



Government of Mizoram

SOCIETY FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE IN MIZORAM

(SCRAM)

Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

Ref. No: IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS

Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram (SCRAM) Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram (SCRAM) intends to engage a qualified Consultancy Firms/ Society/NGOs for conducting “Case Studies on Integrated Farming System – Compact Area Development Approach (IFS-CADA)” activities undertaken under by FOCUS-Mizoram Project in 2 project villages. This invitation is open for all interested eligible firms (not individual firms).

The assignment covers two districts under the project and the eligibility criteria and Terms of Reference of the REOI can be obtained through the website: <https://focus.mizoram.gov.in> (Tenders).

The willing and interested firms/consultants are requested to submit their Expression of Interests (EIO) by 23rd February, 2024 (tentative), 2:00 PM through a hard copy to the address specified in the REOI documents. Selection shall be based on Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) method as per IFAD procurement handbook.

Sd/- LALENGZAMI HAOLAI
Chief Executive Officer, SCRAM &
State Project Director,
FOCUS Aizawl, Mizoram



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***SOCIETY FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT
AGRICULTURE IN MIZORAM
(SCRAM)***

Expression of Interest

for

***Engagement of Consultancy Service for
Case Studies on- IFS-CADA under FOCUS
project***

Ref No: IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS

Issue Date: 5th February, 2024

Instructions to Consultants

Dated: Aizawl, the 5th February, 2024

Reference No: IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS

Dear Sir/ Madam,

1. The Government of Mizoram through Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram (SCRAM) has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) towards the cost of Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming System in the Northeast (FOCUS), Mizoram, and intends to apply part of the financing for the recruitment of consulting services. The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming System in the Northeast (FOCUS), Mizoram
2. The client now invites proposals to provide the following consulting services: ***“Case Studies on Integrated Farming System- Compact Area Development Approach (IFS-CADA) under FOCUS-Mizoram project”***. ***For this assignment, Serchhip and Mamit districts are purposively selected since Serchhip is considered the fore runner implementing the activities followed by Mamit.***
3. This Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) is open for response by any interested and qualified bidders/firms which should be selected based on Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) method. The Service Provider expressing interest for the assignment should have the following minimum eligibility conditions.
 - i. Any legal entity/institutions registered in India under relevant Act (University/Society/Company/Trust/Cooperative/NGOs)
 - ii. Should have Minimum 3 years' of working experience in the field of Agricultural Extension/ Rural Development within the state.
 - iii. Should have undertaken 2-3 studies on similar topic/ objectives in the field of Agricultural Extension/ Rural Development.
 - iv. Should have operating office with manpower in Aizawl, Mizoram.
4. Before preparing its EOIs, the consultant is advised to review the preliminary terms of reference attached as Annex 1, which describe the assignment and Annex 2 that details the evaluation of the technical qualifications.

5. The consultant shall not have any actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest. A consultant with an actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest shall be disqualified unless otherwise explicitly approved by the Fund. A consultant including their respective personnel and affiliates are considered to have a conflict of interest if they a) have a relationship that provides them with undue or undisclosed information about or influence over the selection process and the execution of the contract, b) participate in more than one EOI under this procurement action, c) have a business or family relationship with a member of the client's board of directors or its personnel, the Fund or its personnel, or any other individual that was, has been or might reasonably be directly or indirectly involved in any part of (i) the preparation of this expression of interest, (ii) the selection process for this procurement, or (iii) execution of the contract. The consultant has an ongoing obligation to disclose any situation of actual, potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest during preparation of the EOI, the selection process or the contract execution. Failure to properly disclose any of said situations may lead to appropriate actions, including the disqualification of the consultant, the termination of the contract and any other as appropriate under the IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Projects and Operations.
6. All consultants are required to comply with the Revised IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Activities and Operations (hereinafter, "IFAD's Anticorruption Policy") in competing for, or in executing, the contract.
 - a. If determined that a consultant or any of its personnel or agents, or its subconsultants, sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers, sub-suppliers and/or any of their personnel or agents, has, directly or indirectly, engaged in any of the prohibited practices defined in IFAD's Anticorruption Policy or integrity violations such as sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse as established in IFAD's Policy to Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse³ in competing for, or in executing, the contract, the EOI may be rejected or the contract may be terminated by the client.
 - b. In accordance with IFAD's Anticorruption Policy, the Fund has the right to sanction firms and individuals, including by declaring them ineligible, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, to participate in any IFAD-financed and/or IFAD-managed activity or operation. The Fund also has the right to recognize debarments issued by other international financial institutions in accordance with its Anticorruption Policy.
 - c. Consultants and any of their personnel and agents, and their sub-consultants, subcontractors, service providers, suppliers, sub-suppliers and any of their personnel and agents are required to fully cooperate with any investigation conducted by the Fund, including by making personnel available for interviews and by providing full access to any and all accounts, premises, documents and records (including electronic records) relating to this selection process or the execution of the contract and to have such accounts, premises, records and documents audited and/or inspected by auditors and/or investigators appointed by the Fund.

