

QUERY SUBMISSION TEMPLATE – PRE-BID QUERIES AND THEIR RESPONSES

Title of Tender :		Engagement of an Agency for Providing Project Management and Technical Support for the National- and State-Level Implementation of the "Scaling-up Gender-Responsive Climate-Resilient Business Models in Rural India" Project (CAFRI III)		
RFQ Nr. :		10053766		
Date :		14 October 2026		
Sr. No	RFP Document	Existing Provision / Requirement in Tender Documents	Query / Clarification Requested	GIZ RESPONSE
TECHNICAL QUERIES RELATED TO TERMS OF REFERENCE				
1	ToR – Section 4A (Personnel Concept) and Section 4 (Costing Requirements)	Section 4A describes 7 Key Expert categories, with Key Expert 1 comprising 2 positions at Dehradun and Key Expert 6 comprising 2 positions at New Delhi (9 persons in total). Section 4's costing table separately numbers 9 line items, "Key Expert 1" through "Key Expert 9".	Please confirm the exact one-to-one correspondence between the named positions/qualification sets in Section 4A and the numbered fee-day line items ("Key Expert 1" to "Key Expert 9") in the Section 4 costing table.	Please read the ToR as every important information mentioned in the ToR.
2	ToR – Section 4 (Costing Requirements) and Section 1 (Period of Assignment)	The costing table budgets 275 fee-days for each of the 9 Key Experts, against an assignment period of 01.12.2026 to 28.02.2029 (approximately 27 months, or approximately 580 working days).	Please confirm whether the 275 fee-days per expert represents continuous full-time deployment for the assignment duration, or an input-based/part-time engagement, so that staffing and costing can be planned accordingly.	Yes, full time deployment will be required.
3	ToR – Section 1 (Tasks to be Performed, WP1) and Section 4 (Costing Requirements – Travel Costs)	WP1 references facilitating engagement with national ministries and organising national and state-level consultations, while the costing table marks per-diem, overnight allowance, domestic flights and CO2 compensation as "there is no travel required for the assignment for the entire duration".	Please confirm whether any travel by state-based experts to Delhi, or between project states, for national-level coordination and consultations is excluded from the scope of this assignment, or whether it should be budgeted separately.	No, there is no travel envisaged as experts must be locally based.
4	ToR – Section 7 (Requirements on the Format of the Tender)	The complete tender must not exceed 20 pages, excluding CVs.	Please confirm whether the Financial Proposal, GAEF documentary evidence and (where applicable) the consortium agreement are also excluded from the 20-page limit, given these are submitted as separate zip folders as per the Bidding Conditions.	Yes, it can be excluded.
5	ToR – Section 4A, Key Expert 7 (Project	The education/training criterion states a university degree (Master) in Mass Communication or Development	Please confirm whether a Master's degree alone is sufficient to score full marks on this criterion, or whether the stated PhD preference carries	This given criteria's are minimum requirements.

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	Associate, Documentation)	Communication, with preference given to a PhD in Communication/Development Communication.	additional scoring weight in the technical assessment.	
6	ToR – Section 3(b)(ii) and GAEF – Information Sheet, Part B Ranking	ToR Section 3(b)(ii) lists "Weighted Criteria" (technical experience 80%, regional experience 15%, ODA experience 5%) that mirror the fields in the GAEF Part B Ranking grid. The GAEF's own "Information" sheet states Part B applies "only for the exceptional case" of an EOI-based shortlisting with a limited number of candidates.	Please confirm whether this weighted firm-level scoring is applied to this RFQ in addition to the GAEF pass/fail eligibility check (Part A), or whether bidders are assessed for quality solely through the separate Technical Assessment Grid, as the Bidding Conditions' evaluation clause appears to describe.	Please refer to the ToR
7	GAEF – Candidate/Tenderer Grid, Weighted Criteria	The GAEF lists "Minimum of 30% staff must be women OR minimum of 30% of the experts proposed for the assignment are women" as a weighted eligibility criterion.	Please specify the documentary evidence that will be accepted to substantiate this criterion (for example, self-declaration, HR/PF records, or CVs).	CVs will be required of the proposed staff to be deployed at various States/locations.
8	Bidding Conditions – Evaluation of Bids; Technical Assessment Grid	The Bidding Conditions state the financial proposal will be opened only if the technical proposal obtains a minimum score of 500 points, while the Technical Assessment Grid is expressed as percentage weightings summing to 100%.	Please confirm the total maximum achievable score for the Technical Assessment Grid, so that the 500-point threshold can be correctly interpreted against the percentage weightings shown in the grid.	Please refer to the bidding conditions/tender documents
9	Technical Assessment Grid (sheets "Bidder 1 to 5" and "Bidder 6 to 10")	Two versions of the Technical Assessment Grid were shared. The "Bidder 6 to 10" sheet references a "Team Leader" and "Short-term expert pool" positions that do not appear in the ToR's 7-category personnel structure used in the "Bidder 1 to 5" sheet.	Please confirm which version of the Technical Assessment Grid governs evaluation of proposals submitted for this RFQ.	Kindly consider only the weightage given on Bidder 1-5 on Technical Assessment Grid which is in sync with ToR

