

Request for Expression of Interest

“Empanelment of Agencies for Implementation of Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Program (SVEP) Components in Selected Blocks across India”

1. Background

In India, more than 90% of the working population is engaged in the unorganised sector. In the case of rural area, a large section is self-employed and agriculture has served as one of the major sources of income for villages. However, agriculture comes with many uncertainties and is not an income source for landless household. It has been experienced that, poor families require 3-4 different income sources to get out of poverty. Amongst these the non-farm livelihoods, skill based work and small enterprises are important sources of income.

It has been realized that in the absence of adequate business skills like understanding of market, domain knowledge, accounting, costing skills and lack of financial support, these micro/nano enterprises struggle to survive and often either fall or become stagnant generating sub optimal incomes. The plight increases in case of the poor as they do not have linkages with financial institution.

In order to solve this problem and to provide support to small enterprises and skill based workers, both in terms of training and credit support, in the budget session of 2014-15 on July 10th, 2014 the Honourable Finance Minister initiated the idea of Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme.

2. The Requirement

At present SVEP component is being implemented in 40 blocks covering 14 states. It is expected that over a period of 4 years, SEVP component will be scaled up and implemented in 125 blocks across the county.

In order to scale up SVEP implementation, it is expect to engage the services of experienced NGOS who are promoting/working with rural enterprises. As per the estimates, around 242 such implementation partners are required.

As screening and empanelment of 242 experienced NGOs requires intensive effort, MORD has hired services of EDII for providing technical support to MORD in the empanelment process.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility Criteria for Empanelment as Field Implementation Agency (FIA):

1. FIA should be registered, non- political and secular in nature.
2. FIA should not be black listed by any government department.
3. The FIA should have at least 2 years of relevant experience of implementing enterprise -promotion related livelihood activities, with the poor, especially in the state for which it is being proposed. The FIA should also have experience in promoting enterprises in the

non-farm sector. Experience of working with community participation, in the rural areas, where the FIAs propose to work, under SVEP, would be an advantage.

4. The FIA should have minimum annual turnover of Rs.20 lakhs in the past two years [as evidenced in the past two years audited/unaudited financial statements], preference to be given to agencies with minimum annual turnover of more than 100 lac for the last two years.
5. The FIA should have preferably worked with a minimum 200 enterprises or members of producer groups.
6. The FIA should have transparency in financial matters, material handling, benefit sharing and fulfilment of legal compliances and should have processes and people in place to ensure the same.
7. The FIA should have adequate infrastructure and human resources with respect to the proposed project and should be willing to provide the undertaking for continuing working in the area for the project duration.
8. FIA should have domain knowledge of and experience in community mobilization, SHG and Microfinance, Livelihoods Enhancement, market linkages etc.
9. FIA should have experience in forward and backward linkages in NTFP, artisanal products and other rural produce.
10. The FIA should preferably have worked with the state government in any other project and successfully completed the same in the last 2 years.

Agencies meeting above mentioned criteria may visit ngo.ediindia.org for more details and to apply online for empanelment.