

Title of Tender :		Hiring a consultancy agency for Poshan Samridhi: An initiative for improved nutrition and enhanced rural resilience		
RFQ Nr.		7000024046/10052068		
F.A.Q Date :		28.09.2026		
Sr. No	RFP Document	Existing Provision / Requirement in Tender Documents	Query / Clarification Requested	GIZ RESPONSE
1	ToR, Section 2A – Objective of the assignment (Tentative location)	“The agency/consortium is also expected to support the capacity building initiatives under GIZ’s SUATI-JIVA project being implemented with support of NABARD in two districts of Rajasthan.”	Kindly specify (a) the two districts covered under SuATI-JIVA, (b) the nature and quantum of capacity building support expected (number and type of trainings, target groups, participants), and (c) whether separate expert days and event budgets are to be quoted for this support, since no corresponding line item appears in the Specification of Inputs (Section 6).	a) The tentative districts are Sikar and Salumbar b) There will be only 2 capacity building trainings for SUATI-JIVA Project (1 per district) will be organized where only technical expertise will be provided by the agency. The target group will consist of SUATI-JIVA project implementation team and selected beneficiaries. Duration of the training will be based on the developed training module under the current assignment. c) No separate expert days needs to be budgeted for these trainings.
2	ToR, Section 2B – Work Package 2 (Amrit Poshan Vatika) and Work Package 6 (Household Agri-Nutri Gardens)	WP2: Establish 15–20 model Community Nutrition Gardens ... securing land, water connections, seeds and labour through VB-G RAM G, SRLM, Agriculture, Horticulture, Forest, ICDS and Education Departments. WP6: 250–300 demonstration households ... composting units, waste-water recycling, bio-pesticides and micro irrigation; starter seed kits with support of RAJEEVIKA.	Kindly confirm that all physical inputs for the 15–20 APV sites and 250–300 household gardens (land development, fencing, drip/micro-irrigation, nursery, seed bank, composting units, seeds and planting material) will be mobilised entirely through convergence with Government departments and RAJEEVIKA, and that the contractor is not expected to bear these costs. If any input cost is to be borne by the contractor, kindly indicate the budget head under which it	Yes, it is expected that the agency will mobilize this support from different government departments.

			should be quoted, as no such line item is provided in Section 6.	
3	ToR, Section 2.1 and Section 6 – Specification of Inputs (Fee days)	Contract term: 1st November 2026 to 31st August 2028 (approx. 22 months). Fee days in Section 6 are calculated as “x days x 18 months”.	Kindly clarify whether the fee days specified in Section 6 (total 2,610 days) are final for the entire contract period of approx. 22 months, or whether the calculation basis of 18 months is to be revised. Bidders will quote strictly as per the specified days unless advised otherwise.	The project duration will be 18 months and all fee days has to be calculated for 18 months.
4	ToR, Section 6 – Specification of Inputs (Expert 4 – M&E and Documentation Expert)	Number of days per expert: 144; Comments: “1 person x 8 days x 18 months = 200 days”.	The number of days (144) and the comment (200 days) do not match. Kindly confirm the correct number of fee days to be quoted for the M&E and Documentation Expert.	It is a typographical error. Please consider 144 days of fee days for M &E and Documentation Expert.
5	ToR, Section 2 – Deliverables table (Period of Assignment)	Sr. No. 2 (Work Package 2) – Timeline: “31st November 2027”. Last row lists “Work Package 7 – Monitoring, Learning, Documentation, and Scale-Up Strategy” with timeline 15th August 2028.	Kindly confirm (a) the correct completion date for Work Package 2, as 31st November is not a valid date (30th November 2027 or another date), and (b) that the last row refers to Work Package 8 (Monitoring, Learning, Documentation and Scale-Up Strategy) with completion by 15th August 2028.	a) Kindly consider it as 30th November 2027 b) Yes, it refers to Package 8. Kindly read it as Completion of deliverables outlined above (Work Package 8) - Monitoring, Learning, Documentation, and Scale-Up Strategy with completion by 15th August 2028.
6	ToR, Section 6 – Travel expenses (Per-diem, Overnight allowance, Local travel)	Per-diem allowance, Overnight allowance and Local travel: 200 each – “40 days travel for 5 experts”.	The team comprises 13 personnel, including 4 District Coordinators and 4 short-term experts based at district level. Kindly clarify (a) which 5 experts are eligible for per-diem, overnight and local travel allowances, and (b) whether district-based personnel are eligible for any travel/local conveyance allowance for movement to GPs	a) 5 experts eligible for per diem, local travel and overnight are Team Leader, Nutrition Expert, Capacity Building Expert, Communication & SBCC Expert and M&E and Documentation Expert. b) For district-based personnel, It is expected that their travel/local conveyance will be absorbed within their fee rates.

			within their districts, or whether this is to be absorbed within the fee rates.	
7	ToR, Section 6 – CO2 Compensation for air travel; CO2 Emission Offset Guide	CO2 Compensation: 20 units – “A fixed budget Euro 328 is earmarked for settling carbon offsets against evidence.” Guide (Category 2.1): maximum EUR 50 per one-way economy flight.	Kindly confirm whether the CO2 compensation is to be quoted as a fixed amount of EUR 328 (INR equivalent) for all 20 round-trip flights, or per flight as per the ceiling in the CO2 Emission Offset Guide. Also kindly confirm the exchange rate to be used for conversion to INR.	Yes, a maximum of EUR 328 (INR equivalent) is fixed for all 20 round-trip flights. But it will be reimbursed based on the number of actual flights and submission of CO2 Certificate alongwith payment receipts. The exchange rate on the flight booking date will be considered for conversion to INR 111/EURO
8	ToR, Section 2B – Work Package 1 and Work Package 8	“Support baseline assessment ... carried out by an external agency identified by GIZ.” / “Support an endline evaluation assessment ... by an external agency identified by GIZ.”	Kindly confirm that the cost of baseline and endline surveys (enumerators, data collection, analysis) will be borne by GIZ through the external agency, and specify the nature of support expected from the contractor (e.g., tool review, sampling support, field facilitation, community mobilisation).	Yes, the cost of baseline and endline surveys will be borne by GIZ through external agency and the contractor is expected to support in field facilitation and community mobilization.
9	Objective 2, Sec 2.1, Pg 6	Tentative location- 15-20 selected GPs of Dausa, Alwar, Salumbar and Udaipur districts (the location and district will be finalized in consultation with Rajasthan VB-G RAM G Division and RAJEEVIKA, Department of Rural Development, Rajasthan)	Kindly clarify if the whole scope of work will be indicatively under these districts or additional districts will be added. Kindly provide an indication of total number of districts, GPs and villages envisaged under the assignment	Total 15-20 GPs from 4 districts will be selected. The location and district will be finalized in consultation with Rajasthan VB-G RAM G Division and RAJEEVIKA, Department of Rural Development, Rajasthan
10	Objective 6, Sec 2.1, Pg 6	Documentation & Scaling: Generate robust baseline/endline evidence, operational guidelines, and policy briefs.	Kindly clarify the specific metrics and evidence requirements expected for demonstrating project impact from baseline to endline, along with the operational guidelines required to support statewide replication.	It is clearly mentioned in different works packages

