoI

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, we understand that all costs related to the hiring and onboarding of the TSA will be borne by the department and not by the bidder. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether our understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes
34	<p>ToR Outline of the Tasks to be Carried Out (Scope of the Services): Managing Procurement and Finance Page no.07</p>	<p>Provide support to the PIU for audits / procurement reviews.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that the bidder's role is limited to advisory support and that the bidder is required only to facilitate the review of documents, not to conduct any audits. • We also understand that all audit activities will be undertaken by the internal auditor of the department / HPSRLM. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage.
35	<p>Scope of work: Livelihood Specialist (as part of the PMC Team, 3 members) Page no. 08</p>	<p>Robustly facilitate all the key requirements of Technical Service Agencies (TSA) and actively collaborate for ensuring strategic training in key business aspects (but not limited to) such as developing market led products (including tourism market), strategic capacity building, climate informed artisanal practices,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We respectfully request clarity on the number of trainings to be conducted as part of the strategic training for developing market-led products, along with the expected number of participants for each training. <p>We kindly request confirmation on the number of products to be developed, as this information is essential for a clearer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage. • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at

		<p>financial inclusion, institution building, CFC development and actionable collaborations are implemented and completed to client's as per the TSA's ToR within the time frame mutually agreed by the TSA and concerned line Department.</p>	<p>understanding of the scope and for accurately planning the delivery requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For capacity-building activities, we understand that the costs related to the training venue, training materials, trainers, and other logistical arrangements will be borne by the department and not by the bidder. • We further understand that the bidder's role in the development of Common Facility Centers (CFCs) is purely advisory in nature. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether our understanding is correct.</p>	<p>RFP stage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • As per the REoI
36	<p>Scope of work: Livelihood Specialist (as part of the PMC Team, 3 members) Page no. 08</p>	<p>In facilitating and monitoring TSA activities, provide technical support and facilitation Off-Farm and Non-Farm value chain developments, specifically in the segments of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Market-led capacity building activities, training •Product development, pricing, design, marketing •Introducing Internationally 	<p>Market-Led Capacity-Building Workshops</p> <p>We request clarity on the number of market-led capacity-building workshops to be organised.</p> <p>We also request confirmation on whether the department has already identified the potential products for which these trainings will be conducted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage.

		<p>recognized standards relevant for the off-farm,</p>	<p>Product Design Requirements We request clarity on how many products are to be designed and the specific product categories.</p> <p>Additionally, we seek confirmation on whether product design includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• packaging design, compliance-related support (e.g., FSSAI),• nutritional value testing through NABL-accredited labs, etc. <p>Marketing Strategy vs. Implementation We understand that the bidder is only responsible for preparing the marketing strategy, while implementation will be carried out by the TSA or the department.</p> <p>We kindly request confirmation of this understanding.</p> <p>Promotional Material Design We understand that the bidder is required only to provide the designs for promotional materials for both sectors (such as brochures, catalogues, leaflets, videos, and digital maps).</p> <p>Printing, distribution, and associated costs will be managed by the TSA or the department.</p>	
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			<p>We request confirmation on the number of videos to be developed and clarification on who will bear the development cost.</p> <p>E-Commerce Onboarding We understand that the bidder's role is limited to facilitating the onboarding of producer groups on e-commerce platforms, and all onboarding-related costs will be borne by the department We request confirmation of this understanding.</p> <p>Development of D2C Website We understand that the department will bear all costs related to the development of the D2C website. Kindly confirm this understanding.</p> <p>Development of Interactive Platforms We understand that the bidder is required only to facilitate the development of interactive platforms, such as maps showcasing all off-farm and non-farm workshops and showrooms for tourism markets.</p> <p>We further understand that all development costs for these platforms will be borne by the department.</p>	
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			We kindly request confirmation on whether our above understanding is correct.	
37	Scope of work: Procurement Specialist (as part of the PMC team, 1 member) Page no.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure yearly SRLM budgets towards the READY HP project's livelihood subcomponent are processed within the stipulated period from PMU/PIU. Facilitate and provide support in reviewing Grant requests from TSAs and ensure the same has been processed in time to be credited to the CLF in the designated block of the said district(s). • Ensure negotiations in contract terms and agreements with vendors are addressed in a timely manner. • Manage and maintain vendor contracts, ensuring all the terms are met satisfactorily • Manage cost and budgets, build and maintain strong relationships with service providers and ensure all the compliances are adequately met as per the project's policies and procedures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We understand that the bidder's role is limited to preparing the budget, timelines, and activity plans in alignment with the scope of work. • We further understand that the approval of the budget and the release of funds should not be considered part of the bidder's responsibilities, as these processes involve multiple administrative aspects that are beyond the bidder's control. We also understand that the bidder's role is limited to supporting the review of grant requests, while the responsibility for approving and releasing grants to CLFs rests solely with the department. • Additionally, we understand that the bidder is required only to prepare the contract negotiation points, while the final negotiation and approval authority remains with the department. <p>We kindly request confirmation on whether this understanding is correct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage. • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage
		The consultant will be expected to	• We understand that the bidder is	• As per the REoI and

