Terms of Reference (TOR) Hiring of Consultant for Training on Vegetable Production in Arkari Valley, Chitral, KPK

Introduction:

Arkari is located 70 km away from main city of lower Chitral. Village Council (VC) Arkari comes under Union Council (UC) Shaghore with 900 households and total population of 7700 including 4500 men and 3200 women. The access to this valley is unpaved and rough narrow road. Travel on this road during wintertime is extremely difficult due to snow on the road. Most of the people living in the valley are depending on agriculture and livestock. The climatic conditions in the valley prevail harsh conditions that have significant impact on the agriculture sector.

The valley falls in a single cropping zone, where average lean season of harvesting crop is 6 months. Communities in the valley mostly grow wheat and maize but the climatic condition not being suitable for cultivation of such crop the average production is much lower than the national average, therefore the income level from traditional farming is much below than the potential of the area for other cash crop. Potato and peas production has recently been introduced in the area but the farmers mostly unaware of the growing and crop management techniques as well as lack of market linkage for these crops. Keeping in view the above-mentioned situation AKRSP Chitral after long consultation and discussion with the communities of the area introduced the high valued vegetable cash crop, namely Broccoli, Peas, and White Onion. Further Aga Khan Economic Planning Board (AKEPB) has previous experienced and had identified niche market for sale of these three vegetables and recommended to go with these as alternative to traditional farming. On the recommendation of professional after discussion with communities last year two villages namely Bhesti and Shaliee Rahimabad were selected for the intervention.

Communities were halfheartedly willing to spare piece of land for new agriculture innovation but after looking into the economic returns of 60 households of previous year, now 140 new potential farmers are ready to spare their lands for commercial cultivation of Broccoli, Peas, White Onion and Kidney Bean (in addition). In total 200 farmers will be benefited from this high value cash crop production.

Objectives:

* Introduction and demonstration of high value cash crop production on commercial level to increase farm income of the small farmers.
* To motivate and train the farmers in high value vegetable cash crop production and management in remote valleys of Chitral.
* To transfer production technology of high value cash crop to the farmers from sowing till marketing.
* To familiarize farmers with identification and management of pests and diseases.
* To create awareness regarding marketing for more income from small land.

Scope of Work:

The participants of the selected remote valley of Chitral will be motivated based on economic and health benefits of high value vegetable cash crops. Production technology of each selected vegetable will be transferred to the farmers for commercial cultivation practices, pest and disease management, post-harvest handling, value addition, market analysis, and branding. The scope of the work also proposes new measures to enhance the resilience of remote valley of Chitral to the impacts of climate change, focusing on sustainable livelihoods. It also includes soil management using natural and organic sources such as manure, compost, and organic matter, ensuring sustainable agricultural practices and maintaining soil health.

Skills Required:

The consultancy is open for national individual consultants having sound experience in the relevant field, specifically;

* At least 03 years of experience in Agriculture Value Chain, Enterprise Development, Agribusiness, Rural Development, or related fields;
* Proven track record of working on similar assignments; particularly on bokashi (organic fertilizer) formation agribusiness and value chains studies;
* Good analytical and report writing skills;

Deliverables:

## Inception report within two weeks from the issuance of assignment contract

1. Presentation on field data and initial findings upon accomplishment of field work
2. Draft Report submission for review to AKRSP.
3. Final report submission after incorporation of suggestions/comments by AKRSP Team.

Terms and Conditions:

Affidavit of not black listed by public organization or defaulter of scheduled bank and not involved in any litigation

The Consultant will be shortlisted on following qualification criteria:

1. Technical Proposal:
* Profile
* Relevant experience
* list of clients/projects completed
* Proposed methodology and implementation plan
* Provide detailed CVs of technical staff (in technical bid)
1. Financial Proposal:
* Detailed cost/budget breakup of activities.

Short listing:

Technical and financial proposals will have 60:40 weightage respectively mentioned below. Only shortlisted applicants will be called for further presentation and negotiations. Technical Proposal marking/weightage 60%

Technical Proposal Weightage is given below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.No | Human Resource  | Relevant Experiences | List of relevant projects completed  | Proposed Methodology for conducting Training |

Distribution of Marks/ weightage:

The technical Evaluation will be assessed on the following main parameters:

1. Human Resource
2. Relevant Experiences
3. List of Projects/ Consultancies completed

Duration and Schedule:

The duration of the training program will be 22 days with 22 theory and practical sessions.

Target Audience:

Two hundred identified potential farmers will be trained on production technology of high value vegetable cash crops i-e Broccoli, Peas, White Onion and Kidney Bean.

Expression of interest along with requisite documents /profile may be submitted in the form of signed hard copies at the following address till 16:00 hrs on May 08, 2024.

If the individual, firm/organization applied to this EOI tried to contact to influence the procurement process, will be disqualified directly.