

Request for Expression of Interest for selection of organization(s) for undertaking Nature-based Carbon Finance Project(s) in Meghalaya

8th May 2025

Important information and dates:

Eoi No	PLN/MBDA/09271/2025/NF
Name of the Work	Empanelment of organization(s) for undertaking Nature-based Carbon Finance Project(s) in Meghalaya
Date of Issue of Eoi	8 th May 2025
Last date for submission of Clarification queries	25 th May 2025
Last date & time of submission of EOI	30 th May 2025 5:00 PM IST
Address for communication/ submission of EOI	Procurement Unit, O/o MegARISE, RDL Building, Springside Lumsohphoh, Nongthymmai- 793014, Shillong, Meghalaya Email ID: meglife.procurement@gmail.com

1. Background:

Meghalaya is a land-locked State in the North East of India. The State has a tribal population of 86% and is governed by the sixth schedule of the constitution. Close to 80% of the people of Meghalaya are dependent on agriculture and the State boasts a forest cover of 76%. Meghalaya has a stock of 2,189 million culms of Bamboo. The Government of Meghalaya is committed to providing Green Growth to the people of the State and is also running the largest and only State-wide Payment for Ecosystem Services Scheme – GREEN Meghalaya+ in the country.

There lies an immense opportunity for Carbon Sequestration in forestry and other sectors in Meghalaya and to ensure that the benefits are shared equitably among the various stakeholders, is looking for various partners so that the conservation and Carbon sequestration efforts could be scaled up and citizens from the State are duly rewarded for such activities. This would lead to sustained additional investments in the natural resources in Meghalaya.

2. Overview:

Nature-based solutions (NbS), like afforestation, reforestation and ecosystem restoration, are increasingly recognized as vital activities for carbon sequestration and climate change mitigation, and the voluntary carbon market (VCM) plays a crucial role in funding these projects. Accordingly, the Government of Meghalaya is looking for relevant, sustainable, efficient, practical, equitable, high-impact and/ or innovative solutions catering specifically to Nature-based Carbon Finance Projects that could be taken-up/ scaled in Meghalaya.

3. Submission of Proposal:

The bidders are expected to submit a detailed proposal covering the following:

- a. Organisation Details
- b. Details of the relevant Nature-based Carbon Finance projects designed and/ or implemented by them
- c. Specifics of the solutions proposed by them in Meghalaya
- d. Overall cost required, investments to be made, timelines, support required from the Government, expected return for the various stakeholders (estimated lump-sum and also for every additional Unit of Carbon Removal), pricing/ benefit sharing mechanism (especially with the communities, including the ratio in which the benefits of Carbon credits will be shared) during the proposed project duration.

4. Other guidelines for submission of Expression of Interest:

- a. EOI must be delivered in a written form to the address mentioned through registered post/ speed post/ courier/ by hand on or email on or before **30th May 2025, 5 PM.**
- b. Queries if any shall be e-mailed to meglife.procurement@gmail.com before **11:59 PM 25th May 2025.** No queries will be entertained beyond the deadline.

5. Eligibility Criteria:

The bidders are allowed to collaborate and submit joint responses; however, the following eligibility criteria needs to be fulfilled:

- a. The lead bidder should be an organization having its registered office in India.
- b. The lead bidder shall have the experience of developing at-least one Carbon Finance Project which has been implemented.
- c. The lead bidder should have an average annual turnover of at-least 20 Lakh (averaged over the years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24).
- d. None of the bidders should be blacklisted by any of the Government organisation in India.

Certificate/ self-declaration stating/ evidencing the above needs to be furnished as a part of the bid response.

6. Evaluation Criteria:

The eligible response would then be evaluated further based on the merit of the proposal. The following is the evaluation criteria for the shortlisting of the responses:

Sl. No.	Evaluation Criteria	Weightage out of 100
i.	Experience of developing/implementing Carbon Finance Projects which have been implemented/ are under advanced stages of implementation. Projects with relevance to Meghalaya will fetch a higher score.	30

Sl. No.	Evaluation Criteria	Weightage out of 100
ii.	Experience of developing NbS Carbon Credit Project(s) which have been implemented/ are under advanced stages of implementation. Projects with relevance to Meghalaya will fetch a higher score.	20
iii.	Experience of the lead bidder of working on Community NRM project(s).	10
iv.	Merit of the proposed project(s) including the relevance, efficiency, practicality, equitability (especially benefits proposed for the communities involved), sustainability (beyond the project duration as well) impact and/ or innovativeness of the solutions catering specifically to Nature-based Carbon Finance Projects that could taken-up/ scaled in Meghalaya	30
v.	Availability of human resource with experience in Carbon Finance/ Forestry/ Agriculture with the bidder and the team proposed for the project	10

The eligible entities may be asked for a detailed presentation to the Evaluation committee covering the above criteria prior to the **final shortlisting**.

7. Other conditions:

- a. The Government of Meghalaya reserves the right to extend/ amend the Request for the Expression of Interest at any point of time.
- b. The Government of Meghalaya reserves the right to seek clarification/ additional information and documents from the bidders regarding various claims submitted by them in their proposal.
- c. Selected agencies would get into an agreement with the Government of Meghalaya/ one of its organisations. Shortlisting/ selecting an agency does not necessarily mean that the Government of Meghalaya/ one of its organisations would get into a legally binding agreement with it. This is just an empanelment for developing Carbon Finance Project(s) in Meghalaya. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) would be signed up with the selected organization(s) and the shortlisted proposal(s) would be looked at on a case-to-case basis and will be

taken up based on parameters like the attractiveness of the proposal, availability of funds and other resources, willingness of various stakeholders involved etc. Relevant project specific agreements may be signed up with the shortlisted firms subsequently.

- d. Bidders are allowed to propose more than one project and can get shortlisted for undertaking multiple projects.

More than one bidder/organisation may be empanelled under this EoI. The Government may allow more than one bidder/organisation to implement their projects. The separation of their area of project implementation may be decided by the Government of Meghalaya in terms of territorial jurisdiction or resource category or any other criteria, which the Government may find suitable.

- e. Failure to undertake the projects proposed by the bidders at the time of bid submission might lead to their “Black-listing” by the Government of Meghalaya.
- f. The organizations once empanelled can be tasked for undertaking other Carbon Finance Projects by any of the organizations of the Government of Meghalaya based on mutual agreement.

About MBDA: The Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. Set up in March 2011 and headed by the Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya. Its Registered Office is situated at Nongrim Hills, Shillong. MBDA closely works with the communities and aims to address management of natural resources in the state while addressing issues of livelihoods among the rural communities with emphasis on sustainable good practices. Its strategies focus on leveraging the strengths of the land while adapting to climate change, without degradation to the environment.