

Request for Proposals

For

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies

For

Sustainable Land Management Project

(Farmers Mobilization)

Ref No: MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/2024/512029/41

BMZno:202067973

Issue date: 14th November, 2024

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

*Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,
MBMA*

CONTENTS

Section	Page
LETTER OF INVITATION	3
PART 1 - TENDERING PROCEDURES	5
SECTION I. INSTRUCTIONS TO CONSULTANTS.....	6
A. GENERAL PROVISIONS	8
B. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS	12
C. SUBMISSION, OPENING AND EVALUATION	15
D. NEGOTIATIONS AND AWARD	21

LETTER OF INVITATION

Project ID PN 45377/BMZ-No. 2020 67 973
SHILLONG, 14th November, 2024.

Dear Mr. /Ms.

1. The Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA) referred to as the “Employer” is acting as implementing agency for the Project “Sustainable Land Management - Farmers Mobilization ”and intends to engage a consultant for which this Request for Proposal is issued. KfW provides financing for the project; any payments are subject to the underlying financing arrangements and no party other than the Employer shall derive any rights from or have any claims to the proceeds of it.
2. The Employer now invites Proposals to provide the following consulting services (hereinafter called “Services”): “Consultancy for **Value Chain & Development of Meghalaya Organic Farming Master Plan**. More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference (Section VII)
3. A firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures described in the KfW Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries, which can be found on the website www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de.
4. The RFP includes the following Sections:
 - Section I - Instructions to Consultants (ITC)
 - Section II - Data Sheet
 - Section III - Technical Proposal - Standard Forms
 - Section IV - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
 - Section V - Eligibility Criteria
 - Section VI - KfW Policy - Sanctionable Practice - Social and Environmental Responsibility
 - Section VII - Terms of Reference
 - Section VIII - Conditions of Contract and Contract Form
5. Please inform us by 15th November, 2024 in writing by E-mail to mbmaprourement@gmail.com
 - i. that you have received this Letter of Invitation; and
 - ii. whether you intend to submit a Proposal
6. Details on the Proposal’s submission date, time and address are provided in ITC 15.7.

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

*Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,
MBMA*

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

Project Director, SLM,
Meghalaya Basin Management Agency
C/o Meghalaya State Housing Financing Co-operative Society Ltd.
Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003
Email : mbmaprourement@gmail.com

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

*Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,
MBMA*

PART 1 – TENDERING PROCEDURES

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

*Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,
MBMA*

Section I. Instructions to Consultants

Table of Clauses

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS	8
1. Scope of Proposals and Definitions	8
2. Source of Funds, Responsibilities.....	10
3. Sanctionable Practice.....	10
4. Eligible Consultants and Eligible Materials, Equipment, and Services	10
5. Conflict of Interest	11
6. Unfair Competitive Advantage	12
B. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS	12
7. General Considerations	12
8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal.....	12
9. Documents Comprising the Proposal.....	12
10. Proposal Validity.....	13
11. Clarification and Amendment of RFP	13
12. Preparation of Proposals – Specific Considerations.....	14
13. Technical Proposal Format and Content.....	14
14. Financial Proposal.....	14
C. SUBMISSION, OPENING AND EVALUATION	15
15. Submission, Sealing, and Marking of Proposals	15
16. Confidentiality	16
17. Opening of Proposals	16
18. General aspects of Evaluation.....	16

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

*Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,
MBMA*

19. Evaluation methods	17
20. Evaluation steps and sequence	18
21. Evaluation of Financial Proposals	20
22. Employer’s Right to Reject All Proposals	21
D. NEGOTIATIONS AND AWARD	21
23. Negotiations	21
24. Conclusion of Negotiations	22
25. Award of Contract, Information of Consultants.....	22

Section I. Instructions to Consultants

A. General Provisions

1. Scope of Proposals and Definitions

1.1 The Employer named in the **Data Sheet** intends to select a consultant in accordance with the method of selection specified in the **Data Sheet**.

The following three selection methods can be distinguished in this one- stage RfP:

- a) **Two-envelope submission Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS)**, which attributes a weight to the Technical Proposal and to the Financial Proposal as indicated in the **Data Sheet** and is the standard method.
- b) **One-envelope submission Fixed Budget-Based Selection (FBS)**, which attributes 100 % weight to the Technical Proposal and 0 % to the Financial Proposal, provided the Financial Proposal is within the available budget. The available budget is indicated in the **Data Sheet**. This selection method is appropriate only when the assignment is simple and can be precisely defined and when the budget is fixed. This selection method is most useful in the case of small studies and simple services.
- c) **One-envelope submission Least Cost-Based Selection (LCS)**, in which the Contract is awarded to the lowest-priced, substantially responsive Proposal. This selection method may only be envisaged for standard, non-complex Consulting Services of limited cost (e.g. translation work, audits).

1.2 Throughout these Request for Proposal the following definitions apply:

- (a) "Affiliate(s)" means an entity that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Consultant.
- (b) "Applicable Law" means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in the Employer's country, or in such other country as may be specified in the **Data Sheet**, as they may be issued and in force from time to time.
- (c) "Consultant" means a legally established professional consulting firm or an entity that may provide or provides the Services to the Employer under a Contract. The terms "Consultant" and "Bidder" are used in this document interchangeably.
- (d) "Contract" means a legally binding written agreement signed between the Employer and the Consultant, which includes all the attached documents listed in its Clause 1 (the General Conditions (GC), the Special Conditions (SC), and the Appendices).
- (e) "**Data Sheet**" means an integral part of the Instructions to Consultants (ITC) Section 2 that is used to reflect specific country and assignment conditions to supplement the provisions of the ITC. In case of conflict between the ITC and the **Data Sheet**, the **Data Sheet** shall prevail.
- (f) "Day" means a calendar day.

- (g) “Employer” means the contracting party that legally concludes the Contract for the Services with the selected Consultant. The term Employer may be used interchangeably with the term Project Executing Agency.
- (h) “Experts” means, collectively, Key Experts, other experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or Joint Venture member(s).
- (i) “Government” means the government of the Employer’s country.
- (j) “Guidelines” means Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Plant, Goods and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries available at https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/PDF/Download-Center/PDF-Dokumente-Richtlinien/Vergaberichtlinien-2019-Englisch-Internet_2.pdf.
- (k) “ITC” (Section 2 of this RFP) means the Instructions to Consultants that provides the shortlisted Consultants with all information needed to prepare their Proposals.
- (l) “Joint Venture (JV)” means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one Consultant where one member has the authority to conduct all business for and on behalf of any and all the members of the JV, and where the members of the JV are jointly and severally liable to the Employer for the performance of the Contract. The terms Joint Venture and Consortium can be used interchangeably.
- (m) “Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional whose skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience are critical to the performance of the Services under the Contract and whose CV is taken into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant’s **Proposal**.
- (n) “LOI” (Section 1 of this RFP) means the Letter of Invitation being sent by the Employer to the shortlisted Consultants.
- (o) “Proposal” means the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal of the Consultant.
- (p) “RFP” means the Request for Proposals to be prepared by the Employer for the selection of consultants.
- (q) “Services” means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to the Contract.
- (r) “Sub-consultant” means an entity to which the Consultant intends to subcontract any part of the Services while remaining responsible to the Employer during the performance of the Contract.
- (s) “TOR” (Section VII of this RFP) means the Terms of Reference that explain the objectives, scope of work, activities, and tasks to be performed, respective responsibilities of the Employer and the Consultant, and expected results and deliverables of the assignment.

1.3 The preselected Consultants are invited to submit a Technical Proposal

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,

MBMA

and a Financial Proposal for consulting services required for the assignment named in the **Data Sheet**. The Proposal will be the basis for negotiating and ultimately signing the Contract with the selected Consultant.

1.4 The Consultants should familiarize themselves with the local conditions and take them into account in preparing their Proposals; including attending a pre-proposal conference if one is specified in the **Data Sheet**. Attending any such pre-proposal conference is at the Consultants' expense.

1.5 The Employer will timely provide, at no cost to the Consultants, the inputs, relevant project data, and reports required for the preparation of the Consultant's Proposal as specified in the **Data Sheet**.

2. Source of Funds, Responsibilities

2.1 The Employer as indicated in the **Data Sheet** has applied or received financing (hereinafter called "funds") from KfW or, if KfW is the Employer, has allocated funds towards the cost of the project named in the **Data Sheet**. The Employer intends to apply a portion or all the funds to eligible payments under the contract(s) resulting from this procurement process.

The following clause applies only if KfW is not the Employer:

2.2 The procurement process is the responsibility of the Employer. KfW shall verify that the procurement process is fair, transparent, economical, free of discrimination and according to the provisions in this document. KfW exercises its monitoring function based on the contractual arrangements with the Employer and the Applicable Guidelines detailing the requirement for KfW's approval and no objection. No contractual relationship between KfW and any third party shall be deemed to exist other than with the Employer.

3. Sanctionable Practice

3.1 KfW requires compliance with its policy regarding Sanctionable Practice as defined and set forth in Section VI.

3.2 In further pursuance of this policy, Consultants shall permit and shall cause its agents to provide information and permit KfW or an agent appointed by KfW to inspect on site all accounts, records and other documents relating to bid submission and contract performance (in the case of award), and to have them audited by auditors or agents appointed by KfW.

4. Eligible Consultants and Eligible Materials, Equipment, and Services

4.1 A Consultant may be a firm that is a private entity or a government-owned entity – subject to ITC 4.3.

4.2 It is the Consultant's responsibility to ensure that its Experts, joint venture members, Sub-consultants, agents (declared or not), sub-contractors, service providers, suppliers and/or their employees meet the requirements of eligibility and conflict of interest as established hereunder.

4.3 KfW's eligibility criteria to bid are described in Section V, Eligibility Criteria.

4.4 This tendering procedure is open only to preselected Consultants.

4.5 A Consultant shall provide such evidence of eligibility satisfactory to the Employer, as specified in Clause 4.3 or as the Employer shall reasonably request.

4.6 The materials, equipment and services to be supplied under the Contract and financed by the KfW may have their origin in any country subject to the restrictions specified in Section V, Eligibility Criteria, and all expenditures under the Contract will not contravene such restrictions. At the Employer's request, Consultants may be required to provide evidence of the origin of materials, equipment and services.

5. Conflict of Interest

5.1 The Consultant is required to provide professional, objective, and impartial advice, at all times holding the Employer's interest's paramount, strictly avoiding conflicts with other assignments or its own corporate interests and acting without any consideration for future work.

5.2 Bidders shall be disqualified if they:

- (a) are an affiliate controlled by the Employer or a shareholder controlling the Employer, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been fully resolved;
- (b) have a business or a family relationship with an Employer's staff involved in the tender process or the supervision of the resulting Contract, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been fully resolved;
- (c) are controlled by or do control another Bidder or are under common control with another Bidder, receive from or grant subsidies directly or indirectly to another Bidder, have the same legal representative as another Bidder, maintain direct or indirect contacts with another Bidder which allow them to have or give access to information contained in the respective applications, to influence them or influence the decisions of the Employer;
- (d) are engaged in a services activity which, by its nature, may conflict with the assignment that they would carry out for the Employer;
- (e) were directly involved in drawing up the terms of reference or other relevant information for the tender process. This shall not apply to consultants who have produced preparatory studies for the project or who were involved in a preceding project phase, insofar as the information they prepared, especially feasibility studies, was made available to all Bidders and the preparation of the terms of reference was not part of the activity.
- (f) were during the last 12 months prior to publication of the tender process indirectly or directly linked to the project in question through employment as a staff member or advisor to the Employer and are or were able in this connection to influence the award of contract.
- (g) are state-owned entities, which are not able to provide evidence that (a) they are legally and financially autonomous and (b) they do operate under commercial laws and regulations.

5.3 The Consultant has an obligation to disclose to the Employer any situation of actual or potential conflict that impacts its capacity to serve the best interest of its Employer. Failure to disclose such situations may lead to the

disqualification of the Consultant or the termination of its Contract.

6. Unfair Competitive Advantage

6.1 Fairness and transparency in the selection process require that the Consultants or their Affiliates competing for a specific assignment do not derive a competitive advantage from having provided consulting services related to the assignment in question or have otherwise been involved in the preparation of this tender procedure. To that end the Employer shall indicate in the **Data Sheet** and make available to all shortlisted Consultants together with this RFP all information that would in that respect give such Consultants any unfair competitive advantage over competing Consultants. Subject to aforementioned provision Consultants who have produced preparatory studies for the assignment or who were involved in the preceding phase may participate, except when they have prepared the Terms of Reference.

B. Preparation of Proposals

7. General Considerations

7.1 In preparing the Proposal, the Consultant is expected to examine the RFP in detail.

7.2 A substantially responsive Proposal is one that conforms to the terms, conditions, and specifications of the RFP without material deviation or reservation which are likely to jeopardize the achievement of the objective of this assignment. A material deviation or reservation is one that:

- a) affects in any substantial way the scope, quality, or performance of the Services; or
- b) limits in any substantial way, inconsistent with the RFP, the Employer's rights or the Consultant's obligations under the Contract; or
- c) if rectified would unfairly affect the competitive position of other Consultants presenting substantially responsive Proposals.

Substantially non-responsive Proposals shall be rejected by the Employer.

8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal

8.1 The Consultant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Proposal, and the Employer shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process. The Employer is not bound to accept any Proposal and reserves the right to annul the selection process at any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the Consultant.

9. Documents Comprising the Proposal

9.1 The Proposal shall include a Declaration of Undertaking in the format provided in Form TECH-1 (Section III) along with the Technical and the Financial Proposal. The individual documents and forms comprising the Proposal are enlisted in the **Data Sheet** (see Clause 20.1 and 20.2).

9.2 In case Consultants are required to demonstrate their qualification, the **Data Sheet** (see Clause 20.2) will determine which qualification documents have to be submitted as well as any other documents and forms to be submitted.

9.3 The Consultant shall furnish information on commissions, gratuities, and fees, if any, paid or to be paid to agents or any other party relating to this Proposal and, if awarded, Contract execution, as requested in the Financial Proposal submission form (Section IV).

10. Proposal Validity

10.1 The validity period shall be 3 (three) months. During this period, the Consultant shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Experts, the proposed rates and the total price.

10.2 A replacement of Key Experts in the initial Proposal validity period is acceptable only for duly justified reasons beyond the control of the Consultant (e.g. sickness or accident). The Consultant shall propose an alternative expert with an equal or better qualification. If the replacement Key Expert's qualification is not equal or better than the qualification of the initial candidate or the justification for replacement is unsubstantiated the Proposal shall be rejected.

Extension of Validity Period

10.3 The Employer will make its best effort to complete the evaluation within the Proposal's validity period. However, should the need arise, the Employer may request, in writing, all Consultants who submitted Proposals prior to the submission deadline to extend the Proposals' validity period.

10.4 If the Consultant agrees to extend the validity period of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal and with the confirmation of the availability of the Key Experts.

10.5 The Consultant has the right to refuse to extend the validity period of its Proposal in which case such Proposal will not be further evaluated.

Substitution of Key Experts at Validity Extension

10.6 If any of the Key Experts becomes unavailable during the extended validity period, the Consultant shall provide a written substitution request to the Employer.

10.7 The replacement Key Expert shall have equal or better qualifications than the Key Expert being replaced. If the Consultant fails to provide a replacement Key Expert with equal or better qualification, such a Proposal will be rejected.

10.8 Substitution requests shall not delay the evaluation process.

11. Clarification and Amendment of RFP

11.1 The Consultant may request a clarification of any part of the RFP until the deadline indicated in the **Data Sheet**. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic means, to the Employer's address indicated in the **Data Sheet**. The Employer will respond in writing, or by standard electronic means, and will send written copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying its source) to all shortlisted Consultants not later than ten (10) days prior to the deadline for the submission of Proposals. Should the Employer deem it necessary to amend the RFP as a result of a clarification, it shall do so following the procedure described below:

11.1.1 At any time before the Proposal submission deadline, the Employer

may amend the RFP by issuing an amendment in writing or by standard electronic means. The amendment shall be sent to all shortlisted Consultants and will be binding on them.

11.1.2 If the amendment is substantial, the Employer may extend the Proposal submission deadline to give the shortlisted Consultants reasonable time to take an amendment into account in their Proposals.

11.2 The Consultant may submit a modified Proposal or a modification to any part of it at any time prior to the Proposal submission deadline. No modifications to the Technical or Financial Proposal shall be accepted after the deadline.

12. Preparation of Proposals – Specific Considerations

12.1 While preparing the Proposal, the Consultant must give particular attention to the provisions in the **Data Sheet**.

12.2 If stipulated in the **Data Sheet** a basic eligibility and qualification assessment will be carried out to establish the Consultant’s general capability to perform the requested services as a prerequisite to qualify for technical evaluation. The Consultant shall submit the Qualification Form(s) as stipulated in the **Data Sheet**.

12.3 If required in the **Data Sheet**, the Consultant shall include in its Proposal at least the minimum time-input (in the same units) required from the Key Experts. If the Consultant includes a lower time input, the Employer shall adjust the respective Financial Proposal to make it comparable with the other Proposals in accordance with the method in the **Data Sheet**.

13. Technical Proposal Format and Content

13.1 In a two-envelope procedure (here: QCBS only) the Technical Proposal shall not include financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information shall be declared non-responsive.

13.2 The Consultant shall not propose Key Experts inconsistent with the Key Experts profiles described in the TOR (Section VII). Only one CV shall be submitted for each Key Expert position.

13.3 The Technical Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Forms provided in Section III of this RFP.

14. Financial Proposal

14.1 The Consultant shall submit a Financial Proposal based on the requirements as described in the TOR (Section VII) and considering the remuneration mode as specified in the **Data Sheet**. If a contract period is provided in the **Data Sheet** the Consultant shall assume this contract period in the preparation of the Financial Proposal. The Financial Proposal shall contain the information and be structured as detailed in the **Data Sheet** and in Section IV.

Taxes

14.2 Tax liabilities and public duties in connection with the Contract will be reimbursed upon documentary evidence. In case KfW is the Employer, and the Consultant is a German resident the applicable German VAT must be applied and shown separately in the financial proposal.

Currency of Proposal	14.3 The Consultant shall calculate the Financial Proposal for its Services in Euro unless otherwise permitted in the Data Sheet .
Currency of Payment and Payment Conditions	14.4 Payments under the Contract shall be made in Euro unless otherwise stated in the Data Sheet . 14.5 The Consultant shall calculate the Financial Proposal on the basis of the general payment conditions as per model Contract for consulting services attached under Section VIII if not otherwise stated in the Data Sheet .
Contributions by the Employer	14.6 The Consultant shall assume in the financial Proposal that the Employer shall make the following contributions: 14.6.1 provide the Consultant with all the information, documents, maps, aerial photographs, etc. in his possession and necessary for the completion of his services, free of charge, for the duration of the project; 14.6.2 provide other support and contributions as stipulated in the Data Sheet .

C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation

15. Submission, Sealing, and Marking of Proposals

- 15.1 The Consultant shall submit a signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with ITC 9 (Documents Comprising Proposal). The submission can be done by mail (postal or courier service) or by hand unless otherwise stipulated in the **Data Sheet**.
- 15.2 The authorized representative of the Consultant according to ITC 4.1. shall sign the original submission letters in the required format for both the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal.
- 15.3 Any modifications, revisions, interlineations, erasures or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialized by the persons signing the Proposal.
- 15.4 The signed Proposal shall be marked "Original", and its copies marked "Copy" as appropriate. The number of copies is indicated in the **Data Sheet**. All copies shall be made from the signed original. If there are discrepancies between the original and the copies, the original shall prevail.
- 15.5 The original and all the copies of the Proposal shall be submitted and sealed as indicated in the **Data Sheet**. If the envelopes and packages with the Proposal are not sealed and marked as required in the **Data Sheet**, the Employer will assume no responsibility for the misplacement, loss, or premature opening of the Proposal.
- 15.6 The original of the Proposal or its modifications must be sent to the address indicated in the **Data Sheet** and received no later than the deadline indicated in the **Data Sheet**, or any extension to this deadline. Any Proposal or its modification received after the deadline shall be declared late and rejected, and promptly returned unopened. The timely receipt of the original of the

Proposal at the address and date indicated in the **Data Sheet** is decisive for the timely submission of the Proposal.

