

ToR for hiring consultant to conduct Study on Climate Resilient Agriculture in Coastal and Flood-plain Regions of Bangladesh

Background:

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) is an intermediary organization providing funding and capacity building support to civil society organizations and networks to promote human rights and governance initiatives in Bangladesh. It is also a national grant making organization designed by DFID in 2002 to support civil society in Rights and Governance work in Bangladesh. In 2006 it was registered with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies as a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) and titled as Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF). A previous Steering Committee took on the role of the Governing Board (GB) with over all stewardship responsibilities.

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) provides funding and capacity building support to organizations working on human rights and governance. Through partnership with CSO's and other stakeholders, MJF assists to ensure entitlements of people by building their capacity to demand basic services and raise voice against rights violation. MJF also works on the supply side with duty bearers to ensure their responsiveness towards the demands of people specially the poor and marginalized. MJF work includes policy advocacy having been at the forefront of some of the most progressive and pro people laws enacted in the past five to six years.

MJF initiated a project named "Strengthen civil society and public institutions to address combating gender based violence and build community resilience to adapt climate change impacts" funded by Sida to achieve the following outcomes at the end of the project, under its two thematic areas, '**Combating Gender based Violence**' and '**Climate Change Adaptation**' :

- Reduction in gender based violence in public and private domain
- Building community resilience to climate change and impacts
- Strengthening of public institutions to ensure responsiveness towards gender concerns including VAWG and climate change
- Knowledge management and capacity development of CSO's, NGOs and MJF staff

Under its' Climate Change Adaptation component, the project intends to support the most vulnerable communities to deal with climate change impacts on their lives and livelihoods in Bangladesh. Bangladesh is one of the most climate vulnerable countries in the world. Because of its geo-physical location, Bangladesh is prone to natural disasters such as floods, storm, and storm surge. Climate change has been accelerating frequency and intensity of occurrences of floods, storm, storm surge, high temperature, drought, salinity, irregular rainfall, heat wave and cold wave. These have intense impacts on every sector in Bangladesh including agriculture. Agricultural production is adversely influenced by erratic rainfall, high temperature, increased salinity, drought, floods, river erosion, storms and storm surge, cold wave and heavy fog. Agriculture is the prime sector of livelihoods of rural people who account for majority of the population in the country. Therefore, climate change impacts on agricultural production, being coupled with socio-economic drivers, make this agriculture based rural people highly vulnerable in terms of livelihoods loss and food insecurity, which has direct impacts on health, education and other wellbeing factors. Agriculture has key role in sustaining food security of the country. National climate change documents, BCCSAP and NAPA, consider agriculture sector with great emphasis and there are initiatives taken by both government and non-government organizations to deal with the

problem. However, considering the extent of existing and projected impacts on this important sector, it is essential to take more technologically appropriate and socially acceptable initiatives towards climate resilient agriculture. The role of public institutions as key duty bearers is most important in this regards.

With this given context, the project intends to promote context specific, eco-system friendly and climate adaptive agricultural practices in coastal and flood plain regions. Therefore, a comprehensive study has been planned to assess climate change impacts on agriculture, to understand community and institutional responses and needs, and to identify climate resilient agricultural practices with a major focus on climate smart technologies in these two climate vulnerable areas. MJF wants to hire a consultant/consultant's group/research organization to conduct the study in line with the scope of studies mentioned below.

Scopes of the Study:

The scopes of the Study on Climate resilient agriculture in costal and flood-plain regions of Bangladesh are as follows:

- To generate in-depth information on existing agriculture practices (traditional and modern), disaggregated by targeted locations and sub sectors, and women's involvement in agriculture;
- To identify climatic (variables and extremes) impacts on existing agricultural practices and adaptation mechanisms (traditional and modern);
- To identify further needs (sex disaggregated and sub-sector wise) of technology, knowledge, and information for climate resilient agriculture practices;
- To develop an inventory of climate resilient technologies and adaptation options available (public institutions, NGOs, community) and identify gaps to fulfill the identified needs;
- To identify climate vulnerable communities, specially women's access to existing climate resilient agricultural practices and technologies and recommendations for enhancing their accessibility;
- To recommend a set of context specific climate resilient agricultural technologies and practices;
- To assess institutional arrangement, service options and their effectiveness to support climate resilient agriculture and identify gaps and capacity building needs of institutions; and
- To review policies related to agriculture and climate change and identify a set of recommendations for policy advocacy.

Methodology

The Consultant will produce a brief methodological framework on how to survey the projects for conduct the study. The study will be facilitated following qualitative, participatory and multidisciplinary approach. The consultant will scope with relevant stakeholders and actors in the sector and review existing assessment reports from associated pilot adaptation interventions and assessments of climate change scenarios to establish context. Additionally, the consultant will review existing data of the said region and weather pattern including rainfall, temperature as well as trends of key hazards including floods, heat waves and droughts especially in the project areas. There will be field visits for site observation and the use of participatory tools ideal for climate change risk assessment and adaptation need identification

with farmers in particular and the community in general. The study should include in-depth and comprehensive consultations for institutional assessment of relevant stakeholder particularly public institutions at local, regional and national level. Therefore, a set of questionnaire will be developed to collect data on climate change impacts on agriculture and climate resilient agriculture in coastal and flood-plain regions.