11	Scope of Work, Pg 6	Additional activities will need to be added as per local requirements.	Kindly clarify if the budget for the additional activities to be included at this stage or can be discussed upon the award of contract	No budget for the additional activities needs to be added at this stage and a separate line item for flexible remuneration is given to include any additional activity as per the requirement after discussion and approval from GIZ during project implementation.
12	WP-1, Pg 6	Selection of target districts, GPs, CLFs, and immersion/demonstration sites.	Kindly clarify the proposed number of immersion and demonstration sites, their intended locations, and the acceptable geographical coverage between such sites.	It is clearly mentioned in the terms of reference. 15-20 selected GPs of Dausa, Alwar, Salumbar and Udaipur districts (the location and district will be finalized in consultation with Rajasthan VB-G RAM G Division and RAJEEVIKA, Department of Rural Development, Rajasthan).
13	WP-1, Pg 6	Monitoring & Evaluation Framework.	Kindly clarify whether specific indicators, data collection tools, and reporting frequencies have been predefined or are expected to be proposed by the selected agency.	It is expected that the contractor will develop the detailed Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and will be finalized in consultation with GIZ.
14	WP-2, Pg 7	Establish 15–20 model Community Nutrition Gardens (Amrit Poshan Vatikas) on Panchayat allocated or institutional land (e.g., near Anganwadi Centers, schools, or GP bhawans).	Kindly clarify if the agency is expected to bear the costs of establishment and include them in the financial proposal	No, it is expected that the agency will mobilize this support from different government departments.
15	WP-2, Pg 7	Design technical layouts incorporating nursery areas, seed banks, irrigation systems, etc.	Kindly clarify the expected land area, infrastructure budget, number of layouts required, and whether technical specifications are to be proposed by the agency or would be based on predefined criteria.	It is expected that the contractor will follow the existing guidelines of VB G RAM G for establishment of Amrit Poshan Vatika and provide the technical layout based on the available land and local field conditions.
16	WP-2, Pg 7	Facilitate multi-departmental convergence by securing land, water connections, seeds, and labor through VB-G RAM-G, SRLM, Agriculture, Horticulture, Forest, ICDS, and Education Departments	Kindly clarify if GIZ shall support the agency in the first hand interactions between the departments and the agency	GIZ will support in the firsthand interaction with VB GAM G, RAJEEVIKA and other departments but contractor is expected to establish strong relationship with all departments to mobilize convergence and achieve desired results.

17	WP-2, Pg 7	Form and institutionalize Amrit Poshan Vatika Management Committee.	Kindly clarify the expected composition, size, member selection criteria, use of existing community institutions and availability of seed funding support.	Existing guidelines of VB G RAM G and RAJEEVIKA will be followed.
18	WP-2, D2.1, D2.2 & D2.4, Pg 7	15-20 demonstration sites and 4 district-level capacity-building events.	Kindly clarify if any indicative sites for capacity building events are present or the identification of sites would lie with the agency	Demonstration sites will be finalized in consultation with VB G RAM G and RAJEEVIKA. 4 district level capacity building events will be organized at district level.
19	WP-2, D2.2	Site layout technical designs and infrastructure specifications	Kindly clarify if the agency is expected to onboard a professional for designing the layout and infrastructure specifications, as the team composition do not mention any position for the same	Team leader cum Rural Development Expert is expected to work with VB G RAM G technical team to develop technical designs and infrastructure specifications.
20	WP-3, Pg 7	The agency is expected to develop the new capacity building package based on the existing training modules already developed by GIZ and RAJEEVIKA.	Kindly specify the indicative areas covered in the existing capacity building package developed by GIZ and RAJEEVIKA	The areas covered in the existing capacity building packages and core areas that need to be covered in the new capacity building package are clearly mentioned in the Terms of Reference.
21	WP-3, Pg 7	Development of user-friendly pedagogical materials facilitator guides, manuals, videos and digital learning modules.	Kindly clarify the expected technical specifications, branding requirements and indicative number of copies/sets required for digital and print materials.	It will be decided based on the content developed and GIZ's communication guidelines will be followed for development and design of all digital and print materials. It is expected that at least 10 sets of different print materials and 1 copy of all digital materials will be provided.
22	WP-4, Pg 8	Structured cascade training model.	Kindly clarify the indicative number of training sessions to be conducted at each of the four levels and the indicative number of trainees at state, district and block levels.	It is clearly mentioned in ToR. Kindly refer to pg. 8 and pg. 22 & 23 for number of participants and number of trainings at different levels.

23	WP-5, Pg 8	Conduct interactive community campaigns	Kindly clarify if the cost of the campaigns to be included in the financial proposal at this stage	Yes, It is expected that contractor will include the cost of BCC Campaign in the financial proposal.
24	WP-5, Pg 8	Conduct interactive community campaigns	Kindly clarify the expected number of days for nutrition days, food festivals and other campaigns and whether events may be organized on a cluster basis or are required at individual village level.	It is expected that the contractor will formulate a comprehensive BCC and Community Mobilization Strategy tailored to regional sociocultural norms and literacy levels in consultation with RAJEEVIKA and GIZ.
25	WP-6, Pg 8	Identify and onboard 250-300 demonstration households.	Kindly clarify the eligibility and selection criteria for identifying demonstration households.	The eligibility and selection criteria will be decided in consultation with RAJEEVIKA and GIZ.
26	WP-6, Pg 8	Provide technical guidance for designing low-cost, high-yield, climate-resilient Household Agri-Nutri Gardens.	Please clarify if the type of crops for the agri nutri gardens are predefined or to be identified by the agency.	It is expected that the contractor will identify the type of crops.
27	WP-6, Pg 9	Distribute starter seed kits with support of RAJEEVIKA and facilitate hands-on field mentoring.	Kindly clarify if the cost of starter seed kits should be included in the financial proposal. Also clarify the total indicative number of starter seed kits envisaged under the assignment.	It is expected that RAJEEVIKA will provide the starter seed kits.
28	WP-7, Page 9	Support the Women Leadership Network (WLN) at state level to facilitate peer-to-peer learning, mentoring, and entrepreneurial support.	Kindly clarify whether the Women Leadership Network (WLN) is already established and operational, or whether the agency is expected for identification, onboarding, and strengthening of network members under the assignment.	The contractor is expected to support the establishment of WLN and provide hand holding support.
29	WP-7, D7.2, Page 9	Reports of policy consultations and development of policy guidelines.	Kindly clarify the expected number of policy guidelines to be developed under this deliverable.	Minimum 2 policy guidelines are expected from contractor.
30	WP-8, Pg 9	Monitoring Dashboard and Endline Evaluation Support.	Kindly clarify the technical requirements and preferred	It is expected that the contractor will develop an online monitoring dashboard.

