**ToR for hiring “Individual Consultant” ( Short – Term Assignment) to conduct**

**Impact Assessment Study of “Agri and Allied sectors interventions with focus on Improved Paddy Productivity (IPP) including System of Rice Intensification (SRI) supported by TRIPTI .**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Government of Odisha is committed for reducing the incidence of poverty in the state. A project called “Targeted Rural Initiatives for Poverty Termination and Infrastructure” (TRIPTI) assisted by World Bank is being implemented by the Odisha Livelihoods Mission (OLM) since 2009. The project’s aim is to enhance social and economic empowerment of the rural poor in 1020 GPs of 38 blocks of 10 coastal districts Odisha through development of their self-sustained and community managed institutions. Promotion of sustainable livelihoods is one of the important components of the Project. Identification of Sub-sectors and implementation of pro-poor focused Value Chain is the key project approach for promotion of Livelihoods. The Value chain in the identified sector is promoted through producer groups at the field level. These producers groups are guided and strengthened to Producers’ federations/ Producers’ company in the relevant sector so that they will be self sustainable institutions in future.

**2.0 Agriculture sector and Paddy Productivity Issues in Odisha**

Agriculture is the mainstay of State economy & substance of life of the people. The Kharif paddy is the main crop of the State. Most of the paddy areas are cultivated under un-irrigated conditions during kharif season. Hence, the food grain production in Odisha, depends upon the production of paddy & subsequently this production depends upon weather & distribution of rainfall system during kharif season. Compared to the all India average, the yield rate of paddy production was 15.29 Qtl/hact in 2008-09 against the national average of 21.86 qtl/ hect. Again a large percentage (83%) of farmers of Odisha is small and marginal farmers. For these families; with average landholding is about One acre - usually with no irrigation; the options in agriculture are limited to production of cereals and pulses for subsistence; and in some cases taking a small second crop. The average productivity of Paddy of Small and Marginal farmers varies from 8 Qtls/ha to 25 Qtls/ha .Further, a large proportion of small, marginal farmers , landless households depend heavily on share cropping. A large majority of them migrate to different parts of the country in search of employment in unskilled vocations. The income earned is however inadequate to create enough surpluses to withstand severe shocks on household economy. It has been observed that , the food insufficiency months are 3-6 months in a calendar year for these farmers.

**3.0 Approaches for Livelihoods Promotion in the Agriculture and Allied Sectors.**

TRIPTI has been promoting Agri and Allied based Livelihoods in two ways:

1. **The first approach** is to promote Agri and Allied based interventions viz. improved Paddy productivity interventions including System of Rice Intensification (SRI) , Seed Village Program , Backyard Poultry interventions under **Livelihoods Component** of the Project with focused way and handholding support to farmers/households in each step of livelihoods intervention, so that the farmers/households are capacited for improved method of production and adopt new technology for improvement in productivity.

TRIPTI has been promoting improved paddy productivity interventions (IPPI) including SRI since Kharif,2011 piloted in Odogaon Block of Nayagarh District with 190 farmers. The project has been promoting this intervention since 2011 and able to cover 72,216 farmers of 947 PGs during Kharif,2014 with a total area of 18,210 hact. in 33 blocks of 10 TRIPTI districts. The Project has also been able to implement the Kharif,2014 interventions without the support of Technical Support Agencies (TSAs) engaged by the project in previous years ( Kharif,2011,Kharif,2012 and Kharif,2013) . Project Staff and Community Resource Persons (engaged at PG, GPLF and Block level) have implemented the Khrif,2014 interventions effectively due to rigorous capacity building and handholding support from SMMU . Since Kharif,2011, the approaches of the intervention has been through Community Managed Extension Mechanism like a) Demonstration Plot at Producers’ Group (PG) level, One Farmers Field Schools (FFS) in 2-3 villages linked with Front Line Demonstration. During Kharif,2014 interventions, One farmer of Badamba Block, Cuttack District has been able to achieve yield of 45 Qtl./acre which is highest yield in Odisha.

1. **The Second approach** is utilization of Community Investment Fund (CIF) by SHG members in the Agriculture and Allied Sectors. In this approach, project is indirectly supporting the farmers to meet credit requirements for purchase of inputs, fertilizer, pesticides and payments of wages for timely support to the existing production system for better productivity and income. As per the internal analysis done by the project on utilization of CIF fund, about 35% of total amount of CIF disbursed by various Gram Panchayat Level Federations (GPLFs) have been utilized by the SHG members in the Agriculture and Allied Sectors.

