

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Open Bidding	Date : 16 th January, 2014
	Reference : PLG(PI)(HDRCS)1-4/2013

The Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society (HP HDRCS), Room No. 502,

Planning Department, Yojna Bhawan, H.P., Shimla-171 002

invites proposals from eligible organizations for the following Studies/Reports:-

1.	Human Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh.
2.	Study to Explore the Causes of Declining Sex Ratio in the age group of 0-6 Years.
3.	Financial Report Card on Human Development in Himachal Pradesh.
4.	Study to Assess the Socio-Economic Status of Gujjars in Himachal Pradesh.

Above studies are a part of the project “Human Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh being implemented with the assistance of the Planning Commission, Government of India and the UNDP under the umbrella of National Project – Human Development for Bridging Inequalities (HDBI).

Technical proposal in the sealed envelopes for each study should reach on or before 22nd February 2014, 17.00 Hours (IST) at the below mentioned address:-

**Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and
Coordination Society (HP HDRCS), Room No. 502,
Planning Department, Yojna Bhawan, H.P., Shimla-171 002 –**

Basu Sood

Telefax : 0177-2625856

E-mail : basu.sood@nic.in

If the technical proposals for each study are not submitted in separate sealed envelopes, proposal will be rejected.

Please also provide technical proposal and its annexure(s) (scanned copy in one PDF file) in a CD/DVD; along with a hard copy of the proposal. Please note that CD/DVD should not contain financial proposal.

Your proposal must be expressed in English language and valid for a minimum period for one year.

In the course of preparing your proposal, it shall remain the organization's responsibility to ensure that it reaches the address above on or before the deadline. Proposals that are received by HP HDRCS after the deadline indicated above, for whatever reason, shall not be considered for evaluation.

Proposals shall be reviewed and evaluated based on completeness and

compliance of the proposal and responsiveness with the requirements of the RFP and all other annexes providing details of HP HDRCS requirements.

The proposals that comply with all of the requirements and meet all the evaluation criteria shall be selected for inviting financial bids. Any offer that does not meet the requirements shall be rejected.

All the proposals submitted as a result of this RFP shall be subject to the General Terms and Conditions attached hereto. The mere act of submission of a Technical Proposal implies that the organization accepts without question the General Terms and Conditions of HP HDRCS, herein attached as Annex 3.

Please be advised that HP HDRCS is not bound to accept any proposal for, nor be responsible for any costs associated with preparation and submission of a proposal, regardless of the outcome or the manner of conducting the evaluation process.

HP HDRCS encourages every prospective organization to submit the proposals. However, any act/attempt of influencing the manner in which the HP HDRCS intends to process the bidding, evaluation and contracting by the organization or the personnel affiliated with it or lobbying by a third party in favour of a bidder shall be viewed as a hindrance in the bidding process and in such an eventuality the HP HDRCS shall reserve the right to outrightly reject the organization's proposal without giving any notice. Detailed terms and conditions, description of the requirements and Terms of Reference for each study can be downloaded from <http://hpplanning.nic.in>.

After the scrutiny of the Technical Proposals of the organizations, eligible organizations will be required to make a brief presentation before a panel of experts and the shortlisted bidders will be requested for Financial Proposals. The organizations/bidders with lowest quotes will be awarded the contract.

Description of Requirements

<p>Context of the Requirement</p>	<p>Four Studies/Reports:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Human Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh.2 To explore the Causes of Declining Sex Ratio in the age group of 0-6 Years.3 Financial Report Card on Human Development in Himachal Pradesh.4 To assess the Socio-Economic Status of Gujjars in Himachal Pradesh.
<p>Implementing Agency</p>	<p>HP HDRCS, Planning Department, H.P., Shimla-2</p>
<p>Brief Description of the requirements.</p>	<p>HP HDRCS invites proposals from competent agencies to undertake below mentioned studies:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(i) A study to assess the overall level of Human development achieved in the State of Himachal Pradesh over the last decade following a life cycle approach to human development. The study should also focus on the impact of environmental changes and potential impact of environmental policy on human development, and to institutionalize integration of human development in the planning process in Himachal Pradesh to achieve faster, environmentally sustainable and inclusive growth.(ii) To map the trends in Sex Ratio particularly in the age group of 0-6 years and to explore into the causes of decline in the sex ratio in the age group of 0-6 years during the last two decades in Himachal Pradesh.(iii) To undertake (a) analysis of financial allocations and expenditure by various Government Departments directly engaged in the process of Human Development in Himachal Pradesh (b) to examine if the expenditure incurred by the Departments has actually translated into the desired outcomes contributing to further the process of human development in Himachal Pradesh and (c) to make projections on the financial requirements (both in private and Government sectors) during