15.7 The Consultant may be requested to send additional copies of the Proposal to other recipients as indicated in the **Data Sheet**. In this case the same requirements for envelopes and packages apply as for the original of the Proposal. The receipt of such copies shall not be decisive for the timely submission.

16. Confidentiality

16.1 From the time the Proposals are opened to the time the Contract is awarded, the Consultant shall not contact the Employer on any matter related to its Technical and/or Financial Proposal. Information relating to the evaluation of Proposals and award recommendations shall not be disclosed to the Consultants who submitted the Proposals or to any other party not officially concerned with the process, until the Contract is awarded.

16.2 Any attempt by shortlisted Consultants or anyone on behalf of the Consultant to influence improperly the Employer in the evaluation of the Proposals or Contract award decisions may result in the rejection of its Proposal.

17. Opening of Proposals

17.1 The Employer's evaluation committee shall proceed with the opening of the Proposals shortly after the submission deadline as indicated in the **Data Sheet** and establish and sign an opening protocol as per ITC 17.4.

17.2 The Employer's evaluation committee shall be composed of at least two members unless otherwise detailed in the **Data Sheet**. If a tender agent conducts the selection procedure on behalf of the Employer as indicated in the **Data Sheet** the opening of Proposals shall be done by the tender agent in presence of a witness and both shall sign the opening protocol as per ITC 17.4

17.3 In case of QCBS the envelopes with the Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and shall be securely stored until they are opened in accordance with ITC 20. In case of FBS and LCS the Financial Proposal will be opened together with the Technical Proposal.

17.4 At the opening of the Proposals the following shall be recorded in the opening protocol: (i) the name and business address of the Consultant; (ii) the presence or absence of a Financial Proposal submitted in compliance with the packing requirements described in ITC 15; (iii) the presence or absence of the signed Declaration of Undertaking (TECH-1), (iv) a bid validity compliant with ITC 12.1; (v) any modifications to the Proposal submitted prior to the Proposal submission deadline; and (v) any other information deemed appropriate or as indicated in the **Data Sheet**.

Quality and Cost-based Selection - QCBS

17.5 In case of QCBS opening of the envelopes containing the Financial Proposal is subject to the acceptance of the Technical Evaluation Report and follows the stipulations of ITC 20. The Opening Protocol shall contain the following information: (i) the name of the Consultant; (ii) the scoring as per the technical evaluation; (iii) the read-out price; (iv) any other information deemed appropriate or as indicated in the **Data Sheet**.

18. General aspects of Evaluation

18.1 The evaluation of the Proposals shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions below. The individual evaluation steps and their sequence are

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

depending on the form of submission and selection method chosen. This RfP differentiates between the selection methods as specified in ITC 1.1 and the detailed evaluation steps will be presented in ITC 20.2 to 20.4.

- a) In case of a two-envelope submission QCBS the detailed evaluation steps will be presented in ITC 20.2
- b) In case of a one-envelope submission FBS the detailed evaluation steps will be presented in ITC 20.3.
- c) In case of a one-envelope submission LCS the detailed evaluation steps will be presented in ITC 20.4.

The selection method applicable for this tender is determined in the **Data Sheet**

18.2 The evaluation report(s) shall include all clarifications with consultants during the evaluation and be signed by all members of the Evaluation committee, pursuant to ITC 17.2.

18.3 The Consultant is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the Proposal submission deadline except as permitted in accordance with ITC 10.6. While evaluating the Proposals, the Employer will conduct the evaluation only on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.

18.4 Services or items that the Consultant is required to offer as an option as per the TOR shall not be included in the technical and financial evaluation, unless otherwise explicitly stated in the **Data Sheet**.

18.5 Alternative offers will not be taken into consideration unless permitted in the **Data Sheet**.

19. Evaluation methods

19.1 The Employer shall evaluate the Technical Proposals based on the evaluation criteria set out in the **Data Sheet**.

19.2 If indicated in the **Data Sheet** evaluation will be based on a scoring system. Then, for the purposes of scoring individual sub-criteria the following qualitative approach may be applied:

- a) 100% of the max. score: Excellent, no errors or omissions at all are noted. Exhaustive, conclusive, comprehensive, precise and further leading suggestion / idea / offering with respect to the sub-criterion.
- b) 75% of the max. score: Good, minimal errors or omissions noted. Exhaustive, conclusive, comprehensive and precise with respect to the sub-criterion.
- c) 50% of the max. score: Unsatisfactory, major errors or omissions noted not comprising the fulfilment of the sub-criterion, basically meets the requirement of the respective sub-criterion.
- d) 25% of the max. score: Poor, major errors or omissions are noted comprising the fulfilment of the sub-criterion, substantially deviates from or indicates misunderstanding of the requirement of the respective sub-criterion.
- e) 0 % of the max. score: Insufficient / Fail, does not meet the requirement of the respective sub-criterion at all or does not provide any information

regarding the requirement of the sub-criterion.

A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it is determined to be non-responsive in accordance with ITC 7.2 or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score of 75 % of the maximum score in accordance with ITC 20.2 b)/20.3 b).

19.3 A proposal is considered responsive if it complies with the minimum requirements as defined in the **Data Sheet**. A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it is determined to be non-responsive in accordance with ITC 7.2 or if it fails to achieve the minimum requirements as defined in the **Data Sheet**.

20. Evaluation steps and sequence

20.1 Generally, as a first evaluation step all proposals will be checked for administrative compliance as per ITC 10.1. A proposal that is not substantially responsive to the requirements as set out in the **Data Sheet** shall be rejected. In particular, any proposal lacking the following documents shall be considered not substantially responsive:

- a) Signed Declaration of Undertaking (Form TECH-1)

Bidders which fail to include a signed Declaration of Undertaking in their proposals will be excluded from further evaluation. In case of QCBS their financial proposals will be returned unopened once the tender has been concluded. The proposals of all other bidders will be evaluated as per the criteria and/or scoring system determined in the **Data Sheet**.

Quality and Cost-based Selection - QCBS

20.2 In case of a two-envelope submission **QCBS** the following evaluation steps will be carried out in the sequence presented below:

- a) If qualification criteria are determined in the **Data Sheet** the evaluation of the technical proposals will begin with assessing the bidder's qualification based on criteria set out in the **Data Sheet** and the information presented in the Qualification Forms. Bidders which could not establish full compliance with the qualification criteria will be excluded from further evaluation and their financial proposals returned unopened once the tender has been concluded. The technical proposals of all other bidders will be evaluated as per the criteria and scoring system determined in the **Data Sheet**.
- b) Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it is determined to be non-responsive in accordance with ITC 7.2 or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score of 75 % of the maximum score in accordance with ITC 20.2 b. A technical proposal that is not substantially responsive to the requirements as set out in the **Data Sheet** shall be rejected.
- c) The technical evaluation will be presented in a report. Financial opening and evaluation may only resume once the technical evaluation report has been approved by the Employer and KfW, if KfW is not the Employer.
- d) The Financial Proposals of those Consultants which are in compliance with ITC 20.1 and are determined technically substantially responsive as per ITC 20.2 shall be opened. The Financial Proposals of those Consultants below the minimum score shall not be opened and returned

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project,
MBMA

unopened after completing the selection process and Contract signing. The opening of the Financial Proposals shall be done in accordance with ITC 17.2 and ITC 17.5. The Financial Proposals shall be assessed using the total price after correcting any arithmetical errors and strictly following the stipulations of ITC 23.

- e) The financial evaluation will be presented in a Combined Evaluation report of Technical and Financial Proposals to be approved by the Employer and KfW, if KfW is not the Employer.

The Proposal Score shall be calculated as per the formula presented in 20.5.

The Consultant with the highest Proposal Score shall be declared the winner and invited for negotiations.

20.3 In case of a one-envelope submission **FBS** the following evaluation steps will be carried out in the sequence presented below:

- a) Evaluation will begin with reading out the total prices of all proposals. Eligible for evaluation are only those proposals which are within the available budget as indicated in the **Data Sheet**. All proposals exceeding the available budget will be excluded from further evaluation. In order to determine financial responsiveness evaluation of the financial proposals will strictly follow the instructions as per ITC 21.
- b) If qualification criteria are determined in the **Data Sheet** the evaluation of the financially responsive technical proposals will begin with assessing the bidder's qualification based on criteria set in the **Data Sheet** and the information presented in the Qualification Forms. Bidders which could not establish full compliance with the qualification criteria will be excluded from further evaluation. The technical proposals of all other bidders will be evaluated as per the criteria and scoring system determined in the **Data Sheet**.
- c) Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it is determined to be non-responsive in accordance with ITC 7.2 or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score of 75 % of the maximum score in accordance with ITC 20.3 b). A technical proposal that is not substantially responsive to the requirements as set out in the **Data Sheet** shall be rejected.
- d) The evaluation will be presented in a report to be approved by the Employer and KfW, if KfW is not the Employer.
- e) The Proposal Score shall be calculated as per the formula presented in 20.5.

The Consultant with the highest Technical Score shall be declared the winner and invited for negotiations.

20.4 In case of a one-envelope submission **LCS** the following evaluation steps will be carried out in the sequence presented below:

- a) Evaluation will begin with reading out the total prices of all proposals and checking for arithmetical correctness as specified in ITC 21.
- b) The lowest corrected price bid will be evaluated as per the pass and fail

Fixed Budget-based
Selection – FBS

criteria set out in the **Data Sheet**. All other proposals will be neglected at this stage. If the lowest corrected price bid is determined technically responsive evaluation will be stopped and the bidder proposed to be awarded the contract.

If the lowest corrected price bid is determined technically unresponsive it will be excluded from further evaluation and the evaluation process will resume with the second lowest corrected price bid.

- c) The evaluation will be presented in a report to be approved by the Employer and KfW, if KfW is not the Employer.

The Consultant with the lowest corrected and technically responsive financial bid shall be declared the winner and invited for negotiations.

20.5 The Proposal Score shall be calculated as per the following formula:

The weights given to the Technical (T) and Financial (F) Proposals are as indicated in the **Data Sheet**.

The weighted technical score is calculated as follows:

$PT = WT * T$, with

PT = weighted technical score (points) of a technical Proposal,

T = technical score (points) as per technical evaluation,

WT = weight of the technical Proposal (in percent)

The weighted financial score is calculated as follows

$PF = WF * Co/C$, with

PF = financial score (points) of a financial Proposal,

C = evaluated price of the financial Proposal,

Co = lowest evaluated price of all financial Proposals.

and the overall score is calculated as:

$P = PF + PT.$ "]

Least Cost-based
Selection - LCS

21. Evaluation of Financial Proposals

Time Based
contracts

21.1 The Financial Proposals shall be assessed using the total price after correcting any arithmetical errors.

21.2 If a Time-Based contract form is included in the RFP, the Employer's evaluation committee will (a) correct any computational or arithmetical errors, (b) adjust the prices if they fail to reflect the duration of the contract in accordance with ITC 14.1., and (c) adjust the prices if they fail to reflect all inputs, which, in accordance with the RFP have to be indicated and priced separately, using the highest rates for the corresponding items indicated in the Financial Proposals of competing Bids, determined to be responsive in accordance with ITC 7.2. In case of discrepancy between (i) a partial amount (sub-total) and the total amount, or (ii) between the amount derived by multiplication of unit price with quantity and the total price, or (iii) between words and figures, the former will prevail. In case of discrepancy between the

Technical and Financial Proposals in indicating quantities of input, the Technical Proposal prevails and the Employer's evaluation committee shall correct the quantification indicated in the Financial Proposal so as to make it consistent with that indicated in the Technical Proposal, apply the relevant unit price included in the Financial Proposal to the corrected quantity, and correct the total Proposal cost.

LumpSum
contracts

21.3 If a Lump-Sum contract form is included in the RFP, the Consultant is deemed to have included all prices in the Financial Proposal, therefore no price adjustments shall be made. The total price, net of taxes understood as per Clause ITC 25 below, specified in the Financial Proposal (Form FIN-1) shall be considered as the offered price.

21.4 Notwithstanding the above, the offered price may be adjusted for Other Cost items which are to be offered separately to allow for comparison, if such items are not offered as per instructions in 14.1. in the **Data Sheet**.

**22. Employer's
Right to Reject All
Proposals**

22.1 The Employer reserves the right to annul the bidding process and reject all Proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to consultants.

D. Negotiations and Award

23. Negotiations

23.1 The Employer shall conduct contract negotiations with the Consultant whose bid has been ranked highest.

23.2 The Employer shall prepare minutes of negotiations, which shall be signed by the Employer and the Consultant's authorized representative.

Availability of
Key Experts

23.3 The invited Consultant shall confirm the availability of all Key Experts included in the Proposal as a pre-requisite to the negotiations, or, if applicable, a replacement in accordance with Clause 10 of the ITC. Failure to confirm the Key Experts' availability shall result in the rejection of the Consultant's Proposal, in which case the Employer shall proceed to negotiate the Contract with the next-ranked Consultant.

23.4 Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts at the negotiations may be considered if due solely to circumstances outside the reasonable control of and not foreseeable by the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall offer a substitute Key Expert within the period specified in the invitation announcement to negotiate the Contract, who shall have equivalent or better qualifications and experience than the original candidate.

Technical
Negotiations

23.5 The scope of the contract negotiations shall be limited to the following points:

- a) clarifying the work and the methods to be used, where necessary adjusting the staffing schedule;

b) clarifying any counterpart services to be provided by the Employer.

Such negotiations shall be limited to items identified in the evaluation report and shall not be subject to material changes.

Financial
Negotiations

23.6 Fees and unit prices for incidental costs and for all services that were to be offered on a lump-sum basis pursuant to the invitation to tender are in principle not subject to negotiation, as they were already taken into account during the evaluation of the Financial Proposal.

23.7 All terms and conditions of the Contract, including the payment schedule, shall be strictly in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the contract form provided in Section VIII. For the avoidance of doubt, the Contract terms and conditions shall not be subject to any material changes in the course of negotiations.

24. Conclusion of Negotiations

24.1 The negotiations are concluded with a review of the finalized draft Contract.

24.2 If the negotiations fail, the Employer shall inform the Consultant immediately in writing of all pending issues and disagreements and provide a final opportunity to the Consultant to respond. If disagreement persists, the Employer shall terminate the negotiations informing the Consultant of the reasons for doing so and invite the next-ranked Consultant to negotiate the Contract. Once the Employer commences negotiations with the next-ranked Consultant, the Employer shall not reopen the earlier negotiations.

25. Award of Contract, Information of Consultants

25.1 After completing the negotiations with the Consultant, the Employer shall promptly inform all preselected Consultants on the outcome of the selection procedure. The information sent to the Consultants shall contain the name and the contract amount of the winning Consultant, the combined Proposal Score/Result of the winner and the respective Consultant.

25.2 In case a Consultant requests additional information on the result of the evaluation in writing to the Employer, the Employer shall promptly provide a debriefing to the Consultant informing on the weaknesses of the Proposal in relation to the winning Consultant. No additional information shall be disclosed.

The following clause applies only if KfW is not the Employer:

25.3 Subject to KfW's approval to the draft Contract the Employer shall sign the Contract. The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the **Data Sheet**.

Section II. Data Sheet – QCBS

A. General	
ITC Clause Reference	
1.1	The Employer is <i>Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA)</i>
1.1 a)	The selection method: Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) Method.- two-envelope submission
1.2 (b)	<i>Employer's Country : India</i>
1.3	The name of the assignment is " Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies " under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA <i>Activity: Hiring of Consultants Value Chain Sector Studies (10crops)</i>
1.4	A virtual pre-proposal conference will be held on 21 st November, 2024 at 11:30 AM (IST). Bidders who are interested to participate in the pre-bid meeting, need to send a request to mbmaprourement@gmail.com
1.5	The Employer will provide the following inputs to facilitate the preparation of the Proposals: <i>As Specified in the Terms of References</i>
4.2	Joint Venture: Joint Venture is permitted upto 3 firms <i>No change in JV partners shall be allowed after submission of proposal.</i>
B. Preparation of Proposals	
11.1	The deadline for clarifications submission: 21 st November, 2024 by 5:00PM (IST) All Clarifications requests shall be addressed to mbmaprourement@gmail.com MBMA will Respond to all the request for clarifications by 26th November, 2024 by 5:00

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

	<p>PM (IST)</p> <p>MBMA will respond to all the queries through a clarification, addendum and clarification and to be published on the MBMA website.</p>				
12.1.	The maximum admissible budget for the assignment is <i>INR 76,00,000.00/- (INR 76 Lakhs only)</i> . Bidder submitting bid above the admissible budget may be rejected .				
12.2	An eligibility and qualification assessment is carried out based on the criteria listed in table ITC 20.2, below.				
12.3	N.A				
14.1	<p>The contract period shall be 6 months from the date of signing of the contract agreement</p> <p>The Financial Proposal shall be calculated under the assumption that services will be remunerated on a lump sum basis.</p> <p>The Consultant shall present its Financial Proposal according to Form FIN-1 Financial Proposal – Cost Breakdown.</p>				
14.3	<i>The Consultant is to express its Financial Proposal in INR (Indian Rupees)</i>				
14.5	<i>Payment Terms and Conditions</i>				
	D.No	Deliverables	Key contents and activities	Deadline submission in calendar days	Payment (% of contract value)
	D1	Inception Report	Detailed Workplan and personnel schedule	15 days after signing of the contract	10%
	D2	Draft Value Chain & Master Plan Report	Activity 1-7 (as per the TOR). Conduct of consultations with key stakeholders to validate the findings of the analysis Incorporate the feedback received at the workshop	120 days after signing of the contract	30%
	D3	Final Value Chain &	1st Draft Master Plan Validation Workshop	180 days after	60%

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

	Master Plan Report	Prepare 2nd draft master plan by incorporating the feedback from the review process, consultation/workshop Prepare a final report, and executive summary based on the finalized masterplan Activity 8 Activity 9	signing of the contract	
14.6	<i>Contribution of the Employer : As specified in the TOR</i>			
C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation				
15.4	<p>The Consultant shall submit the Proposal as follows:</p> <p>(a) Technical Proposal: one (1) original and One copies, each as hard copy;</p> <p>(b) Financial Proposal: one (1) original as hard copy.</p> <p><i>In addition, the bidder need to submit a soft copy of the Technical Proposal as unalterable and printable PDF file in a Pendrive marked accordingly and kee it in the technical proposal envelope.</i></p>			
15.5QCBS	<p>The original and all copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed inside a sealed envelope clearly marked "Technical Proposal", Consultancy for "Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies, under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA ", reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning "Do Not Open until 5th December, 2024 at 5:30 PM (IST)".</p> <p>Similarly, the original and all copies of the Financial Proposal shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked "Financial Proposal" followed by the name of the assignment, reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning "Do Not Open with The Technical Proposal."</p> <p>The sealed envelopes containing the Technical and Financial Proposals shall be placed into one outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address, RFP reference number, the name of the assignment, Consultant's name and the address, and shall be clearly marked "Do Not Open Before 5th December, 2024 at 5:30 PM (IST)".</p>			
15.6	<p>The deadline for the submission of Proposals shall be 5th December, 2024 at 5:00 PM (IST)"</p> <p>The original of the Proposal shall be submitted at the following address:</p>			

