

SELECTION OF CONSULTANT REQUEST FOR

PROPOSALS

**Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for
Establishment of Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Climate
Resilience Skills in Agriculture**

Client:

**Centres of Excellence for Agriculture
Skills in India(CEASI)**

Unit No. 101, First Floor, Greenwoods
Plaza, Block 'B' Greenwoods City,
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Letter of Invitation

1. The Centres of Excellence for Agriculture Skills in India(CEASI) proposes to set up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Climate Resilience Skills in Agriculture. CEASI (Client) plans to develop this CoE to provide technical support, enhance climate adaptation strategies, and boost the efficiency of rural and unemployed youth in agriculture.
2. The Client now invites proposals to provide the following consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): Preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the Establishment of CoE in Climate Resilience Skills in Agriculture. More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference.
3. This Request for Proposals (RFP) is open to all firms that possess the requisite qualifications and experience.
4. A firm will be selected under Best Technical Proposal and Requisite Competencies and would be required to submit a Full Technical Proposal in a format as described in this RFP.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Satender Arya,
Chief Executive Officer,
Agriculture Skill Council of India
Gurgaon

A. About the Organization - ASCI

The Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), a Sector Skill Council under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), focuses on skilling and capacity-building initiatives for farmers, wage workers, self-employed agribusiness professionals, extension workers, and others in the agriculture and allied sectors.

The increasing focus on climate resilience in agriculture has created a demand for trained manpower capable of implementing sustainable practices. This shift requires an institutional framework to support the evolving needs of the industry, especially in building climate adaptation skills, sustainable agriculture practices, and efficient resource management. ASCI envisions developing a CoE to address the demand-supply gap by ensuring a continuous supply of skilled professionals in climate resilience.

B. Scope of Work & Duration

The consultant is expected to develop a comprehensive report for the establishment of the Centre of Excellence for Climate Resilience Skills in Agriculture. A period of 3 months will be provided for the development and submission of the report. The report should include the following key activities:

B.1 Reviewing Current Practices and Interventions in Climate Resilience

- A comprehensive evaluation of existing practices by various organizations and agencies to address climate resilience in agriculture.
- Identification of trends in climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, focusing on the role of government policies, private sector initiatives, and international collaborations.
- Assessment of how these practices are contributing to long-term sustainability in agriculture and their scalability for broader implementation.

B.2. Sector-Wide Analysis of Skilling in Climate-Resilient Agriculture

- Examination of initiatives targeting skill development for farmers, value chain players, and private sector stakeholders involved in sustainable agriculture.
- Identification of gaps in current skilling programs, particularly in areas such as climate-smart agriculture techniques, resource management, and innovative farming methods.
- Collaboration opportunities with corporates and sustainability-focused organizations to bridge the demand-supply gap for trained manpower.
- Insights into how private sector players are incorporating sustainability and climate resilience into their operational frameworks.

C. Operational Strategy

C.1. Scope of the CoE

Outlining the core activities the CoE will undertake, including training, research, strategic alliances, and stakeholder engagement.

C.2. Collaboration with Climate Finance Agencies

- Develop a strategic plan for engaging with agencies specializing in climate finance to support skilling and curriculum development in climate-resilient agriculture.
- Identify the funding opportunities and partnerships to ensure financial sustainability of the CoE.
- Articulate a clear plan for integrating climate finance tools into training programs aimed at enhancing farmer capacities.

C.3. Institutional Linkages and Strategic Alliances

- Identify partners with national and international knowledge i.e centres, universities, and research institutions in climate adaptation and mitigation.
- Identify and layout the roadmap for collaborating with private sector players involved in sustainability initiatives to co-create programs focused on industry-specific needs.

C.4. Skilling and Curriculum Development

- Designing a framework for skilling programs that align with climate resilience needs across the agricultural sector.
- Ensure that the skilling modules are adaptable to various stakeholder groups, including farmers, agribusiness professionals, and policymakers.

D. Establishment and Strategy for CoE

D.1 Strategic Objectives and Goals

- Define clear objectives that align with the broader goals of climate resilience in agriculture.
- Establish goals for measurable outcomes, such as the number of stakeholders trained, partnerships formed, and research initiatives launched.
- Develop a mission and vision for the CoE that positions it as a national leader in climate-resilient agricultural practices.