			platform for the monitoring dashboard and the role expected from the agency in supporting the external endline evaluation process.	The contractor's support in end-line evaluation is expected in the form of field facilitation and community mobilization.
31	ToR, Chapter 2 (clause 2.1 and deliverables table) read with Chapter 6 — Costing requirements	The period of assignment is stated as 1 November 2026 to 31 August 2028, a duration of 22 months. Every line of the fee-day table in Chapter 6 is nonetheless computed on an 18-month basis.	Key query. Please confirm which duration governs the financial proposal. If the 22-month period stands, we would be grateful for a revised fee-day table, since the two bases produce materially different expert-day totals and Chapter 7 requires the financial tender to be calculated exactly on the parameters specified.	The period of assignment will be 18 months, and financial proposal will be submitted based on the details given in the table of inputs.
32	ToR, Chapter 6 — Fee days, Expert 4 (M&E and Documentation)	The total column shows 144 days while the accompanying comment reads "1 person x 8 days x 18 months = 200 days".	Please confirm the figure to be priced. Eight days over eighteen months yields 144, and we have proceeded on the basis that the total column is correct pending confirmation.	It is a typographical error. Please consider 144 days of fee days for M & E and Documentation Expert.
33	ToR, Chapter 6 — Travel expenses, transport and CO ₂ compensation	Per-diem allowance, overnight allowance and local travel are each set at 200 units, described in the comments column as "40 days travel for 5 experts". Chapter 5 provides for twelve positions in total. Domestic flights are limited to 20 round trips and CO ₂ compensation to a fixed EUR 328.	Please clarify whether the travel quantities constitute a single pool shared across all twelve positions or are calculated for five experts only, and whether District Coordinators and short-term experts stationed in the project districts are expected to draw on the same pool. Please also confirm whether the EUR 328 CO ₂ provision covers the entire contract period.	Kindly refer to the responses given in row no. 6 & 7
34	ToR, Chapter 5 (2.6 and 2.7) read with the Technical Assessment Grid, section 2	Chapter 5 specifies District Coordinators (2.6) as four positions and a short-term expert pool (2.7) of four members. The Technical Assessment Grid scores 2.1 Team Leader, 2.2 to 2.5	Key query. Please confirm how the District Coordinators are to be assessed, whether CVs are required for all four, and what the two short-term expert pools in the	It is expected that contractor will submit CVs for all four district coordinators position and four short term expert pools for assessment. The personnel for these two positions will be assessed on average

		as Experts 1 to 4, and 2.6 and 2.7 as Short-term expert pool 1 and Short-term expert pool 2. District Coordinators have no corresponding line in the grid.	grid correspond to in the personnel concept. The numbering in the grid and in Chapter 5 diverges at 2.6 and 2.7, and bidders need a single reading in order to structure both the CVs and the personnel assignment plan.	of all CVs. Average of all four CVs of district coordinators will be assessed in section 2.6 and average of all CVs of Short-term expert pool will be assessed in section 2.7 given in technical assessment grid.
35	ToR, Chapter 5 — Short-term expert pool with 4 members (2.7)	The pool is required to hold expertise in MGNREGS, agroforestry, pasture land development, gender and social inclusion, GIS and digital planning approaches. The tasks listed for the pool include monitoring the progress of agroforestry and silvi-pasture models.	Several of these areas sit closer to the AVCERR and ERADA line of work than to the nutrition-garden, dietary-diversity and SBCC objectives of this assignment. Please confirm whether these are the intended areas of expertise, or whether expertise in nutrition, horticulture, seed systems and community food systems would be scored equivalently under criterion 2.6 and 2.7 of the grid.	Yes, it will be scored equivalently.
36	ToR, Chapter 2 — Deliverables, Work Package 1	The contract is anticipated to commence on 1 November 2026, with the Inception Report, District Implementation Plans and M&E Framework all due on 15 December 2026.	Please advise whether the six-week window is intended to accommodate the landscape review across ICDS, Health, Agriculture, Horticulture and RAJEEVIKA, the establishment of site selection criteria, and consultations with the Rajasthan VB-G RAM G Division and RAJEEVIKA, or whether a phased submission of the three deliverables would be acceptable.	A phased submission of the three deliverables is acceptable. It is expected that all the deliverable under WP 1 will be completed by 15 th December and
37	ToR, Chapter 2 — Deliverables table	The table gives 31 November 2027 as the timeline for Work Package 2 and numbers two separate rows as Sr. No. 7, the second of which describes the Monitoring, Learning, Documentation	Please confirm the intended date for Work Package 2, November having thirty days, and confirm that the final row refers to Work Package 8, due 15 August 2028.	Kindly refer to the response given in row no. 5.

		and Scale-Up Strategy as Work Package 7.		
38	ToR, Chapter 2 A — Objective of the assignment, tentative location	Beyond the 15 to 20 Gram Panchayats in Dausa, Alwar, Salumbar and Udaipur, the agency or consortium is also expected to support capacity building initiatives under GIZ's SUATI-JIVA project, implemented with NABARD in two districts of Rajasthan.	Please indicate the expected volume of this additional support and confirm whether it is covered within the expert days, travel and workshop budgets specified in Chapter 6, or whether it is to be costed separately.	Kindly refer to the response given in row no. 1.
39	ToR, Work Package 1 and Work Package 8 — Baseline and endline	Both the baseline assessment and the endline evaluation are to be carried out by an external agency identified by GIZ, with the contractor providing support.	Please confirm that no survey, enumerator or data-collection costs are to be included in the contractor's financial proposal, and describe the nature of the support expected, so that the corresponding expert days can be estimated with reasonable accuracy.	Kindly refer to the response given in row no. 8.
40	ToR, Chapter 3 — Learning and innovation (1.5.1, 1.5.2)	The tenderer is required to describe its contribution to knowledge management for the partner and GIZ and to the promotion of scaling-up effects. Each criterion carries a weighting of 2% in the Technical Assessment Grid.	We would be grateful for an indication of the form of output expected under this heading — knowledge products, documented case studies, learning events — so that the technical proposal can be structured consistently with how the criterion will be scored.	It is expected that the contractor will provide a detailed strategy on supporting the knowledge management of the partner and GIZ and will simultaneously achieve quality outputs related to knowledge management mentioned in different work packages.
41	ToR, Chapter 7 — Requirements on the format of the tender	The complete tender must not exceed 12 pages excluding CVs, with each CV limited to 4 pages. Chapter 7 refers to the CVs of personnel proposed "in accordance with Chapter 4 of the ToRs", whereas the personnel concept is set out in Chapter 5. The Bidding Conditions separately require a time schedule in graph form as part of the technical proposal.	Please confirm that the personnel assignment plan, the time schedule in graph form, the organisation chart and any workplan diagrams fall outside the 12-page limit. Please also confirm that the reference to Chapter 4 for CVs should be read as Chapter 5.	The Bidder may submit its bid in multiple emails to the designated email address specified in the Tender Package, where necessary, to facilitate the submission of the proposal in separate parts. Each email shall be clearly identified as part of the same bid submission, and all parts must be submitted within the stipulated submission deadline.

