

**National Skill Development Agency,
Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
Government of India**

9th Floor, NDCC II Building, Jai Singh Road
New Delhi-110001

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest (Eoi)

No: 2005/37/2014/NSDA/2419

Date: 28/11/2014

**Subject: Expression of Interest (EOI) for engaging Agency to conduct Studies
for Recognition of Prior Learning in India in different sectors**

National Skill Development Agency (NSDA) intends to engage reputed Organization/Institution for carrying out pilot studies relating to Recognition of Prior Learning. This would involve the assessment and formal certification of persons possessing skills acquired through non-formal learning. It is believed that formal certification of such informally or experientially acquired skills will benefit the concerned individual economically and/or socially. To test the validity of such premises, the pilot studies would include a tracer study to measure the actual benefits, if any, that such certification has resulted in.

Interested parties/firms must send their Expression of Interest (details available at NSDA website www.nsda.gov.in) latest by 1600 HRS on 24/12/2014. Sealed EOIs with the required documents clearly mentioning the relevant proposal and to undertake this assignment, should be sent by post or by hand at the following address:

Shri JD Barua (Principal Consultant)
National Skill Development Agency
Government of India
NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road
New Delhi-110001
Tele- 01123438001

**Director General
National Skill Development Agency**

Expression of Interest (EOI) for engaging Agency to conduct the pilot study for Recognition of Prior Learning in India in different sectors

1. BACKGROUND

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is the assessment and formal certification of skills and knowledge gained, generally through non-formal or informal training or work experience or life experience.

The formal training system poses entry restrictions in terms of minimum education requirements, age, etc which can make it inaccessible for workforce in rural area and from disadvantaged socio-economic groups. Most of the skill formation in the unorganized sector, which continues to be the predominant employer in the Indian economy, takes place through informal channels such as family occupation, on-the-job training under master craftsman with no linkages to formal education training and certification.

The National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), an autonomous body of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India, has commenced pilot studies to assess the relative costs and benefits of RPL in respect of identified job roles in four sectors (Gems & Jewellery, Agriculture, Allied Healthcare and Domestic Workers), while a similar study is being done for some job roles in the Construction sector by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

In each of these studies, the assumption pertaining to RPL certification being tested is that formal certification of skills acquired through non-formal learning channels would lead to an increase in one or more of the following –

- a) income,
- b) job mobility,
- c) social status,
- d) ability to migrate from informal to formal sector etc.
- e) increased likelihood of engaging in further education and training and reduced incidence of workplace injuries.

In each of the current pilot studies (except Construction sector), between 1000 to 1500 candidates are being certified, with provision for bridge courses in some cases, and their progress is being followed over a 52-week period post certification through a tracer study to assess the benefits from RPL. In the construction sector, the pilot

study covers about 10,000 candidates, and the tracer study will cover the first 5,000 candidates who are certified.

All tracer studies in respect of all five pilot studies are being done under a common framework jointly developed with the International Labour Organization (ILO), and being implemented by the ILO.

The five sectors that were selected were the outcome of deliberations in a workshop, and it has been recognized that:

- a) there may be other sectors in respect of which similar studies need to be done
- b) there could be additional hypotheses that would need to be tested
- c) there could be alternative ways to approach the issue of granting formal and due recognition to the millions of persons in the country who acquire skills through non-formal channels.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

This EOI is being floated to address the issues enumerated above, and it is intended that based on the findings of the five pilot studies (which are already under way), and those that would be commissioned as a result of this EOI, a clear picture would emerge of the sectors and aspects in respect of which it would be beneficial, both economically and/or socially, to frame a proper scheme for the Recognition of Prior Learning on a national scale; and the most cost effective and efficient methodology for conducting the same.

To achieve this objective, approved pilot projects may be required to use the standardised registration and evaluation proformas developed by the ILO that is being used by the current pilots.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Interested Agencies must have following qualification and experience:

1. Any for-profit or not-for-profit organization or entity engaged in any aspect of Skill/Vocational/Technical Training and education.
2. Having the relevant technical knowledge, skills and extensive experience of the task(s) to be performed,

3. With experience of working with national/state/district level public or private sector institutions
4. And have not been blacklisted by any State Government, Central Government or any other Public Sector undertaking or a Corporation
5. With the ability to design and implement a cogent RPL study to test well defined hypotheses. Proposals for the five sectors in respect of which pilots have been commissioned will not normally be accepted, unless the proposal highlights additional aspects to be evaluated that have been omitted in the current projects.

Interested parties have to submit the following documents along with the bid in the prescribed format at Annexure 1:

- a Copy of registration of incorporation
- b Copy of Service Tax Registration
- c Undertaking that Firm is not blacklisted by any State/Central Government Institution
- d Copy of PAN
- e Proof of Experience
- f Team member profile
- g Copy of Audited financial statement and Income Tax returns for last three years.
- h Proposal/Plan for the RPL Study. The proposal must state clearly the kind of support that is being received from industry bodies, the assessment agencies to be involved, as well as the certifying agency.

4. TIME FRAME

It is expected that the study will be completed in 18 months (including tracer study).

5. DELIVERABLES:

The successful applicants will each be required to produce a final report conforming to the parameters of the proposal made by the applicant and accepted by NSDA , which shall also include the results of the tracer study, and a cost-benefit analysis of RPL for the concerned.

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

A committee of NSDA shall evaluate the responses based on the following evaluation criteria:

Criteria	Score Weight	Maximum Points
Expertise of Applicant	40%	400
Proposed Work Plan and Approach	60%	600
Total		1000

All applicants who secure 70% and more as per the above evaluation criteria will be invited to respond to an RFP that will be issued incorporating a standardized scope of work. Provided that depending upon proposals received and the outcome of the evaluation process, the RFP may incorporate different sets of conditions for different categories of occupational roles. In such an eventuality, each applicant securing 70% or more as per the above evaluation criteria shall be invited to submit its proposal against only one such category.

7. EOI SUBMISSION

The Interested parties/firms must send their Expression of Interest (as uploaded in NSDA's website www.nsda.gov.in) latest by 1600 HRS on 24/12/2014. Sealed EOIs with the required documents must be sent by post or by hand at the following address:

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Format for Submission of EOI

1. Name of the Organization:
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Fax
5. Email & Website
6. Year of establishment
7. Registration Details
8. PAN No
9. Self- Certification that they have not been debarred/blacklisted by any of the Govt. Institution and the information given by the agency is true.(In case the information is found to be false, the agency will be debarred and also forfeiture of any payment due to it

10.Experience Details (including the latest ones)

Name of the Client	Name of the Project	Cost of the Project	Date of awarding	Duration of the work	Date of completion	Remarks

- 11.Attached separately - The Proposed Plan for RPL, with clear indication of the occupational roles for which the RPL will be done, the methodology, the hypotheses to be tested, the duration for which the tracer study will be done (with reasons for the same), details of support from industry, assessment and certification etc.

Date

Authorized Signatory