The consultant should consider using the following tools:

Climate risk mapping, Hazard calendar, Crop calendar, Community historic, Focus group discussion, Historical transect, Local resource mapping, Matrix ranking, Problem analysis, Timeline, Vulnerability mapping and profiling, Adaptation action planning, institutional assessment, stakeholder consultation. However, the consultant may include and suggest more effective and relevant tools, which will be subjected to be agreed to use.

Deliverables:

1. An inception report, no less than 10 pages, including team's understanding of the task, methodological and analytical framework, work plan, and table of content of study report;
2. A set of checklists/guidelines/questionnaires of proposed tools and methods for data collection along with a field work plan;
3. A 30 to 40 pages draft report shall present the main findings and include recommendations based on information gathered on said issues in the scope of the study;
4. Final report: 2 copies of final report (hard copy) and soft copy of the final report excluding annexes;
5. A synthesis report ;
6. Data set and other relevant output of the study; and
7. A power point presentation in English and full time participation in the study findings sharing workshop. The workshop will be organized by MJF.

All deliverables are required to be agreed with MJF to be considered as final and accepted.

Timeframe:

The study is expected to start on **11 March 2018** for an estimated duration of **60 calendar** days. This will include desk reviews, field work, data collection and analysis and draft report sharing.

The consultant will submit a proposed work plan with key milestones within a week of signing the contract; this work plan will be reviewed and approved by MJF. It is anticipated that the final report will be produced within **60 calendar days of signing of the contract**. While the draft report is produced, it should be shared with MJF and MJF will provide feedback on draft report by one week after receiving the draft report. During the whole period of the assignment, follow up meetings will be held between the contracted consultant/consulting firm and Manusher Jonno Foundation as possible.

Consultations

The consultancy will be managed by MJF Program Development Management, and it will involve Consultation with MJF-SIDA project staff and partners' staff. MJF will provide with necessary project documents and information about project locations.

Selection criteria:

- At least 5 years of experience and expertise in conducting research in the area of climate change management (adaptation or mitigation), especially in the agriculture sector;
- Experience of working in coastal and floodplain regions;
- Experience with participatory assessment and policy analysis and reforms especially involving climate change and its impacts in the agriculture sector, coastal and floodplain regions;
- Work experience in climate risk management/ disaster risk reduction work, especially coastal and floodplain regions;
- Excellent English written communication skills, with analytic capacity and ability to synthesize issues and relevant findings for the preparation of quality proposals and reports;
- Cultural sensitivity;
- National qualified consultants are strongly encouraged to apply.

Key Competences of team members

- ❖ Excellent English written communication skills, with analytic capacity and ability to synthesize issues and relevant findings for the preparation of quality proposals and reports
- ❖ Ability to speak, read and write technical and conversational English
- ❖ Ability to understand concepts easily and to synthesize information from different sources into a coherent document
- ❖ Skill in fact-finding in rural communities
- ❖ Skill in achieving results through persuading, influencing and working with others
- ❖ Skill in facilitating meetings effectively and efficiently and to resolve conflicts as they arise
- ❖ Maturity and confidence in dealing with senior and high-ranking members of government, international, regional and national institutions
- ❖ Displays sensitivity and adaptability to different cultures, genders, religions, races, nationalities and age groups
- ❖ Good oral communication skills and conflict resolution competency to manage inter-group dynamics and mediate conflicting interests of varied actors
- ❖ Good team player, self-starter, has ability to work under minimum supervision and maintain good relationships

Criterion for submission of proposals:

Responding consultants should prepare and submit by **24 February 2018**, a financial and technical proposal including budget, and expression of interest. All Proposals must contain a copy of the proposer's Business Registration Certificate. All proposals must provide references including contact information, work plan including proposed timeline, detailed budget of costs, CV of lead or team of consultants and

[Document title]

Evidence of similar previous works done for national and international organization. VAT & Tax will be deducted at source as per govt. rules. 15% VAT can be shown in the proposal but Tax will be included in Fees.

Payment mode: Payment will be made in a/c payee cheque or through bank transfer on submission of invoice. 30% payment on submission of inception report and work plan, 30% on submission of draft report and rest 40% on submission of final report.

Note: Failure to comply with any of the above requirement will cause the proposal to be rejected. Submissions should be sent through either Email: zakia@manusher.org or hard copy to:

Coordinator – Admin & HR, Manusher Jonno Foundation, House #22, Road #4, Block-F, Banani, Dhaka 1213 by 24 February 2018. For any query, please contact with Zakia Naznin, Deputy Programme Manager (Cell # 01761789358).