- d. Consultants have the ongoing obligation to disclose in their EOI and later in writing as may become relevant: (i) any administrative sanctions, criminal convictions or temporary suspensions of themselves or any of their key personnel or agents for fraud and corruption, and (ii) any commissions or fees paid or to be paid to agents or other parties in connection with this selection process or the execution of the contract. As a minimum, consultants must disclose the name and contact details of the agent or other party and the reason, amount and currency of the commission or fee paid or to be paid. Failure to comply with these disclosure obligations may lead to rejection of the EOI or termination of the contract.
 - e. Consultants are required to keep all records and documents, including electronic records, relating to this selection process available for a minimum of three (3) years after notification of completion of the process or, in case the consultant is awarded the contract, execution of the contract.
7. The Fund requires that all beneficiaries of IFAD funding or funds administered by IFAD, including the client, any consultants, implementing partners, service providers and suppliers, observe the highest standards of integrity during the procurement and execution of such contracts, and commit to combat money laundering and terrorism financing consistent with IFAD's Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy.⁴
 8. Procedure: the selection process will be conducted using Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) method as laid out in the IFAD Procurement Handbook that can be accessed via the IFAD website at www.ifad.org/project-procurement. The client will evaluate the EOIs using the criteria provided in Annex 2. The shortlisted consultant(s) will be provided with the detailed TORs and asked to submit a detailed technical and financial offer. The evaluation will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award.
 9. Any request for clarification on this EOI including the PTOR should be sent via e-mail to the address below no later than **16th February, 2024; 5:00 pm** (po.focusmz@gmail.com). The client will provide responses to all clarification requests by **19th February, 2024; 5:00pm**.
 10. Submission Procedure: please submit your expression of interest using the forms provided for this purpose. Your EOI should comprise one (1) original copy of each EOI

form annexed to this document. EOIs shall be submitted to the address below no later than **22nd February, 2024; 2:00 pm.**

Office of the Chief Executive Officer, SCRAM &
State Project Director, FOCUS-Mizoram
Attn: Procurement Officer, FOCUS-Mizoram Basement-I, ZIDCO Building,
MINECO, Khatla, Aizawl
Mizoram- 796001
Tel: 0389-2336838,
Mob- 9612588684
E-mail: po.focusmz@gmail.com

Issued by,

Sd/- LALENGZAMI HAOLAI

State Project Director

FOCUS-Mizoram

Form EOI-1
EOI Submission Form

[Location, date]

To,

The State Project Director
FOCUS-Mizoram

Re: *Engagement of Consultant for Case Studies on IFS- CADA under FOCUS project*

Ref: No: IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS

We, the undersigned, declare that:

