To

All the State Mission Directors

Sub: Farms Livelihoods - Empanelment of Technically Qualified Consulting Firms Competent to Develop Commodity Value Chain and Market Linkages support for various State Rural Livelihoods Missions.

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Sirs,

I am directed to refer to the above subject and to say that based on the recommendations made post the mid-term review of NRLP by World bank, it has been decided that a dedicated funding window aimed at supporting value addition interventions to spearhead the livelihoods has been created as part of NRLP. The dedicated funds coupled with more purposive planning by states is expected to promote Value added livelihoods strategies, foster new ideas and innovate channels for value addition under Livelihoods. A few proposals submitted by some states under the same fund have already been approved by empowered committee. It is envisaged that SRLMs would require technically qualified agencies for roll out of projects under Livelihoods Special funds.

2. In order to facilitate the State Missions to quickly hire technical support agencies for development of Commodity Value Chain and market linkage, this Ministry had initiated the procurement process for empanelment of technically qualified agencies for development of commodity value chain and market linkage for SRLMs. Based on the Technical Evaluation, four agencies viz., (i) Access Development Services Pvt Ltd; (ii) Ashwatha Advisors Pvt Ltd (Technoserve); (iii) Basix & associates; and (iv) E & Y LLP have been found to be technically qualified. Contract details of agencies are provided in the annexure-1. Copy of the RFP is provided for reference. It may be noted that validity of the empanelment will be initially for a period of 10 months i.e till 1st Sep 2017. If required, this Division shall take necessary steps to extend the validity appropriately.

3. It may be noted that as per the provision of the RFP, consultant will be procured following Least Cost Selection Method described in the NRLM Procurement Manual. SRLM that have got their special livelihoods projects approved by MORD viz (i) Jharkhand; (ii) Madhya Pradesh; (iii) Maharashtra; and (iv) Odisha could immediately initiate procurement of TSA for Commodity Value Chain and Market Linkage, if required. All other SRLMs are also encouraged to procure the services of the TSA for supporting them in implementing value chain based farm livelihoods projects.

4. Since, this Ministry has already completed the technical evaluation, SRLMs will be required to undertake following steps to procure an agency from the list of empanelled agencies.

1. Assess the requirements of SRLM and finalise the team composition required;
2. Issue a letter of invitation to all the four consultants along with the required team size and seek (i) financial bids (in a separate sealed envelope) ; (ii) letter of confirmation of key resources originally proposed (in case agencies propose any replacement of key staff
originally proposed, such cases may be dealt as per the provisions of the RFP); (iii) provide the CVs of proposed Key and Non-key professionals; and (iv) a power of attorney. SRLM may provide at least 2 weeks time to the agencies respond to the letter of invitation. It may be noted that along with the letter of invitation, a draft contract may also be circulated to all the 4 agencies.

3. SRLM may also seek copy of the technical proposal submitted to this Ministry for reference along with a short write up on the scope of work. **It may be noted that since the technical evaluation has already been completed, there is no need to undertake any technical evaluation at the SRLM level. However, any issues related to staffing, methodology etc., may be discussed and agreed during the technical negotiations and the decisions should be documented clearly.**

4. In the letter of invitation, SRLM may indicate last date and time for submission of Financial Proposals. Further, proposals received within the deadline may be opened publically on the same day and minutes of the financial proposal opening meeting shall be documented.

5. Agency offering Least Cost will be invited for technical negotiations. At the time of technical negotiations, availability of key and non-key staff may be obtained from the consultant and draft contract may be negotiated and agreed.

6. After contract negotiations are completed, following documents may be sent to MORD for approval (i) Minutes of Financial proposal opening meeting; (ii) minutes of technical negotiations; (iii) draft negotiated contract. Up-on receipt of No Objection from MORD/World Bank, SRLMs may sign the contract and manage.

7. SRLMs are required to complete the process quickly and hire the TSA at the earliest possible.

5. In case of any difficulty or clarifications required, SRLMs may write to the undersigned with a copy to nmmuprocurement@gmail.com

This issues with the approval of JS (RI)

Yours faithfully

(Nita Kejrewal)
Director (F&A)

Encl:

1. Letter sent to empanelled consultants
2. Copy of the RFP along with draft contract.
Annexure-1

Empanelment of Technically Qualified Consulting Firms Competent to Develop Commodity Value Chain and Market Linkages support for various State Rural Livelihoods Missions

List of Empanelled Consulting Firms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name of the consulting firm</th>
<th>Authorised Signatory</th>
<th>Contract details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1     | Access Development Services Pvt Ltd                              | Mr. Vipin Sharma, CEO                         | 28, Hauz Khas Village, 1st Floor, New Delhi-110 016  
Ph: 011-26510915/49008500  
Mob. 9810441292  
E-mail: vipin@accessdev.org |
| 2     | Ashwatha Advisors Pvt Ltd (Technoserve)                          | Mr. Punit Gupta, Country Director             | B1 - 201 Centre Point, Opposite Bawla Masjid, 243A N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (E), Mumbai - 400 013  
Ph: 022 6128 3200  
Email ID: pgupta@tns.org |
| 3     | Basix Ltd (Lead Firm) & Associates Institute of Livelihood Research and Training (Associate Firm -1) Indian Grameen Services (Associate Firm -2) | Mr. LM Tiwari; Assistant Vice President, Basix | "BASIX, 3rd Floor, Surbahi Arcade, Troop Bazaar, Bank Street, Koti, Hyderabad, PIN - 500 001"  
Ph: 91-040-6658 5800  
Mobile: 09893045206  
Email: ttwari.l@basixindia.com |
| 4     | Ernst & Young LLP                                                | Mr. Kumar Amarendra Narayan Singh, Senior Manager, Advisory services | Golf View Corporate Tower B, Sector Road, Sector 42, Gurgaon, Haryana 122002  
Ph: 0124-4644000  
Mobile: 9811114835  
Email: amaredra.singh@in.ev.com |

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