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

	Additional project Director Procurement Unit Meghalaya Basin Management Agency C/o Meghalaya State Housing Financing Co-operative Society Ltd. Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003 :Email : mbmaprourement@gmail.com															
17.1	The opening of the Proposals will take place on 5 th December,2024 at 5:30 PM (IST) Address: As indicated in 15.6 or through a virtual meeting (link will be shared before opening)															
17.2	The Employer's evaluation committee is composed of : <i>Officials of MBMA and other external officials as required as committee member.</i>															
18.4	Optional Services: <i>Not Applicable</i>															
18.5	Alternative proposals: <i>Not Applicable</i>															
20.2 b)	<p>The technical evaluation shall be carried out based on the following criteria and point system. No additional criteria or sub-criteria than those indicated in the RFP shall be used for the evaluation of the Technical Proposal.</p> <p>Pre-Evaluation Criteria for Lead Bidder:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Sl. No</th> <th>Criteria</th> <th>Supporting Document</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td> <td>The Bidder should be a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956/ Proprietary Firm / Society Act etc.</td> <td>Certificate of incorporation/certificate for commencement of business/ other relevant documentary proof should be submitted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2.</td> <td>Attested copy of Company's PAN and GST details</td> <td>Attested copy of PAN Card and GST Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.</td> <td>The applicant firm must have an Average annual turnover of INR 50 Lakhs (Indian Rupees Fifty Lakhs only). In the previous three financial year viz., 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24.</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of audited balance sheet CA certificate highlighting the turnover of the applicant. Qual-1 in format given at Section -III </td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>The Consultant should be an experienced Consultancy Firm</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous work order/contract Agreement </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sl. No	Criteria	Supporting Document	1.	The Bidder should be a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956/ Proprietary Firm / Society Act etc.	Certificate of incorporation/certificate for commencement of business/ other relevant documentary proof should be submitted	2.	Attested copy of Company's PAN and GST details	Attested copy of PAN Card and GST Certificate	3.	The applicant firm must have an Average annual turnover of INR 50 Lakhs (Indian Rupees Fifty Lakhs only). In the previous three financial year viz., 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of audited balance sheet CA certificate highlighting the turnover of the applicant. Qual-1 in format given at Section -III 	4	The Consultant should be an experienced Consultancy Firm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous work order/contract Agreement
Sl. No	Criteria	Supporting Document														
1.	The Bidder should be a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956/ Proprietary Firm / Society Act etc.	Certificate of incorporation/certificate for commencement of business/ other relevant documentary proof should be submitted														
2.	Attested copy of Company's PAN and GST details	Attested copy of PAN Card and GST Certificate														
3.	The applicant firm must have an Average annual turnover of INR 50 Lakhs (Indian Rupees Fifty Lakhs only). In the previous three financial year viz., 2021-22, 2022-23 & 2023-24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of audited balance sheet CA certificate highlighting the turnover of the applicant. Qual-1 in format given at Section -III 														
4	The Consultant should be an experienced Consultancy Firm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous work order/contract Agreement 														

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

		well established with at least 7 years of relevant and applicable technical, operational and managerial experience in the agriculture and agri-business sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qual-2 in format given at Section –III
5		The firm should have implemented atleast 3 similar contracts achieved during the last 7 years Experience in working in the State of Meghalaya would be considered an asset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous work order/contract Agreement • Qual-2 in format given at Section –III
6		Self-declaration in the firm’s letter head (seal and signed) to the effect the bidder is not insolvent, in receivership, bankrupt or being wound up or subject to legal proceedings for any of these circumstances.	To be submitted in the firm’s Letter Head as per format (Tech-1) given at Section III
7		Self-declaration in the firm’s letter head (seal and signed) that the bidder’s business activities are not suspended or debarred	To be submitted in the firm’s Letter Head as per format (Tech-1) given at Section III
<p>Note: <i>The credibility of mentioned experience shall be presented in a list of the required similar project/contracts as required above, including description of services provided (including information on contract value, contracting entity/client, project location/country, duration, assignment budget, percentage carried out by consultant in case of association of firms or subcontracting and main activities) and accompanied by certificates/confirmation of orderly fulfilment of the contracts verified by other party from such contracts.</i></p> <p>The evaluation of technical proposal shall be carried out based on the following criteria and point system. No additional criteria or sub-criteria than those indicated in the RFP shall be used for the evaluation of the Technical Proposal.</p>			
1.	Concept and Methodology		50
1.1	Clarity and completeness of the bid	5	
1.2	Critical analysis of the project objectives and the terms of References	5	
1.3	Proposed concepts and methods	5	
1.4	Experience in working in the State of Meghalaya in the	5	

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

	agriculture and agri-business sector		
1.5	The Consultant should be an experienced Consultancy Firm well established with at least 7 years of relevant and applicable technical, operational and managerial experience in the agriculture and agri-business sector;	15	
1.6	At least 3 similar contracts achieved during the last 7 years;	15	
2	Qualification of proposed Key Experts		50
2.1	Team Leader and Agriculture Specialist	20	
2.2	Organic Farming Specialist	10	
2.3	Value Chain Specialist	20	
Total (maximum)			100
<p><i>It is to be noted that qualifications of the key experts will get a Minimum scores if they fulfill only the minimum criteria as specified and that additional qualification will be awarded higher scores.</i></p>			
<p>Note: The number of points to be assigned to each of the above positions shall be determined considering the following three sub-criteria and relevant percentage weights:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) General qualifications (general education, training, and experience): 20 % 2) Adequacy for the Assignment (relevant education, training, experience in the sector/similar assignments): 70% 3) Relevant experience in Meghalaya (knowledge of local culture or administrative system, government organization, etc.): 10 % 			
Type of Document to be submitted:		Required (yes/no)	
TECH-1 Declaration of Undertaking		Yes	
TECH-2 Comments or Suggestions on the TOR and Counterpart Staff		Yes	
TECH-3 Description of the Approach, Methodology, and Work Plan		Yes	

MBMA/SLM/C-3/105/512029/2024/41

BMZ no: 202067973

Hiring of Consultants for Value Chain Sector Studies under Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, MBMA

	TECH-4 Work Schedule	Yes	
	TECH-5 Personnel Schedule	Yes	
20.5	<p>The weights given to the Technical (T) and Financial (F) Proposals are as</p> <p>$W_T = 80 \%$</p> <p>$W_F = 20 \%$</p> <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Bidders will have to comply in the pre-qualification criteria given above in order to be eligible for the technical evaluation and forward</i> 2. <i>The Minimum Qualification Marks for Technical qualification is 70 out of 100</i> 3. <i>Only those firms securing 70 marks and above in the technical qualification will be eligible for the opening of Financial proposal</i> 4. <i>The Minimum Combine Marks to qualify is 70 Marks</i> 		
	D. Negotiations and Award		
25.3	The tentative commencement date of the assignment is January, 2025 or earlier in Meghalaya		

Section III. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms

FORM	DESCRIPTION	<i>Page Limit</i>
QUAL-1	Financial Capability	3
QUAL-2	Project Experience	15
TECH-1	Declaration of Undertaking	3
TECH-2	Comments or Suggestions on the Terms of Reference and on Counterpart Staff and Facilities to be provided by the Employer.	5
TECH-3	Description of the Approach, Methodology, and Work Plan for Performing the Assignment	30
TECH-4	Work Schedule (Tasks and Activities Bar Chart)	10
TECH-5	Personnel Schedule (Bar Chart) and attached Curriculum Vitae (CV)	30

FORM QUAL-1**FINANCIAL CAPACITY STATEMENT**

Financial data	Financial year 2021-22 INR	Financial year 2022-23 INR	Financial year 2023-24 INR	Average¹ INR
Annual turnover ²				

If annual accounts are not yet available for the last year, please provide latest estimates or provisional figures. Figures in all columns must be calculated on the same basis to allow a direct, year-on-year comparison to be made (or, if the basis has changed, please provide an explanation of the change as a footnote to the table).

Natural persons who cannot present a balance sheet due to their legal status shall provide appropriate information (profit and loss statement, bank letter, etc.).

¹ Amounts entered in the 'Average' column must be the mathematical average of the amounts entered in the three preceding columns of the same row.

² The gross inflow of economic benefits (cash, receivables, other assets) generated from the ordinary operating activities of the enterprise (such as sales of goods, sales of Services, interest, royalties, and dividends) during the year.

FORM QUAL-2
PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Ref no:	Project title							
Name of legal entity (declaring Consultant)	Project Country	Overall project value (INR)*	Proportion carried out by the legal entity (%) *	Provided staff input (person months)	Name of client	Origin of funding	Dates (start / end)	Name of JV members, if any
...
Detailed description of project (background, objectives and main activities)						Services provided by the legal entity for the project		
...						...		

* If the overall project value refers to overall project cost inclusive of Consulting Services please indicate the consulting fee separately. The portion carried out by the legal entity refers to that figure.

FORM TECH-1

DECLARATION OF UNDERTAKING

Reference name of the Application/Offer/Contract: ("**Contract**")³

To: ("**Project Executing Agency**")

1. We recognise and accept that KfW only finances projects of the Project Executing Agency ("PEA")⁴ subject to its own conditions which are set out in the Funding Agreement it has entered into with the PEA. As a matter of consequence, no legal relationship exists between KfW and our company, our Joint Venture or our Subcontractors under the Contract. The PEA retains exclusive responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract.
2. We hereby certify that neither we nor any of our board members or legal representatives nor any other member of our Joint Venture including Subcontractors under the Contract are in any of the following situations:
 - 2.1) being bankrupt, wound up or ceasing our activities, having our activities administered by courts, having entered into receivership, reorganisation or being in any analogous situation;
 - 2.2) having been convicted by a final judgment or a final administrative decision or a preliminary investigation/charge is pending against us for involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering, terrorist-related offences, child labor or trafficking in human beings, or have been subject to (financial) sanctions and/or embargo provisions by the United Nations, the European Union or the Federal Republic of Germany. This exclusion criterion is also applicable to legal persons whose shares (or the majority thereof) are owned or de facto controlled by natural or legal persons against whom such judgments, administrative decisions, (financial) sanctions and/or embargoes have been imposed and – in the case of (financial) sanctions and/or embargoes – these restrictive measures continue to apply;
 - 2.3) having been convicted by a final court decision or a final administrative decision by a court, the European Union, national authorities in the Partner Country or in Germany for Sanctionable Practice in connection with a Tender Process or the performance of a Contract or for an irregularity affecting the EU's financial interests (*in the event of such a conviction, the Applicant or Bidder shall attach to this Declaration of Undertaking supporting information showing that this conviction is not relevant in the context of this Contract and that adequate compliance measures have been taken in reaction*);
 - 2.4) having been subject, within the past five years to a contract termination fully settled against us for significant or persistent failure to comply with our contractual obligations during such Contract performance, unless this termination was challenged, and dispute resolution is still pending or has not confirmed a full settlement against us;

³ Capitalised terms used, but not otherwise defined in this Declaration of Undertaking have the meaning given to such term in KfW's "Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries".

⁴The PEA means the purchaser, the employer, the client, as the case may be, for the procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Plant, Goods or Non-Consulting Services.

- 2.5) not having fulfilled the applicable fiscal obligations with regard to the payment of taxes at the respective tax residence and in the country of origin of the PEA (contractors based in Annex 1 countries (<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/de/policies/eu-list-of-non-cooperative-jurisdictions/>) must submit a fully completed and legally countersigned declaration of tax conformity (Appendix 1 to the Declaration of Undertaking) in addition to the Declaration of Undertaking at the time of award of the contract/contract review. This shall become an integral part of the contract. Failure to submit may result in exclusion from the awarding procedure. For contractors based in countries not listed as Annex 1 countries, only the Declaration of Undertaking must be submitted, and not the declaration of tax conformity),
- 2.6) being subject to an exclusion decision of the World Bank or any other multilateral development bank and being listed on the website <http://www.worldbank.org/debarr> or respectively on the relevant list of any other multilateral development bank (in the event of such exclusion, the Applicant or Bidder shall attach to this Declaration of Undertaking supporting information showing that this exclusion is not relevant in the context of this Contract and that adequate compliance measures have been taken in reaction); or
- 2.7) being guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required as condition to participation in this Tender Procedure.
3. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any of the members of our Joint Venture or any of our Subcontractors under the Contract are in any of the following situations of conflict of interest:
- 3.1) being an affiliate controlled by the PEA or a shareholder controlling the PEA, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of KfW and resolved to its satisfaction;
- 3.2) having a business or family relationship with a PEA's staff involved in the Tender Process or the supervision of the resulting Contract, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of KfW and resolved to its satisfaction;
- 3.3) being controlled by or controlling another Applicant or Bidder, or being under common control with another Applicant or Bidder, or receiving from or granting subsidies directly or indirectly to another Applicant or Bidder, having the same legal representative as another Applicant or Bidder, maintaining direct or indirect contacts with another Applicant or Bidder which allows us to have or give access to information contained in the respective Applications or Offers, influencing them or influencing decisions of the PEA;
- 3.4) being engaged in a Consulting Services activity, which, by its nature, may be in conflict with the assignments that we would carry out for the PEA;
- 3.5) in the case of procurement of Works, Plant or Goods:
- i. having prepared or having been associated with a Person who prepared specifications, drawings, calculations and other documentation to be used in the Tender Process of this Contract;
 - ii. having been recruited (or being proposed to be recruited) ourselves or any of our affiliates, to carry out works supervision or inspection for this Contract;
4. If we are a state-owned entity, and compete in a Tender Process, we certify that we have legal and financial autonomy and that we operate under commercial laws and

- regulations.
5. We undertake to bring to the attention of the PEA, which will inform KfW, any change in situation with regard to points 2 to 4 here above.
 6. In the context of the Tender Process and performance of the corresponding Contract:
 - 6.1) neither we nor any of the members of our Joint Venture nor any of our Subcontractors under the Contract have engaged or will engage in any Sanctionable Practice, or violate the Guidelines during the Tender Process and in the case of being awarded a Contract will engage in any Sanctionable Practice during the performance of the Contract;
 - 6.2) neither we nor any of the members of our Joint Venture or any of our Subcontractors under the Contract shall acquire or supply any equipment nor operate in any sectors under an embargo of the United Nations, the European Union or Germany; and
 - 6.3) we commit ourselves to complying with and ensuring that our Subcontractors and major suppliers under the Contract comply with international environmental and labour standards, consistent with laws and regulations applicable in the country of implementation of the Contract and the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organisation⁵ (ILO) and international environmental treaties. Moreover, we shall implement environmental and social risks mitigation measures when specified in the relevant environmental and social management plans or other similar documents provided by the PEA and, in any case, implement measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and gender-based violence.
 7. In the case of being awarded a Contract, we, as well as all members of our Joint Venture partners and Subcontractors under the Contract will, (i) upon request, provide information relating to the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract and (ii) permit the PEA and KfW or an auditor appointed by either of them, and in the case of financing by the European Union also to European institutions having competence under European Union law, to inspect the respective accounts, records and documents, to permit on the spot checks and to ensure access to sites and the respective project.
 8. In the case of being awarded a Contract, we, as well as all our Joint Venture partners and Subcontractors under the Contract undertake to preserve above mentioned records and documents in accordance with applicable law, but in any case, for at least six years from the date of fulfillment or termination of the Contract. Our financial transactions and financial statements shall be subject to auditing procedures in accordance with applicable law. Furthermore, we accept that our data (including personal data) generated in connection with the preparation and implementation of the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract are stored and processed according to the applicable law by the PEA and KfW.

⁵ In case ILO conventions have not been fully ratified or implemented in the Employer's country the Applicant/Bidder/Contractor shall, to the satisfaction of the Employer and KfW, propose and implement appropriate measures in the spirit of the said ILO conventions with respect to a) workers grievances on working conditions and terms of employment, b) child labour, c) forced labour, d) worker's organisations and e) non-discrimination.

Name: _____ In the capacity of: _____

Duly empowered to sign in the name and on behalf of⁶: _____

Signature: _____ Dated: _____

⁶ In the case of a JV, insert the name of the JV. The person who will sign the application, bid or proposal on behalf of the Applicant/Bidder shall attach a power of attorney from the Applicant/Bidder.

Declaration of tax conformity – binding confirmation for legal persons

Name of company

I hereby confirm with my signature that:

1. I am authorised to make this declaration on behalf of the above company;
2. the company properly pays all taxes in accordance with the tax laws of the country in which the company is domiciled;
3. the company is not currently nor has been in the past involved in any legal proceedings concerning the taxation of the company;
4. the company will duly pay taxes that may arise from the provision of contracted services;
5. all information and statements provided in advance are complete, accurate in terms of content and currently correct.

.....
(Place)

.....
(Date)

.....
(Name of the consultant)

.....
(Signature(s))

Declaration of tax conformity - binding confirmation for natural persons

I hereby confirm with my signature that:

1. I make this declaration in my name/on my own account;
2. I duly pay taxes that I am obliged to pay under the tax law of my country of residence;
3. I am not currently involved in tax law court proceedings, nor have I been in the past;
4. I will duly pay taxes that may arise from the provision of contracted services;
5. I have filled in all the information and statements of this confirmation in full, accurately in terms of content and that they are up to date at this time.

.....

(Place)

.....

(Date)

.....

(Name of the person)

.....

(Signature)

FORM TECH-2**COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE,
COUNTERPART STAFF, AND FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE EMPLOYER**

[Form TECH-1: comments and suggestions on the Terms of Reference that could improve the quality/effectiveness of the assignment; and on requirements for counterpart staff and facilities, which are provided by the Employer, including: administrative support, office space, local transportation, equipment, data, etc.]

A - On the Terms of Reference

[The Consultant is explicitly encouraged to present a detailed critical analysis and the Consultant's interpretation of the project's objectives and the TOR. This might encompass critical comments and doubts about the suitability, consistency and feasibility of individual aspects and the concept as a whole, if any. The methodology suggested must take constructive account of these.]

B - On Counterpart Staff and Facilities

[Comments on counterpart staff and facilities to be provided by the Employer. For example, administrative support, office space, local transportation, equipment, data, background reports, etc., if any.]

FORM TECH-3

DESCRIPTION OF APPROACH, METHODOLOGY, AND WORK PLAN IN RESPONDING TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

[Form TECH-2: a description of the approach, methodology and work plan for performing the assignment, including a detailed description of the proposed methodology and staffing for training, if the Terms of Reference specify training as a specific component of the assignment. The texts and information should be compiled and presented in a way that is related to the project. Consultants shall refrain from long explanations in the style of a textbook. The presentation of diagrams, tables and graphics is preferred. The suggested structure of the Technical Proposal below provides guidance. In any case it shall be adjusted to the requirements of the assignment and could be limited to a) – c) or less for small and less complex assignments.]

- a) **Technical Approach and Methodology** Please explain your understanding of the objectives of the assignment as outlined in the Terms of Reference (TOR), the technical approach, and the methodology you would adopt for implementing the tasks to deliver the expected output(s), and the degree of detail of such output. The Consultant is explicitly encouraged not to repeat the TOR in here but to show the suitability of his concept in regard to the TOR and his comments made on these.
- b) **Work Plan** Please outline the plan for the implementation of the main activities/tasks of the assignment, their content and duration, phasing and interrelations, milestones (including interim approvals by the Employer), and tentative delivery dates of the reports. The proposed work plan should be consistent with the technical approach and methodology, showing your understanding of the TOR and ability to translate them into a feasible working plan. A list of the final documents (including reports) to be delivered as final output(s) should be included here. The work plan should be consistent with the work schedule form.
- c) **Organization and Staffing** Please describe the structure and composition of your team, including the list of the Key Experts, other experts and relevant technical and administrative support staff. Responsibilities within the project team have to be defined. Please include an organisation chart showing the Consultant's internal organisation as well as the interactions with the Employer as well as with other stakeholders. The Consultant is encouraged to include junior staff in his team subject to available guidance within a team headed by senior professional staff and application of adequate rates. If certain tasks are not exclusively performed at site, the Consultant has to describe how the execution and co-operation between site and home office staff is assured.
- d) **Back-up Services** Please describe the envisaged backstopping by the home office for the team working locally on technical and administrative questions that could arise during project implementation as well as for the controlling and monitoring of the work.
- e) **Quality Control and Management** Please outline the procedures for quality control management of services (reports, documents, drawings), including those prepared by associates, sub-consultants and local partners, before submission to the Employer. Plain reference to ISO 9001 is not considered to be adequate.
- f) **Logistics** Please describe the planned logistics and facilities for the execution of the services.

FORM TECH-4 (INDICATIVE FORMAT)

WORK SCHEDULE (TASKS AND ACTIVITIES BAR CHART)

N°	Tasks ¹ (T-...)	Months ^{2,3}											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	.....	n	TOTAL
T-1	[e.g., Task #1: Report A												
	1) data collection												
	2) drafting												
	3) inception report												
	4) incorporating comments												
	5)												
	6) delivery of final report to Employer]												
T-2	[e.g., Task #2:]												
n													

- 1 List the tasks with the breakdown for activities, deliverables and other benchmarks such as the Employer’s approvals. For phased assignments, indicate the activities, delivery of reports, and benchmarks separately for each phase.
- 2 Duration of activities shall be indicated in a form of a bar chart.
- 3 Include a legend, if necessary, to help read the chart.