	<p>the next five years for meeting the targets set during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period of Himachal Pradesh.</p> <p>(iv) To undertake the study for assessment of the socio-economic status of the Nomadic Gujjars in Himachal Pradesh. Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh have been traditionally depended on the livelihood strategies that revolved around rearing and management of buffaloes. It would also be an endeavor to explore into the possibility of adoption to other alternative livelihoods strategies which could improve and uplift the socio-economic status of the Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh.</p>
List and Description of Expected Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concept note on the proposed study to HP HDRCS within two weeks of award of contract. 2. Final Study Report with the mentioned objectives to HP HDRCS. 3. Periodic Stakeholders' consultations during the course of the assignment.
Person to Supervise the Work/Performance of the contract awardee.	State Co-ordinator, of HP HDRCS, Planning Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2 or his nominee.
Frequency of reporting	Monthly, midterm and completion report.
Progress reporting requirements	To be determined as per milestones.
Expected duration of work	As per the ToRs for each study.
Target start date	February, 2014
Latest completion date	As per the ToRs for each study.
Time schedule indicating breakdown and timing of activities/sub-activities	Required
Names and curriculum vitae of individuals who will be involved in completing the services	Required
Validity period of proposals (counted the last day of submission of proposals)	One year.
Partial proposals	Bidders can offer to do one or more of the studies as per assignment.
Person(s) to review/ inspect/	State Co-ordinator, HP HDRCS, Planning

approve outputs/completed services and authorize the disbursement of payment.	Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2.
Type of contract to be signed.	Institutional Contract.
Criteria for Contract Award	Highest combined score based on 70% technical offer and 30% financial cost (to be invited from shortlisted organizations after evaluation of Technical Bids) weight distribution and full acceptance of the HP HDRCS contract general terms and conditions. This is a mandatory criteria and can't be deleted regardless the nature of services required. Non acceptance of the general terms and conditions may be grounds for the rejection of the proposal.
Criteria for the Assessment of Proposal	<p>Technical proposal (70%) –</p> <p>(i) Expertise of the firm(s) – 20%</p> <p>(ii) methodology, its appropriateness to the conditions and time lines of the implementation plan-30%, and</p> <p>(iii) management structure and qualification of key personnel – 20%.</p> <p>Shortlisted bidders are required to make a presentation to the panel of the Experts before final list of bidders eligible for submitting financial bids is drawn.</p> <p>Financial (30%) –</p> <p>To be computed as a ratio of the proposal's offer to the lowest price among the proposals received by HP HDRCS.</p>
HP HDRCS, Planning Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2 will award the contract to	One or more organization(s).
Annexes to this RFP	<p>(i) Form for submission of proposal (Annex-2)</p> <p>(ii) General Terms and Conditions/ Special Conditions (Annex-3)</p> <p>(iii) Detailed ToRs (Annex-4)</p>

Contract person for inquiries (written inquiries only)	Head, HP HDRCS. Any delay in HP HDRCS's response shall be not used as a reason for extending the dead line for submission, unless HP HDRCS determines that such an extension is necessary and communicates a new dead line to the proposers.
Other Information	<p>Outer envelope should bear RFP reference number and sender's name and address with title of the study for which proposal is sent.</p> <p>Proposals are invited from the institutions/organizations only.</p> <p>Proposal submitted by individuals will not be accepted.</p>

**FORM FOR SUBMITTING ORGANIZATION'S
TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (May be used as Guide)**

(This Form must be submitted only using the Organization's Official Letterhead/Stationery – includes addresses, emails, phone and fax numbers for verification purposes)

To

**The Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and
Coordination Society (HP HDRCS), Room No. 502,
Planning Department, Yojna Bhawan, H.P., Shimla-171 002**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We, the undersigned, hereby offer to render the following services to HP HDRCS in conformity with the requirements defined in the RFP dated [*specify date*] , and all of its attachments, as well as the provisions of the HP HDRCS General Contract Terms and Conditions :

A. Qualifications of the Service provider

The Organization must describe and explain how and why they are the best entity that can deliver the requirements of HP HDRCS by indicating the following :

- (a) Profile - describing the nature of business, field of expertise, licenses, certifications, accreditations;
- (b) Business Licenses – Registration Papers, Tax Payment Certification, etc.
- (c) Latest Audited Financial Statement – income statement and balance sheet to indicate Its financial stability, liquidity, credit standing, and market reputation, etc. ;
- (d) Track Record – list of clients for similar services indicating description of contract scope, contract duration, contract value, contact references;
- (e) Certificates and Accreditation – including Quality Certificates, Patent Registrations, Environmental Sustainability Certificates, etc.

