

**World Bank financed  
Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation Project (APART)**

Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services (ARIAS) Society  
(An Autonomous Body of the Government of Assam)

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)  
For hiring Consultancy Services for  
Conducting Baseline Environmental Monitoring for APART**

No. ARIASS/APART/356/2018/21-A

Dated Guwahati the 24<sup>th</sup> December , 2018

1. The Government of Assam (GoA) through the Government of India has received a loan of US\$ 200 million from the World Bank (WB) for implementation of the Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART). The development objective of APART is “to add value and improve resilience of selected agriculture value chains, focusing on smallholder farmers and agro-entrepreneurs in targeted districts of Assam”. APART activities are grouped into three major components: **(i)** Component A: Enabling Agri Enterprise Development; **(ii)** Component B: Facilitating Agro Cluster Development; **(iii)** Component C: Fostering Market-led Production and Resilience Enhancement. Activities under these components would have potential for negative environmental impacts. To comply with the environmental safeguard requirement a baseline environmental status of project site has to be established before activity initiates in the field. It will be done through primary monitoring and surveys for relevant parameters and secondary data collection. The ARIAS Society now intends to apply a portion of the loan for a hiring reputed NABL accredited consulting agency for “Baseline Environmental Monitoring”. Further details may be seen in the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment available at <http://www.arias.in/procurements.html>.
2. Briefly, the scope of the consultancy assignment would cover- The baseline environmental status of project areas will be established through collection and analysis of environmental attributes like Soil quality, Sediment quality, Ground water quality, Ground water availability, Surface Water quality, etc. during (Pre-monsoon season) and (Post-monsoon season). The proposed service includes sampling, laboratory testing of samples as per CPCB standard guideline. A total of 90 GW Samples, 90 SW samples 90 Soil samples and 20 sediment samples are to be collected and analysed as per the scope of the study from 45 project blocks spread across 16 districts of Assam.
3. **The short-listing criteria include:** The consulting agency should -
  - a) Have been in business for atleast during the last **05** years (i.e. 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 ,2016-17 & 2017-18);
  - b) Have an average annual turnover/audited financial statement of **Rs. 0.25 crore** in the last **03** years i.e. 2014-15,2015-16 and 2016-17;
  - c) Have proven experience of having completed similar assignments in the last **05** years (as defined above).
  - d) NABL accreditation/MoEFCC accreditation/SPCB certification would be preferred.
4. **The lists of documents to be submitted along with EOI are** (*Expression of Interest shall be within total 60 pages*):
  - i. Name, address, e-mail, telephone, ownership and organizational structure of the consulting agency along with documents to demonstrate that the institute/organization is in the business atleast during the last **05** years;
  - ii. Certificate from the statutory auditors/Chartered Accountant stating the annual turnover/ audited financial statement during the last **03** financial years (as defined above).
  - iii. Details of Similar Assignments undertaken in the last **05** years (as defined above) accompanied by documents to demonstrate that the consulting agency indeed has successfully completed the assignments;
5. The Consultant would be selected in accordance with the ‘Consultant’s Qualifications Based Selection (CQS)’ method stipulated in the World Bank’s Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers: Procurement of Goods, Works, Non-Consulting and Consulting Services, July 2016 (as updated), available at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org). Attention of the interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14-3.17 of the said regulations relating to Conflict of Interest.
6. Consulting agencies may associate with other institute/organization in the form of a Joint Venture (JV) or a Sub-Consultancy (with joint or several liabilities) to enhance their technical qualifications, however this should be stated clearly in the Expression of Interest (EOI).
7. Interested Consultancy Firms/ Agencies must deliver their EOIs in **English** language to the address given below on or before **4:00 pm of 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2019** in **hard copy as well as a soft copy**. Further information can be obtained at the address given below from 11.00 am to 04.00 pm (IST) on all working days.

**The State Project Director, ARIAS Society, Agriculture complex, Khanapara, G.S. Road, Guwahati-781022 (Assam)**  
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