				Moreover, the 12-page limit shall apply exclusively to the main technical proposal and shall not include the GAEF Folder, CVs, workplans/diagrams, or the financial proposal.
42	Terms of reference (ToR)	Establish 15–20 model Community Nutrition Gardens (Amrit Poshan Vatikas) on Panchayat allocated or institutional land (e.g., near Anganwadi Centers, schools, or GP bhawans).	We kindly seek clarification regarding Work Package 2. Our understanding is that the contractor's role under this work package will be limited to providing technical advisory and implementation support, and will not extend to the actual development/ construction/ execution of the proposed infrastructure/assets. Kindly confirm our understanding.	Yes, your understanding is correct.
43	Terms of reference (ToR)	The agency must have handled at least 2 projects on the agriculture and Nutrition development in rural areas and 2 reference projects in India in the last three years with minimum commission value of Euro 20,000.	We understand that the requirement refers to two agriculture or nutrition projects. Kindly confirm our understanding. Further, kindly confirm whether the "last three years" and minimum value criterion of EUR 20,000 is applicable to the two reference projects or two more references are to be submitted separately that meet the criteria of years and commission value. Further, we request confirmation that projects pertaining to agriculture/ horticulture/ nutrition/ capacity building/ livelihood will be considered as valid reference projects for the	The contractor is expected to provide two reference projects demonstrating relevant experience in both Agriculture and Nutrition. If the contractor provides reference projects related to only one of the two areas (Agriculture or Nutrition), the contractor must provide two additional reference projects demonstrating relevant experience in the other area. Accordingly, where the two initial reference projects relate only to Agriculture, two further reference projects related to Nutrition must be provided, and vice versa. Yes, it is applicable to the two reference projects.

			purpose of evaluation under this criterion.	
44	Terms of reference (ToR)	The agency should have experience in Other Development Assignments.	Our understanding is that “experience in other development assignments” refers to assignments undertaken for or funded by International Development Agencies . We request clarification on whether our understanding is correct.	Yes, it is correct.
45	Terms of reference (ToR)	2 years’ national/regional experience. Government programme, Rajasthan, gender and vulnerable-community experience are advantageous.	We note that, across almost all expert positions, experience in working with the development agencies and managing the Nutrition and livelihoods projects/ programme in Rajasthan would be an asset has been identified as a desirable criterion. While appreciating the relevance of such experience, we kindly request the Authority to consider assigning greater weightage to the position-specific qualifications, experience, and technical competencies directly aligned with the roles and responsibilities of the respective expert positions. This would help ensure a more objective and role-relevant evaluation of proposed key personnel.	The qualifications and criteria given in the ToR are final and no change in the weightage will be made.
46	Terms of reference (ToR)	Nutrition Expert At least 3 years in maternal, child and/or community nutrition, dietary diversity and nutrition-sensitive agriculture/livelihoods 5 years in rural nutrition programmes	Could GiZ kindly confirm: We understand that five years of cumulative experience in nutrition/public-health nutrition programmes—including national or state-	Yes, it is correct.

			level technical assistance with community application will satisfy the rural nutrition requirement. Pls confirm if our understanding is correct. • We request that the three-year specialised experience be demonstrated in any one or a combination of maternal, child, adolescent or community nutrition, dietary diversity, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture/livelihoods rather than all of the domains together be considered to enable profiles with deeper expertise aligned to deliver the project's scope and reduce the restrictive nature of the current criterion?	
47	Terms of reference (ToR)	District Coordinators are expected to be based at project district level.	The ToR states that District Coordinators are expected to be based at the project district level. Considering that the deployment requirement is limited to 12 person-days per month, we understand that this requirement to visit the Gram Panchayat/ location district shall be need-based. Kindly confirm our understanding.	It is expected from the contractor that they will station district coordinator at the respective district.
48	Terms of reference (ToR)	Short term expert pool is expected to be based at project district level	We kindly request that this criterion be relaxed, subject to ensuring timely and effective project support. Further, we also request you to	It is expected from the contractor that they will station short term expert pool at the respective district. The qualifications and criteria given in the ToR are final and no change will be made.

			consider relaxing the eligibility requirement for the short-term expert pool by allowing a wider range of expert availability (e.g., 0-3, 0-2, etc.), instead of the prescribed 3 and 2 years in various areas, to enhance flexibility in resource mobilization without compromising project outcomes.	
49	ToR, Section 4 – Technical Experience (ii); Annexure “A” Sr. No. 8; GAEF Part B – Weighted criteria (weightage 15%)	“Minimum 1 year of experience working with DAY-NRLM or SRLM preferably having MoU for providing technical/ implementation support in FHNW and livelihoods promotion.”	Kindly clarify the following with respect to this criterion: (a) Is this a mandatory (pass/fail) eligibility criterion, or is it only a weighted criterion for scoring/ranking under GAEF Part B (15%)? Will a bidder who does not have direct experience with DAY-NRLM/SRLM be disqualified? (b) Will equivalent experience of working with SHGs, Village Organisations and their federations on food, nutrition, health, WASH and livelihoods promotion under other agencies and programmes (e.g., NABARD, State Agriculture/Horticulture Departments, ICDS/WCD, District Administration, bilateral/multilateral agencies and CSR-funded programmes) be accepted and carry the same weightage as experience with DAY-NRLM/SRLM? (c) Is a formal MoU with DAY-NRLM/SRLM mandatory, or will field-level collaboration with	a) It is only a weighted criterion. b) No c) A formal MoU with Day-NRLM/SRLM is preferable, but evidence of field level collaboration will also be accepted d) Documentary evidence like a letter of collaboration from State SRLM will be acceptable. A letter written by a district SRLM team will not be considered for assessment.

			SRLM community institutions (CLFs/VOs/SHGs), evidenced through work orders, letters of collaboration or completion certificates, be accepted? (d) Kindly specify the documentary evidence acceptable to establish this experience.	
50	ToR, Section 4 – Technical Experience (i); Annexure “A” Sr. No. 8 (Technical Experience); GAEF Part B – Weighted criteria	ToR Section 4: “Minimum 3 years demonstrated expertise in community nutrition and sustainable agriculture/horticulture in India.” Annexure “A” and GAEF Part B: “Minimum 5 years demonstrated expertise in community nutrition and sustainable agriculture/horticulture.”	There is a discrepancy between the ToR (3 years) and Annexure “A”/GAEF (5 years). Kindly confirm the minimum number of years required. Kindly also confirm whether projects on sustainable agriculture/horticulture (e.g., horticulture/WADI, kitchen gardens, agroforestry) that include a nutrition/dietary diversity component will be considered towards this criterion, or whether separate stand-alone nutrition projects are required.	The number of years (5 years) mentioned in the GAEF is final. Yes, projects on sustainable agriculture/horticulture (e.g., horticulture/WADI, kitchen gardens, agroforestry) that include a nutrition/dietary diversity component will be considered
51	ToR, Section 4 – Commercial Eligibility (vii)	“Based in India for ten years, with proven operational experience working alongside Central and State Governments, DAY-NRLM and SRLMs ...”	This criterion is not reflected in the GAEF template. Kindly confirm (a) whether it is a pass/fail eligibility criterion, (b) whether experience with Central/State Government departments alone (without DAY-NRLM/SRLM) will satisfy the criterion, and (c) the documentary evidence required (e.g., registration certificate showing date of establishment).	a) It is mentioned in regional experience in GAEF (please refer row 40 in GAEF). b) Yes c) Yes, registration certificate will be considered
52	ToR, Section 4 – Commercial Eligibility	“At least 2 projects on the agriculture and nutrition development in rural areas	Kindly confirm (a) whether the same 2 projects can satisfy both	a) Kindly refer to the response given in row no. 43.

