

## **MEGHALAYA BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

### **Meghalaya Livelihood and Access to Market Project**

#### *Invitation for Expression of Interest for Market Development under Public, Private and Community Partnership Mode (PPCP)*

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Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA) is implementing Meghalaya- Livelihood & Access to Markets Project (MeghaLAMP), an Externally Aided Project (EAP) supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Megha-LAMP has the following thrust areas.

- To enhance income and livelihood opportunities, linked to markets for rural community specially farmers.
- To support Enterprise Facilitation Centres to promote a range of rural farm and non-farm investments.
- To support clusters for the development of specific products for markets within and outside the State, along with supportive investment in natural resource management, rural finance, and market access infrastructure. A cluster-based approach is expected to create volumes and economies of scale needed to access to markets.
- Generation and dissemination of knowledge to support rural production and enterprise regarding the state's natural resource base, production technologies, supporting services and markets.

Under the Megha-LAMP, farmers are being offered the facilitation support to get organised as Integrated Village Cooperative Societies, Marketing Cooperative Societies, Producer Companies etc. in order to improve access to markets.

The project also has scope for partnership with the stakeholders in the following areas: (Entry Point Activities)

- Institutional Development – Development of farmer cooperative(s)/Producer companies, etc.
- Arranging of weighing equipment, safe drinking water, drainage of waste/ rainwater, toilets, food stalls, farmer resting places, banks and office facilities, boundary wall, etc.
- Arranging of collection centres with sorting, grading and packaging facilities, go-downs, parking of vehicles, waste management and recycling equipments and systems.
- Organising meetings for discussion with community to assess their needs and problems, training and capacity building in agriculture value chains, market planning, management and participation, organising exposure visits, arranging buyer-seller meets.
- Support development of logistics and post-harvest management of agriculture/horticulture produces in market.
- Convergence with investments from State and Central Sponsored Schemes.
- Investments for entry-point activities will be made in the markets in collaboration mode with identified market operators based on eligibility criteria and on signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the market operators and Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA). Further investment will be mobilised in partnership mode on the basis of progress made in terms of mutually identified results framework.
- Other activities that are mutually beneficial need as are identified from time to time.

### **Eligibility criteria for participation under MeghaLAMP**

1. Willingness to enter into a partnership with Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA).
2. Willingness to explore the possibility of promoting appropriate business entity to work on the partnership project.
3. Willingness to allocate area within the market to wholesale trading of agriculture commodities and land for waste management.
4. Exploring the possibility to provide area within the market premises for farmer organisations to operate.
5. Willingness to enhance transparency in price discovery and ensuring price realisation by farmers
6. Willingness to set up a grievance redressal conflict resolution system.
7. Location of the market on trade route(s) identified by Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA).
8. Willing to contribute in cash and in kind for development of soft skills as well as for meeting part of the infrastructure and the maintenance cost that will be incurred during and after the project lifespan.

**Submission of the EoI:** Interested market operator(s) from for Khasi & Jaintia Hills may submit their EoI through an authorised representative to the **Project Director, Megh-LAMP, Nongrim Hills, Shillong-79003**, For Garo Hills to be submitted directly to **Senior ED, MBDA & Chairman BDU, West Garo Hills, Tura** so as to reduce time for processing.

**Last date for submission of EoI:** There is no last date for accepting the proposals from existing markets. Proposal will be considered on the basis of their potential for making significant contribution to the agriculture economy of the State till the time MBMA decides to continue the facility under MeghaLAMP.

**Disclaimer:** Invitation of this Expression of Interest is not a commitment to consider any proposal for any investment. MBMA will constitute a committee to consider all proposals and its decision will be final and binding to all.