**FORM TECH-5(INDICATIVE FORMAT)
PERSONNEL SCHEDULE (BAR CHART)**

N°	Name	Position		Months ^{1,2}											Total time-input ³ (in person-months)				
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	.....	n	Internat ¹	Nationa ¹	Total		
KEY EXPERTS																			
K-1	[e.g., Mr/Mrs. A]	[e.g., Team Leader]	Home																
			Field																
K-2																			
K-3																			
n																			
														Subtotal:					
OTHER EXPERTS																			
E-1			[Home]																
			[Field]																
E-2																			
n																			
														Subtotal:					
														Total:					

"Home" refers to Shillong or the location of the bidder's head office." Field" refers to work conducted within the districts.

1 Months are counted from the start of the assignment/mobilization

3 The assignment of international and national staff shall be treated separately.

Fi  input Part time input

**FORM TECH-5
(CONTINUED)**

CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

Position Title and No.	<i>[e.g., K-1, TEAM LEADER]</i>
Name of Expert:	<i>[Insert full name]</i>
Date of Birth:	<i>[day/month/year]</i>
Country of Citizenship/Residence	

Education: *[List college/university or other specialized education, giving names of educational institutions, dates attended, degree(s)/diploma(s) obtained]*

Employment record relevant to the assignment: *[Starting with present position, list in reverse order. Please provide dates, name of employing organization, titles of positions held, types of activities performed and location of the assignment, and contact information of previous clients and employing organization(s) who can be contacted for references. Past employment that is not relevant to the assignment does not need to be included.]*

Period	Employing organization and your title/position. Contact info for references	Country	Summary of activities performed relevant to the Assignment
<i>[e.g., May 2005-present]</i>	<i>[e.g., Ministry of, advisor/consultant to... For references: Tel...../e-mail.....; Mr./Mrs. B, deputy minister]</i>		

Membership in Professional Associations and Publications:

Language Skills (indicate only languages in which you can work):

Adequacy for the Assignment:

Detailed Tasks Assigned on Consultant's Team of Experts:	Reference to Prior Work/Assignments that Best Illustrates Capability to Handle the Assigned Tasks
<i>[List all deliverables/tasks as in TECH- 5 in which the Expert will be involved]</i>	

Section IV. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

[The Financial Proposal Standard Forms below shall be used for the preparation of the Financial Proposal according to the instructions provided therein and in Section II unless otherwise indicated in 14.1 of the Data Sheet.]

FORM FIN-1 FINANCIAL PROPOSAL – COST BREAKDOWN

Model for Financial Proposal – Overall Cost Breakdown

As per **Data Sheet** clause 14.3 the prices in our Financial Proposal are expressed in: INR

As per **Data Sheet** clause 14.1 our services are offered on a

Lump sum contract	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	basis
--------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------

In case of a lump sum contract the cost, overview and cost details presented hereafter are to be understood to demonstrate the basis for the financial calculation but not as basis for invoicing at actual quantities or actual cost. However, independently of the remuneration mode indicated above, Other Cost items (8 Equipment and 9 Miscellaneous Cost) are offered for remuneration as per requirement in clause 14.1 of the **Data Sheet**.

Basic Services(as per TOR)

SUMMARY	Sum
1. - Foreign staff cost	
2. - Local staff cost	
3. - Allowance and accommodation	
Sub-Total – Staff cost	
4. - International travel costs	
5. - Local travel & transport cost	
6. - Project office	
7. - Reports and documents	
Sub-Total Logistics and transport	
Total – Fees, transport and logistics	
8. - Equipment cost	
9. - Miscellaneous cost*	
Total – Other cost	

Overall – Fees, Transport, Logistics and Other Cost (net, exclusive of taxes and duties)	
--	--

Duties and Taxes

[In case the ITC requests the Bidder to offer services exclusive of taxes and duties, the bidder shall indicate the amount of local taxes and duties applicable for the services.]

Overall – Fees, Transport, Logistics and Other Cost (inclusive of taxes and duties)	
---	--

Optional Services, Alternative Proposal

[In case of services to be offered on an optional basis as per TOR the Consultant shall use the same cost breakdown structure shown above and below. The same applies if the Consultant wishes to propose an alternative proposal.]

Detailed Cost Calculation

Detailed Cost Calculation - Fees, Transport, Logistics				
1. Foreign Staff Cost	Unit	Quantity	Lump sum unit rate	Amount
1.1 Team Leader	month	...		
1.2 NN	month	...		
1.3 ...	month	...		
Sub-total Foreign staff				
2. Local Staff Cost (incl. allowances and accommodation, see explanation)				
2.1 NN	month	...		
2.2 ...	month	...		
Sub-total Local staff				
3. Allowance, Accommodation, Complementary Travel Costs for Foreign Staff				
3.1 Allowance, accommodation - Long-term staff	month	...		
3.2 Allowance, accommodation - Short-term staff	month	...		
Sub-total Allowance and accommodation				
4. International Travel				
4.1 International return flights	flight	...		
4.2 Complementary travel costs	flight	...		
4.3 ... other international flights	flight	...		
Sub-Total International flights				
5. Local Travel & Transport Cost				
5.1 Vehicle lease/rent or use of own vehicles	month	...		
5.2 Vehicle O&M incl. driver, insurance, repair	month	...		
5.3 Other local transport (short-term, peak)	day	...		
5.4 Local flights	flight	...		
Sub-total Local transport				
6. Project Office				
6.1 Office rent	month	...		
6.2 Office operation	month	...		
Sub-total Project office				
7. Reports and Documents				
7.1 ... (Type of reports/documents to be stated)	/doc	...		
7.2 ...	...	...
Sub-total Reports and documents				
Other Cost - Lump sum unit rate basis	Unit	Quantity	Lum sum unit Rate	Amount
8. Equipment**				
8.1 Office equipment	...	...
8.2 Project vehicles				
8.2 Other. equip. to be handed over/consumed	...	...
Sub-Total Total Equipment				
Other Cost - Remuneration at actual cost				Provisional Amount
9. Miscellaneous Items**				
9.1 Other miscellaneous items/services				
9.2 Security measures				
9.3 General contingencies				
Sub-Total Total Miscellaneous items/services				

[Explanations on Other Cost

For certain items the mode of remuneration can be independent of the contract mode (lump sum contract, time-based contract) and organized in two ways:

A) Remuneration on lump sum unit rate basis

This can be applied for cost items which are not included in items 1 – 7 and which the Consultant is required to supply or deliver separately during the performance of the Contract. Only commercially available cost items for which an estimate in terms of quantity can be made in advance should be taken into account (see examples under 8. Equipment in the table above). The Consultant will be required to offer lump sum unit rates for such items for the requested quantity and the remuneration will be according to the actual quantity delivered/consumed and the lump sum unit rate.

B) Remuneration at actual cost

This is appropriate for cost items which are identifiable but which are due to their nature difficult to calculate or to determine in advance. For example, the cost of specialized geographical surveys, specialized drill services, security measures are generally difficult to estimate in advance (see 9. Miscellaneous Cost in the table above). In such cases it is advisable to foresee a provisional amount either proposed by the Consultant in its Financial Offer or the Consultant is required by the Employer to take into account a predefined provisional amount in its offer. This could also include an item for general contingencies for unforeseen expenses. In order to avoid distortion of the financial evaluation the Employer must take care by either excluding such cost from financial evaluation or by applying the same amount in each proposal for the purpose of financial evaluation, independent of the amount possibly proposed by the Consultant. Before concluding the Contract or during Contract performance the details for such items will be further specified. Remuneration of such cost items will be at actual cost occurred against proof of evidence.

The table above for Equipment and Miscellaneous cost items is made up according to these explanations. However, this should be understood as guidance and the table may be modified if required in the project context. In any case the requirements on Equipment and Miscellaneous cost items as per clause 14.1 of the Data Sheet need to be reflected in the table.]

Section V. Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility in KfW-Financed Procurement

1. Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services are eligible for KfW financing regardless of the country of origin of the Contractors (including Subcontractors and suppliers for the execution of the Contract), except where an international embargo or sanction by the United Nations, the European Union or the German Government applies.
2. Applicants/Bidders (including all members of a Joint Venture and proposed or engaged Subcontractors) shall not be awarded a KfW-financed Contract if, on the date of submission of their Application/Offer or on the intended date of Award of a Contract, they:
 - 2.1 are bankrupt or being wound up or ceasing their activities, are having their activities administered by courts, have entered into receivership, or are in any analogous situation;
 - 2.2 have been
 - (a) convicted by a final judgement or a final administrative decision or subject to financial sanctions by the United Nations, the European Union and/or the German Government for involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorist-related offences, child labour or trafficking in human beings; this criterion of exclusion is also applicable to legal Persons, whose majority of shares are held or factually controlled by natural or legal Persons which themselves are subject to such convictions or sanctions;
 - (b) convicted by a final court decision or a final administrative decision by a court, the European Union or national authorities in the Partner Country or in Germany for Sanctionable Practice during any Tender Process or the performance of a Contract or for an irregularity affecting the EU's financial interests, unless they provide supporting information together with their Declaration of Undertaking (Form available as Appendix to the Application/Offer which shows that this conviction is not relevant in the context of this Contract and that adequate compliance measures have been taken in reaction;
 - 2.3 have been subject within the past five years to a Contract termination fully settled against them for significant or persistent failure to comply with their contractual obligations during Contract performance, unless this termination was challenged, and the dispute resolution is still pending or has not confirmed a full settlement against them;
 - 2.4 have not fulfilled applicable fiscal obligations regarding payments of taxes either in the country where they are constituted or the PEA's country;
 - 2.5 are subject to an exclusion decision of the World Bank or any other multilateral development bank and are listed in the respective table with debarred and cross-

debarred firms and individual available on the World Bank's website or any other multilateral development bank unless they provide supporting information together with their Declaration of Undertaking which shows that this exclusion is not relevant in the context of this Contract or

- 2.6 have given misrepresentation in documentation requested by the PEA as part of the Tender Process of the relevant Contract.
3. State-owned entities may compete only if they can establish that they (i) are legally and financially autonomous, and (ii) operate under commercial law. To be eligible, a state-owned entity shall establish to KfW's satisfaction, through all relevant documents, including its charter and other information KfW may request, that it: (i) is a legal entity separate from their state (ii) does not currently receive substantial subsidies or budget support; (iii) operates like any commercial enterprise, and, inter alia, is not obliged to pass on its surplus to their state, can acquire rights and liabilities, borrow funds and be liable for repayment of its debts, and can be declared bankrupt.

Section VI. KfW Policy – Sanctionable Practice – Social and Environmental Responsibility

1. Sanctionable Practice

The PEA and the Contractors (including all members of a Joint Venture and proposed or engaged Subcontractors) must observe the highest standard of ethics during the Tender Process and performance of the Contract.

By signing the Declaration of Undertaking the Contractors declare that (i) they did not and will not engage in any Sanctionable Practice likely to influence the Tender Process and the corresponding Award of Contract to the PEA's detriment, and that (ii) in case of being awarded a Contract they will not engage in any Sanctionable Practice.

Moreover, KfW requires to include in the Contracts a provision pursuant to which Contractors must permit KfW and in case of financing by the European Union also to European institutions having competence under European law to inspect the respective accounts, records and documents relating to the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract, and to have them audited by auditors appointed by KfW.

KfW reserves the right to take any action it deems appropriate to check that these ethics rules are observed and reserves, in particular, the rights to:

- (a) reject an Offer for Award of Contract if during the Tender Process the Bidder who is recommended for the Award of Contract has engaged in Sanctionable Practice, directly or by means of an agent in view of being awarded the Contract;
- (b) declare mis-procurement and exercise its rights on the ground of the Funding Agreement with the PEA relating to suspension of disbursements, early repayment and termination if, at any time, the PEA, Contractors or their legal representatives or Subcontractors have engaged in Sanctionable Practice during the Tender Process or performance of the Contract without the PEA having taken appropriate action in due time satisfactory to KfW to remedy the situation, including by failing to inform KfW at the time they knew of such practices.

KfW defines, for the purposes of this provision, the terms set forth below as follows:

Coercive Practice	The impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any person or the property of the person with a view to influencing improperly the actions of a person.
Collusive Practice	An arrangement between two or more persons designed to achieve an improper purpose, including influencing improperly the actions of another person.
Corrupt Practice	The promising, offering, giving, making, insisting on, receiving, accepting or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of any illegal payment or undue advantage of any nature, to or by any person, with the intention of influencing the actions of any person or

causing any person to refrain from any action.

Fraudulent Practice Any action or omission, including misrepresentation that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a person to obtain a financial benefit or to avoid an obligation.

Obstructive Practice Means (i) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing evidence material to the investigation or the making of false statements to investigators, in order to materially impede an official investigation into allegations of a Corrupt Practice, Fraudulent Practice, Coercive Practice or Collusive Practice, or threatening, harassing or intimidating any Person to prevent them from disclosing their knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation, or (ii) any act intended to materially impede the exercise of KfW's access to contractually required information in connection with an official investigation into allegations of a Corrupt Practice, Fraudulent Practice, Coercive Practice or Collusive Practice.

Sanctionable Practice Any Coercive Practice, Collusive Practice, Corrupt Practice, Fraudulent Practice or Obstructive Practice (as such terms are defined herein) which is unlawful under the Financing Agreement.

2. Social and Environmental Responsibility

Projects financed in whole or partly in the framework of Financial Cooperation have to ensure compliance with international Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) standards (including issues of sexual exploitation and abuse and gender-based violence) Contractors in KfW-financed projects shall consequently undertake in the respective Contracts to:

- (a) comply with and ensure that all their Subcontractors and major suppliers, i.e. for major supply items comply with international environmental and labor standards, consistent with applicable law and regulations in the country of implementation of the respective Contract and the fundamental conventions of the International Labor Organization⁷ (ILO) and international environmental treaties and;
 - (b) implement any environmental and social risks mitigation measures, as identified in the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) and further detailed in the environmental and social management plan (ESMP) as far as these measures are relevant to the Contract and implement measures for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and gender-based violence.
-

PART 2 – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Section VII. Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

The Meghalaya Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Project, funded by KfW, aims to establish sustainable land management practices and value chains on a pilot basis through an efficient, functional support structure for roll-out at state level. Initiatives will include promoting organic farming, addressing certification challenges, empowering farmers through capacity building, and linking organic produce to remunerative global markets. It will also help the project's participating institutions to prepare for building a solid foundation for implementing scalable and replicable sustainable farming and value chain models, while ensuring sustainable natural resources management, productivity improvement, climate change mitigation, and creation of livelihood opportunities.

The SLM Project has four main components:

- **Component 1. Organic Farming Production and Diversification** The focus of this component is to enhance organic farming competitiveness at the farm level by supporting access to knowledge, technology and finance in order to increase long term productivity and farm income.
- **Component 2. Value Addition & Upgradation of Aggregation Infrastructure.** This component will enhance value addition at the farm level, through improved post-harvest handling and processing of their organic produce, to meet the demands of high value organic markets, and support increased investment in the development of value chains.
- **Component 3. Establishing Effective Markets Linkage.** This component will prepare a market linkage strategy which will be designed to overcome existing constraints and increase the throughput volume of organic produce from Meghalaya that reaches markets, supermarkets and other retailers, distributors, and export markets, and realizing better sale prices for farmers.
- **Component 4. Organic Certification for Premier Organic Markets.** The objective of this component is to enhance the institutional capacities of the executing agency and implementing partners, and beneficiaries to facilitate the transition towards sustainable agricultural practices, ensure organic certification and the smooth delivery of the project.

The MBMA is the executing agency for the project and shall be responsible for overall coordination, implementation and monitoring of the project. PMU has been established within MBMA and is headed by Project Director. The PMU will be responsible for overall management and coordination of all the project outputs.

The SLM project will be implemented by the MBMA with support from its implementing partners, which are the Directorate of Horticulture under Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the Bio-Resources Development Center (BRDC), and the Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS).

The SLM project aims to support farmers, farmers groups and cooperatives such as Farmer Producer Organizations, Producer Groups, SHGs, Integrated Village Cooperative Societies Ltd. etc and aim to strengthen the operations of established Collective Marketing Centers (CMCs), Primary Processing Units (PU), PRIME Hubs, and Tertiary Centers such as the LIFE Spices.

The project will demonstrate the conversion of various traditional/natural farming systems of Meghalaya into organic farming under two established systems of certification viz., NPOP and PGS. Besides, a novel state-specific organic certification Programme, targeting the regional and domestic markets, will be initiated, codified and implemented as "Megha Organics" to make the organic certification Programme in Meghalaya cost-effective and affordable by the farmers.

2. Overview and Objectives of the Assignment

MBMA is seeking to hire a firm to collaborate closely with the PMU in conducting a detailed analysis of selected organic value chains in Meghalaya. The goal is to formulate the Meghalaya Organic Farming Linkages Masterplan, which will serve as a roadmap for government, private sector, and other key stakeholders. This masterplan aims to develop a modern, efficient, and sustainable organic farming ecosystem, providing policy recommendations and identifying investment gaps.

The consultant will be hired by MBMA as per the KfW's Procurement Regulations. Hired consultant will be expected to work in close collaboration with MBMA, IMC, and with any other consultants hired as part of project implementation.

The objectives of the proposed technical assistance are:

- To conduct diagnostic assessment of the current situation, identify key constraints and opportunities, and elaborate a detailed analysis and mapping of the selected organic value chains in the State of Meghalaya; turmeric (processed), ginger (fresh and processed), pineapples (fresh), oranges/mandarines, (fresh), cashewnut, (processed), pepper (processed), bayleaf (processed) and Jackfruit (fresh)
- To formulate the the Meghalaya Organic Farming Linkages Masterplan, which shall serve as a guide for the government and other stakeholders including the

private sector to develop and implement an efficient, modernized, and sustainable statewide organic farming system.

3. Background

Agriculture is crucial to the Meghalaya's development. Two in three workers in Meghalaya are employed in agriculture. Yet, the sector is beset by low productivity and income. Most people below the poverty line, are living in rural areas. This means that raising agricultural productivity and income from agriculture through effective market linkage are critical to poverty reduction and advancing the state's economic transformation.

Organic farming is the traditional way of farming in Meghalaya. This creates opportunities for local farmers, cooperatives and other stakeholders along the value chain to come together to promote healthy, pesticide-free, sustainable organic agriculture to meet growing demand for safe food. However, the current practice of shifting cultivation or slash and burn agriculture in many parts of Meghalaya has become unsustainable due to ever-increasing population pressure on land, causing decline in crop yield, soil fertility, biodiversity and environmental degradation. In most urban and sub-urban areas of the state, the farmers have adopted modern agricultural practices and are applying excessive amount of inorganic NPK fertilizers and pesticides causing extensive environmental and health hazards. This emphasizes the need to facilitate a shift in farming practices by the farmers of the state, with a focus on small and marginal farmers, towards adopting sustainable package of practices for natural/ organic farming.

Organic food must be certified as such after strictly complying the required packages of practices. Unless it is certified through an established system of certification after due authentication as per the codes/norms, the farmers would not get a premium price for their produces/products. However, certification is a complex process, which can take a lot of time. Furthermore, certification can become very expensive if smallholder farmers are to adopt a third-party certification system such as National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP), which requires various paper works and supervisory level skilled work force. In addition, the farmers need to shoulder the cost of services of a certifying agency to verify the compliances with norms and regulations. The present certification system has too many procedures and guidelines for organic certification, making it a challenge for the farmers to strictly follow the guidelines. This requires strengthening the capacity of farmers to produce organic goods and link to markets.

High certification cost for inspection and documentation remains a constraint faced by the farmers to realize the organic potential of Meghalaya. Furthermore, since most

of the certifying agencies are not present in Meghalaya, it is a challenge for the farmers to travel for the certification process. The certifying agencies also charge heavily to cover the cost of their travel to manage such remotely placed organic certification projects. These made the certification process inaccessible and expensive for the farmers. Lack of access and awareness towards technology such as 'Tracenet', which is mandatory for organic certification process also made it challenging for the farmers to engage in organic certification. All these necessitate establishing a certifying agency in Meghalaya under the aegis of the Government of Meghalaya so that the interested farmers can avail the services of such agency for organic certification at a subsidized and affordable price. Bio Resources Development Centre (BRDC) will be designated as the Certification Agency for the overall State. Under this, BRDC will certify the natural and organic farming practices across the State based on specific Package of Practices (PoP) for the Traditional Good Natural Farming practices prevalent in the State based on which certification will be carried out.