**4.0 Needs of Consultancy Service**

The Project is closing on 30th June, 2015. Hence, the project desires to conduct Impact Assessment Study on improvement of Livelihoods of the communities in the Agri and Allied sectors through twin support approach with focus on Paddy Productivity Interventions including System of Rice Intensification (SRI) during Kharif , 2011 to Kharif,2014 which will help the project to understand the impacts as well as increase in income of the communities /farmers due to support by the project as mentioned in point 3.0.( a & b). Further, sustainability of the institutions including strengthening and scalling up plan for other crops beyond the project period may be recommended

**Task of the Consultant required to undertake are as follows:**

* Undertake study on impact of Improved Paddy Productivity Interventions (IPPI) including SRI against the desired objectives.
* Assess the Capacity Building improvement aspects of farmers, CRPs, M-CRPs, RP and Project Staff (Livelihood Co-ordinators) on Improved paddy productivity interventions due to support from SMMU and initial Capacity Building Support from NRLM Support Organization (NSO)
* Access enhancement of yield of farmers, increase in area and productivity ( IPPI including SRI) with sample farmers to know increase in productivity and current incremental economic benefits during Kharif,2014 interventions and future economic benefits through adoption of new method/technology without project support .
* Study and Compare average yield data of sample blocks as per record available with Agriculture Department, GoO and average yield data of sample farmers where project has supported IPPI including SRI to know the increase in yield due to project interventions.
* Access yield and area improvement of repetitive farmers who have adopted SRI method continuously in the previous years supported by TRIPTI.
* Access impact of Community led Extension Mechanism like Demonstration Plots, Farmers’ Field School (FFS) and Front Line Demonstration (FLD) which helped and influenced farmers to adopt new method of production.
* Access impact of in-house implementation of IPPI including SRI for the interventions done in Kharif,2014 than previous years supported by the Technical Support Agencies (TSA)
* Study the present Community Support System like Community Resource Person (CRP), Master CRP (M-CRP) and Resource Person ( Agriculture) and their contributions to the Kharif,2014 interventions and future Capacity Building Needs for support to farmers in other crops.
* Study the functioning of Producers’ Group (PG) , future role of PGs in Agri and Allied Sector interventions and Capacity Building Needs. Suggest any modifications if required in the present form of PG Formation and suggest recommendations for Strengthening of PGs relating to fund flow, convergence and Market linkage of PGs etc..
* Document and Capture Best Practices of Improved Paddy Productivity Interventions including SRI and incorporate the same in Report.
* Study Economic Benefits to the Communities through CIF funds especially its use in the Agri and Allied Sectors for project period 2011-2014.
* Assess the effectiveness of the process of scaling up taking support of TSA like PRADAN , Live-o – Link , Harsha Trust etc.
* Analyze the utilization of special agriculture loan window of the CIF and its outcome.
* Study the input–process-outcome in other agriculture intervention like green gram , onion etc. (as a natural extension of the paddy enhancement)
* Capture best practices of utilization of CIF in the Agri and Allied Sectors.
* Suggest measures for post project sustainability and recommendations if any.

**6.0 Scope , Methodology and Period of consultancy:**

The services of the Individual Consultant will be hired for a maximum period of 30 days spread over 2 months from the date of signing of the contract and the study will be conducted with selected sample households of project intervention areas.

**Indicative Methodology of Study**: The Study will be conducted with 200 small and marginal farmers who have been supported by the project for improved paddy production including SRI in 8 Blocks of 4 projects districts ( 25 farmers from each project block ) through KII. The Consultant may undertake FGDs with 8 Producers Groups (PGs) in these sample blocks , CRPs ,M-CRPs,RPs and Project staff to know the Capacity Building and Skill Improvement aspects and future use by all stake holders. Further, the consultant will refer the yield data of Kharif,2014 available at various levels for measurement of improvement in productivity and thereby increase in income .

Further, the study will cover additional 160 Households (especially Small and Marginal Farmers) from the sample 8 Blocks of 4 project districts regarding use of Community Investment Fund released by GPLFs and used by member SHGs in the Agriculture Sector to know changes in income through use of CIF. The Consultant will do FGD with Project Staff, GPLFs, SHGs and other stakeholders to know the impact of CIF among small and marginal farmers , enhancement of income through use of CIF in Agriculture and suggest future livelihoods strategy and approach in the Agriculture Sector for best utilization of available CIF at GPLF level. .