		<p>organize and Lead Training Programs for community members and local volunteer teams in skills such as basic first aid and medical response, light search and rescue techniques, evacuation procedures and Official Use Only managing shelters, psychological first aid and effective communication strategies during an emergency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultant will be expected to conduct Drills and Exercises by leading mock disaster drills to test the effectiveness of plans, practice response, and improve coordination among local response teams. • The consultant will be serving as the vital link between PMC, TSAs, residents, community leaders, local government agencies, NGOs, and official emergency management authorities (e.g. SDMA, DDMA, etc.). • Advocacy and Inclusion: Advocating for the specific needs of vulnerable populations (e.g., the elderly, children, individuals with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged groups) to ensure they are meaningfully included in all planning and response efforts. 	<p>required to conduct training programs for community members and local volunteers as part of the assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We kindly request confirmation on the number of such training programs that are expected to be organized. • We respectfully state that the conduct of disaster mock drills may be undertaken by the respective government departments, as these activities require specialized disaster-response expertise, established protocols, and authorised personnel. <p>We request confirmation on whether our understanding is correct.</p>	<p>detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage. • As per the REoI and detailed ToR to be provided to shortlisted consultant at RFP stage.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Establishing Communication Channels: Helping to set up reliable communication systems (e.g., local FM networks, telephone trees) for disseminating timely warnings and information during an event. 		
38	<p>Eligibility and Experience Criteria Livelihood PMC Page no. 03</p>	Bid submission date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering the comprehensiveness of the scope of the work, we kindly request that the bid submission deadline be extended by at least three weeks (21 working days) from the date the pre-bid query clarifications are issued. 	As per the REol
39	<p>Team Composition for PMC Page no. 17</p>	<p>The Consultant shall, in consultation with and subject to approval of the CEO, deploy additional resources such as field teams, including enumerators, livelihood specialists, data analysts, MIS and administrative staff, to support planning, implementation support, and report preparation without any extra cost to the client.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering the multifaceted scope of work, which necessitates a diverse pool of experts and subject matter specialists for successful project execution, it is recommended that a consortium be permitted to leverage the expertise of talented resources. This approach ensures that the project benefits from a wide range of knowledge and skills, facilitating comprehensive and effective solutions to meet the intricate demands of the work at hand. • Please confirm whether the proposed team structure and key positions listed in the RFP are mandatory, or whether bidders may propose 	As per the REol.

			alternative designations, levels, or man-month allocations while ensuring overall functionality.	
40	Participation in RFP stage	Participation in RFP stage	<p>We kindly request clarification on whether the issued Expression of Interest (EOI) is non-binding in nature and is intended solely for the purpose of shortlisting potential bidders for subsequent stages of the procurement process.</p> <p>Additionally, we would appreciate confirmation on whether participants would be permitted to withdraw from the process at a later stage without any adverse consequences, such as financial penalties, blacklisting, or forfeiture of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) or performance security, if applicable.</p>	As per the REoI
41	Bidder participation and contract award for two opportunities issued by HPSRLM	<p>Participation and implementation of two opportunities issued by HPSRLM</p> <p>As we know HPSRLM has issued this EoI “Selection of a Consultancy firm for “Project Management Consultancy (PMC) for READY-HP project”</p> <p>and</p> <p>RFP for “Selection of Technical Support Agency (TSA) for Technical</p>	<p>We would like to seek guidance from the department on whether a single agency that possesses the relevant experience and meets all other requirements specified in the EoI and RFP documents can submit its proposal for both opportunities issued by HPSRLM.</p> <p>We also request confirmation that there will be no conflict of interest from the client’s side that could restrict our participation or the award of the contract under any circumstances.</p>	As per the REoI