Many farmers are heavily indebted due to low yields and low commodity prices of produce. They lack the money, knowledge, and training to obtain the third-party certification needed to label and market a product as officially organic. The farm households in Meghalaya have limited investment capacity and in turn with low level of risk bearing ability. Thus, market risks associated with organic produce such as price variability, entry of products with lower price in the market, etc. is a constraint for these farmers. Therefore, it is essential to establish an effective market linkage for the organic produces at regional (north-east India), national and global levels. All these challenges do pose problems for farmers to switch over from production of non-certified produces to certified produces.

The State of Meghalaya has comparative advantage and potential to substantially contribute to the growing domestic as well as international market demand for organic niche products due to its agro-climatic, topographic and traditionally organic cultivation advantages. However, to harness these advantages, the state needs to introduce, expand and develop viable value chains and a robust certification system for its niche organic products.

4. Project Area and Location

The study will cover the three regions of Meghalaya: the Khasi, Jaintia, and Garo Hills in twelve districts, where all field activities, will be conducted.

5. Scope of Work

The indicative list of activities provided below constitutes the minimum to be carried out and is not exhaustive. The tenderer should hence revise the indicative list and prepare a detailed organisation and methodology to fulfil the general requirements set out in these terms of reference. The specific tasks of this contract are described below. The order these tasks are listed in does not imply they should be carried out chronologically. They will likely be implemented in parallel or be overlapping. Beyond the tasks described hereunder, some flexibility is envisaged on the overall services to cover potential needs that may emerge during project implementation.

The Contractor should use best experience and practice from similar undertakings and add additional outputs as deemed appropriate, to achieve project objectives and results in the most effective and sustainable manner.

The Consultant's tasks shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

5.1 Value Chain & Development of Meghalaya Organic Farming Master Plan

Activity 1. Data gathering and literature review. The consultant will review existing value chain analysis studies and literature. The consultant will also identify to consult and draw up the appropriate interview guides, data collection templates, and field observation guidance.

Activity 2. Mapping of actors. The study will map out existing and potential cooperatives, IVCS, and other actors in selected value chains and will provide a comprehensive list of key players and the roles they play in the value chain. This will also identify all the market actors providing supporting services that improve the production and the flow of organic produce into markets, such as extension services, input providers, aggregators, traders, transporters, financial providers, certifiers, packaging and processing providers, both public and private. The analysis will also identify current transport and logistics support services and identify what services are needed to support the flow of organic produce into the terminal wholesale and retail markets. The study would also map the downstream system from the wholesale markets out to key retailers locally, into the retail markets, and eventually exports.

Activity 3. Analysis of selected value chains. The study will undertake an analysis of the economic context and opportunities in selected commodity value chains in Meghalaya; turmeric (processed), ginger (fresh and processed), pineapples (fresh), oranges/mandarines, (fresh), cashewnut, (processed), pepper (processed), bayleaf (processed) and Jackfruit (fresh), covering production, storage, processing, and

marketing, current and potential source-to-destination flows of agricultural products for both domestic consumption and potential export market, analyze specific requirements of the markets in terms of crop products and quality standards, and assess associated services and cross cutting issues required for enhancing cooperatives and agribusiness.

The study will also analyse primary production techniques and technologies, assessment of capacities and abilities of farmers, cooperatives, and first mile aggregators to collect, consolidate, sort and/or pack fresh produce, issues relating to the off-farm economy, post-harvest losses, access to finance, availability and capacities of extension services, national certification and branding strategies, contract farming, price discovery, price fluctuation (during season and non-season), marketing standards, standardization of packaging transportation, marketing standards, produce quality and safety, export potential, and/or environmental and climate change concerns surrounding existing organic farming systems.

The table below provides an indicative overview of the research plan and stakeholder engagement.

Table 1. Research plan and stakeholder engagement

Key points to investigate	Stakeholders to be interviewed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volumes produced, marketed and lost from Post Harvest Losses • Demand projection • Costs, margins and mark-ups across value chains actors • Location and functioning of aggregation points & allied facilities (sorting, grading, packaging, etc.) • Analysis of existing cold storage capacity and capacity utilization • Availability of cooperatives and farmers groups which could potentially be integrated into the value chains • Nature and organisation of transportation • Packaging and pallet production • Identification of market actors who could act as agents, their capacities and restrictions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperatives, farmers groups and agribusiness SMEs • Farmers • Certification/ standards/ quality control regulatory bodies • Market traders at wholesale and retail markets • Customers at wholesale and retail markets • 3PLs /Transport and logistic providers • Cold services providers • Packaging suppliers • Exporters • Institutional buyers of fresh produce

Key points to investigate	Stakeholders to be interviewed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors behind decisions where to trade the organic produce • Key support services for farmers- who provides these services, and levels of quality, cost and access (e.g. extension, seedlings, certifications, etc.) • Cargo storing unit (bags, boxes, plastic crates, wooden boxes, any bulk storage, others) • Current access to finance within the value chain, particularly in the context of working capital and credit arrangements along the value chains • Levels of digitisation within the value chains and existing platforms for accessing market information • Rules (standards, regulations, formal and informal practices) • Stakeholders' priorities, wishes and concerns with respect to the Organic Farming Master Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HORECA (hotels, restaurants and catering)/ Food Service Sector • Seedling and input providers • Health Authorities • Financial Institutions

Activity 4. Conduct a key stakeholder analysis and workshops, consultations, and meetings with various stakeholders throughout the implementation. Conduct of consultations with key stakeholders to validate the findings of the assessment.

Activity 5. Identify the gaps of selected value chains. A constraints analysis will be done to identify the reasons why the flow of quality and volumes out to markets is hindered. The consultant will carry out a deep analysis on each of the constraints to understand the core issues and causes. This is to ensure that the strategy identified provides real solutions to the sector master plan. The consultant would identify current Government, private sector and donor initiatives that are working to resolve the constraints and determine their effectiveness in doing so, so as to understand the gaps that remain to address the above-identified constraints in the market system.

Activity 6. Identify market opportunities and the market requirements. The study will identify the end-market segments, existing national and global export markets for selected value chains (volume and value) and will analyze specific requirements of the existing and potential markets in terms of crop products (specifications) and organic farming standards and regulations in force in India to match with the

prevailing national and global standards, and any limitations, and/or other requirements (quantity, quality, frequency, prices range, seasonality), the players (essential buyers / middle man, transporters, other chain actors), and assess the targeted market demand and its trends (annual, seasonal and monthly demand) for selected value chains.

Activity7. Review and analyze the related government strategies, laws and regulations, policies, public investment masterplans and flagship programs, institutional arrangements and regulatory framework. This study will identify the current business-enabling environment that surrounds the whole organic farming system, the policies and regulations, strategies, trends, best practices and the existing legal and institutional environment, that currently exist and which ones hinder or assist the flood of organic products from farm to market, and suggest remedies to overcome these hindrances. The study will also review institutional support available in Meghalaya for agricultural and organic trade and exports and identify any gaps in institutional support (for certification, analytical services etc..).

Activity 8. Master Plan formulated. The study will determine the constraints that need to be addressed, the set of interventions required to reach the future state of the organic farming system within Meghalaya, and develop an operational plan, including sequencing, timeline and budget for these investments, implementation plan, and risk assessment. In designing the final set of interventions, care will be taken to ensure coherence and coordination across the interventions, in order to achieve the desired systemic impact.

Based on the research, analysis and consultations, formulate the Master Plan with strategic thrust and policy recommendations with indicative financing and programs including, but not limited to the following aspects:

- Interventions to enhance the ability of farmers, cooperatives and aggregation points to collect, aggregate, sort, process and pack organic produce;
- Interventions to support the development of efficient and reliable organic produce logistics, ensuring produce quality and safety is maintained;
- Interventions to support the development and implementation of certification, standards, and regulation throughout the selected value chains;
- Interventions to address current issues relating to the off-farm economy, post-harvest losses, lack of produce consolidation, limitations of national certification and branding strategies, price fluctuation, marketing and packaging standards, export potential, and environmental concerns surrounding existing organic farming systems;
- Interventions to build the capacity of market actors to take on new roles in the upgraded value chains;

- Interventions to develop and upgrade aggregation and marketing infrastructure;
- Interventions to support expansion of sales and exports of organic produce and other high value crops.
- Identify policy and regulatory changes or gaps need to be fulfilled, through which market share of organic produce from Meghalaya can be expanded by enhancing the product diversification (product range) and market diversification (enter into new markets).
- Recommend appropriate policy instruments that the Government could be used to implement proposed policy changes to improve competitiveness and sustainability of organic produce and exports in fresh and value-added forms and to capture unutilized internal distribution and export potential in the sector.
- Recommendations for policy reform agendas on related legislation and regulations.
- Roles/interface of key government agencies at State and National levels.
- Recommendations on the system and frequency of monitoring, updating, and assessment of the plan.

Activity 9. Platform for public consultation established and knowledge disseminated. Public consultations and workshops with key government agencies and value chain players will be facilitated throughout the preparation and review process. Once the report is completed, dissemination workshops will be organized. Organizing platforms for public and private actors to exchange information on bottlenecks in organic produce trade will ultimately contribute to formulate and implement policies.

MBMA's technical staff will closely work with the consulting team in providing data and information, arranging inter-government meetings and validation workshop and knowledge dissemination. Given the importance of key stakeholder engagement and consultation including other government agencies and private sector, the consultant will conduct key stakeholder analysis and closely consult with them through key informant interviews, survey, and public consultation/validation workshops in close coordination with MBMA.

The Consultant shall be responsible for the timely delivery of all above stated components, including any related input activities necessary to deliver the outputs stated in Table 2.

5.2 Tasks to be performed by the Agency

The Consultant's will sign a lump sum contract which will be administered by MBMA. As the TOR is output-based, the Consultant will be paid upon the

completion of deliverables to the satisfactions of MBMA, as detailed on the contract payment schedule agreed between the parties.

The Consultant will mobilize promptly after signing the contract agreement, and will compile, prepare and submit all required reports according to the delivery milestones agreed in the Contract.

The Consultant shall be responsible for the procurement and contract management of all goods, works and/or services necessary to undertake the workshops, trainings and related activities, as needed.

Upon signing the Contract, the Consultant shall seek MBMA approval prior to the deployment of personnel, providing details relevant to the deployment. The Consultant shall not incur travel-related costs prior to receipt of this approval.

5.3 Expected Outputs and Time Schedule

The Consultant, under the overall guidance of the MBMA, will prepare the following reports as well as being responsible for the organization and management of related workshops.

Table 2. Summary of Major Outputs and Activities

D.No	Deliverables	Key contents and activities	Deadline submission in calendar days
D1	Inception Report	Detailed Workplan and personnel schedule	15 days after signing of the contract
D2	Draft Value Chain & Master Plan Report	Activity 1-7 Conduct of consultations with key stakeholders to validate the findings of the analysis Incorporate the feedback received at the workshop	120 days after signing of the contract
D3	Final Value Chain & Master Plan Report	1st Draft Master Plan Validation Workshop Prepare 2nd draft master plan by incorporating the feedback from the review process, consultation/workshop Prepare a final report,	180 days after signing of the contract

		and executive summary based on the finalized masterplan Activity 8 Activity 9	
--	--	---	--

Two printed copies and an electronic version of the reports referred to above must be submitted to the Project Manager identified in the contract. The reports must be written in English. The project manager is responsible for approving the reports.

The MBMA Project Coordinator shall comment and/or approve all the above-mentioned reports within two weeks from receiving those reports. In the absence of comments or approval by the Project Coordinator within the set deadline, the reports are deemed to be approved.

5.4 Team Qualifications and expected level of efforts

The Consultant shall be a firm or group of firms with following minimum qualifications:

- The Consultant should be an experienced Consultancy Firm well established with at least 7 years of relevant and applicable technical, operational and managerial experience in the agriculture and agri-business sector;
- At least 3 similar contracts achieved during the last 7 years;
- Experience in working in the State of Meghalaya would be considered an asset.

The credibility of mentioned experience shall be presented in a list of the required similar project/contracts as required above, including description of services provided (including information on contract value, contracting entity/client, project location/country, duration, assignment budget, percentage carried out by consultant in case of association of firms or subcontracting and main activities) and accompanied by certificates/confirmation of orderly fulfilment of the contracts verified by other party from such contracts.

Bidders are encouraged to consider forming consortia or partnerships with other relevant organizations that can complement and enhance their capabilities and experience in the Meghalaya context.

Key experts have a crucial role in implementing the contract. These terms of reference contain the required key experts' profiles. The tenderer shall submit CVs and statements of exclusivity and availability for the key experts.

It is expected that the core Consultant's core team shall comprise of following key experts:

Table 3. Team Composition, Role & Responsibility

Position	Experience	Education	Role/Responsibility
KE1 Team Leader and Agriculture Specialist	Experience in acting in a team leader role on a minimum three similar policy works, knowledge products or pre-feasibility/feasibility projects. Experience of managing multidisciplinary teams, liaising with government departments, building strong relationships with stakeholders and delivering consensus-based outputs. The team leader should have a minimum of 7 years' experience in agriculture value chain development, agro-industry development, food chain logistics development, agro-food trade promotion. Experience in Agriculture & allied sectors including	S(he) will have a Master's degree in agriculture and rural development, development economics, public policy or other related fields. Master of Science in Agriculture with a specialization in rural development, development economics, public policy, or related fields is acceptable. Excellent communication skills.	Coordinate and manage consultant activities to ensure full compliance with individual TOR and delivery of quality outputs in a timely manner; Liaise with MBMA and partners implementing agencies, individual consultants and other authorities as required; Lead project study in collaboration with other consultants as required; Lead stakeholder consultations in collaboration with other individual consultants as required. Lead the preparation of the Value Chain Study and the Master Plan to ensure that the reports meet the TOR requirements both in terms of time and quality; Organization of workshops and meetings, and Compile outputs from all the consultants to prepare all the reports and ensure that they comply with MBMA / KfW guidelines and formats

Position	Experience	Education	Role/Responsibility
	<p>knowledge in marketing of organic products. Experience of working in similar assignments in the North East of India would be an added advantage</p>		
KE 2Value Chain Specialist	<p>The specialist shall have at least 7 years working experience in agricultural value chain development, agro-industry development, agricultural trade facilitation and/or agricultural policy formulation. Experience and knowledge in Meghalaya is an asset</p>	<p>At least a master's degree in agriculture, agricultural economics, or any related field. Master of Science in Agriculture with a specialization in rural development, development economics, public policy, or related fields is acceptable</p>	<p>Conduct the value chain analysis for selected crops, Lead the data collection (primary and secondary), quantitative and qualitative analysis, provide on-the-ground support, conducting interviews and sourcing data, as well as the logistics for the workshops, Lead on the forward and backward linkages value chains component, To assess the current situation of the facilities and infrastructure, and developing suitable interventions that will enable a strengthened network of aggregation and marketing infrastructure and allied facilities, Review and analysis of the related government strategies, laws, regulations and sector support programs, Conduct case studies of other countries' good practice in planning and developing food chain logistics development.</p>
KE	The specialist shall	BSc. Agriculture	Guide the project team in

Position	Experience	Education	Role/Responsibility
3Organic Farming Specialist	have at least 3 years working experience in organic agriculture/horticulture trade. Familiarity with current organic agricultural trade situation and horticulture value chain of Meghalaya is highly preferred.	Master of Science in Agriculture with a specialization in rural development, development economics, public policy, or related fields is acceptable	integrating organic farming principles into their activities

Note: It is to be noted that qualifications of the key experts will get a Minimum scores if they fulfill only the minimum criteria as specified and that additional qualification will be awarded higher scores.

The key experts will be supported by non-key experts, whose technical profiles will be determined based on the needs identified during the inception phase and the course of the project. CVs for non-key experts should not be submitted in the tender but tenderers should demonstrate in their offers that they have access to experts with the required profiles. The contractor shall propose a pool of long-term non-key experts.

Knowledge of the local context and local languages shall be prioritized during the selection procedure.

The contractor must select and hire other experts as required according to the profiles identified in the organization & methodology and these terms of reference.

The contractor will provide support facilities to their team of experts (back-stopping) during the implementation of the contract. Backstopping and support staff costs must be included in the fee rates

6. Terms of Payment

The budget for this assignment includes consultant remuneration, travel expenses, workshops, and seminars. The firm should include in their proposal proposed utilization of the budget to accomplish the tasks described above. The contract will

be a lump-sum in nature. Payments will be in instalments for each deliverable once fully accepted by MBMA, as detailed in Table below.

S. no	Deliverables (Reports/Activities)	% of Contract Amount to be Released
D1	Inception Report	10%
D2	Draft Value Chain & Master Plan Report	30%
D3	Final Value Chain & Master Plan Report	60%

The payment terms are subject to the satisfactory completion of deliverables specified in the scope of work.

Taxes. The Firm and all Personnel shall pay all taxes, duties, fees, and other impositions that may be levied in conjunction with the performance of the Services, the amount of which is deemed to have been included in the Contract Price.

Note:

- i. The MBMA Monitoring Committee will conduct regular reviews of the project activities and deliverables to gauge output and to approve activities for the forthcoming period.
- ii. All payments shall be made upon acceptances of deliverables by MBMA

7. Duration of the Assignment

The intended start date is January 2025 or earlier and the period of implementation of the project will be 6 months from the date of signing of the contract.

8. Data, Services and Facilities to be provided by MBMA

- i. The Agency would be provided with required Project documents and access to any available data sets available with the Project that is relevant to conduct the study. The data / information so provided shall be used only for the purpose of the study.
- ii. The Agency will be provided the details of the Project villages and other related information and the Project field staff will help in coordination with Project villages and clusters and organization.
- iii. MBMA will not provide office space, computer, copying and printing services, telephone service or facilities for workshops, travelling cost, lodging or boarding

facilities etc. It is hence advisable to include all these costs with prices in the financial proposal.

- iv. A monitoring committee of the Client shall conduct regular reviews of the survey activities to assess progress of work and interim findings.
- v. MBMA has the right and ownership of the reports, the agency should take written approval from MBMA before sharing the report publicly.
- vi. The agency will protect the confidentiality of households and individuals participating in the survey at all stages. All data is confidential and the property of the MBMA. Its sole purpose is for research, monitoring and evaluation, and is not for commercial use. No data or other information from this survey will be released to third parties without the written approval of the MBMA. The implementing agency will return all data, questionnaire and other material to the MBDA and will not retain any information or material after the survey data collection has ended. The names of participating households will not be released to any other party for any reason.

PART 3 – CONTRACT FORM

Section VIII. Contract for Consulting Services

Terms and Conditions Applicable to the Template Contract for Consulting Services

1. Terms and Conditions

1. *Conclusion of a contract.* By using this Model Contract (or sections thereof), every User of the Model Contract (hereinafter "User") acknowledges the following Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions are agreed between each User and KfW without requiring that KfW receives the User's acceptance of the Terms and Conditions associated with the use of the Model Contract.

2. *Liability of KfW.* KfW assumes no liability for damages arising from or in connection with the use of the Model Contract, except for intent, gross negligence and injury to life, body or health.

3. *Limitation of the responsibilities of KfW.* KfW has prepared the Model Contract as an example of a contract for consulting services, for which KfW grants its consent in principle. However, KfW assumes in particular no obligation for the review of:

- the legal and factual accuracy of the Model Contract by obtaining internal or external legal advice,
- the factual accuracy of the circumstances underlying the Model Contract,
- the suitability of the Model Contract for the purposes of the User,
- the balance of the Model Contract versus the individual interests of the specific User,
- the contractual drafts prepared using the Model Contract that are submitted to KfW, e.g., for consent, and
- the need to update the Model Contract in the event of changes in legislation.

4. *Obligations of the User.* Every User shall:

- use the Model Contract only after performing a thorough individual review and making the necessary modifications for the specific circumstances.
- engage legal counsel to review the contractual draft based on the Model Contract prior to the conclusion of a contract, in order to investigate the enforceability and effectiveness of the contract under the applicable legislation.