B Proposed Methodology for the Completion of Services

The Organization must describe how it will address/deliver the demands of the RFP; providing a detailed description of the essential performance characteristics, time lines, reporting conditions and quality assurance mechanisms that will be put in place, while demonstrating that the proposed methodology will be appropriate to the local conditions and context of the work.

C Qualifications of Key Personnel

The Organization must provide :

- a) Names and qualifications of the key personnel that will perform the task indicating who is Team Leader, who are supporting, etc.;
- b) CVs demonstrating qualifications must be submitted; and
- c) Written confirmation from each personnel that they are available for the entire duration of the contract.

(Name and signature of the Organization's authorized person)

Designation : _____

Date : _____

General Terms and Conditions for Services

1.0 LEGAL STATUS:

The Contractor shall be considered as having the legal status of an independent contractor vis-à-vis the Himachal Pradesh Human Development Resource Coordination Society (HP HDRCS). The Contractor's personnel and sub-contractors shall not be considered in any respect as being the employees or agents of HP HDRCS or the Government of H.P.

2.0 SOURCE OF INSTRUCTIONS:

The Contractor shall neither seek nor accept instructions from any authority external to HP HDRCS in connection with the performance of its services under this Contract. The Contractor shall refrain from any action that may adversely affect HP HDRCS or the Government of H.P. and shall fulfil its commitments with the fullest regard to the interests of HP HDRCS.

3.0 CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES:

The Contractor shall be responsible for the professional and technical competence of its employees and will select, for work under this Contract, reliable individuals who will perform effectively in the implementation of this Contract, respect the local customs, and conform to a high standard of moral and ethical conduct.

4.0 ASSIGNMENT:

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, pledge or make other disposition of this Contract or any part thereof, or any of the Contractor's rights, claims or obligations under this Contract except with the prior written consent of HP HDRCS.

5.0 OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT:

The Contractor warrants that no official of HP HDRCS or the Government of H.P. has received or will be offered by the Contractor any direct or indirect benefit arising from this Contract or the award thereof. The Contractor agrees that breach of this provision is a breach of an essential term of this Contract.

6.0 INDEMNIFICATION:

The Contractor shall indemnify, hold and save harmless, and defend, at its own expense, HP HDRCS, its officials, agents, servants and employees from and against all suits, claims, demands, and liability of any nature or kind, including their costs and expenses, arising out of acts or omissions of the Contractor, or the Contractor's employees, officers, agents, in the performance of this Contract. This provision shall extend, inter alia, to claims and liability in the nature of workmen's compensation, products liability and liability arising out of the use of patented inventions or devices, copyrighted material or other intellectual property by the Contractor, its employees, officers, agents or servants. The obligations under this Article do not lapse upon termination of this Contract.

7.0 ENCUMBRANCES/LIENS:

The Contractor shall not cause or permit any lien, attachment or other encumbrance by any person to be placed on file or to remain on file in any public office or on file with the HP HDRCS against any money due or to become due for any work done or materials furnished under this Contract, or by reason of any other claim or demand against the Contractor.

8.0 COPYRIGHT AND OTHER PROPRIETARY RIGHTS:

- 8.1 Except as is otherwise expressly provided in writing in the Contract, the HP HDRCS shall be entitled to all intellectual property and other proprietary rights including, but not limited to, copyrights with regard to products, processes, inventions, ideas, know-how, or documents and other materials which the Contractor has developed for the HP HDRCS under the Contract and which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequence of, or during the course of, the performance of the Contract, and the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that such products, documents and other materials constitute documents made for the HP HDRCS.
- 8.2 To the extent that any such intellectual property or other proprietary rights consisting of an intellectual property or other proprietary rights of the Contractor: (i) that pre-existed the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract, or (ii) that the Contractor may develop or acquire, or may have developed or acquired, independently of the performance of its obligations under the Contract, the HP HDRCS does not and shall not claim any ownership interest thereto, and the Contractor grants to the HP HDRCS a perpetual license to use such intellectual property or other proprietary right solely for the purposes of and in accordance with the requirements of the Contract.
- 8.3 At the request of the HP HDRCS; the Contractor shall take all necessary steps, execute all necessary documents and generally assist in securing such proprietary rights and transferring or licensing them to the HP HDRCS in compliance with the requirements of the applicable law and of the Contract.
- 8.4 Subject to the foregoing provisions, all maps, drawings, photographs, mosaics, plans, reports, estimates, recommendations, documents, and all other data compiled by or received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be the property of the HP HDRCS, shall be made available for use or inspection by the HP HDRCS at reasonable times and in reasonable places, shall be treated as confidential, and shall be delivered only to HP HDRCS authorized officials on completion of work under the Contract.