10	GAEF – Technical Eligibility Assessment	The technical eligibility criterion requires "at least 3 reference projects in the technical field ... with a minimum commission value of 50,000 Euros" and "at least 3 reference projects in India ... in the last 36 months".	Please confirm whether the same 3 reference projects can simultaneously satisfy both the technical-field criterion and the "in India" criterion, or whether 3 distinct projects are required to meet each.	Yes, 3 distinct projects are required with commission value of EUR 50.000 or more
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11	Bidding Conditions – Consortium Guidelines	"The lead partner/agency should provide the documentary evidence of its own agency (and not of consortium partners)" to meet all the criteria defined under the Grid for Assessing the Eligibility of Firms.	Please confirm whether the second (non-lead) consortium partner's reference projects, turnover or technical experience can be counted toward meeting the GAEF eligibility thresholds in any respect, or whether only the lead partner's standalone financials and experience are assessed.	Kindly follow the consortium guidelines mentioned in bidding conditions.
12	Bidding Conditions – Consortium Guidelines	"The lead partner must be legally registered entity in India. The contract will be issued in favor of Lead Partner and in INR only."	Please confirm whether the second consortium partner may be a foreign-incorporated entity, and if so, whether any additional registration, tax or regulatory compliance will be required of that partner for the duration of the assignment.	As this is a local tender, it is recommended that the Indian entity also participate as a consortium partner. However, there is no restriction on forming a consortium with a foreign entity, provided that all eligibility requirements and statutory criteria are fulfilled by the lead partner only.
13	Bidding Conditions – Content of the Financial Proposal	"The company must have active GST and must be filing the GST returns as per prevailing Indian laws."	Please confirm whether a bidder registered under the GST composition scheme, or a bidder below the mandatory GST registration threshold for services, would be considered compliant with this requirement.	A bidder registered under the GST Composition Scheme, or a bidder not liable to obtain GST registration under the applicable provisions of the Goods and Services Tax, may be considered compliant with the GST related requirement, subject to fulfilment of all other applicable tender conditions. Bidder availing the Composition Scheme shall comply with the restrictions and conditions prescribed under GST, including the applicable restrictions on inter State outward supplies of services. A bidder claiming exemption from GST registration shall be responsible for demonstrating that it is legally eligible for such exemption under the applicable GST provisions. The bidder shall submit the relevant declaration and supporting documents, as applicable.