II. Notes for the User

KfW expressly refers every User of the Model Contract to the following:

- The Model Contract was not developed based on any specific legal jurisdiction; instead, the choice of governing law is left to the contracting parties. KfW has not investigated whether modifications of the Model Contract are necessary so that it can be used under the respective potential jurisdictions.
- The Model Contract must be adapted to the individual needs of the specific User and should only be signed after the User has reviewed whether the specific contractual provisions are suitable for his individual purposes.

III. Structure of the Model Contract

Section 1: General Conditions - these include the general underlying contractual provisions. Changes in this section usually have a significant impact on the contract and require the prior consent of KfW.

Section 2: Special Conditions - these include the specific details of each individual case. Any modifications or deviations based on the specifics of the project or due to contractual negotiations can be included here.

Section 3: Annexes - depending on the contents, these are either project specific (e.g., TOR, Time Schedule) or generally defined (e.g., Declaration of Undertaking).

Section	Page
PREAMBLE.....	1
GENERAL CONDITIONS.....	1
PARAGRAPH 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS	1
PARAGRAPH 2 THE EMPLOYER	12
PARAGRAPH 3 THE CONSULTANT.....	14
PARAGRAPH 4 COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION OF THE SERVICES	16
PARAGRAPH 5 REMUNERATION	20
PARAGRAPH 6 LIABILITY.....	24
PARAGRAPH 7 INSURANCE AGAINST LIABILITY AND DAMAGES / GUARANTEES	25
PARAGRAPH 8 DISPUTES AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE	26

Preamble

The Employer requests consulting services to be rendered for the Project (as defined below) as designated in the Special Conditions (as defined below). The Consultant has submitted a technical and a financial bid for the Services (as defined below) which has been accepted by the Employer. Therefore, the Parties agree as follows:

General Conditions

1 General Provisions

1.1 DEFINITIONS

Words and expressions used in this Consulting Contract (as defined below) shall have the following meaning, unless the context requires otherwise.

“**Agreed Remuneration**” means the remuneration agreed pursuant to Paragraph 5 [*Remuneration*].

“**Commencement Date**” has the meaning given to such term in the Special Conditions.

“**Completion Period**” means the period for the completion of the Services as set out in the Special Conditions.

“**Consulting Contract**” means this contract for consulting services, including its Preamble and its Annexes^{8,9}

“**Contract Value**” has the meaning given to such term in the Special Conditions.

“**Country**” has the meaning given to such term in the Special Conditions.

“**Force Majeure**” means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party, is not foreseeable, is unavoidable, and makes a Party’s performance of its obligations hereunder impossible or so impractical as reasonably to be considered impossible under the circumstances. It includes, but is not limited to, war, invasion, rebellion, terrorism, riots, civil disorder, natural catastrophe (e.g. earthquake, fire, explosion, hurricane, typhoon, volcanic activity), strikes, lockouts or other industrial action confiscation or any other action by government agencies. It includes, but is not limited to, circumstances such as crises, war or terror that lead to the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany calling upon German citizens to leave the country or the Project region in response to which the Consultant withdraws all its staff. Force Majeure shall not include (i) any event which is caused by the

⁸If one or several of the Annexes should not be necessary in the actual Contract, to preserve the integrity of the references please retain the numbering of the Annexes and insert the words “not applicable” in the relevant Annexes.

⁹In case there are Minutes of Negotiations pursuant to the Special Conditions between the Parties these Minutes of Negotiations could be attached as an Annex. But in the interests of clear contractual stipulations, instead of including copious minutes of negotiations it is preferable to incorporate the agreed changes directly into the Special Conditions.

negligence or wilful action of a Party or such Party's experts, sub-contractors or their respective directors, agents or employees, nor (ii) any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected to both take into account at the time of the conclusion of this Consulting Contract and avoid or overcome in the carrying out of its obligations hereunder. Furthermore, Force Majeure shall not include insufficiency of funds or failure to make any payment required hereunder.

"Foreign Currency" means any currency other than the Local Currency.

"Foreign Staff" means the staff who do not hold the citizenship of the Country.

"Funding Agreement" means the [*loan agreement / financing agreement*] entered into between KfW and [*the Employer*] to wholly or partly finances the Services.

"Joint Venture (JV)" means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one Consultant where the members of the JV shall be jointly and severally liable to the Employer for the performance of the Contract and one member has the authority to conduct all business for and on behalf of any and all the members of the JV. The terms Joint Venture and Consortium can be used interchangeably.

"Local Currency" has the meaning given to such term in the Special Conditions.

"Other Costs" means the additional costs of the Consultant to the extent agreed in the Special Conditions.

"Parties" means the Employer and the Consultant.

"Project" means the project specified in the Special Conditions.

"Services" means the contractual services described in **Annex 3** [*Terms of Reference plus Tender Documents*], **Annex 9** [*The Consultant's Bid*] and Paragraph 3.1 [*Scope of Services*], including without limitation any optional services (if any) as well as the standard and special services defined in Paragraph 3.2 [*Standard and Special Services*].

"Special Conditions" means the terms and conditions set out under the header "Part II: Special Conditions" of this Consulting Contract.

"Standards" means the metric system and German DIN or European EN standards, or internationally recognised standards that are at least equivalent to those published by ISO or IEC.

"Written" or **"in writing"** means written by hand or typed by

machine, and produced in a printed or electronic form, the result being a non-editable permanent record.

1.2
INTERPRETATION

Unless a contrary indication appears, in this Consulting Contract:

- 1.2.1 Section, clause, annex and schedule headings are for ease of reference only.
- 1.2.2 The singular includes the plural and vice versa.
- 1.2.3 References to a "**Party**" or any other person shall be construed so as to include its successors in title, permitted assigns and permitted transferees to, or of, its rights and/or obligations under this Consulting Contract.
- 1.2.4 References to a "**director**" include any statutory legal representative(s) of a person pursuant to the laws of its jurisdiction of incorporation.
- 1.2.5 References to this "**Consulting Contract**" or any other agreement or instrument are references to this Consulting Contract or other agreement or instrument as amended, novated, supplemented, extended or restated.
- 1.2.6 References to a "person" shall include any individual, firm, company, corporation, government, state or agency of a state or any association, trust, joint venture, consortium or partnership or other entity (whether or not having separate legal personality).
- 1.2.7 References to euro, EUR or € are references to the lawful currency of the participating states of the European Monetary Union. References to US dollars, USD or US\$ are references to the legal currency of the United States of

America.

**1.3
RANKING AND
ORDER**

- 1.3.1 In the event of a conflict between the Special Conditions and the General Conditions or any annex or schedule thereto, the provisions of the Special Conditions shall prevail.
- 1.3.2 In the event of a conflict between General Conditions and any annex or schedule thereto, the provisions set out in the respective annex or schedule shall prevail.
- 1.3.3 In the event of a conflict between the annexes, the provisions set out in the respective preceding annexes shall prevail over the provisions set out in the respective subsequent annexes.

**1.4
COMMUNICATION
AND LANGUAGE**

Any communication to be made under or in connection with this Consulting Contract shall (i) be made in writing and, unless otherwise stated, may be made by fax or letter, and in the language specified in the Special Conditions and (ii) to the extent not otherwise stipulated in the Special Conditions, take effect upon receipt at the addresses specified in the Special Conditions and if by way of fax, when received in legible form.

**1.5
GOVERNING LAW**

This Consulting Contract is governed by the laws specified in the Special Conditions.

**1.6
ENTRY INTO FORCE
AND EFFECT**

This Consulting Contract enters into force and effect immediately upon (i) execution hereof by both Parties, and (ii) receipt by the Employer of KfW's written confirmation that all conditions precedent to the first disbursement under the Funding Agreement have been satisfied in form and substance satisfactory

to KfW. The Employer has to inform the Consultant about KfW's written confirmation immediately.

**1.7
MEASUREMENTS
AND STANDARDS**

Any drawings, plans and calculations shall be based on the Standards; moreover, the Standards shall be applied to all Services.

**1.8
ASSIGNMENT AND
SUB-CONTRACTING**

1.8.1 The Consultant may not assign or transfer any of its rights or obligations under this Consulting Contract without the prior written consent of the Employer, which, in turn, shall not be provided without the prior written consent of KfW.

1.8.2 The Consultant may conclude or terminate sub-contracts for the performance of any part of the Services only upon prior written consent of the Employer, which, in turn, shall not be provided without the prior written consent of KfW. None of the Consultant's obligations under this Consulting Contract shall be limited, cancelled or in any other way affected by any sub-contracting of Services.

1.8.3 The Consultant shall, and shall contractually oblige each subcontractor (if any), develop and implement measures for the safety of the personnel deployed, adapted to the current security situation. The Consultant undertakes to contractually oblige each subcontractor (if any) contractually to pass on a corresponding obligation to any other subcontractors (if any).

**1.9
COPYRIGHT AND
RIGHTS OF USE**

To the extent not otherwise stated in the Special Conditions, the Consultant shall transfer to the Employer all rights to the Services performed under this Consulting Contract on the date any such rights arise, and in any event at the latest on the date they are acquired by the Consultant. Insofar as a transfer of such rights is not possible, the Consultant shall irrevocably grant the Employer an unrestricted, transferrable, licensable and exclusive right of use and exploitation that is unlimited with respect to time and place of use. Such transfer shall include the right to adapt any transferred rights. The Consultant shall ensure that no third party rights exist or will be exercised that would preclude the

aforementioned transfer of rights or their exercise.

**1.10
OWNERSHIP OF
DOCUMENTS AND
EQUIPMENT**

1.10.1 All studies, reports, data and documents such as diagrams, plans, statistics and annexes that are made available to the Consultant by the Employer in relation to the performance of the Services, as well as software (including the respective source codes) produced or adapted to facilitate the performance of the Services, shall remain the property of the Employer. The Consultant shall not be entitled to exercise any right of retention or similar rights with respect to these materials.

1.10.2 The Consultant shall return any equipment made available by the Employer to the Consultant to facilitate the performance of the Services, including any vehicles purchased for the performance of the Services and paid for fully by the Employer, to the Employer promptly after completion of the Services. The Consultant shall handle and maintain any such equipment with due care.

**1.11
CONFIDENTIALITY
AND PUBLICATION**

1.11.1 The Consultant shall, and shall ensure that its employees, agents and representatives will keep confidential all documents made available to the Consultant by the Employer and/or KfW, as well as all information exchanged and knowledge acquired concerning this Consulting Contract and its implementation, even if such documents, information or knowledge have not been expressly designated as confidential. This obligation of confidentiality upon the Consultant and its employees shall remain effective for a period of 24 months after completion or termination (whichever occurs earlier) of the Consulting Contract.

1.11.2 The obligation of confidentiality set out in this Clause 1.11 shall not apply to information:

- (a) which is or becomes public information other than as a direct or indirect result of any breach of this Consulting Contract;
- (b) which is known by the receiving Party before the date the information is disclosed to the receiving Party in accordance with paragraph (a) above or is lawfully obtained by the receiving Party after that date from a source which is unconnected with the Employer and KfW and which has not been obtained in breach of, and is not otherwise subject to, any obligation of confidentiality.
- (c) the disclosure of which is:
 - i. requested or required by any court of competent jurisdiction or any competent judicial, governmental, banking, taxation, supervisory or other regulatory authority

or similar body or necessary to assert or defend claims or other legal rights in court or administrative proceedings;

ii. required pursuant to any applicable law or regulation; or

iii. made with the prior written consent of the Party providing the information.

1.11.3 Notwithstanding the foregoing each Party is entitled to disclose any information in connection with this Consulting Contract to KfW.

**1.12
CONDUCT**

During the term of this Consulting Contract, the Consultant shall not, and shall ensure that its Foreign Staff will not, interfere with the political or religious affairs of the Country.

**1.13
SANCTIONABLE
PRACTICE**

1.13.1 The Consultant shall, and shall ensure that its representatives, agents and employees will:

a) comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and provisions of the relevant legal systems relating to the performance of any obligations under this Consulting Contract or if failure to comply would impair the Consultant's ability to perform its obligations hereunder,

b) not engage at any time in any Sanctionable Practice;
and

c) not enter into or continue any business relationship with specially designated nationals, blocked persons or entities maintained on any Sanctions List and not engage in any other activity that would constitute a breach of Sanctions.

For the purposes of this provision, the following capitalized terms shall have meaning as defined below:

Coercive Practice	The impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any person or the property of the person with a view to influencing improperly the actions of a person.
Collusive Practice	An arrangement between two or more persons designed to achieve an improper purpose, including influencing improperly the actions of another person.
Corrupt Practice	The promising, offering, giving, making, insisting on, receiving, accepting or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of any illegal payment or undue advantage of any nature, to or by any person, with the intention of influencing the actions of any person or causing any person to refrain from any action.
Fraudulent Practice	Any action or omission, including misrepresentation that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a person to obtain a financial benefit or to avoid an obligation.
Obstructive Practice	Means (i) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing evidence material to the investigation or the making of false statements to investigators, in order to materially impede an official investigation into allegations of a Corrupt Practice, Fraudulent Practice, Coercive Practice or Collusive Practice, or threatening, harassing or intimidating any Person to prevent them from disclosing their knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation, or (ii) any act intended to materially impede the exercise of KfW's access to contractually required information in connection with an official investigation into allegations of a Corrupt Practice, Fraudulent Practice, Coercive Practice or Collusive Practice.
Sanctionable Practice	Any Coercive Practice, Collusive Practice, Corrupt Practice, Fraudulent Practice or Obstructive Practice (as such terms are defined herein) which is unlawful under the Funding Agreement.
Sanctions	The economic, financial or trade

	sanctions laws, regulations, embargoes or restrictive measures administered, enacted or enforced by any Sanctioning Body.
Sanctioning Body	Any of the United Nations Security Council, the European Union and the Federal Republic of Germany.
Sanctions List	Any list of specially designated persons, groups or entities which are subject to Sanctions, as issued by any Sanctioning Body.

1.13.2 The Consultant will inform its employees, agents, representatives and subcontractors (if any) engaged under this Consulting Contract of their respective obligations.

1.13.3 The Consultant shall itself and contractually oblige its employees, agents, representatives and subcontractors (if any) to comply in all respects with (i) the Declaration of Undertaking described in Annex 1 [Declaration of Undertaking] and (ii) the laws of the Country.

1.13.4 The Consultant shall, in connection with his/her activities in respect of the Services and/or the Project, treat the persons involved in the Services and/or the Project and any other persons involved at any time respectfully and with high ethical standards (requirement of respectful treatment). The Consultant shall not treat any persons involved in the Services and/or the Project or any other persons differently without a justified reasonable cause (prohibition of discrimination). The Consultant shall not use his position in connection with the Services and/or the Project for abusing of his/her competences and powers (prohibition of abuse). This includes in particular, but is not limited to, the abuse of a position of power for demanding and receiving sexual acts or harassment. The provisions on Sanctionable Practices shall remain unaffected.

**1.14
SOCIAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESPONSIBILITY**

The Consultant shall, and shall ensure that its representatives, agents and employees will, ensure compliance with the Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) standards (including issues of sexual exploitation and abuse and gender based violence) as outlined in KfW's Sustainability Guideline (October 01, 2019 as amended from time to time) and, consequently:

where relevant, implement any environmental and social and health and safety risks mitigation measures when specified in the relevant environmental and social management plans or other similar documents provided by the Employer and/or KfW. The Consultant will report on the status of implementation of ESHS measures and

plan items as contractually agreed.

**1.15
REIMBURSEMENTS**

Unless otherwise set out in the Special Conditions, the Consultant shall make all reimbursements, insurance payments, guarantee payments or similar payments to the extra account of the Employer specified in the Special Conditions.

**1.16
SEVERABILITY AND
WRITTEN FORM**

1.16.1 If any provision of this Consulting Contract is or becomes invalid, void or ineffective or if this Consulting Contract contains unintentional gaps, this will not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remaining provisions of this Consulting Contract and this Consulting Contract will remain valid and effective, save for the void, invalid or ineffective provisions, without any Party having to argue and prove the Parties' intent to uphold this Consulting Contract even without the void, invalid or ineffective provisions.

1.16.2 The void, invalid or ineffective provision shall be deemed replaced by such valid and effective provision which comes as close as possible to the purpose and intent of the invalid provision in legal or economic terms and any unintentional gap shall be deemed to be filled with a provision which best suits the purpose and intent of this Consulting Contract.

1.16.3 Any supplements and amendments to this Consulting Contract - including to this Article 1.15.3 - must be made in writing. Any waiver by the Parties of this writing requirement must also be in writing.

**1.17
ROLE OF KfW**

For the avoidance of doubt, notwithstanding any consent, no-objection and/or other rights which may be conferred to KfW pursuant to this Consulting Contract, KfW shall not and shall not be deemed to be a Party to this Consulting Contract and shall have no obligations hereunder.

2 The Employer

2.1 INFORMATION

During the term of this Consulting Contract, the Employer, shall, within a reasonable period of time and at its own cost and expense, provide the Consultant with all data, documentation and information required or expedient for the performance of the Services that are available to it. This shall also include all Services- and Project-related provisions of any separate agreements relating to the Funding Agreement or to any other loan or grant made in respect of the Project, and, to the extent that KfW's consent is required by this Consulting Contract and has been granted by KfW, the documents evidencing such consent.

2.2 DECISIONS AND COOPERATION

Where the Employer is vested with any discretion or decision right under this Consulting Contract, it shall, provided that the Consultant has supplied the Employer with all the information reasonably required by the Employer including, but not limited to, drawings, studies and details of any replacement staff, exercise such discretion or (as applicable) take its decision pursuant to this Consulting Contract as soon as possible following the Consultant's written request and, in any event, no later than the end of the expiry period specified in the Special Conditions.

2.3 SUPPORT

2.3.1 The Employer will support, to the extent reasonably possible, the Consultant in discharging its obligations pursuant to this Consulting Contract. The Employer shall make available to the Consultant as soon as reasonably practicable and in full all the services necessary for the performance of its tasks as detailed in Annex 3 [*Terms of Reference plus Tender Documents*].

2.3.2 In addition, the Employer shall support the Consultant, the Consultant's employees and directors and, where applicable, their [immediate] relatives in:

- (a) obtaining as soon as reasonably practicable any documents necessary for entering, residing in, working in and leaving the Country (visa, work permit etc.);
- (b) granting and/or obtaining unrestricted access to the Project where necessary for the performance of the Services;
- (c) the import, export and customs clearance of personal items and of goods and commodities required for the performance of the Services;
- (d) securing return transport in cases of emergency;
- (e) obtaining permission to import Foreign Currency that is required by the Consultant for the performance of the Services and for personal use by its Foreign Staff;

- (f) obtaining permission to export the money paid by the Employer to the Consultant under this Consulting Contract; and
- (g) providing access to other organisations for the purpose of obtaining information to be procured by the Consultant in relation to the performance of its obligations hereunder or any of the matters set out under any of the foregoing subparagraphs (a) through (f) above.

**2.4
TAXES**

2.4.1 The Consultant is responsible for meeting any and all tax liabilities in the Employer`s country arising out of the Consulting Contract, unless it is stated otherwise in the Special Conditions. Tax liabilities of the Consultant outside the Employer`s country are considered to be included in the Remuneration and may not be charged separately.

2.4.2 If, after the date of signing of this Consulting Contract by the Parties, there is any change in the applicable law in the Employer`s country with respect to taxes and/or duties which increases or (as the case may be) decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services, then the Remuneration and other expenses otherwise payable to the Consultant under this Consulting Contract shall be increased or (as the case may be) decreased accordingly by agreement to be concluded between the Parties hereto.

**2.5
SERVICES AND
FURNISHINGS**

The Employer shall make available to the Consultant, at the Employer`s cost and expense, such technical and other equipment and offices as described in Annex 6 [*Equipment and Furnishings to be provided by the Employer and Third-party Services Commissioned by the Employer*] for the purpose of performing the Services.

**2.6
CONTACT PERSONS
OF THE EMPLOYER**

The Employer shall appoint two natural persons to act as the Employer`s contact person and deputy to the Consultant in relation to this Consulting Contract, and the Employer further undertakes to appoint a substitute contact person without undue delay should either of the two individuals appointed (or the respective substitutes) no longer be available. The contact persons shall be set out in the Special Conditions.