9.0 USE OF NAME, EMBLEM OR OFFICIAL SEAL OF HP HDRCS OR THE GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH (GoHP)

The Contractor shall not advertise or otherwise make public the fact that it is a Contractor with HP HDRCS, nor shall the Contractor, in any manner whatsoever use the name, emblem or official seal of HP HDRCS or the Government of H.P., or any abbreviation of the name of HP HDRCS or the Government of H.P.in connection with its business or otherwise.

10.0 FORCE MAJEURE; OTHER CHANGES IN CONDITIONS

- 10.1 In the event of and as soon as possible after the occurrence of any cause constituting force majeure, the Contractor shall give notice and full particulars in writing to the HP HDRCS, of such occurrence or change if the Contractor is thereby rendered unable, wholly or in part, to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract. The Contractor shall also notify the HP HDRCS of any other changes in conditions or the occurrence of any event that interferes or threatens to interfere with its performance of this Contract. On receipt of the notice required under this Article, the HP HDRCS shall take such action as, in its sole discretion; it considers to be appropriate or necessary in the circumstances, including the granting to the Contractor of a reasonable extension of time in which to perform its obligations under this Contract.
- 10.2 If the Contractor is rendered permanently unable, wholly, or in part, by reason of force majeure to perform its obligations and meet its responsibilities under this Contract, the HP HDRCS shall have the right to suspend or terminate this Contract on the same terms and conditions as are provided for in Article 11, "Termination", except that the period of notice shall be seven (7) days instead of thirty (30) days.
- 10.3 Force majeure as used in this Article means acts of God, war (whether declared or not), invasion, revolution, insurrection, or other acts of a similar nature or force.
- 10.4 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, with respect to any obligations under the Contract that the Contractor must perform in or for any areas in which the HP HDRCS is engaged in, preparing to engage in, or disengaging from any peacekeeping, humanitarian or similar operations, any delays or failure to perform such obligations arising from or relating to harsh conditions within such areas or to any incidents of civil unrest occurring in such areas shall not, in and of itself, constitute force majeure under the Contract.

11.0 TERMINATION

- 11.1 Either party may terminate this Contract for cause, in whole or in part, upon thirty (30) days notice, in writing, to the party.
- 11.2 HP HDRCS reserves the right to terminate without cause this Contract at any time upon 15 days prior written notice to the Contractor, in which case HP HDRCS shall reimburse the Contractor for all reasonable costs incurred by the Contractor prior to receipt of the notice of termination.
- 11.3 In the event of any termination by HP HDRCS under this Article, no payment shall be due from HP HDRCS to the Contractor except for work and services satisfactorily performed in conformity with the express terms of this Contract.
- 11.4 Should the Contractor be adjudged bankrupt, or be liquidated or become insolvent, or should the Contractor make an assignment for the benefit of its creditors, or should a Receiver be appointed on account of the insolvency of the Contractor, the HP HDRCS may, without prejudice to

any other right or remedy it may have under the terms of these conditions, terminate this Contract forthwith. The Contractor shall immediately inform the HP HDRCS of the occurrence of any of the above events.

12. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Amicable Settlement: The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this Contract or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof. Where the parties wish to seek such an amicable settlement through conciliation, the conciliation shall take place in accordance with the procedure as may be agreed between the parties.

13. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES:

Nothing in or relating to this Contract shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied of any of the privileges and immunities of the Government of Himachal Pradesh, HDRCS and its organs.

14. OBSERVANCE OF THE LAW:

The Contractor shall comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations bearing upon the performance of its obligations under the terms of this Contract.