1. We are expressing our interest in providing the consulting services for the above mentioned assignment and have no reservations to the REOI, the instructions to the consultants and any addenda thereto
2. Our expression of interest is open for acceptance for a period of ninety (90) days
3. Our firm, its associates, including any subcontractors or suppliers for any part of the contract, have not been declared ineligible by the Fund and have not been subject to sanctions or debarments under the laws or official regulations of the client's country or not been subject to a debarment recognized under the Agreement for Mutual Enforcement of Debarment Decisions (the "Cross-Debarment Agreement"), beyond those declared in paragraph 9 of this EOI submission form.
4. We acknowledge and accept the IFAD Revised Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Activities and Operations. We certify that neither our firm nor any person acting for us or on our behalf has engaged in any prohibited practices as provided in ITC Clause 6. Further, we acknowledge and understand our obligation to report to anticorruption@ifad.org any allegation of prohibited practice that comes to our attention during the selection process or the contract execution.
5. No attempt has been made or will be made by us to induce any other consultant to submit or not to submit an EOI for the purpose of restricting competition.
6. We acknowledge and accept the IFAD Policy on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. We certify that neither our firm nor any person acting for us or on our behalf has engaged in any sexual harassment, sexual exploitation or abuse. Further, we acknowledge and understand our obligation to report to ethicsoffice@ifad.org any allegation of sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse that comes to our attention during the selection process or the contract execution.
7. The following commissions, gratuities, or fees have been paid or are to be paid with respect to the selection process: **[Insert complete name of each recipient, its full address, the reason for**

which each commission or gratuity was paid and the amount and currency of each such commission or gratuity].

Name of Recipient	Address	Reason	Amount	Currency



(If none has been paid or is to be paid, indicate “none.”)

8. We declare that neither our consulting firm nor any of its directors, partners, proprietors, key personnel, agents, sub-consultants, sub-contractors, consortium and joint venture partners have any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest as defined in ITC Clause 5 regarding this selection process or the execution of the contract. **[insert if needed: “other than the following:” and provide a detailed account of the actual, potential or perceived conflict].** We understand that we have an ongoing disclosure obligation on such actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest and shall promptly inform the client and the Fund, should any such actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest arise at any stage of the procurement process or contract execution.
9. The following criminal convictions, administrative sanctions (including debarments) and/or temporary suspensions have been imposed on our consulting firm and/or any of its directors, partners, proprietors, key personnel, agents, sub-consultants, sub-contractors, consortium and joint venture partners:

Nature of the measure (i.e., criminal conviction, administrative sanction or temporary suspension)	Imposed by	Name of party convicted, sanctioned or suspended (and relationship to the consultant)	Grounds for the measure (i.e., fraud in procurement or corruption in contract execution)	Date and time (duration) of measure

If no criminal convictions, administrative sanctions or temporary suspensions have been imposed, indicate “none”.

1. We acknowledge and understand that we shall promptly inform the client about any material change regarding the information provided in this EOI submission form.
2. We further understand that the failure to properly disclose any of information in connection with this EOI submission form may lead to appropriate actions, including our disqualification as consultant, the termination of the contract and any other as appropriate under the IFAD Policy on Preventing Fraud and Corruption in its Projects and Operations.



3. We understand that you are not bound to accept any EOI that you may receive

Sincerely,

[Authorized signatory]

[Name and title of signatory]

[Name and address of firm]

Form EOI-2
Organization of the Consultant

Re: Engagement of Consultant for Case Studies on IFS- CADA under FOCUS project
Ref No: IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS

[Provide a brief description of the background and organization of your firm/entity and of each associated firm for this assignment. Include the organization chart of your firm/entity. The EOI must demonstrate that the consultant has the organizational capability and to carry out the assignment. The qualifications document shall further demonstrate that the consultant has the capacity to field and provide experienced replacement personnel on short notice. Key staff CVs are not required at the shortlisting stage.]

Name of the firm	
Date of establishment	
Country of registration	
Full address of the firm	
Focal point: name, position, contact information (telephone, email):	Name:
	Tel:
	Email:
Number of branches in the country	
Country(ies) of operations with number of branches in each country	
Number of full-time employees	
Number of part-time employees	
Field(s) of expertise of the firm	
Number of professional staff with experience related directly to the assignment	

Subsidiary and associated companies <i>(wherever applicable)</i> : (details in the following format to be provided for all associates) – (i) Name of the company (ii) Nature of business (iii) Address of the company (iv) Website of the company (v) Brief description of company (maximum of 120 words)	
Any other information that the consultant would like to add:	

Maximum 10 pages

The qualification document should address the following competencies:

i. Management Competence

Management competence section will review the overall governance structure, professional staff, ability/experience of engaging consultants for the assignment, etc.

ii. Technical Competence

Technical competence section to review the relevance of the background and experience of the firm, association, number of similar size assignments undertaken.

iii. Geographical competence

Geographical competence section will review the experience of working within the States with similar socio-economic conditions.