3 The Consultant

3.1 SCOPE OF SERVICES

3.1.1 The Consultant shall deliver the Services in full and on time.

3.1.2 The Consultant shall cooperate in good faith with any third parties commissioned by the Employer pursuant to Paragraph 2.5 [*Services and Furnishings*]. The Employer shall not be liable for any costs, losses or liabilities caused by any of these third parties or their performance, except in the case of willful misconduct, gross negligence, death or bodily injury. In addition, the Consultant must, to the extent possible, comprehensively coordinate the services rendered by such third parties with the Services.

3.2 REPORTING AND INFORMATION

3.2.1 The Consultant shall report to the Employer and KfW on the progress of the Services in accordance with the Special Conditions and/or the Terms of Reference as applicable. The Consultant shall inform the Employer and KfW promptly of all extraordinary circumstances (including, without limitation, any compliance-relevant circumstances or substantial suspicions) that arise during the performance of the Services and of all matters requiring KfW's approval.

3.2.2 The Consultant shall, at its own cost and expense, promptly deliver all records, documents and information requested by the Employer and/or KfW in connection with this Consulting Contract. This obligation shall survive the termination of the Consulting Contract for a period of 24 months.

**3.3
STAFFING**

- 3.3.1 The Consultant shall employ the staff specified in Annex 5 [*Staffing Schedule*] to implement performance of the Services. The list of designated key staff and any changes to it shall require the prior written approval of the Employer and KfW.
- 3.3.2 Upon the Employer's request, the Consultant shall terminate the contract of, or release or replace, any staff member who fails to meet the requirements set out in this Consulting Contract or violates Paragraph 1.12 [*Conduct*]. Any such request of the Employer must be submitted in writing to the Consultant and must state the reasons for the requested termination, release or replacement.
- 3.3.3 If any staff employed by the Consultant need to be replaced, the Consultant shall ensure that the staff member in question is replaced promptly by an individual with at least equivalent qualifications and experience.
- 3.3.4 If the Consultant terminates the contract of, or releases or replaces, any staff during the term of this Consulting Contract, any costs thus accrued shall be borne by the Consultant.

**3.4
CONTACT PERSON
OF THE
CONSULTANT**

- 3.4.1 The Consultant shall appoint a natural person as its contact person for the Employer in relation to this Consulting Contract, and the Consultant further undertakes to appoint a substitute contact person without undue delay should the individual appointed (or its substitute) no longer be available.
- 3.4.2 Moreover, the Consultant shall specify and provide contact details to the Employer and KfW for an individual, as well as a deputy, at the Consultant's place of business who can be reached at any time in cases of emergency or crisis. The Consultant shall notify the Employer and KfW without delay of any change of any such elected person or its contact details.

4 Commencement, Completion, Amendment and Termination of the Services

4.1 COMMENCEMENT AND COMPLETION

4.1.1 The Consultant shall begin performing the Services on the Commencement Date. The Consultant shall deliver the Services in accordance with the time schedule set out in Annex 7 [*Time Schedule for the Performance of the Services*], and shall complete the Services within the Completion Period (for the avoidance of doubt, subject to any adaptations (if any) in accordance with paragraph 4.1.3 below).

4.1.2 In the case of optional services (if any), the Consultant shall commence delivery of such optional services not earlier than upon receipt of notification from the Employer, subject to the Employer having received KfW's prior written consent.

4.1.3 Any change to the time schedule in Annex 7 [*Time Schedule for the Performance of the Services*] due to a reasonable request by either party shall be mutually agreed upon in writing.

4.2 PENALTIES FOR DELAY AND DISSATISFACTORY SERVICES

4.2.1 If the Consultant culpably fails to perform any of the Services within the respective time agreed for such Services, the Consultant shall, except to the extent that the Special Conditions include a stipulation to the contrary, be obliged to pay to the Employer a penalty in an amount of 0.5% of the contract value for every week of delay, subject to an overall cap of 8% of the contract value. Any claims which the Employer may have as a consequence of such delay (if any) shall be deemed to be settled by such payment. The foregoing shall be without prejudice to the Employer's right of termination pursuant to Paragraph 4.6.2 [*Suspension and Termination*].

4.2.2 In the case the Consultant has not provided the Services in accordance with the provisions set out in this Consulting Contract to the satisfaction of the Employer and if this has (i) been notified by the Employer to the Consultant and (ii) not been remedied by the Consultant within 21 days upon receipt of such notification, and provided that the Employer has requested payment of a penalty in accordance with Paragraph 4.2.1 [*Penalties for Delay and Dissatisfactory Services*] above, the Employer and KfW shall be entitled to prohibit the Consultant from mentioning this Project as a reference for future project tenders.

4.3 FORCE MAJEURE

4.3.1 In the event of a Force Majeure, the contractual obligations, to the extent affected by such event, shall be suspended for as long as performance remains impossible due to the Force Majeure, provided that one Party receives notification of the Force Majeure event from the other Party within two weeks after its occurrence. Any and all

liability of the Consultant for damages arising due to its absence caused by the Force Majeure is excluded, provided that this shall not apply to any damages which the Consultant could have, but has wilfully or negligently not, mitigated in light of the circumstances at that time.

4.3.2 In the event of a Force Majeure, the Consultant shall be entitled to an extension of the Completion Period equal to the delay caused by such Force Majeure. If the performance of the Services is rendered permanently impossible by the Force Majeure, or if the Force Majeure event continues for more than 180 days, either Party to this Consulting Contract shall be entitled to terminate the Consulting Contract.

4.3.3 In the case of a suspension or termination of the Consulting Contract due to Force Majeure, the Consultant shall be entitled to claim from the Employer payment of:

- (a) a proportionate amount of the Agreed Remuneration for the Services performed up to the occurrence of the Force Majeure; and
- (b) all necessary and evidenced expenditures of the Consultant arising from the discontinuing of the Services,

in each case in accordance with the principles agreed in Paragraph 5 [*Remuneration*] and the Special Conditions as well as the principles set out in Paragraph 4.6.4 [*Suspension or Termination*].

4.3.4 The Consultant must, however, mitigate its loss and deduct any proceeds of such mitigation, which shall include:

- (a) any remuneration paid to the Consultant in consideration for working on other projects during the time the Consultant was (but for the discontinuation) scheduled to work on the Project; and
- (b) any remuneration that the Consultant could reasonably have earned in consideration for working on other projects during the time the Consultant was (but for the discontinuation) scheduled to work on the Project, but which the Consultant has not received as a result of the Consultant's wilful misconduct or negligence.

4.3.5 The Consultant shall not have any further payment claims as a consequence of the Force Majeure Event.

**4.4
SUSPENSION OR
TERMINATION**

- 4.4.1 The Employer may, with the prior written consent of KfW, fully or partially request suspension of the Services or terminate this Consulting Contract, in each case by serving written notice of at least 30 days. In this event, the Consultant must immediately take all measures necessary to ensure that the Services are discontinued and any expenditures minimised. The Consultant shall hand over all reports, drafts and documents to be prepared by the date in question to the Employer. If the suspension continues for more than 180 days, the Consultant may terminate the Consulting Contract. In the case of such termination Paragraph 4.5 [*Force majeure*] shall apply mutatis mutandis.
- 4.4.2 If the Consultant fails to meet any of its contractual obligations within the agreed time for such obligations, the Employer may serve a notice upon the Consultant and request it to duly perform its Services. If the Consultant fails to remedy the performance deficit within a reasonable time frame as determined by the Employer which shall be, however, not less than 21 days of having been called upon to do so by the Employer, the Employer shall be entitled, after this period has elapsed, to terminate the Consulting Contract by written notice.
- 4.4.3 The Consultant may terminate this Consulting Contract if any amounts due and payable to it under this Consulting Contract have not been reasonably disputed or paid within 60 days after the receipt by the Employer of the corresponding invoice, provided that (i) the Consultant has delivered to the Employer a written reminder within 30 days after the initial 60 days deadline has passed and (ii) the Employer has not paid the due amounts within a further grace period of 30 days upon receipt by it of such reminder. Without prejudice to the right to terminate due to Employer's nonpayment the Consultant may suspend the performance of this Contract if and for so long as any amounts due and payable under this Consulting Contract have not been reasonably disputed or paid within 60 days after the receipt of the Consultant's corresponding invoice by the Employer, provided that the Consultant has submitted a written reminder notice to the Employer after the initial 60 days deadline has passed and the Employer does not pay the due amounts within a further period of 21 days after the reminder notice.
- 4.4.4 In the case of a termination or suspension of the Consulting Contract, the Consultant shall be entitled to demand payment of:
- (a) the due but unpaid proportion of the Agreed Remuneration for the Services performed until the date of termination or suspension; and

(b) if the termination or suspension of the Consulting Contract is not caused by a default by the Consultant, all necessary and evidenced expenditures of the Consultant arising from the discontinuing of the Services, provided, however, that the Consultant must mitigate its loss and deduct any proceeds of such mitigation, which shall include:

(i) any remuneration paid to the Consultant in consideration for working on other projects during the time the Consultant was (but for the termination or suspension) scheduled to work on the Project; and

(ii) any remuneration that the Consultant could reasonably have earned in consideration for working on other projects during the time the Consultant was (but for the termination or suspension) scheduled to work on the Project, but which the Consultant has not received as a result of the Consultant's wilful misconduct or negligence.

4.4.5 If the termination or suspension of the Contract has been caused due to a default of the Consultant, the Employer shall be entitled to demand compensation for any direct damages caused by the default.

**4.5
BREACH OF
PARAGRAPH 1.13**

4.5.1 If the Consultant has breached Paragraph 1.13 [*Sanctionable Practice*], the Employer may, notwithstanding any sanctions which may be applicable according to the law of the Country or any other legal system, terminate this Consulting Contract in writing with immediate effect.

4.5.2 The Employer may also terminate this Consulting Contract in writing with immediate effect if the Declaration of Undertaking submitted by the Consultant [in accordance with Paragraph 1.13.3] is untrue or inaccurate in any respect or if the any obligations thereunder have been breached.

**4.6
RIGHTS AND
OBLIGATIONS OF
THE PARTIES IN
CASE OF
TERMINATION**

For the avoidance of doubt, a termination of this Consulting Contract shall not prejudice or affect any rights, claims or obligations of any Party which have arisen before the termination takes effect. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of a termination pursuant to Paragraph 4.7 [*Breach of Paragraph 1.13*] the Employer shall be entitled, in cooperation with KfW, to request the repayment of any remuneration (in total or in part considering the circumstances of the violations) which has been paid to the Consultant pursuant to this Contract. The burden of proof that a case of termination is given lies with the Employer.

5 Remuneration

5.1 FORMS OF REMUNERATION

In consideration for the performance of the Services, the Employer shall pay to the Consultant the remuneration as agreed in the Special Conditions subject to the conditions listed therein and the conditions set out below, and subject further to Annex 8 [*Cost Calculation and Invoicing Table*], depending on the type of Services agreed which may be either

- (a) lump sum services; or
- (b) time-based services.

5.2 GENERAL PAYMENT TERMS

To the extent not otherwise agreed in the Special Conditions, the Employer shall pay the Consultant's remuneration as follows:

- (a) An advance payment as set forth in the Special Conditions, but not exceeding 20% of the Contract Value shall be due within 30 days following the date of this Consulting Contract upon presentation of an invoice and against presentation of an advance payment guarantee if required in accordance with the Special Conditions.
- (b) Instalments shall be paid upon presentation of corresponding invoices with a maximum of one payment per quarter. The first invoice following the advance payment shall not be issued before the expiry of three months following the Commencement Date.
- (c) The final payment shall be made after the Services have been performed in full and written confirmation has been provided by the Employer to the Consultant and prior written non-objection has been obtained from KfW.

5.3 PAYMENT CONDITIONS

- (a) In case of a lump sum remuneration, payments to the Consultant shall be made in a pre-determined number of instalments as further specified in the Special Conditions. In case the instalments are to be made dependent on milestones, these will be clearly stipulated in the Special Conditions.
- (b) In case of a time-based remuneration, payments to the Consultant shall be made based on the unit prices set forth in Annex 8 [*Cost Calculation and Invoicing Table*] as further specified in the Special Conditions. Each invoice shall be accompanied by a list of expenditures based on Annex 8 [*Cost Calculation and Invoicing Table*].
- (c) Other Costs, if any, shall be invoiced together with the agreed instalments. Unless the remuneration for Other Costs is included in the lump sum instalments, the invoices must be accompanied by a list of expenditures

based on Annex 8 [*Other Cost Calculation and Invoicing Table*].

The original documentation evidencing the Other Costs shall be sent to the Employer, unless this Consulting Contract has been entered into pursuant to an agency contract in which case the original documentation shall remain with the Consultant and be delivered to the Employer or (as the case may be) KfW promptly upon request of the Employer.

**5.4
LIMITATIONS**

- (a) The remuneration of the Consultant (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Other Costs, if any) shall not exceed the Contract Value set forth in the Special Conditions.

**5.5
INVOICING**

- (a) Payments are made against invoices. The original invoices shall specify (i) the period for which the underlying Services have been performed and (ii) correct banking details and shall be addressed to the Employer.

In the case of conclusion of this Consulting Contract pursuant to an agency contract: the Consultant's invoices (other than the final invoice) shall be addressed to the Employer "c/o KfW". Except for the final invoice, the Consultant shall send each original invoice to KfW and a copy of each invoice to the Employer directly. The original final invoice is to be addressed to the Employer and KfW will receive a copy.

- (b) With each invoice the Consultant implicitly declares that the performance and/or costs invoiced have actually incurred and that the lists accompanying the respective invoices are true and complete.

**5.6
PAYMENT DEADLINE**

- (a) Other than in the case of an advance payment or unless otherwise stated in the Special Conditions, payment shall be made within 60 days of presentation of a verifiable invoice by the Consultant to the Employer.

- (b) If the Employer does not make the payment within the period set out in Paragraph 5.6(a) [*Payment Deadline*] and the Employer has not raised an objection pursuant to Paragraph 5.7 [*Objection to Invoices*] within that date, the Employer shall pay to the Consultant a compensation at the rate agreed in the Special Conditions. This shall be calculated on a daily basis from the date on which the relevant amount became due and payable in the currency set out in the Special Conditions. The Consultant shall have no further rights or claims arising from any delay of the Employer.

**5.7
OBJECTION TO**

Should the Employer object to any invoice of the Consultant (or any aspect or part thereof), the Employer shall notify the

INVOICES

Consultant of its intention to withhold payment and shall state the reasons why. If the Employer objects only to a part of an invoice, it shall pay that part of the invoiced amount to which it has not objected within the period specified in Paragraph 5.6 [*Payment Deadline*].

5.8
AUDITING

For any Services (or parts thereof) that are not remunerated on a lump-sum basis, the Consultant shall maintain up-to-date records that meet professional standards and that clearly and systematically indicate the Services provided and the time and expense involved. The Consultant shall permit the Employer and KfW (as well as their respective advisors and auditors) to audit these records at any time and make copies of them.

6 Liability

- 6.1 GENERAL LIABILITY OF THE CONSULTANT** The Consultant shall be liable to the Employer for culpable breaches of its contractual obligations, including, without limitation, of its obligations under Article 3 [*The Consultant*]. The liability of the Consultant shall be limited to the Contract Value. The foregoing limitation shall not apply in the case of wilful misconduct or gross negligence.
- 6.2 LIABILITY FOR SUB-CONTRACTORS** For the avoidance of doubt, the Consultant shall also be liable for the Services provided by a sub-contractor pursuant to Paragraph 1.8 [*Assignment and Sub-contracting*].
- 6.3 PERIOD OF LIABILITY** The Consultant's liability shall terminate according to the law governing the Consulting Contract as set out in the Special Conditions, unless a different point of time has been agreed in the Special Conditions.
- 6.4 LIABILITY FOR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE** Liability for consequential damages is excluded.
- 6.5 LIABILITY OF THE EMPLOYER** The Employer shall be liable for culpable breaches of its contractual obligations, including, without limitation, of its obligations under Paragraph 2 [*The Employer*].

7

**Insurance against Liability and Damages /
Guarantees**

**7.1
INSURANCE
AGAINST LIABILITY
AND DAMAGES**

7.1.1 The Consultant shall take out and maintain adequate insurance for the entire duration of the Consulting Contract and on the terms specified in the Special Conditions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) professional liability insurance;
- (b) personal liability insurance;
- (c) equipment insurance covering loss of or physical damage to all equipment acquired, used, provided or paid for by the Employer within the context of this Consulting Contract; and
- (d) motor vehicle third party liability insurance and motor vehicle comprehensive hull insurance for the vehicles acquired in connection with this Consulting Contract.

7.1.2 The costs incurred in connection with the insurance specified in Paragraph 7.1.1 [*Insurance Against Liability and Damages*] shall be fully compensated by the Agreed Remuneration and may not be charged separately.

7.1.3 The Employer shall take out the insurances to the extent agreed in the Special Conditions.

**7.2
GUARANTEES**

Any guarantees shall be in the form set out in Annex 10 [*Form of Advance Payment Guarantee*] and shall always be provided as bank guarantees issued in favour of the Employer as beneficiary. They must be acceptable to the Employer and KfW. The original of the guarantee shall be sent to the Employer, with a copy, together with a confirmation of delivery of the original, to be sent to KfW.

8 Disputes and Arbitration Procedure

8.1 ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

If the Parties do not reach amicable agreement, disputes arising out of or in connection with this Consulting Contract shall finally and exclusively be settled by a single arbitrator appointed and proceeding in accordance with the Rules of Conciliation and Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris. The place of arbitration and the language of the arbitration procedure shall be stipulated in the Special Conditions.

Note: *No change in General Conditions of Contract (GCC) is allowed as per KfW Procurement Guidelines*

Part II: Special Conditions

Ad Article 1: General Provisions

Ad 1.1: Definitions

“Completion Period”: The completion period shall be 6 months from the date of signing the contract.

“Country”: **India**

“Project”: Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya-Farmers Mobilization BMZ no. 202067973 as further specified in Annex 3.

The Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA) referred to as the “Employer” is acting as implementing agency for the project Sustainable Land Management Meghalaya – Farmers Mobilization and intends to engage a Consultant for which this Request for Proposal is issued. KfW provides financing for the project; any payments are subject to the underlying financing arrangements and no party other than the Employer shall derive any rights from or have any claims to the proceeds of it.

“Commencement Date”: [insert date] / the date [falling [●] weeks after]/[of] the entry into force of this Consulting Contract.

Ad 1.4: Communication and Language

The language for notices, instructions, reports and other communication shall be **English**.

Notices

Address of the Employer

Additional Project Director
KfW (SLMM), MBMA
Procurement Unit
Meghalaya Basin Management Agency
MBDA Building, - Meghalaya State Housing Cooperative and Financing Society
Campus, Upper Nongrim Hills,
Shillong, PIN-793003
Facsimile: 0364-2522043; Email: mbmaprourement@gmail.com

Address of the Consultant

Postal address

Email: [●]

Phone: [●]

Fax:

Tax Residence of the Consultant and all JV Partners:

Address of KfW

Postal address

Palmengartenstrasse 5 - 9
60325 Frankfurt
Germany

Email: [●][@kfw.de](mailto:[●]@kfw.de)

Phone: +49 (69) 7431-[●]

Fax: +49 (69) 7431-[●]

Ad 1.5: Governing law

The law governing this Consulting Contract shall be **Indian Law**.

Ad 1.9: Copyright and rights of use

The Consultant gives MBMA, irrevocable, transferable and non-exclusive right of use of any and all domestic and foreign industrial and intellectual property rights, applications for industrial property rights, designs, formats, pictures, inventions, construction papers, methods, documentation and work results that arise during execution of the assignment and which are already included in the fee. Publications by the Consultant in connection with the agreed assignments require the prior written approval of MBMA, even after termination of the contract relationship.

The implementing contractor will protect the confidentiality of households and individuals participating in the survey at all stages. All data is confidential and the property of the MBMA. Its sole purpose is for research, monitoring and evaluation, and is not for commercial use. No data or other information from this survey will be released to third parties without the written approval of the MBMA. The implementing contractor will turn over all data, questionnaire and other material to the MBMA and will not retain any

information or material after the survey data collection has ended. The names of participating households will not be released to any other party for any reason.

Ad 1.15: Reimbursements

Account details of the Employer's extra account for all reimbursements: **To be provided later**

Ad Article 2: The Employer

Ad 2.2: Decisions and cooperation

Decisions/discretions/cooperative actions of the Employer pursuant to Paragraph 2.2 [Decisions/cooperation] must be taken/exercised/performed at the latest within **4** weeks from receipt by the Employer of the respective written request of the Consultant.