		Support and Operations & Maintenance (website), Integrated Marketing of Himlra Products (Online & Offline) and Product Development for Himlra and its Other Expanding Services”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a bidder, we assure you that we will abide by all rules and regulations set by the department for participation and execution of the project. 	
42	Senior Livelihood Specialist/Project Lead (key team member) Number (1) Full Time (60 Months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 15years of experience out of which 8 years in leading, designing, implementing, and monitoring livelihood enhancement and income restoration programs, community tourism, horticulture support preferably in areas. Prior experience working with World Bank / ADB / Government-funded projects will be a plus. Master’s degree Preferably in Management, Rural Development, Economics, Social Work, Development Studies, or a related field from a recognized university. Prior Experience with any State body NRLM/SRLM is a must. Prior experience of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 10 years of experience out of which 6 years in leading, designing, implementing, and monitoring livelihood enhancement and income restoration programs. Prior experience working with World Bank / ADB / Government-funded projects will be a plus. Master’s degree Preferably in Management, Rural Development, Economics, Social Work, Development Studies, PGDRDM/ PGDM/ PGDFM or a related field from a recognized university. Prior Experience with any State body NRLM/SRLM is a must. Team management skills across multi-clusters Project management certification from obtained from learning platform 	As per the REoI

		<p>working in Himachal Pradesh or hilly terrain will be a plus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team management skills across multi-clusters <p>Project management certification will be added advantage.</p>	<p>will be added advantage.</p>	
43	<p>Livelihood Specialist (key team member)</p> <p>2 (2 for the 1st phase, 3rd consultant to be onboarded before Phase 2)</p> <p>Full-time (60 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's degree Preferably in Management, Rural Development, • Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, Social Work Development Studies, or a related field from a recognized university. • At least 8 years of experience in designing, implementing, and monitoring livelihood enhancement and income restoration programs, Community Tourism, Horticulture marketing, Value chain diagnostics/market linkages, preferably in rural or disaster affected areas. • Prior experience working with World Bank / ADB / Government-funded projects will be a plus. • Experience in community mobilization, value chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's degree Preferably in Management, Rural Development, Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, Social Work Development Studies/ PGDRDM/ PGDM/ PGDFM or a related field from a recognized university. • At least 6 years of experience in designing, implementing, and monitoring livelihood enhancement and income restoration programs, Value chain diagnostics/market linkages, preferably in rural areas. • Prior experience working with World Bank / ADB / Government-funded projects will be a plus. • Experience in community mobilization, value chain development, skill development, self-help group (SHG) strengthening, and micro-enterprise promotion. 	As per the REoI

		<p>development, skill development, self-help group (SHG) strengthening, and micro- enterprise promotion. Prior experience of working in Himachal Pradesh or with other State or National Rural Livelihood Mission is a plus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior Experience with any State body or National Rural Livelihood Mission. • Prior experience of working in Himachal Pradesh or hilly terrain will be a plus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior Experience with any State body or National Rural Livelihood Mission. • 	
44	<p>Procurement Specialist (key team member)</p> <p>Number (1) Full-time (60 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master degree in Finance Commerce, supply chain management, business, particularly in the segment of social work and development studies. • Strong skills in negotiation, communication and analytical thinking. • Minimum 10 years of prior experience working as Procurement official in government project. • Minimum of 8 years professional experience with the World Bank, ADB, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master degree in Finance Commerce / supply chain management business/ particularly in the segment of social work and development studies. • Strong skills in negotiation, communication and analytical thinking. • Minimum 8 years of prior experience working as Procurement official in government project. • Minimum of 5 years' professional experience with the World Bank, ADB, or other 	As per the REoI