15. SEXUAL EXPLOITATION:

The Contractor shall take all appropriate measures to prevent sexual exploitation or abuse of anyone by it or by any of its employees or any other persons who may be engaged by the Contractor to perform any services under the Contract. For these purposes, sexual activity with any person less than eighteen years of age, regardless of any laws relating to consent, shall constitute the sexual exploitation and abuse of such person. In addition, the Contractor shall refrain from, and shall take all appropriate measures to prohibit its employees or other persons engaged by it from, exchanging any money, goods, services, offers of employment or other things of value, for sexual favours or activities, or from engaging in any sexual activities that are exploitive or degrading to any person. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the provisions hereof constitute an essential term of the Contract and that any breach of this representation and warranty shall entitle HP HDRCS to terminate the Contract immediately upon notice to the Contractor, without any liability for termination charges or any other liability of any kind.

16. AUTHORITY TO MODIFY:

Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of HP HDRCS, only the HP HDRCS Authorized Official possesses the authority to agree on behalf of HP HDRCS to any modification of or change in this Contract, to a waiver of any of its provisions or to any additional contractual relationship of any kind with the Contractor. Accordingly, no modification or change in this Contract shall be valid and enforceable against HP HDRCS unless provided by an amendment to this Contract signed by the Contractor and jointly by the HP HDRCS Authorized Official.

Terms of References (ToRs)

1 - “Study on Human Development for inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh”

Objectives

To undertake a study to assess the overall level of Human development achieved in the State of Himachal Pradesh over the last decade following a life cycle approach to human development. The study should also focus on the impact of environmental changes and potential impact of environmental policy on human development, and to institutionalize integration of human development in the planning process in Himachal Pradesh achieve faster, environmentally sustainable and inclusive growth.

Background and Rationale:

A small predominantly hilly State of Himachal Pradesh started its development journey in 1971 when it was conferred with the full Statehood. Himachal Pradesh has an area of 55,673 square kilometers and a population of about seven million people (2011 Census). About 90% of its population lives in the rural areas of the State. In a short span of about forty years Himachal Pradesh has earned a distinction of being one of the most progressive hill State of the Union of India. Annual growth rate in the gross state domestic product (GSDP) and the per capita income are the best economic indicators to know the economic status of any economy. The per capita income of Himachal Pradesh (Rs. 65,335 at current prices for 2010-11) has been perpetually higher than the national average (Rs. 53,331 at current prices for 2010-11). Relatively higher growth rates of Himachal's economy and also higher per capita income of Himachal Pradesh are indicative of effective implementation of the development policies of the Government. The progress made by the State in terms of availability of health and education facilities has been impressive during last forty years. Despite belligerent geo-climatic conditions, the physical infrastructure availability in the State has improved remarkably. Efforts of the State Government in conservation of environment have been acknowledged globally.

Taking a lead in reducing the carbon emissions and earning carbon credits for the same, Himachal Pradesh has emerged as the first State in the country to march towards achieving carbon neutrality. The State has taken various steps to protect the environment and achieve carbon neutrality. The hilly state has earned the distinction of being a trendsetter in development issues.

Environmental degradation and climate change are intrinsically and intricately linked to human development as the prudence used in management of natural resources is the major determinant of the development path of a society. The recent UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Human Development Report on 'Sustaining Human Progress in a Changing Climate' provides factual evidence to demonstrate that 'climate change threatens further progress in poverty reduction and it could also render already hard-won human development gains unsustainable.

For a progressive State like Himachal Pradesh, economic growth will remain a priority for next one or two decades, but the need is to combine efforts towards increasing average incomes together with ensuring sustainable natural resource use. The increasing requirements of rapidly changing life styles of the population of the State need to be

reconciled with development planning through more judicious natural resource management and environmental conservation.

The Human Development: Towards Bridging Inequalities (HDBI) project of the Planning Commission and UNDP is focused on assessing the status of human development from multiple perspectives in order to identify challenges to progress and identify viable solutions. With poverty and inequalities set to intensify further with environmental degradation and climate change, it appears necessary to understand human development from the perspective of environmental sustainability and the potential impacts that climate change and environmental degradation may have on human development.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has also entered a partnership with the Planning Commission of India and the UNDP under the aegis of the HDBI and has undertaken to implement a project - Human Development in Himachal Pradesh with Inclusive Green Growth and Sustainable Development with the objectives having broad synergy with the objectives of the national level project. The First Human Development Report of Himachal Pradesh was brought out in the year 2003 and now it has become an imperative to document the developments that have taken place in the field of human development in Himachal Pradesh.