	(vi); GAEF Part A-II (Technical eligibility assessment)	and 2 reference projects in India in the last three years with minimum commission value of Euro 20,000.”	conditions (i.e., minimum 2 reference projects in total, in India, in agriculture and nutrition), or whether 4 separate projects are required; (b) whether ongoing projects with a valid work order are acceptable; (c) whether projects with an agriculture/horticulture focus and a nutrition component qualify; and (d) the exchange rate (EUR to INR) and the reference date to be used for assessing the EUR 20,000 commission value.	b) Yes, it will be considered if the project is already ongoing for more than 2 years c) Yes d) The exchange rate on the date of submission of technical proposal will be considered.
53	ToR, Section 4 – Commercial Eligibility (iv); GAEF Part A-I; Annexure “A” Sr. No. 2	“Average annual turnover for the last three financial years should be at least 1,81,000 Euros.”	For bidders registered as not-for-profit societies/trusts, kindly confirm (a) whether the total income/receipts as per the audited Income & Expenditure Account (including grants and project receipts) will be considered as turnover; (b) the three financial years to be considered – since audited accounts and ITR for FY 2025-26 may not yet be finalised at the time of bid submission, whether FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 will be accepted, as provided in the GAEF note for tenders held within six months of the end of the last financial year; and (c) the EUR–INR exchange rate and reference date to be used.	a) Yes – for registered as not-for-profit societies/trusts b) The supporting documents submitted in support of the Bidder’s annual turnover shall be consistent with and demonstrably meet the applicable criteria specified under Annexure A of the Bidding Conditions. c)) Financial years 2022–23, 2023–24, and 2024–25 may be considered, provided that the audited financial statements for FY 2025–26 have not been finalised and filed as of the bid submission date. d) The exchange rate on the date of submission of technical proposal will be considered, currently the applicable rate if INR 111/EUR
54	ToR, Section 4 – Commercial Eligibility	“The average number of employees as on 31.08.2026 from the previous 3 years has to be minimum 10.”	Kindly confirm whether full-time staff engaged on contractual/project basis (in	Yes

	(v); Annexure “A” Sr. No. 6		addition to regular employees on PF) will be counted, and whether a self-declaration on letterhead with staff list is sufficient evidence.	
55	Technical Assessment Grid, rows 2.6 and 2.7; ToR Section 5 – Personnel concept	ToR: District Coordinators (2.6) – 4 persons; Short-term Expert pool (2.7) – 4 members. Technical Assessment Grid: 2.6 “Short-term expert pool 1” and 2.7 “Short-term expert pool 2”.	Kindly confirm that row 2.6 of the Technical Assessment Grid will be used to assess the 4 District Coordinators and row 2.7 the short-term expert pool, and whether the scores for each will be the average of the 4 CVs submitted.	Yes
56	Section 4, Pg 12	Agency must have handled at least 2 agriculture and nutrition development projects and 2 reference projects in India.	Kindly clarify whether ongoing assignments may also be considered for demonstrating eligibility and technical experience, subject to submission of documentary evidence.	Yes, if the reference project is ongoing for more than 2 years.
57	Section 4, Pg 12	Minimum 30% of proposed professional staff should be women.	Kindly clarify whether this requirement is required to be fulfilled at bid submission stage or throughout the project implementation period.	This requirement must be fulfilled at the time of bid submission and throughout the project implementation period.
58	ToR, Chapter 4 — Commercial Eligibility (ii) and (vii), read with the GAEF	Clause (vii) requires the bidder to be "based in India for ten years, with proven operational experience working alongside Central and State Governments, DAY-NRLM and SRLMs". Clause (ii) requires all participating agencies to be registered as a national organisation or entity.	Key query. We request confirmation as to whether an international organisation that has maintained continuous operations in India for the ten-year period — through an India-registered entity, a registered branch, or a liaison or project office registered with the RBI or MHA as applicable — satisfies this criterion, or whether eligibility is confined to entities incorporated in India. Where such organisations would not presently	The Agency must be legally registered and duly established in India. All eligibility requirements and technical criteria specified in the tender documents/Bidding Conditions must be satisfied by the Indian entity itself.

			qualify, we would respectfully ask GIZ to consider permitting their participation, given the technical depth they bring to nutrition-sensitive agriculture, dietary diversity and food systems work of this nature.	
59	ToR, Chapter 4 — Commercial Eligibility (iv), read with GAEF line 14	A minimum average annual turnover of EUR 181,000 over the last three financial years is required. The GAEF notes that the last-but-four financial year may be included where a tender is held within six months of the end of the last financial year. No currency conversion methodology is stated.	We seek clarification on three points. First, whether for an international organisation the threshold is assessed against global consolidated turnover or against the turnover of its India entity, branch or project office alone. Second, whether for a not-for-profit bidder annual programme income or expenditure as reflected in the audited accounts may be read as turnover, commercial turnover in the conventional sense being absent. Third, the exchange rate, reference date and source to be applied where figures are reported in Indian Rupees or another currency.	This will be assessed against the agency's turnover of India entity. Also kindly refer to the response given in above rows.
60	ToR, Chapter 4 — Commercial Eligibility (v), read with GAEF line 15 and Annexure "A", Point 6	The average number of employees as on 31.08.2026 over the previous three years must be a minimum of ten. The GAEF refers to employees and managers for the past three calendar years. Annexure "A" permits a self-declaration or a PF statement.	Please confirm whether the headcount is assessed on India-based staff alone or on global staff strength in the case of an international organisation, whether the three-year average is calculated on calendar years or Indian financial years, and whether a self-declaration on its own will suffice for organisations not statutorily required to be covered under the EPF Act.	The headcount is assessed on India based staff. Indian financial year will be considered. Yes, a self-declaration will suffice.