				All other eligibility criteria and statutory requirements under the tender shall remain applicable.
14	Bidding Conditions – Bid Submission Guidelines	Zip folders must not exceed 20 MB in total, while the GAEF documentary evidence (three years of audited financials, auditor's reports, income tax returns) together with CVs for up to 9 proposed experts is likely to exceed this limit.	Please confirm whether splitting the submission across two emails, as conditionally permitted in the Bidding Conditions, is an acceptable means of staying within the size limit, and whether there is any cap on the number of emails or attachments used for this purpose.	Yes
QUERIES RELATED TO GTCC & OTHER GENERAL QUERIES				
15	Tender Notice and Bidding Conditions – List of Tender Documents	The tender documentation list includes a Financial Bid Template, CV Template and CO2 Emission Document/Guide, which have not been received along with the other tender documents.	Please confirm whether these templates/documents will be shared separately, or share them if they have not already been issued.	All relevant documents form part of the tender package. You are requested to visit the following web portals to download the complete set of tender documents. www.tendersontime.com www.dgmaket.com www.tendertiger.com
16	Bidding Conditions – Content of the Financial Proposal	"The bidder can also use the GIZ financial template to submit the financial proposal", implying use of the template is optional.	Where the GIZ financial template is not used, please confirm the format/structure in which the Financial Proposal should be submitted, given the requirement that the budget be in Indian Rupees only with GST/VAT/taxes quoted separately.	The financial template is shared with tender package, it is recommended to use the same.

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17	WP1- Support MoEFCC and State Nodal Departments of Climate Change and Facilitate Implementation of CAFRI III at National Level and State Level	Support in organising national and State Level consultations, workshops, knowledge sharing events and capacity-building programmes.	We understand that the departments will facilitate the capacity building workshops and bear the costs for logistics for the workshop. Kindly confirm if our understanding is correct.	Yes, it is correct. Cost will be borne by the GIZ/Concerned departments.
18	WP2: Support Implementation of State and National Adaptation Priorities and Private Sector Engagement on Climate Adaptation and Resilience	Support development of suitable business models that generate both adaptation and mitigation co-benefits.	Please confirm if the business models shall include financial projections and the timeline for the models	Yes.
19	WP3: Providing necessary support to State Nodal Departments of Climate Change on implementation of CAFRI III activities in States (Kerala, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Assam)	Identify sectors and value chains suitable for climate-resilient business models.	Kindly confirm how many sectors and value chains are expected to be identified for preparation of business models. Kindly provide if any indicative list of sectors and value chains that would be helpful at this stage	It will be finalized in consultation with the Government. There is no list as of now.
20	WP3: Providing necessary support to State Nodal Departments of Climate Change on implementation of CAFRI III activities in States (Kerala, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Assam)	States- Kerala, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Assam	Kindly provide if any specified geographies/ districts are identified for the interventions in the mentioned states. Please provide any indication on the same	It will be finalized in consultation with the concerned State Government
21	Ch. 4A Personnel Concept & Ch. 4 Costing Requirements (Specification of Inputs)	Ch. 4A lists Key Experts 1–7 (9 persons), whereas the costing table numbers the positions KE1–KE9. The numbering differs between the two sections (e.g., the Shimla position is Key Expert 2 in Ch. 4A but KE3 in the costing table).	Please provide a single position mapping (role, location, number of persons and assessment grid line 2.x) to be used consistently for CVs, the personnel assignment plan and the price schedule.	Please refer to the ToR. The evaluation will be based on the experts required for the assignment as per ToR.
22	Ch. 4A, Key Expert 1 (2 Nos) and Key Expert 6 (2 Nos)	Key Expert 1 (Dehradun) and Key Expert 6 (New Delhi) each comprise two persons under a single assessment grid line (2.1 and 2.6 respectively).	Please confirm that two separate CVs are required for each of these positions and clarify how they will be scored (each CV individually, averaged, or the lower score applied).	Yes, two separate CV will be required. Each CV will be individually examined.