It is in this background that a study is proposed under the project, to (a) study to assess the overall level of Human development achieved in the State of Himachal Pradesh over the last decade following a life cycle approach to human development, and (b) to institutionalize integration of human development in the planning process in Himachal Pradesh to achieve faster, environmentally sustainable and inclusive green growth.

Scope of work

The proposed study will be undertaken for Himachal Pradesh to:

1. Make an assessment of the overall level of Human development achieved in the State of Himachal Pradesh over the last decade following a life cycle approach to human development.
2. Analyze and document linkages between human development and environmental sustainability by examining dominant environmental concerns in the State's context and the manner and extent to which they impact human development indicators and exacerbate inequalities.
3. Analyze the detrimental effects of environmental degradation on the poorer and vulnerable sections taking into account the extreme weather patterns, climate change and environmental changes.
4. Examine the extent to which the environmental concerns are integrated into planning for human development at the national (in recent five year plan) & state level (Himachal Pradesh).
5. To record people's perception about human development and its linkages with the environmental policy and climate change.
6. Analyze the existing policy framework on the process of human development and the environmental concerns and to make recommendations based on the findings of the study.

The agency/organization will submit an inception paper to the Planning Department within two weeks of issuance of the contract. The agency/organization is expected to organize periodic stakeholder's consultations during the course of the assignment so as to ensure that the all the concerns of all the stakeholders get covered duly.

Deliverables

1. Concept note on the study agreed the Planning Department of Himachal Pradesh
2. Final Study Report with the mentioned objectives.
3. Periodic Stakeholder's consultations during the course of the assignment.

Reporting

The assignment will be supervised by Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society (Regd.) of the Planning Department of Himachal Pradesh.

Basic Eligibility Criteria

The agency/organization submitting the proposal must have the following demonstrated capacities to be considered for technical evaluation –

(a) Familiarity on issues of sustainable development at National and State Level; (b) Hands on experience on working with the Government on Environment/Social issues; (c) Hands on experience working on the planning processes at the national and state level; (d) Demonstrated ability to produce high quality research/policy papers; and, (e) capacity to disseminate and advocate on the use of knowledge products thus generated with government and civil society. (f) Requisite manpower to do data collection, analysis and reporting.

Duration: 10 months from the award of the contract

2 - “Study to Explore the Causes of Declining Sex Ratio in the Age Group of 0-6 Years”

Objectives

To map the trends in Sex Ratio particularly in the age group of 0-6 years and to explore into the causes of decline in the sex ratio in the age group of 0-6 years during the last two decades in Himachal Pradesh.

Background and Rationale

Most societies in the industrialized world have a healthy 0-6 child ratio i.e. there are roughly the same number of girls and boys in the 0 – 6 age-group. In India however, the rapidly declining sex-ratios are turning into a demographic nightmare of frightening proportions.

The sex ratio of 927 in the 0 – 6 age group is only the national average for India. There are areas within the country where the ratio has dropped to well below 900. The ratios for some of the states are: Himachal Pradesh 896, Punjab 793, Chandigarh 845, Uttaranchal 906, Haryana 819, Delhi 865, Rajasthan 909, and Gujarat 879. These are not the most economically backward areas of the country. On the contrary, Punjab, with the lowest 0 – 6 sex-ratio in the country, is the most economically prosperous state of India. Delhi, the national capital region of India, has a declining 0 -6 sex-ratio. In fact, some of the poorest states have a sex-ratio well above the national average. The decline in the sex ratio in the age group of 0-6 years in Himachal Pradesh was reported in the Census 2001 data.

Several reasons are attributed to the decline in the number of girls – neglect of the girl child, high maternal mortality, female infanticide and now, female foeticide. Sex-selective abortions have been greatly facilitated by the misuse of diagnostic procedures such as amniocentesis that can determine the sex of the foetus.

The prejudice against the girl child continues to be an issue of concern for the Government of Himachal Pradesh, which, has started several incentive based initiatives besides strictly implementing the provisions of the PNDT Act to address the problem of female foeticide. As a result of these initiatives of the State Government the declining sex ratio has been reversed as per the Census 2011 data. However there is much required to be done on this front which needs to be preceded by establishing the reasons for this decline in the State.

The study is one of the steps in meeting the objectives of the project – Human Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh being implemented in the State under the umbrella of the national project – Human Development for Bridging Inequalities being implemented jointly by the Planning Commission and the UNDP.