**7.0 Schedule for Completion of Task:**

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| **Deliverables** | **Time Period** | **Payment to the Individual Consultant** |
| Develop methodology, frame work for Impact Assessment, Inception Report and submission of a work plan and after going through all guidelines on Producers’ Groups (PG), CRP,M-CRP, Improved Paddy Productivity interventions including SRI. | By 7th day of signing the contract | 25% of Consultancy Fee of the Individual Consultant upon Finalization of Methodology , Framework, Inception Report and Work Plan for the Impact Assessment Study. |
| Data Collection, conducting interview with all stake holders and meeting with GPLF & PG members,CRPs,M-CRPs,RPs DPM,LCs, Representative of Govt. and TSAs engaged earlier. | By 2nd Month of signing of the contract, upon completion of Final Report and submission of all documents as mentioned in point 8.. | 75% of Consultancy Fee of the Individual Consultant after collection, compilation, analysis, documentation of best practices and submission of final report of Impact Assessment Study. |
| Compiling and Analyzing data |
| Report Writing and Submission of Draft Report |
| Submission of Final Report |

**8.0 Final outputs that will be required from the consultant:**

The consultancy will consist of the following key outputs that will be submitted to OLM. (a) An Inception Report that would describe the data required for review and identifies how the information is to be collected. All this would result in a work plan that assigns responsibilities and discusses implementation arrangements for data analysis etc.

(b) A draft report and subsequently the (c) Final report.

Finally the consultant will submit the following :

i. Three hard copies of final report including success stories .

ii. All the raw data collected (Hard copy)

iii. All the data tables and data in a CD (digitized copy)

iv. Reports in a CD (digitized copy)

**9.0 Review Committee:**

The consultant will be reviewed from time to time by a committee comprising of Addl. CEO (Operation), Dy. CEO ( CM,IB,CB), Project Manager (Livelihoods –Incharge) and Project Manager ( Procurement) of OLM on the basis of the deliverables and output of the consultant vis a vis objectives of the task. The committee will also review the draft report submitted by the Consultant. . Project Manager (Livelihoods-Incharge) will be the Nodal Person from SMMU, OLM to co-ordinate all activities during Impact Assessment Study on Seed Village.

**10. Consultants Qualification and Experience:**

**a.**  Post Graduate Degree. Preference will be given to Agriculture Graduates and the candidates having Post Graduate Degree in Management from premier institutes of the country viz. IRMA/IIMs/IITs/XLRI/XIMB/TISS etc.

b. The consultant should have overall 15 or more years of experience on Impact Assessment Study in the Agriculture Sector and atleast 5 years experience in conducting studies on promotion of Improved Agriculture Productivity issues for Small and marginal farmers including SRI through Community Managed Extension Mechanism for Externally Aided Projects/Govt. of India supported Schemes relating to Agriculture Sector.

c. Consultant should have excellent documentation skills on preparation of this kind of study.

**11. Payment and Support System:**

* Arrangements like vehicle for field visit, cost for organizing need based workshop at field level will be borne by OLM.
* 25% of the Consultancy Fee of the Individual consultant will be released after finalization of Methodology, Framework, Inception Report and Work Plan .
* Remaining 75% of the Consultancy Fee of the Individual Consultant will be released to the consultant after completion of all task assigned to the consultant and upon submission of Final Report.
* The Consultant will work closely with Project Manager (Livelihoods-Incharge) at SMMU,OLM, Bhubaneswar for implementation of the workplan and submission of final report.

**12. Facilities to be provided by Odisha Livelihoods Mission (OLM) to the**

**Individual Consultant during Impact Assessment Study.**

* OLM will provide all related data and reports available at SMMU ,DMMU and BMMU level related to interventions in the Improved Paddy Production program including SRI.
* The Consultant will refer the Crop Cutting yield data of Kharif,2014 interventions available at SMMU/field level.
* OLM Staff will co-ordinate the Individual Consultant during field visit for arrangement of meeting with the Gram Panchayat Level Federations (GPLFs), Members of Seed Producers Groups / Association etc.
* OLM will reimburse the Accommodation Charges of the Consultant during stay for outstation candidates as per requirement while conducting the study.
* Vehicles during field visit by the Individual Consultant will be arranged by OLM.

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