		<p>or other donor- funded agencies. CPPP/PDPP/ Contract Management/ any other procurement certification is must.</p>	<p>donor- funded agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPPP/PDPP/ Contract Management/ any other procurement certification obtained from learning • platform is preferable. 	
45	<p>Finance Specialist (key team member)</p> <p>Number (1) Full-time (60 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA/ICWA/MBA degree in finance/ Commerce. • Strong skills in negotiation, communication and analytical thinking. • Minimum 8 years of professional experience as a finance expert is a must. • At least 1 Year Prior experience of working in World Bank / ADB /Government-funded projects. • Prior experience of working in Himachal Pradesh in MSME or Livelihood sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA/ICWA/MBA degree in finance/ Commerce. • Strong skills in negotiation, communication and analytical thinking. • Minimum 6 years of professional experience as a finance expert is a must. • At least 1 Year Prior experience of working in World Bank / ADB /Government-funded projects. 	As per the REol
46	<p>Market Linkages Specialist</p> <p>Number (1) Full-time (60 months)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's in Agri-Business/Marketing/Rural Development • 8+ years facilitating buyer-seller linkages, trade fairs, and ecommerce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for producer groups • Experience securing confirmed orders, private sector MOUs, and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's in Agri-Business/Marketing/Rural Development/ PGDRDM/ PGDM/ PGDFM or a related field from a recognized university • 6 years facilitating buyer-seller linkages, trade fairs, and ecommerce for producer groups 	As per the REol

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFC development in • Tourism/livelihood value chain • promotion, product innovation support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience securing confirmed orders, private sector MOUs, and CFC development in Tourism/livelihood value chain promotion, product innovation support 	
47	M&E Specialist Number (1) Part-time position, for 18 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's in social science management, Statistics, Economics, Public Policy, Development Studies, or related fields. • At least 5 years in M&E, evaluation, or research, often in the development/non-profit segment. • Technical skills in developing M&E Frameworks, Data analysis and understanding of evaluation methodologies & impact assessment. • Prior experience of working in Himachal Pradesh or with other State or National Rural • Livelihood Mission is a plus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's in social science management, Statistics, Economics, Public Policy, Development Studies, Rural Development/ PGDRDM/ PGDM/ PGDFM or related fields. • At least 4 years in M&E, evaluation, or research, often in the development/non-profit segment. • Technical skills in developing M&E Frameworks, Data analysis and understanding of evaluation methodologies & impact assessment. 	As per the REoI
	Market Linkages Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's in Agri-Business/Marketing/Rural Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters in Agri-Business/Marketing/Rural 	Accepted

	Full-time (60 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8+ years facilitating buyer-seller linkages, trade fairs, and e-commerce for producer groups • Experience securing confirmed orders, private sector MOUs, and CFC development in Tourism/ livelihood value chain promotion, product innovation support 	<p>Development /Related equivalent field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8+ years facilitating buyer-seller linkages, trade fairs, and e-commerce for producer groups • Experience securing confirmed orders, private sector MOUs, and CFC development in Tourism/ livelihood value chain promotion, product innovation support 	
48	<p>CRP for disaster Preparedness</p> <p>Number (1)</p> <p>Part-time, for 24 months spread across the project period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master degree, social science or related stream is preferred • At least 5 years of experience in the field related to social sector development. • TSA coordination experience. • Language: Fluent in the local language with a strong communication (spoken and written) skills. • Experience with SHGs, social mobilization, or rural livelihoods, • specifically from the region impacted by natural disasters, developing CDMPs is preferred, minimum of 5 years of experience is a must. Prior experience in the HP or State 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master degree, social science/ Rural Development/ PGDRDM/ PGDM/ PGDFM or related stream is preferred • At least 3 years of experience in the field related to social sector development. • TSA coordination experience. • Language: Fluent in the local language with a strong communication (spoken and written) skills. • Experience with SHGs, social mobilization, or rural livelihoods, • Prior experience of working in Hilly state or with other State or National Rural Livelihood Mission is a plus. 	As per the REol

		<p>Rural Livelihood Missions is a plus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior experience of working in Himachal Pradesh or with other State or National Rural Livelihood Mission is a plus.		
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