Form EOI-3

Experience of the Consultant

Re: Engagement of Consultant for Case Studies on IFS- CADA

Ref: No. IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS

[Using the format below, provide information on each relevant assignment for which your firm, and each associate for this assignment, was legally contracted either individually as a corporate entity or as one of the major companies within an association, for carrying out consulting services similar to the ones requested under the preliminary terms of reference included in this EOI. The EOI must demonstrate that the consultant has a proven track record of successful experience in executing projects similar in substance, complexity, value, duration, and volume of services sought in this procurement.

Maximum 20 pages]

Assignment name:	Approx. value of the contract (in current INR):
Country: Location within country:	Duration of assignment (months):
Name of client:	Total No. of staff-months of the assignment:
Address, and contact details (including email address(es)):	Approx. value of the services provided by your firm under the contract (in current INR):

*Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming System in the Northeast (FOCUS), Mizoram
Engagement of Consultant for Case Studies- IFS- CADA
Reference No: IND-2000001421-MIZORAM-0055-CS-CQS*

Start date (month/year): Completion date (month/year):	No. of professional staff-months provided by associated consultants:
Name of associated consultants, if any:	Name of proposed senior professional staff of your firm involved and functions performed (indicate most significant profiles such as project director/coordinator, team leader):
Narrative description of project:	
Description of actual services provided by your staff within the assignment:	

Name of Firm: _____

ANNEX 1
Preliminary Terms of Reference (ToR) for
Conducting Studies on the
Adoption of Integrated Farming System – Compact Area Development Approach (IFS-
CADA) under FOCUS Project

Project: Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming Systems in the Northeast-Mizoram (FOCUS-Mizoram), Government of Mizoram, funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

1. CLIENT

The client for this assignment is Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram (SCRAM). SCRAM is a registered society under Department of Agriculture, Government of Mizoram.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming System in the Northeast (FOCUS), Mizoram was started on January, 2018 as a society under Department of Agriculture-Society for Climate Resilient Agriculture in Mizoram (SCRAM). The project is divided into three (3) components which is to be completed within 2024.

The Project components emphasised to increase the agricultural income of those targeted households in the project districts and to enhance their resilience to climate change. The FOCUS project has three components, namely,

- a) Improved Agricultural Resilience and Productivity;
- b) Value Chain and Market Access; and
- c) Project Management and Knowledge services

3. RATIONALE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Integrated Farming System (IFS) was introduced in the Project after the Mid Term Review with the aspect of concentrating most of the Project activities in the community land by adopting cluster approach. The IFS approach will eventually bear visible progress; viewed most relevant as one of the best resilient farming system for the Jhumia thereby reducing shifting cultivation and promotes settled or permanent farming.

Village Level Producers' Group (VLPG) is formed in the IFS-CADA area under the guidance of the competent Village Council where two members from Office Bearers are selected from the acting NGOs in the area like YMA, MHIP and MUP.

Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming System in the Northeast (FOCUS), Mizoram

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Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) was conducted in each selected villages using the four (4) tools viz. Transact walk, Social Mapping, Resource Mapping and Seasonal Calendar.

The situational analysis and before and after the intervention of the Project in the IFS-CADA villages is not systematically captured and no such measurement has been undertaken to analyze the impact. The consultant may prepare a baseline indicating the level of practice before the project intervention and including traditional practices by the farmers and comparing the hectare coverage and production in order to provide a significant outcome for the study. Consultant's proposed methodology will be an important factor.

4. OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 To study the socio-economic, personal and psychological characteristics of the farmers
- 3.2 To study the rate of adoption of major activities by the VLPGs (Village Level Producer Group) based on the recommendation of the Project.
- 3.3 To examine the status of cultivation of horticultural and agricultural crops and management practices followed by the respondents in growing the crops
- 3.4 To study the entrepreneurial behaviour of the selected respondents and the factors influencing it.
- 3.5 To analyse the constraints faced by the farmers in terms of crop production and management practices and strategies to overcome.

4. SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The scope of the assignment is to -

- (i) Conduct an assessment for an in-depth understanding of before and after the introduction of Integrated Farming System in the selected villages.
- (ii) The present study shall make an attempt to examine the production and marketing potential of the farmers which will ensure the nutritional and livelihood security, increase farm productivity, income and sustainability of the farmers.
- (iii) The findings of the study is expected to help in formulating strategies and policy guidelines by promoting entrepreneurial ventures and minimize the constraints faced by the farmers
- (iv) Organize meetings/workshops to present the findings of the assessments to the staffs of the DMU, relevant line department officials and key stakeholders and
- (v) Draw a roadmap for disseminating actionable adaptation and up-scaling and

replicating the successful models in all the project villages and in the state with similar agro-ecological condition.

5. METHODOLOGY

5.1 Selection of the district

Out of the six districts covered under FOCUS project, Serchhip and Mamit districts are purposively selected for the present study since Serchhip is considered the fore runner implementing the activities followed by Mamit.

5.2 Selection of the village

Out of the 23 villages currently implementing the activity, 3 villages each from Serchhip and Mamit District will be selected for the study. 20 respondents from each village will be selected for the study with the help of District Management Unit. The collection of the sample should follow a methodology which is recognized in the academia and supported by research papers published in the high impact journals.

6. DELIVERABLES

1. The socio-economic, personal and psychological characteristics of the farmers.
2. The rate of adoption of major activities by the VLPs (Village Level Producer Group) based on the recommendation of the Project. The major activities included in the IFS are as under-
 - Infrastructure - Construction of Farm Link Road
 - Construction of Water Bodies with Delivery System
 - Bench terracing
 - Soil fertility management
 - Supply of quality seeds
 - Quality Planting Materials
 - Water harvesting structures and other irrigation structures
 - Support for Private Nurseries
 - Backyard poultry unit, chicks & equipment
 - Distribution of cross-bred piglets
 - Startup of goat rearing
3. The status of cultivation of horticultural and agricultural crops and management practices followed by the respondents in growing the crops
4. The entrepreneurial behaviour of the selected respondents and the factors influencing it.

Fostering Climate Resilient Upland Farming System in the Northeast (FOCUS), Mizoram

Engagement of Consultant for Case Studies- IFS- CADA

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5. The constraints faced by the farmers in terms of crop production and management practices and strategies to overcome.

7. Duration of the Assignment

The duration of the assignment is **75 days** from date of signing the contract.

8. Team Composition and Qualification Requirements for the Key Experts:

Full TOR shall be incorporated in the RFP to the shortlisted consultant.

9. Reports and schedule of deliverables

Full TOR shall be incorporated in the RFP to the shortlisted consultant.

10. Composition of review committee and review procedure to monitor the progress of the assignment:

Full TOR shall be incorporated in the RFP to the shortlisted consultant.

11. Ethical Issues

- The cultural sensitivities, religion, language sensitivities, gender issues, etc., have to be kept in mind while designing, and undertaking field works and interactions with rural communities.
- Ethical considerations will also be kept during data collection and dissemination of information with respect and acknowledgements for original informants.
- Precautionary principles will be applied in all the community and public dealings.

12. Copyright

All materials and documentation during the assignment will be the sole property of FOCUS-Mizoram.

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ANNEX 2

Qualification and Evaluation Criteria

Items	Criteria	Points
A.	Qualification	30
i.	Any legal entity/institutions registered in India under relevant Act (University/Society/Company/Trust/Cooperative/NGOs)	30
B	Specific experience	50
i	Should have Minimum 3 years' of working experience in the field of Agricultural Extension/ Rural Development within the state.	20
ii	Should have undertaken 2-3 studies on similar topic/ objectives in the field of Agricultural Extension/ Rural Development.	30
C	Geographical Competence	20
i	Should have operating office with manpower in Aizawl, Mizoram	20
	Total Points	100

Note: Minimum points required to pass 70 points