The agency/organization will submit an inception paper to the Planning Department within two weeks of issuance of the contract. The agency/organization is expected to organize periodic stakeholder’s consultations during the course of the assignment so as to ensure that the all the concerns of all the stakeholders get covered duly.

Scope of the Work

The proposed study will be undertaken to:-

1. Map the trends in the sex Ratio particularly in the age group of 0-6 years in Himachal Pradesh.
2. Seeking to find a relationship between the socio-economic conditions of Himachal Pradesh with the declining trend.
3. To explain the observed trend with the help of appropriate tools and indicators.
4. In depth exploration into the causes of decline in sex ratio in the age group of 0-6 years in Himachal Pradesh.
5. Analysis of the existing policy framework in Himachal Pradesh that aims at arresting the declining trend in the 0-6 year sex ratio.
6. Policy recommendations to improve the sex ration in the age group of 0-6 years in Himachal Pradesh.

Deliverables

1. Concept note on the proposed study to Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society(HPHDRCS), Planning Department, Himachal Pradesh.
2. Final Study Report with the mentioned objectives.
3. Periodic Stakeholders' consultations during the course of the assignment.

Reporting

The assignment will be supervised by Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society, Planning Department, Himachal Pradesh.

Basic Eligibility Criteria

The agency/ organization submitting the proposal must have the following capabilities for technical evaluation:-

- a. Familiarity with the issue at National and State Levels.
- b. Familiarity and Adaptability of the personnel/ analysts to the peculiar geo-climatic and economic conditions of Himachal Pradesh.
- c. Earlier experience in similar field.
- d. Proven experience and capability/ ability for high quality research/ policy documentation.
- e. Adequately skilled and experienced manpower to undertake data collection, analysis and documentation.
- f. Capacity to disseminate the knowledge thus assimilated and advocate on the recommendations based on the findings.

Duration

08 months from the award of the contract.

3 - “Financial Report Card on Human Development in Himachal Pradesh”

Objectives

- a. to undertake analysis of financial allocations and expenditure by various Government Departments directly engaged in the process of Human Development in Himachal Pradesh
- b. to examine if the expenditure incurred by the Departments has actually translated into the desired outcomes contributing to further the process of human development in Himachal Pradesh
- c. to make projections on the financial requirements (both in private and Government sectors) during the next five years for meeting the targets set during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period of Himachal Pradesh

Background and Rationale

Himachal Pradesh scores reasonably high on the indices of Human Development in comparison to other many other developed States of the country. The educational achievements, in particular, are impressive; health indicators are generally better than those for the country as a whole and the State has been able to reduce the poverty levels substantially. The efforts on the front of promotion of gender equity has met a considerable success in Himachal Pradesh. One of the factors which have contributed to the achievements made in the field of human development in Himachal Pradesh has been consistently high public expenditure on human development during the last two decades or so.

The available information indicates that the State’s development is almost entirely driven by the public sector investment. Without going into the issue of desirability of greater private sector involvement and contribution to development in Himachal Pradesh, it can safely be inferred that the health of State’s finances have considerable influence on the path of development of the State. By virtue of being a Special Category State, Himachal Pradesh has to consistently rely on the Central transfers to keep its finances stable and enabling it to meet the resource requirement for achieving higher levels of human development in the State. Achieving the targets set in the Twelfth Five Year Plan document of Himachal Pradesh is the real challenge with the State Government besides maintaining the level of achievements already made by the States in the field of human development.

The study is one of the steps in meeting the objectives of the project – Human Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh being implemented in the State under the umbrella of the national project – Human Development for Bridging Inequalities being implemented jointly by the Planning Commission and the UNDP.

The agency/organization will submit an inception paper to the Planning Department within two weeks of issuance of the contract. The agency/organization is expected to organize periodic stakeholder’s consultations during the course of the assignment so as to ensure that the all the concerns of all the stakeholders get covered duly.

Scope of Work

1. The study will undertake in-depth analysis of the expenditure incurred by the major Government Departments of Himachal Pradesh directly responsible for implementing the programmes aimed at enhancing the levels of human development in relation to the budgetary outlays during the last twenty years.
2. To examine how public expenditure has translated into the desired outcomes responsible for achieving high levels of human development in the Himachal Pradesh during the reference period.
3. To make an assessment of the extent of presence of private sector in the provision of services in Himachal Pradesh for improving the quality of life.
4. To make projections on the resource requirement by the Government of Himachal Pradesh in achieving the targets related to various human development indices set during the Twelfth Five Year Plan of Himachal Pradesh.

