REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES – INDIVIDUAL/FIRMS/ORGANISATION SELECTION)

Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation, BRLF (An Independent Society set up by the Govt. of India to upscale civil society action in partnership with Government)

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Background

Government of India has setup Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF) as an independent organization under the Societies Registration Act to facilitate and upscale civil society action in partnership with - Government for transforming livelihoods and lives of rural households, with an emphasis on tribal communities and women and to build capacity of Rural Livelihood Professionals.

BRLF in its initial years is focusing on the Central Indian Tribal Belt, and within it on blocks that have >20% ST population as a minimum requirement, while carrying positive bias towards blocks with much higher ST populations, and in remoter areas. The focus states include Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

BRLF is a unique and first-of-its-kind initiative with the Foundation constituted as a partnership between Government on one hand and the private sector philanthropies, public and private sector undertakings (under Corporate Social Responsibility) on the other. Major functions of BRLF is to provide financial grants to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to meet their human resource and institutional costs for up-scaling proven interventions, strengthen State Government & CSO partnership, invest in institutional strengthening of CSOs and CBOs, and capacity building of functionaries of community based organizations, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Civil Society Organizations and Government Departments.

For more details, please visit BRLF's website http://www.brlf.in

Purpose of inviting Expression of Interest

Currently, BRLF is engaged actively with CSOs and State Governments to reduce the gap between programme outlays and outcomes through strengthening of democratic institutions of governance at the grass-roots, improved quality of implementation of flagship programmes and schemes towards livelihood outcomes, and scale up of successful models of interventions. It has already partnered with a number of CSOs spread across eight states of central India.

Some of the CSOs lack technical capacity and experience in some livelihood themes which if brought to bear on their efforts with communities, offer significant possibilities of enhancing their livelihoods. BRLF plans to provide technical support/training and handholding to these agencies and the themes where they appear challenged towards improving the outcomes for rural households. It also plans to work towards strengthening the internal systems of some of the

partner CSOs (governance, MIS, financial systems, HR systems) and assist in the organization's overall development.

BRLF believes in working in a partnership mode and would like to provide the support of the best from the development sector to bring about irreversible change in the lives of rural households.

BRLF invites Expression of Interest from eligible Individuals/Firms/Organizations for empanelment as Technical Support Agency to provide technical and possibly handholding support in following domains/thematic areas:

- 1. Land and Water resource development: Planning, Management, Design of structures, Usages and Distribution of water resources, Water Budgeting, Participatory Irrigation management
- 2. Forest Rights (FRA, PESA) and Commons Property Rights
- 3. Sustainable Livelihoods through sub themes in value chain approach:
 - a. System of crop intensification-SRI, SWI, etc
 - b. Climate resilient agriculture
 - c. Vegetable cultivation
 - d. Dairy
 - e. Fisheries
 - f. Poultry
 - g. Backyard Poultry
 - h. Duck rearing
 - i. Goat rearing
 - j. Piggery
 - k. NTFP (specify which products)
 - I. Farm Forestry/ Forestry
 - m. WADI/Horticulture etc.
 - n. Agro biodiversity conservation and ecological services
- 4. Implementing Government key social security, financial inclusion programmmes and schemes-building linkages/enabling convergence
- 5. Solid Waste Management
- 6. Liquid waste management
- 7. Institution building: SHGs (their cluster organization and federations), other CBOs, FPOs
- 8. Organization Development: Governance, MIS, HR & Financial systems etc.
- 9. Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning: Evaluation, research, documentation, impact studies etc.
- 10. Communications support for maintenance of web site, annual reports, publications, brochures, web communications.

Job Responsibilities

- Provide technical support to the organization on a theme (or a set of themes) in planning, designing of the intervention, providing training and hand holding support to the CSOs to roll out the intervention.
- Provide support to CSOs to finalize the implementation strategies which can be scalable, replicable and sustainable
- Provide support to the CSOs to implement the programs in a market driven and value chain approach
- Build the capacity of CSO staff, build master trainers and CRPs to on the technical and process knowledge
- Provide the CSO/s with information about different agencies such as government schemes, other funding agencies, from where the resources for the intervention can be generated.
- Help the CSOs in creating monitoring indicators for assessing the results of the intervention;
 strengthening MEL framework
- Support in establishing local documentation systems, capturing of emerging context specific best practices, innovation etc.
- Any other task in achieving the outcomes of the programmme aligned with the mandate of BRLF

Qualification, Experience and Competencies

- In case of Firm/organizations, a minimum 3 years of operations is a must.
- The technical person (individual or individual in a firm) having a post Graduate Degree should have 6 years of relevant experience in the particular theme and area of expertise for which they are applying OR a graduate degree with minimum 10 years of relevant experience in the theme.
- The technical person should have a Degree in Social Sciences, Development Studies, Agriculture, NRM, Social Work, Management, Agri-business Management, Sustainable Development or any other field with direct relevance to the advertised profile of work
- Proven experience in conducting and delivering capacity-building/training for field staff/Community resource persons/PRIs/CBOs/Government Functionaries.
- Proven track record and extensive experience in developing and designing of the community-based development and planning processes
- Experience of working with civil society organizations and or Livelihood related programmes or missions of Government
- Experience of working on rural enterprise development/ income generation programmes/ with producer companies/ CBOs is desirable.
- Experience of working with government, or in Government created missions/societies and with donor agencies is an advantage.
- Decent command over English language, especially writing skills is important. Knowledge of other languages from BRLF mandated areas is an advantage.
- Be able to work independently and to be organized in their work to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely manner.

The technical support agency would be required to frequently travel to the mandated areas of operations of BRLF (wherever there are partner locations).

This is a part time assignment and will be spread over a longer period of time.

Remunerations: BRLF offers competitive consulting rates as per industry standards commensurate with the experience of the firm/individual.

How To Apply

Please fill the "<u>Application for Empanelment of Technical Support Agency</u>" and send it Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation (BRLF) by mail to <u>info@brlf.in</u> with the subject line "EOI for Empanelment of Technical Support Agency".

Last date for applying for the position is 5th of April 2016.

BRLF is an equal opportunity organization. Qualified women are encouraged to apply. Persons with Disabilities which do not restrict their ability to travel alone to remote areas, interact with communities and write/document reports etc. are encouraged to apply.