61	ToR, Chapter 4 — Commercial Eligibility (vi), read with GAEF lines 19 to 21 and Annexure "A", Point 7	At least two projects on agriculture and nutrition development in rural areas and at least two reference projects in India are required within the 36 months preceding publication, each of a minimum commission value of EUR 20,000, supported by work orders or completion and experience certificates, with GIZ and non-GIZ experience listed separately.	Please confirm, first, whether a single assignment satisfying both conditions may be counted against each, or whether four distinct reference projects are required. Second, please confirm that completion or experience certificates issued by other bilateral and multilateral donor-funded programmes, being neither GIZ nor Government of India, constitute valid documentary evidence under the non-GIZ experience category.	Kindly refer to the response given in row no. 43. Yes, experience certificate by other bilateral or multilateral donor will be considered.
61	ToR, Chapter 4 — Technical Experience (i), read with Annexure "A", Point 7 and the GAEF ranking criteria	Chapter 4 sets a minimum of three years of demonstrated expertise in community nutrition and sustainable agriculture or horticulture in India. Annexure "A" and the weighted criteria in Part B of the GAEF both state a minimum of five years.	The three documents set different thresholds for the same criterion. Please confirm which applies for the purpose of eligibility and, if the five-year threshold governs, whether Chapter 4 of the ToR will be corrected accordingly.	The number of years (5 years) mentioned in the GAEF is final. The 5 year demonstrated experience will be considered for assessment.
62	GAEF — Part B, Ranking	The GAEF states that Part B applies only in the exceptional case of an award procedure with a call for competitive tender where the number of candidates is to be limited. The weighted criteria in Part B are nonetheless populated for this tender, totalling 100% across technical experience, regional experience and ODA-financed project experience.	Please confirm whether Part B will be applied to this open tender. If so, we would be grateful for an explanation of how the resulting ranking interacts with the 70:30 technical-to-financial weighting and the minimum technical score of 500 points set out in the Bidding Conditions.	Part B of the Evaluation Grid shall be applicable to this procurement procedure. Bids that achieve a score ≥ 500 points under the Eligibility Evaluation Grid shall be deemed qualified and shall proceed to the next stage of the evaluation process.
63	ToR, Chapter 4 — Technical Experience (ii)	A minimum of one year of experience working with DAY-NRLM or an SRLM is required, "preferably having MoU for providing technical/ implementation support in FHNW and livelihoods promotion".	Please confirm that the MoU is a desirable attribute rather than a condition of eligibility, and indicate how the criterion is applied to organisations holding established technical partnerships with other Central or	Documentary evidence against one year of experience with Day-NRLM or SRLM will only be considered however MoU with Day-NRLM or SRLM is a desirable attribute. The technical partnership with other central or state government departments

			State Government departments and public institutions in the nutrition and food systems field but without a direct SRLM MoU.	will not be considered against weighted criteria.
64	ToR, Chapter 4 — Commercial Eligibility (viii), read with Chapter 5	A minimum of 30% of the proposed professional staff must be women. Annexure "A" lists no corresponding documentary evidence.	Please confirm whether the 30% threshold is calculated across all proposed positions taken together or applied within each expert category, and what evidence of compliance is to be furnished at bid stage.	It has to be calculated across all proposed positions. The contractor is expected to submit CVs of at least 30% women professional staff against all positions.
65	GAEF Annexure "A", Point 2 — Financial statements and income tax compliance	A CA certificate for average annual turnover including the UDIN, audited profit and loss or income and expenditure statements and balance sheets with auditor's reports including the UDIN, and a recent income tax return or assessment order are each mandatory for the last three financial years.	Where an organisation's accounts are audited outside India under a different set of auditing and accounting standards, no UDIN is generated. Please confirm the alternative documentary evidence GIZ will accept — for example statements audited and certified by the organisation's statutory auditor under the applicable overseas standard, accompanied by a translated summary — in place of an Indian CA certificate bearing a UDIN.	The Tender is being issued in India for the engagement of a local consultancy firm which is legally registered and established in India. Accordingly, the Bidder is required to submit all applicable statutory and legal documents pertaining to the Indian entity in support of its bid. Where the Bidder's financial accounts are audited outside India, the acceptance and consideration of such audited financial statements and supporting documents shall be subject to the sole discretion of GIZ Evaluation Team, based on their relevance, adequacy, and compliance with the requirements specified in the Tender Documents.
66	Grid for Assessing the Eligibility	Minimum 5 years demonstrated expertise in community nutrition and sustainable agriculture/horticulture	Kindly clarify the discrepancy between the ToR and the Technical Assessment Grid. While the ToR specifies a minimum of three years of relevant experience for this criteria , the assessment grid refers to five years of demonstrated expertise. We request clarification on the applicable requirement and its	The number of years (5 years) mentioned in the GAEF is final. The 5 year demonstrated experience will be considered for assessment.

			evaluation methodology and request to consider five years at both the places.	
67	Bidding Conditions – Consortium guidelines; ToR Section 4 – Technical Experience	“The lead partner/agency should provide the documentary evidence of its own agency (and not of consortium partners) to meet all the criteria’s defined under Grid for assessing the eligibility of firms.”	In case of a consortium, kindly confirm whether the experience of the consortium partner (e.g., experience with DAY-NRLM/SRLM or in community nutrition) will be considered in the weighted scoring under GAEF Part B and in the technical evaluation, provided the lead partner independently meets the pass/fail commercial and technical eligibility criteria.	The Bidding Conditions expressly stipulate that all eligibility criteria specified under the GAEF shall be satisfied solely by the Lead Partner. Accordingly, the eligibility requirements shall not be assessed on a combined or cumulative basis with any consortium partner, associate, or other entity.
68	Bidding Conditions – Consortium guidelines; ToR Section 5	“The bidder can hire the services of freelance consultants.”	Kindly confirm that District Coordinators and members of the short-term expert pool may be engaged as freelance/individual consultants (with their consent as per the CV template note) and that this will not be treated as subcontracting.	Yes
69	Bidding Conditions — Consortium guidelines	Consortia are permitted, but the lead partner "should provide the documentary evidence of its own agency (and not of consortium partners) to meet all the criteria’s defined under Grid for assessing the eligibility of firms". The lead partner must also be a legally registered entity in India, with the contract issued in its favour and in INR only.	Key query. Read together, these provisions appear to require the lead partner to satisfy the entire GAEF on its own — ten years based in India, the turnover and headcount thresholds and all reference projects — which would leave consortium partners unable to contribute towards eligibility at all. Please confirm whether this is the intent, and whether the technical experience and reference projects of a consortium partner may be counted towards the technical eligibility assessment and the	The lead partner should meet all the criteria’s defined under Grid for assessing the eligibility of firms.”