Deliverables

1. Concept note on the proposed study to Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society(HPHDRCS), Planning Department, Himachal Pradesh.
2. Final Study Report with the mentioned objectives.
3. Periodic Stakeholders' consultations during the course of the assignment.

Reporting

The assignment will be supervised by Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society, Planning Department, Himachal Pradesh.

Basic Eligibility Criteria

The agency/ organization submitting the proposal must have the following capabilities for technical evaluation:-

- a. Familiarity of the issue at National and State Level.
- b. Familiarity with the Geographical and socio-economic conditions of the State
- c. Adaptability of the personnel/ analysts to the peculiar circumstances prevailing in small hill State of Himachal Pradesh.
- d. Experience of planning and analysis of financial aspects related to human development.
- e. Proven record and Capability/ ability for high quality research/ policy documentation.
- f. Capacity to disseminate the knowledge thus gathered with government and civil society and advocate on the issues emerging in the final document.

Duration

06 months from the award of the contract.

4 - “Study to Assess the Socio-Economic Status of Gujjars in Himachal Pradesh”

Objectives

To undertake the study for assessment of the socio-economic status of the Nomadic Gujjars in Himachal Pradesh. Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh have been traditionally depended on the livelihood strategies that revolved around rearing and management of buffaloes. It would also be an endeavor to explore into the possibility of adoption to other alternative livelihoods strategies which could improve and uplift the socio-economic status of the Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh.

Background and Rationale

Under the provisions of the Indian constitution the Gujjars are notified as a Scheduled Tribe (ST) in Himachal Pradesh. The Gujjar economy revolves around the buffaloes, and they survive by selling milk and milk products to settled villagers. They often rely on middlemen, to whom many are now indebted. As nomads, the Gujjars have difficulties proving land ownership, and often face eviction from their camp sites. Although some of the Gujjars have been reported to have settled down and have resorted to pastoralism. Their children either stay at home or accompany them during migratory periods. The level of literacy among the Gujjars is low especially for girls.

The Twelfth Plan document of Himachal Pradesh stresses upon to achieve faster and more inclusive growth. One of the ways that could help in achieving this goal is to uplift the socio-economic status of the underprivileged sections of the society. Appropriate policy formulations follows the assessment of the situation.

The study is also one of the steps in meeting the objectives of the project – Human Development for Inclusive and Sustainable Green Growth in Himachal Pradesh being implemented in the State under the umbrella of the national project – Human Development for Bridging Inequalities being implemented jointly by the Planning Commission and the UNDP.

The agency/organization will submit an inception paper to the Planning Department within two weeks of issuance of the contract. The agency/organization is expected to organize periodic stakeholder’s consultations during the course of the assignment so as to ensure that the all the concerns of all the stakeholders get covered duly.

Scope of the Work

The proposed study will be undertaken to:-

1. Make assessment of the socio-economic status of the Gujjars, both- Nomadic Gujjars and those settled into the colonies in Himachal Pradesh.
2. Document various aspects of the human development pertaining to the lives of Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh with the help of appropriate indicators.
3. In depth analysis of the livelihood strategies being adopted by the Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh and suggesting alternate strategies which could uplift their socio-economic status.
4. Analyze the impact of developmental programmes initiated by Government for the welfare of tribal people especially the Gujjars.
5. Analyze the existing policy framework and recommendations of various Committees and Commissions for the welfare of Gujjars.
6. Recommendations for improving the socioeconomic status of Gujjars of Himachal Pradesh.

Deliverables

1. Concept note on the proposed study to Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society(HPHDRCS), Planning Department, Himachal Pradesh.
2. Final Study Report with the mentioned objectives.
3. Periodic Stakeholders' consultations during the course of the assignment.

Reporting

The assignment will be supervised by Himachal Pradesh Human Development Research and Coordination Society, Planning Department, Himachal Pradesh.

Basic Eligibility Criteria

The agency/ organization submitting the proposal must have the following capabilities for technical evaluation:-

- a. Familiarity with the issues related to Nomadic life at National and State Levels.
- b. Familiarity and Adaptability of the personnel/ analysts to the living conditions of various Nomads.
- c. Earlier experience in similar assessment of lives of nomads in other parts of the country.
- d. Proven experience and capability/ability for high quality research/ policy documentation.
- e. Adequately skilled and experienced manpower to undertake data collection, analysis and documentation.
- f. Capacity to disseminate the knowledge thus assimilated and advocate on the recommendations based on the findings.

Duration

08 months from the award of the contract.