23	Ch. 4 Costing, Specification of Inputs (Fee days)	275 fee days per expert for the assignment period of 01.12.2026 to 28.02.2029 (approx. 27 months), with experts based at partner department offices.	Please clarify whether experts are expected to be stationed full-time at partner offices. If so, please confirm that 275 days is the total input per expert for the entire period, and indicate the expected distribution of days per month or year.	Yes, experts will be stationed for full time.
24	Ch. 1 (WP1 g, WP3 j & m) & Ch. 4 Costing Requirements (Travel costs)	The tasks include state and national consultations, workshops, capacity-building programmes, and pilots/demonstrations in districts. However, Ch. 4 states that no travel is required, and no budget line is provided for workshops or events.	Please clarify: (a) whether experts will need to travel within their assigned state (e.g., to districts or pilot sites); and (b) whether travel and workshop/event costs (venue, logistics, participant costs) are to be priced by the contractor or borne by GIZ/partner departments.	Yes, it is envisaged that experts must be locally placed and there will be no travel to outstation.
25	Ch. 4A, Personnel Concept (Qualifications)	Master's degree in Climate Change, Disaster Management, Social Work or another field relevant to this consultancy; C1-level proficiency in English and Hindi/Assamese/Malayalam.	Please confirm whether degrees such as Environmental Science/Management, Natural Resource Management, Rural management, general management, Development Studies, Economics or relevant will be considered. Please also clarify how C1 language proficiency is to be evidenced (CV declaration or certificate).	GIZ expects all bidders to adhere to the prescribed evaluation criteria. The CV declaration and the requisite certificates may be submitted.
26	Ch. 4, Specification of Inputs	Positions are classified as Cluster 3 Level 2, Cluster 3 Level 1 and Cluster 2 Level 2.	Please explain the Cluster/Level classification and confirm whether GIZ fee ceilings or benchmark daily rates apply to these categories.	This is internal to GIZ. Kindly ignore.
27	Ch. 1, Deliverables and Timeline Schedule	Inception Report, monthly update reports and Final Report; milestones to be approved by the AV/Component Manager.	Please clarify the payment terms (e.g., monthly against approved reports and timesheets, or milestone-based) and the payment timeline after invoice submission.	Payments will be released on quarterly basis, upon submission of acceptable deliverables and timesheets.
28	Ch. 1, Period of Assignment	01.12.2026 to 28.02.2029 (approx. 27 months).	Please confirm whether daily fee rates are to remain fixed for the entire contract period, or whether an annual escalation may be included in the financial offer.	The per-day rates shall remain fixed, with NO annual escalation, until all deliverables under the contract have been completed in full.
29	Tender Documents – Submission	2nd Nov 2026	Considering requirement for a comprehensive proposal and the festival season, we sincerely request you to extend the deadline by at least 10 days.	As the assignment is required to commence at the earliest, an extension of the submission deadline cannot be accommodated.

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30	Terms of Reference, Pages 4–6	WP1–WP3 prescribe broad support across planning, coordination, investment pipelines, bankable proposals, pilots, business models, private-sector engagement, capacity development and documentation.	Kindly specify the minimum or indicative quantitative targets expected during the assignment, including the number of concept notes, feasibility studies, detailed project proposals, business models/pilots, consultations, workshops/trainings and knowledge products. Please also clarify the state-wise allocation of these outputs.	Please read the ToR and propose, It will be decided in consultation with concerned State Government.
31	Terms of Reference, Page 6	The deliverable schedule lists only an Inception Report, monthly progress reports and a final consolidated report, although WP1–WP3 envisage multiple substantive outputs.	Kindly confirm whether the substantive outputs under WP1, WP2 and WP3 will be treated as separate deliverables. If yes, please provide the indicative delivery schedule and review process.	Please read the ToR first. Yes, WP 1,2 and 3 are separate deliverables.
32	Terms of Reference, Pages 5–6	The contractor is expected to facilitate pilots and demonstrations in selected districts/landscapes and support enterprises, producer organisations, start-ups, FPOs, MSMEs and other market actors.	- Kindly clarify the indicative number and location of districts/landscapes, pilots and beneficiary/market entities to be supported in each State. - Please also confirm whether these will be identified by GIZ/partner departments or by the contractor.	Keralam, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Assam will be States and districts will be finalized in consultation with the concerned State Government. Yes, it is identified by concerned departments.
34	Terms of Reference, Pages 4–6	The scope requires development of adaptation project pipelines, feasibility assessments, business plans and investment proposals.	Kindly clarify whether the preparation of feasibility studies, business plans and investment proposals will require primary data collection, field surveys, technical assessments and financial modelling. If yes, please indicate the expected scale and whether the related costs should be included in the financial proposal.	No
35	Terms of Reference, Pages 5–6 and 13–14	Experts are expected to be locally placed, and no provision has been made for outstation travel. However, WP3 includes pilots, demonstrations and field-level stakeholder engagement.	- Kindly clarify whether local and intra-state travel required for field visits, pilots, demonstrations and stakeholder engagement is to be included in the professional fee or will be reimbursed separately. - For the 6 key experts, will the cost be covered when they travel to their respective deployment state? Should it be added to the financial proposal.	Please read the ToR. There is no travel envisaged under the positions. No, it cant be added in the proposal. Experts shallbe locally based.
36	Terms of Reference, Pages 4–6 and 12–14	The scope includes national/state consultations, workshops, knowledge-	Kindly specify the indicative number of participants and venue, duration of the	It will be decided by the Government/Partner.