Ad 2.4: Taxes

The contractual parties agree on the following provisions regarding taxes and public duties in the country of the Employer: **As Per Indian Laws**

Ad 2.6: Contact persons of the Employer

The Employer's contact persons shall be:

- i. Shri. Augustus S Suting, Additional Project Director (SLM) MBMA
- ii. Shri. Jun J Momin, DPD(SLM), MBMA

Meghalaya Basin Management Agency (MBMA)
C/o Meghalaya State Housing Financing Co-operative Society Ltd. Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003
Email: mbmaprourement@gmail.com

Ad Article 3: The Consultant

Ad 3.2: Reporting and information

[●]

Ad 3.4.1: The Consultant's contact person

The Consultant's contact person shall be [●].

Contact details [●].

The deputy shall be [●].

Contact details [●].

Ad 3.4.2: The Consultant's contact person for cases of emergency or crisis

The Consultant's contact person for cases of emergency or crisis shall be [●].

Contact details [●].

The deputy shall be [●].

Contact details [●].

Ad Article 5: Remuneration

Ad 5.1: Forms of Remuneration

In consideration of the Services, the Employer shall pay to the Consultant an amount of

up to [●] in [● currency]

(the "Contract Value").

In accordance with the Terms of Reference, the Services will be rendered as

Lump sum services

Ad 5.2 (a): General Payment Terms

Payment in INR for the services rendered by the consultant shall be made as per the details given below:

S. no	Deliverables (Reports/Activities)	% of Contract Amount to be Released
D1	Inception Report	10%
D2	Draft Value Chain & Master Plan Report	30%
D3	Final Value Chain & Master Plan Report	60%

5.3: Payment Conditions

A) Lump sum services

Instalments

In derogation of Art. 5.2.(b) payment shall be made based on the fulfilment of the respective milestone as follows:

S. no	Deliverables (Reports/Activities)	% of Contract Amount to be Released
D1	Inception Report	10%
D2	Draft Value Chain & Master Plan Report	30%
D3	Final Value Chain & Master Plan Report	60%

Ad 5.5: Invoicing

The Consultant's invoice shall indicate the BMZ-No. 202067973

Payments may be made to the Consultant directly by KfW according to the direct disbursement procedure if agreed between KfW and the Employer.

Payments shall be made to the following account:

Account holder: [●]

Bank: [●]

Account number: [●]

IFSC No.

Ad 5.6: Payment deadline

Within 20 days of receipt of invoice from the consultant

Ad Article 6: Liability

Maximum liability of consultant shall be up to contract value

Ad 6.3: Period of liability

The Consultant's liability shall terminate after 90 days of the acceptance of the final report

Ad Article 7: Insurance

The Consultant will ensure adequate insurance cover (such as medical, theft, third party liability and accident insurance) at its own expense and to maintain the same for the duration of his assignment. Employer accepts no liability in this respect. If required, the Consultant will provide Employer with proof of insurance cover and payments of the premiums. The Consultant shall take out and maintain the following insurances:

- (a) Professional liability insurance. The insurance shall cover a damage of contract value
- (b) Personal liability insurance. The insurance shall cover a damage of contract value.

Procedure

Ad 8.1: Arbitration Procedure

The place of arbitration shall be **at Shillong, Meghalaya, India**

The language of the arbitration procedure shall be **English**

(Place, date)

(for the Employer)

(for the Consultant)

List of Annexes

Annex no.	Title
1	Declaration of Undertaking
2	Minutes of Negotiation (if relevant)
3	Terms of Reference plus Tender Documents
4	Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Co-operation with Partner Countries (in the version valid on the date the bid was submitted)
5	Staffing Schedule
6	Equipment and Furnishings to be provided by the Employer and Third-party Services Commissioned by the Employer
7	Time Schedule for the Performance of the Services
8	Cost Calculation and Invoicing Table
9	The Consultant's Bid
10	Form of Advance Payment Guarantee (if relevant)

Declaration of Undertaking

Reference name of the Application/Offer/Contract: ("Contract")¹⁰

To: ("Project Executing Agency")

1. We recognise and accept that KfW only finances projects of the Project Executing Agency ("PEA")¹¹ subject to its own conditions which are set out in the Funding Agreement it has entered into with the PEA. As a matter of consequence, no legal relationship exists between KfW and our company, our Joint Venture or our Subcontractors under the Contract. The PEA retains exclusive responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract.
2. We hereby certify that neither we nor any of our board members or legal representatives nor any other member of our Joint Venture including Subcontractors under the Contract are in any of the following situations:
 - 2.1) being bankrupt, wound up or ceasing our activities, having our activities administered by courts, having entered into receivership, re-organization or being in any analogous situation;
 - 2.2) having been convicted by a final judgment or a final administrative decision or a preliminary investigation/charge is pending against us for involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering, terrorist-related offences, child labor or trafficking in human beings, or have been subject to (financial) sanctions and/or embargo provisions by the United Nations, the European Union or the Federal Republic of Germany. This exclusion criterion is also applicable to legal persons whose shares (or the majority thereof) are owned or de facto controlled by natural or legal persons against whom such judgments, administrative decisions, (financial) sanctions and/or embargoes have been imposed and – in the case of (financial) sanctions and/or embargoes – these restrictive measures continue to apply;
 - 2.3) having been convicted by a final court decision or a final administrative decision by a court, the European Union, national authorities in the Partner Country or in Germany for Sanctionable Practice in connection with a Tender Process or the performance of a Contract or for an irregularity affecting the EU's financial interests (*in the event of such a conviction, the Applicant or Bidder shall attach to this Declaration of Undertaking supporting information showing that this conviction is not relevant in the context of this Contract and that adequate compliance measures have been taken in reaction*);
 - 2.4) having been subject, within the past five years to a contract termination fully settled against us for significant or persistent failure to comply with our contractual obligations during such Contract performance, unless this termination was challenged and dispute resolution is still pending or has not confirmed a full settlement against us;
 - 2.5) not having fulfilled the applicable fiscal obligations with regard to the payment of taxes at the respective tax residence and in the country of origin of the PEA (*contractors based in Annex 1 countries (<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/de/policies/eu-list-of-non-cooperative-jurisdictions/>) must submit a fully completed and legally countersigned declaration of tax conformity (Appendix 1 to the Declaration of Undertaking) in addition to the Declaration of Undertaking at the time of award of the contract/contract review. This shall become an integral part of the contract. Failure to submit may result in*

¹⁰ Capitalised terms used, but not otherwise defined in this Declaration of Undertaking have the meaning given to such term in KfW's "Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries".

¹¹The PEA means the purchaser, the employer, the client, as the case may be, for the procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Plant, Goods or Non-Consulting Services.

Section VIII- Contract Form

exclusion from the awarding procedure. For contractors based in countries not listed as Annex I countries, only the Declaration of Undertaking must be submitted, and not the declaration of tax conformity;

- 2.6) being subject to an exclusion decision of the World Bank or any other multilateral development bank and being listed on the website <http://www.worldbank.org/debarr> or respectively on the relevant list of any other multilateral development bank (*in the event of such exclusion, the Applicant or Bidder shall attach to this Declaration of Undertaking supporting information showing that this exclusion is not relevant in the context of this Contract and that adequate compliance measures have been taken in reaction*); or
 - 2.7) being guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required as condition to participation in this Tender Procedure.
3. We hereby certify that neither we, nor any of the members of our Joint Venture or any of our Subcontractors under the Contract are in any of the following situations of conflict of interest:
 - 3.1) being an affiliate controlled by the PEA or a shareholder controlling the PEA, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of KfW and resolved to its satisfaction;
 - 3.2) having a business or family relationship with a PEA's staff involved in the Tender Process or the supervision of the resulting Contract, unless the stemming conflict of interest has been brought to the attention of KfW and resolved to its satisfaction;
 - 3.3) being controlled by or controlling another Applicant or Bidder, or being under common control with another Applicant or Bidder, or receiving from or granting subsidies directly or indirectly to another Applicant or Bidder, having the same legal representative as another Applicant or Bidder, maintaining direct or indirect contacts with another Applicant or Bidder which allows us to have or give access to information contained in the respective Applications or Offers, influencing them or influencing decisions of the PEA;
 - 3.4) being engaged in a Consulting Services activity, which, by its nature, may be in conflict with the assignments that we would carry out for the PEA;
 - 3.5) in the case of procurement of Works, Plant or Goods:
 - iii. having prepared or having been associated with a Person who prepared specifications, drawings, calculations and other documentation to be used in the Tender Process of this Contract;
 - iv. having been recruited (or being proposed to be recruited) ourselves or any of our affiliates, to carry out works supervision or inspection for this Contract;
 4. If we are a state-owned entity, and compete in a Tender Process, we certify that we have legal and financial autonomy and that we operate under commercial laws and regulations.
 5. We undertake to bring to the attention of the PEA, which will inform KfW, any change in situation with regard to points 2 to 4 here above.
 6. In the context of the Tender Process and performance of the corresponding Contract:
 - 6.1) neither we nor any of the members of our Joint Venture nor any of our Subcontractors under the Contract have engaged or will engage in any Sanctionable Practice or violate the Guidelines during the Tender Process and in the case of being awarded a Contract will engage in any Sanctionable Practice during the performance of the Contract;
 - 6.2) neither we nor any of the members of our Joint Venture or any of our Subcontractors under the Contract shall acquire or supply any equipment nor operate in any sectors under an embargo of the United Nations, the European Union or Germany; and
 - 6.3) we commit ourselves to complying with and ensuring that our Subcontractors and major suppliers under the Contract comply with international environmental and labour

Section VIII- Contract Form

standards, consistent with laws and regulations applicable in the country of implementation of the Contract and the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organisation¹² (ILO) and international environmental treaties. Moreover, we shall implement environmental and social risks mitigation measures when specified in the relevant environmental and social management plans or other similar documents provided by the PEA and, in any case, implement measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and gender-based violence.

7. In the case of being awarded a Contract, we, as well as all members of our Joint Venture partners and Subcontractors under the Contract will, (i) upon request, provide information relating to the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract and (ii) permit the PEA and KfW or an auditor appointed by either of them, and in the case of financing by the European Union also to European institutions having competence under European Union law, to inspect the respective accounts, records and documents, to permit on the spot checks and to ensure access to sites and the respective project.
8. In the case of being awarded a Contract, we, as well as all our Joint Venture partners and Subcontractors under the Contract undertake to preserve above mentioned records and documents in accordance with applicable law, but in any case, for at least six years from the date of fulfillment or termination of the Contract. Our financial transactions and financial statements shall be subject to auditing procedures in accordance with applicable law. Furthermore, we accept that our data (including personal data) generated in connection with the preparation and implementation of the Tender Process and the performance of the Contract are stored and processed according to the applicable law by the PEA and KfW.

Name: _____ In the capacity of: _____

Duly empowered to sign in the name and on behalf of¹³: _____

Signature:

Dated:

¹² In case ILO conventions have not been fully ratified or implemented in the Employer's country the Applicant/Bidder/Contractor shall, to the satisfaction of the Employer and KfW, propose and implement appropriate measures in the spirit of the said ILO conventions with respect to a) workers grievances on working conditions and terms of employment, b) child labour, c) forced labour, d) worker's organisations and e) non-discrimination.

¹³In the case of a JV, insert the name of the JV. The person who will sign the application, bid or proposal on behalf of the Applicant/Bidder shall attach a power of attorney from the Applicant/Bidder.

Declaration of tax conformity – binding confirmation for legal persons

Name of company

I hereby confirm with my signature that:

6. I am authorised to make this declaration on behalf of the above company;
7. the company properly pays all taxes in accordance with the tax laws of the country in which the company is domiciled;
8. the company is not currently nor has been in the past involved in any legal proceedings concerning the taxation of the company;
9. the company will duly pay taxes that may arise from the provision of contracted services;
10. all information and statements provided in advance are complete, accurate in terms of content and currently correct.

.....

(Place)

.....

(Date)

.....

(Name of the consultant)

.....

(Signature(s))

Declaration of tax conformity – binding confirmation for natural persons

I hereby confirm with my signature that:

- 6. I make this declaration in my name/on my own account;
- 7. I duly pay taxes that I am obliged to pay under the tax law of my country of residence;
- 8. I am not currently involved in tax law court proceedings, nor have I been in the past;
- 9. I will duly pay taxes that may arise from the provision of contracted services;
- 10. I have filled in all the information and statements of this confirmation in full, accurately in terms of content and that they are up to date at this time.

.....

(Place)

.....

(Date)

.....

(Name of the person)

.....

(Signature)

Minutes of Negotiation (if relevant)

Terms of Reference plus Tender Documents

Guidelines for the Procurement of Consulting Services, Works, Goods, Plant and Non-Consulting Services in Financial Co-operation with Partner Countries
(in the version valid on the date the bid was submitted)

Staffing Schedule

(pursuant to the Consultant's Bid; where applicable in the version subsequently negotiated)

**Equipment and Furnishings to be provided by the Employer and Third-party Services
Commissioned by the Employer**

Time Schedule for Delivery of the Services

(pursuant to the Consultant's Bid; where applicable in the version subsequently negotiated)

**Cost Calculation and Invoicing in [EUR preferably]
Package A - Lump Sum Services**

Detailed Cost Calculation - Fees, Transport, Logistics (for information only not basis for payments)				
1. Foreign Staff Cost	Unit	Quantity	Lump sum unit rate	Contract amount
1.1 Team Leader	month	...		
1.2 NN	month	...		
1.3 ...	month	...		
Sub-total Foreign staff				
2. Local Staff Cost (incl. allowances and accommodation, see explanation)				
2.1 NN	month	...		
2.2 ...	month	...		
Sub-total Local staff				
3. Allowance, Accommodation, Complementary Travel Costs for Foreign Staff				
3.1 Allowance, accommodation - Long-term staff	month	...		
3.2 Allowance, accommodation - Short-term staff	month	...		
Sub-total Allowance and accommodation				
4. International Travel				
4.1 International return flights	flight	...		
4.2 Complementary travel costs	flight	...		
4.3 other international flights	flight	...		
Sub-Total International flights				
5. Local Travel & Transport Cost				
5.1 Vehicle lease/rent or use of own vehicles	month	...		
5.2 Vehicle O&M incl. driver, assurance, repairs	month	...		
5.3 Other local transport (short-term, peak)	day	...		
5.4 Local flights	flight	...		
Sub-total Local transport				
6. Project Office				
6.1 Office rent	month	...		
6.2 Office operation	month	...		
Sub-total Project office				
7. Reports and Documents				
7.1 ... (Type of reports/documents to be stated)	/doc	...		
7.2 ...	...	...
Sub-total Reports and documents				
<i>If 8./9. Equipment / Miscellaneous items are part of lump sum service price add relevant column(s)</i>				
Total Package A - Lump Sum Services				

**Cost Calculation and Invoicing in [EUR preferably]
Package B - Time Based Services**

Detailed Cost Calculation - Fees, Transport, Logistics					Model for invoicing			
1. Foreign Staff Cost	Unit	Quantity	Lump sum unit rate	Contract amount	Total prev. invoices (qty/amount)	This invoice (qty/ amount)	Total amount to date	Remaining budget
1.1 Team Leader	month	...						
1.2 NN	month	...						
1.3 ...	month	...						
Sub-total Foreign staff								
2. Local Staff Cost (incl. allowances and accommodation, see explanation)								
2.1 NN	month	...						
2.2 ...	month	...						
Sub-total Local staff								
3. Allowance, Accommodation, Complementary Travel Costs for Foreign Staff								
3.1 Allowance, accommodation - Long-term staff	month	...						
3.2 Allowance, accommodation - Short-term staff	month	...						
Sub-total Allowance and accommodation								
4. International Travel								
4.1 International return flights	flight	...						
4.2 Complementary travel costs	flight	...						
4.3 other international flights	flight	...						
Sub-Total International flights								
5. Local Travel & Transport Cost								
5.1 Vehicle lease/rent or use of own vehicles	month	...						
5.2 Vehicle O&M incl. driver, assurance, repairs	month	...						
5.3 Other local transport (short-term, peak)	day	...						
5.4 Local flights	flight	...						
Sub-total Local transport								
6. Project Office								
6.1 Office rent	month	...						
6.2 Office operation	month	...						

Section VIII- Contract Form

Sub-total Project office								
7. Reports and Documents								
7.1 ... (Type of reports/documents to be stated)	/doc	...						
7.2 ...	...	...				
Sub-total Reports and documents								
8. Equipment Costs								
8.1 Office equipment								
8.2 Project vehicles								
8.3 Other equipment to be handed over/consumed								
Sub-total Equipment Costs								
9. Miscellaneous								
9.1 Other miscellaneous items/services								
9.2 Security measures								
Sub-total Miscellaneous								
Total Package B - Time Based Services								
minus Advance payment								
minus Retention								
Total								

**Cost Calculation and Invoicing in [EUR preferably]
Other Costs**

Contract Allowance			Model for invoicing					Total to date	Remaining Budget
			Total previous invoices		This invoice (actual quantity and actual amount)			Amount EUR	Amount EUR
	Unit	Provisional Contract Amount EUR	Cum. Quantity	Cum. Amount EUR	Quantity	Amount local currency (if appl.)	Exchange rate (if appl.)	Amount EUR	Amount EUR
10. Uncertain expenses									
10.1. aus 8.									
10.2. aus 9.									
11. Contingencies/other									
11.1. General Contingencies		...	not	applicable					
11.2....		...							
11.3.		...							
Total Other Costs									

The Consultant's Bid

Advance Payment Guarantee

Beneficiary: *[Insert name and Address of Employer]*

Date of issue : *[Insert date]*

ADVANCE PAYMENT GUARANTEE No.: *[Insert guarantee reference number]*

Guarantor: *[Insert name and address of place of issue, unless indicated in the letterhead]*

We have been informed that *[insert name and address of Contractor, which in the case of a joint venture shall be the name and address of the joint venture]* (hereinafter called “the **Contractor**”) has entered into Contract No. *[insert reference number of the Contract]* dated *[insert Contract date]* with the Beneficiary, for the execution of *[insert object of the Contract and brief description of the contractual content]* (hereinafter called “the **Contract**”). Furthermore we understand that, according to the conditions of the Contract, an advance payment in the sum of *[insert amount and currency in words and figures]*¹⁴, representing *[insert percentage in words and figures]* percent of the Contract price is to be made against an advance payment guarantee.

Waiving all objections and defences, we, as Guarantor, hereby irrevocably and independently undertake to pay the Beneficiary, any sum or sums not exceeding in total an amount of *[insert guarantee amount and currency in words and figures]* upon receipt by us of the Beneficiary’s first demand, supported by the Beneficiary’s statement, whether in the demand itself or a separate signed document accompanying or identifying the demand, stating that the Contractor is in breach of its obligation(s) under the Contract, without the Beneficiary needing to prove or to show grounds for the demand or the sum specified therein.

The advance payment guarantee shall come into force and effect as soon as the advance payment has been credited to the Contractor on its account. Minor deductions of the above mentioned amount notably due to bank fees shall have no effect on the entry into force.

In the event of any claim under this guarantee, payment shall be effected to *[Insert the account of the Beneficiary on which payments are to be made]*, for the account of *[Insert name of the Beneficiary and the Beneficiary’s country]*.

This guarantee shall be automatically reduced pro rata in accordance with the payments performed by the Gurantor hereunder and expire not later than *[insert expiry date]*.

Any demand for payment must be received by us at this office on or before that date by letter or encoded telecommunication.

It is understood that you will return this guarantee to us on expiry or after payment of the total amount to be claimed hereunder.

¹⁴ This guarantee must be issued in the Contract currency only.

[As preferred option regarding guarantee rules insert: This guarantee is subject to the Uniform Rules for Demand Guarantees (URDG) 2010 Revision, ICC Publication No. 758, except that the supporting statement under Article 15(a) is hereby excluded.]

[In the case the issuing bank will not add the preferred option, insert: This guarantee is governed by the law of [insert country of jurisdiction where the bank's branch issuing the guarantee is physically located].

Place, date

Guarantor's authorised signature(s)

Note: All italicised text (including footnotes) is for use in preparing this form and shall be deleted from the final version.