			Technical Assessment Grid even where the commercial criteria are met by the lead partner alone.	
70	Bidding Conditions — Consortium guidelines	The contract is issued in favour of the lead partner, who must be legally registered in India.	Please confirm whether an international organisation in consortium with an India-registered lead partner may act as technical lead — providing the Team Leader and the majority of Key Experts — while the India-registered entity carries the contractual relationship, or whether the lead partner must also lead technical delivery.	The lead partner is responsible for the overall project implementation and fulfilling all the responsibilities and deliverables mentioned under the ToR. International organization may act as technical lead.
71	Bidding Conditions — Consortium guidelines	The guidelines require all partners to be on board at the time of bidding, with roles and responsibilities specified, but set no ceiling on the number of partners.	Please indicate the maximum number of organisations permitted within a single bidding consortium for this tender.	Maximum two organization are permitted within a single bidding consortium.
72	Bidding Conditions — Consortium guidelines	The bidder may hire the services of freelance consultants. Subcontracting to a different or outsourced agency requires the prior written permission of GIZ India. Entering a consortium during the assignment or after award is not permissible.	Please confirm that the engagement of freelance consultants, and of the short-term expert pool, after award falls outside the restriction on entering a consortium. Please also set out the process and expected turnaround for obtaining written permission where an outsourced specialist agency is required after award.	No engagement of freelance consultant or short-term expert pool will be allowed after the technical bid submission. CVs of all experts as mentioned in ToR are to be submitted at the time of technical bid submission. No outsourced specialist agency will be allowed in this contract.
73	Bidding Conditions	The lead partner/agency should provide the documentary evidence of its own agency (and not of consortium partners) to meet all the criteria's defined under "Grid for assessing the eligibility of firms.	While we understand that the commercial eligibility criteria are required to be fulfilled individually by each consortium member, we kindly request that the technical evaluation criteria be assessed on a combined basis, considering the collective qualifications,	The lead partner/agency should provide the documentary evidence of its own agency (and not of consortium partners) to meet all the criteria's defined under "Grid for assessing the eligibility of firms.

			experience, and capabilities of the consortium as a whole.	
74	Bidding Conditions – Pre-bid queries & timelines; Tender Notice	Bid submission deadline: 19th Oct’26.	Kindly confirm the time of the bid submission deadline on 19th October 2026 (e.g., 11:59 pm IST).	Yes
75	ToR, Section 6 – Other costs (Trainings, BCC Campaign, Policy Consultations, Communication material)	District level trainings (4), Training of Master Trainers (3), Training of Community Cadre (8), BCC Campaign (1), Policy Consultations (2), Communication material (Lump sum).	Kindly confirm whether these items are to be quoted as a lump sum per event/item or as per-participant cost, and whether they will be reimbursed at actuals against third-party invoices up to the quoted amount. Kindly also confirm whether the duration (number of days, residential/non-residential) of each training is to be assumed by the bidder.	These costs is to be submitted on lumpsum per event/item basis. Yes, they will be reimbursed at actuals against third-party invoices up to the quoted amount. Yes, the bidder is expected to assume the duration and other details related to each training.
76	ToR, Section 6 – Flexible Remuneration	Flexible Remuneration: 1 – “uncertain expenses related to some consultations, trainings, exposure visit or dialogues ... Prior approval from GIZ is required.”	Kindly specify the amount to be included for Flexible Remuneration, or whether it should be quoted as a percentage of the total fee. Kindly also confirm whether it will be considered in the financial evaluation.	The Bidder shall include the proposed flexible remuneration as part of its Financial Proposal and must specify the amount in absolute terms rather than solely as a percentage. For the avoidance of doubt, the flexible remuneration shall not form part of the overall financial evaluation of the bids.
77	Team Leader Tasks, Pg 14	Coordination with national and district teams for field visits and expert inputs.	Kindly clarify whether logistical arrangements such as transport and field visit support shall be facilitated by GIZ/government counterparts or are expected to be provisioned by the agency.	It is expected to be provisioned by the agency
78	District Coordinator Tasks, Pg 18	District Coordinators are expected to be based at project district level.	Kindly clarify if the district coordinators will be deployed full time	No

			whether office space and basic infrastructure support will be made available	
79	Section 6, Page 23	Flexible Remuneration” has been included for consultations, trainings, exposure visits and dialogues, subject to prior approval from GIZ	Kindly clarify the process for approval, utilization and reimbursement of expenses under the Flexible Remuneration provision, including any applicable limits or approval thresholds.	Any additional activity not included in the agreed work plan shall be undertaken only upon submission of a written request to GIZ, accompanied by a clear justification and an estimated cost, at least one month prior to the proposed date of the activity, and subject to GIZ’s prior approval. Reimbursement of the flexible remuneration for such approved additional activities shall be made on the basis of actual third-party invoices submitted for each activity, subject to verification and approval by GIZ.
80	ToR, Chapter 6 and Bidding Conditions — Financial proposal	No indicative contract value or budget ceiling is stated. The GAEF guidance notes that the applicable turnover threshold should not exceed twice the estimated contract value and that the reference project value should be set at 0.5 to 1 times the estimated contract value. The figures adopted here, EUR 181,000 and EUR 20,000, imply materially different contract values.	Please share the indicative contract value or budget ceiling for this assignment, so that the financial proposal and the staffing model can be calibrated appropriately.	It is not possible to share the indicative contract value or budget ceiling.
81	Tender Notice and Bidding Conditions — Financial bid template	Both documents list a financial bid template, described in the tender notice as the Financial Format, among the documents attached to the tender.	The template was not included in the package received. Please circulate it, or alternatively confirm that a bidder-formatted financial proposal following the line items of Chapter 6 will be accepted.	The financial bid format is given in the tender package. Please check again. The bidder must use GIZ’s financial bid template only. No financial bid in other format will be accepted.
82	Bidding Conditions — Content of the financial proposal	The bidder must hold active GST registration and file returns under prevailing Indian law. GST, VAT and taxes are to be quoted separately, and the	For an international non-profit organisation registered in India holding exemption registrations such as 12A or 80G alongside GST	The Bidder shall be responsible for determining and complying with the applicable GST provisions in respect of the consultancy services under the Contract,

		financial proposal must be in Indian Rupees only.	registration, please confirm that the GST requirement applies without variation, indicate the GST treatment applicable to consultancy services of this nature, and confirm the TDS treatment that will apply to payments under the contract.	including charging GST, where applicable, in accordance with prevailing Indian tax laws and regulations. Any exemption or concessional tax treatment claimed by the Bidder shall be subject to the Bidder satisfying the applicable statutory conditions and providing the relevant supporting documentation to GIZ.
83	GAEF Annexure "A", Point 2	A copy of the recent income tax return or assessment order is mandatory, in order to compare turnover against the financial statements.	For a not-for-profit bidder, please confirm whether an income tax exemption certificate under Section 12A or 10(23C), as applicable, may be furnished in place of a standard return.	The Bidder shall submit all relevant supporting documents required to substantiate any exemption claimed. The acceptance and consideration of such audited financial statements and supporting documents shall be subject to the sole discretion of the GIZ Evaluation Team, based on their relevance, adequacy, and compliance with the requirements specified in the Tender Documents.
84	GAEF Annexure "A", Point 5	A copy of a cancelled cheque together with bank details is mandatory.	Where an organisation maintains separate bank accounts for its India office and its headquarters, please indicate which account's details are to be furnished for this tender.	Only Indian account
85	Team Leader Tasks, Pg 13	Overall responsibility for advisory packages of the contractor.	Kindly clarify whether any internal technical review committee has been constituted for reviewing advisory outputs before formal approval and sign-off.	Yes, GIZ will form a technical review committee for review of all advisory outputs
86	Team Leader Tasks, Pg 13	Develop a comprehensive project plan including KPIs.	Kindly clarify whether any standard project management platform, software or KPI monitoring template is required to be utilized.	No

