



Department of Science and Technology

Government of India

Initiative in Coordinated Programme for 'Arid, Semi-Arid and Cold Desert Regions (ASACODER)'

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Summary

Department of Science and Technology (DST), under Science for Equity Empowerment and Development (SEED) Division, plans to initiate an Science and Technology (S&T) intervention with primary aim to address challenges pertaining to local area, people and resources of Arid, Semi-Arid Regions and Cold Desert Regions (ASACODER), thereby enhancing the quality-of-life of people living in these difficult areas.

Various S&T based interventions that could be extended to these geographical areas, include adaptive Research & Development (R&D), field-testing of available technology packages and transfer of technology to provide enhanced livelihood opportunities, drudgery reduction leading to better quality-of-life for the communities living in the Arid, Semi-Arid and Cold Desert Regions.

This Call invites EOI under the following broad themes:

- Enhanced Livelihood Opportunities
- Health and Nutrition (Epidemiology, Prophylactics and Therapeutics for Stress Adaptation, Nutrition Packages for Women, Children and Elderly, Validation of Indigenous Practices for Human and Animal)
- Drudgery Reduction
- Soil, Water and Energy
- Sustainable Agriculture/Horticulture Practices, Post-Harvest Processing and Value Addition (Utilization of fruits/leaves/medicinal plants/wood for fodder/timber/value added products)
- Technology Inputs for Local Art and Artisans
- Revival and Adaptation of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Traditional Practices
- Appropriate Technologies for the Regions

In the upcoming phase, the districts/areas identified for the S&T based interventions are:

- Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, Churu, Nagaur, Banswara, Dungarpur (Rajasthan)
- Kutch, Panchmahal, Dahod, Patan, Jamnagar, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha (Gujarat)
- Ratlam, Jhabua, Mandsaur (Madhya Pradesh)
- Ladakh and Kargil (J&K)
- Lahaul and Spiti, Kinnaur, Bharmaur Tract of Chamba District (Himanchal Pradesh)
- Nilang tract of Uttarkashi, Mana and Niti tract of Chamoli, Malla Johar, Darma, Chaudan and Byans Valleys and Unta Dhura tracts of Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand)

Expression of Interest (EOI) are invited from Institutions or consortia of Academic / R&D institutions, NGOs and S&T Councils that will address the thematic areas articulated in this Call document under the 'ASACODER' program. For organisations and institutions not situated in the area, it would be essential to have a local partner. It is desirable for voluntary organisations to tie up with technology providing institution to be eligible.

Review Process, Evaluation

Submitted EOIs will be subjected to screening process and only short-listed applicants will be invited to submit full proposals. Further, such proposals will be evaluated by a Programme Advisory Committee. A coordination agency, appointed by DST will perform handholding, monitoring and mentoring of the selected projects.

Submission of EOI

EOI as per the prescribed format, not more than 1000 words, should be sent by email to: asacoder.dst@gmail.com as an attachment (MS Word format). The subject of the message should be: Coordinated Programme for 'ASACODER'.

Deadline

Deadline for submitting the EOI: 15 July 2018

Contact

Contact for any questions/queries related to the EOI:

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