D.2 Suggested Thematic Focus Areas

Focus on critical areas such as

- climate-smart agriculture
- water and soil management
- renewable energy uses in farming, and sustainable value chains

Thematic areas should not be limited to the stated areas.

D.3 Business Plan Development

- Propose a sustainable business plan for the CoE, emphasizing
 1. Revenue generation through training programs, consulting services, and research collaborations.
 2. Long-term financial viability through government grants, private sector funding, and international collaborations.
 3. Clear financial models for income, expenditure, and operational sustainability.

E.Proposal Requirements

E.1. Stakeholder Consultations

- A minimum of **30 stakeholder consultations** must be conducted as part of the project. These consultations should aim to gather insights from key players across sectors such as:
 - Farmers and agricultural cooperatives.
 - Value chain players, including logistics and processing entities.
 - Private sector participants involved in sustainability and climate resilience efforts.
 - Policymakers and regulatory authorities at the national and state levels.
- The outcomes of these consultations should contribute directly to the strategic framework of the CoE.

E.2. Team Member Requirements

- The consulting team must include at least **two members** with the following qualifications:
 1. A minimum of **15 years of relevant experience** in climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, or related fields.
 2. Expertise in leading large-scale stakeholder consultations and developing strategic frameworks for similar projects.
- Detailed CVs of these team members must be included in the proposal to demonstrate their qualifications and experience.

F. Expected Deliverables

Expected Deliverables		
Deliverable	Description	Purpose
Initial Plan	A foundational document outlining the CoE's vision, mission, goals, and thematic focus areas.	To set the direction and provide clarity on the CoE's objectives and priorities.
Interim Presentation	A mid-project presentation to stakeholders, summarizing progress, findings, and preliminary strategies.	To align stakeholders, gather feedback, and ensure that the project is on track.
Draft Report	A comprehensive draft report detailing the strategic, operational, and implementation plans for the CoE.	To provide stakeholders with a near-final version of the CoE's framework for review and suggestions.
Final Presentation	A summarized version of the key findings and recommendations in a professional presentation format.	To communicate the outcomes of the project effectively to stakeholders and decision-makers.
Final Report	Finalized document incorporating feedback from the draft report stage.	To serve as the definitive guide for establishing and operationalizing the CoE.

The proposal should detail

- **A budget breakdown that includes separate costs for travel, lodging, and consultant fees. Travel, Lodging and Boarding expenses would be reimbursed on Actuals.**
- **A timeline for project execution, outlining key milestones over the 3- to 5-year duration.**
- **A list of interviews and consultations conducted, along with a summary of findings from these engagements.**

General Instructions	
1.	<p>Name of the Client: Agriculture Skill Council of India</p> <p>Method of selection: Best Technical Proposal & Requisite Competencies.</p>
2.	<p>The name of the assignment is: Selection of Consultant for Preparation of DPR for Establishment of Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Farm Mechanization.</p>
3.	<p>Queries</p> <p>End - Date: 6th January'25</p> <p>E-Mail: Info@Asci-India.com</p>
4.	<p>The Client will provide the inputs, project data, reports, etc. to facilitate the preparation of the Report as defined in Scope of Work and duration.</p>
5.	<p>Validity of Proposal - 90 calendar days after the proposal submission deadline.</p>
6.	<p>Consultants may associate with other Consultants or organization: Yes</p>
7.	<p>Consultants Eligibility</p> <p>7.1 Be an independent consultant or SME or a Registered organization (as per Company/Society/Trust Laws) operating in India. <i>Please attach a copy of the Registration Certificate.</i> The consultant should not have less than 10 years of Professional experience of which 5 years should have been in consulting & advising space. Experience of advising / consulting to a Centre of Excellence is mandatory.</p> <p>7.2 EMD- Not Applicable</p> <p>7.3 Applying consultants are required to provide documentary evidence of meeting all the above requirements. Self-certifications for the above are acceptable (except S.No.5). Eligible consultant firm's proposals will only be considered for technical and financial evaluation.</p>
8.	<p>The Proposal must be submitted no later than:</p> <p>Date: 10th January'25</p> <p>Time: 5:00 PM</p> <p>Address: Agriculture Skill Council of India, [ASCI] Unit No. 101, First Floor, Greenwoods Plaza, Block 'B' Greenwoods City, Sector-45, Gurugram, Haryana-122009</p> <p>Phone: 01244814659 E-Mail: ceo@asci-india.com Info@asci-india.com</p> <p>Contact person: Dr. Satender Arya</p>