87	Nutrition Expert Tasks, Pg 14	Provide technical inputs for indicators and outcome measurement.	Kindly clarify whether specific nutrition and health indicators are preferred for incorporation into the monitoring framework.	Yes
88	Capacity Building Expert Tasks, Pg 15	Develop pre- and post-training assessment tools and measure learning outcomes.	Kindly clarify whether any minimum competency improvement benchmarks have been prescribed for training effectiveness.	No, it will be decided along with the training module preparation.
89	Communication & SBCC Expert Tasks, Pg 16	Develop audience-segmented communication messages.	Kindly clarify the audience segments envisaged under the assignment and the preferred segmentation approach.	The audience segments envisaged ranging from different government departments at national, state and district level, bilateral or multilateral agencies, community members, CRPs, etc.
90	Communication & SBCC Expert Tasks, Pg 16	Pre-test communication materials with target audiences.	Kindly clarify the expected sample size, number of villages, or other requirements proposed for communication material pre-testing.	It will be decided at the time of communication material development
91	M&E Expert Tasks, Pg 17	Sourcing, collection and customization of information and formats from schemes/programmes.	Kindly clarify whether access to departmental formats, records, and scheme-related information will be facilitated through GIZ and government counterparts.	The M&E expert is expected to collect all this information from different sources.
92	Others	Submission deadline- 19 Oct 2026	Considering internal compliance processes and extensive scope of work, we sincerely request to consider extending the deadline by atleast a week to ten days.	Extension of submission deadline is NOT possible.
93	Bidding Conditions — Pre-bid Queries and Timelines	Bidders are directed to use the QUERY Submission Template for all queries, to be sent to the two nominated addresses by 24 September 2026.	The template was not included in the package received, and these queries are accordingly submitted in the present format. Please circulate the template and confirm that this submission is accepted.	Query submission format was part of the tender package. This submission is accepted and responses are provided accordingly.

94	Bidding Conditions	No provision is made for a pre-bid meeting or webinar; clarifications are to be issued as an FAQ on 28 September 2026 and uploaded to the tender portals.	Please indicate whether GIZ intends to convene a pre-bid meeting or webinar at which bidders may raise questions on the scope of work, particularly in relation to the personnel concept and the costing basis.	No
95	Bidding Conditions — Content of the technical and financial proposal	Covering letters must be electronically signed by the authorised signatory.	Please confirm whether a scanned wet-ink signature on letterhead is acceptable, or whether a Digital Signature Certificate or e-sign is specifically required.	Covering letters must be electronically signed by the authorized signatory.
96	Bidding Conditions — Bid Submission Guidelines	Bids are to be submitted as three zip folders named for RFQ Nr. 7000024046, in PDF or JPG format only, without password protection, in a compressed folder not exceeding 20 MB in total. Cloud storage links are prohibited, and proposals may be split across two emails based on file size.	Please confirm that sub-folders may be created within each zip folder to organise supporting documents. Please also advise how bidders should proceed where the mandatory annexures — in particular audited financial statements, auditor's reports and certificates for three financial years, together with up to thirteen CVs — cause the total to exceed 20 MB, given that the two-email provision appears to retain the 20 MB aggregate limit.	Yes, you can create sub folders. The limit of 20 MB has to be maintained.
97	Bidding Conditions and ToR, Chapter 2 — Award and commencement	Bids close on 19 October 2026. The anticipated contract term begins on 1 November 2026 and ends on 31 August 2028.	Thirteen days separate the submission deadline from the intended commencement date. Please confirm whether the start date is fixed or will be adjusted to the actual award and signature date, and whether the assignment end date of 31 August 2028 remains unchanged in either event.	The start date will be adjusted according to contract award procedure. Yes, assignment end date of 31 August 2028 remains unchanged in either event.

98	GTCC, Clause 1.1 — Applicable law, place of jurisdiction	The clause states that the place of jurisdiction is "<place>", the field having been left unpopulated.	Please confirm the place of jurisdiction to be inserted, as the provision is non-negotiable once the proposal is submitted.	The applicable jurisdiction for this Contract shall be Delhi, India.
99	GTCC, Clause 1.9 — Property rights and rights of use	The contractor assigns to GIZ all assignable ownership and property rights in the work results, the originator expressly waiving the right to be named. Clause 1.9.6 allows GIZ to grant the contractor the right, in text form, to use the work results for its own purposes where a legitimate interest is demonstrated.	For an organisation whose outputs include research instruments and training materials intended for wider public-good use, please indicate the process and criteria by which permission under clause 1.9.6 would be considered, and confirm that pre-existing methodologies, tools and materials brought to the assignment remain the property of the contractor.	A written request with proper justification for its use must be submitted to GIZ for approval. Yes, any pre-existing methodologies, tools and materials brought to the assignment remain the property of the contractor.
100	Bidding Conditions — Pre-bid Queries and Timelines	Clarifications are to be issued on 28 September 2026, with bids due on 19 October 2026.	Should the responses to the eligibility and costing queries above materially alter the basis on which proposals are to be prepared, we would be grateful if GIZ would consider a short extension to the submission deadline.	Extension of submission deadline is NOT possible.
101	GTCC – Services 2024 –	No clause for replacement in case named resources is unable to render services for reasons beyond the control of the contractor.	Kindly clarify whether replacement of proposed/named personnel would be permitted in circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the contractor (such as resignation, medical exigencies, or other unforeseen events). If so, kindly specify the process and conditions applicable for such replacements.	Yes, it is permitted only with prior approval of GIZ. Also, the replacement should have the same qualification as per the ToR

102	GTCC – Services 2024	If the contractor fails to meet the agreed dates and deadlines for an agreed piece of work and does not deliver the work within the period of grace set by GIZ, then GIZ shall be entitled, as soon as the period of grace has expired, to demand a contractual penalty of 0.5 % of the remuneration for each week or part thereof after expiration of the set period of grace;	Kindly clarify whether delays arising from dependency on government approvals, partner consultations, or force majeure events would be exempt from such penalties.	Only if sufficient evidence are provided and on prior approval of GIZ for such delays
103	Tender Notice	The deadline for submission of proposal (electronically) is: 19th October'2026	We kindly request an extension of the proposal submission deadline, with a minimum of three (3) weeks to be provided from the date of release of the pre-bid responses/ clarifications, to enable bidders to appropriately address the clarifications and submit high-quality proposals.	Extension of submission deadline is NOT possible.