		sharing events and capacity-building programmes, but the specification of inputs does not provide quantities or budgets for events.	workshops and capacity-building programmes. Please also confirm whether venue, participant travel, accommodation, meals, training materials and other event-related costs will be borne by GIZ or included in the financial proposal.	It cant be added in the financial proposal. It will be borne by GIZ/concerned departments, if required
37	Terms of Reference, Pages 6 and 13–14	Experts are required to be based at the respective State/National locations, but each position is allocated only 275 fee days over the assignment period from 1 December 2026 to 28 February 2029.	Kindly clarify the expected deployment pattern and minimum physical presence for each expert. Does “to be based at” require full-time office attendance throughout the assignment, or deployment only on approved fee days?	Yes, full time office presence will be required and based on partners requirement.
38	Terms of Reference, Pages 9 and 13	The personnel section describes Key Expert 1 as two Project Experts for Dehradun. The input table instead lists Key Expert 1 and Key Expert 2 separately for Dehradun, after which the numbering of all subsequent experts shifts.	Kindly provide the corrected and definitive mapping of expert numbers, positions, and corresponding technical assessment grid criteria to be used for CV submission and evaluation.	Please read the ToR and tender documents.
39	Terms of Reference, Pages 4–7 and 9–12	The contractor is responsible for overall project management and coordination, but no Team Leader/Project Manager position is expressly identified among the nine experts.	Kindly clarify who is expected to lead the assignment, consolidate multi-state outputs and serve as the single point of contact. Please confirm whether this responsibility must be assigned to one of the listed experts within the stated 275 days or whether an additional non-key management resource may be proposed.	Each individual will lead the assignment based out of their respective States and He/She has to be performed her duties under the supervision of concerned State Government Departments/ GIZ.
40	Terms of Reference, Page 8	The agency should have at least three reference projects in the specified fields with a minimum commission value of EUR 50,000 and at least three reference projects in India similar to the current assignment in the last three years.	Kindly clarify whether the same three projects may satisfy both requirements.	Please read the ToR
41	Terms of Reference, Page 8	The weighted criterion states “ODA Exp.” and expands this as “Other Development Assignments (ODA)”.	With respect to the criterion requiring experience in development projects with at least 50% ODA financing, kindly advise on the documentary evidence required to substantiate compliance with the 50% ODA funding requirement.	Yes, documentary evidence will be required. Contract, Work Order, Completion certificate, etc. can be use as the evidence.
42	Bidding Conditions, Page 3; Terms of Reference, Page 8	The lead partner alone must meet all GAEF criteria, although consortiums are permitted and consortium roles are to be defined.	Kindly confirm whether consortium partners’ experience and experts will be considered for scoring under the technical evaluation grid.	Refer consortium guidelines in bidding conditions

43	Bidding Conditions, Pages 1–3	The consortium agreement is required in the GAEF documents and is also required with the Technical Proposal.	Kindly confirm whether the same consortium agreement must be submitted in both the GAEF and Technical Proposal folders, or only in one folder.	Must be part of GAEF Folder
44	Terms of Reference, Page 15; Bidding Conditions, Pages 1–3	The ToR states that the complete tender must not exceed 20 pages excluding CVs, while the Bidding Conditions require separate GAEF, Technical and Financial Proposal folders with supporting documents.	Kindly confirm that the 20-page limit applies only to the technical concept/working concept and excludes the covering letter, personnel assignment plan, CVs, GAEF evidence, consortium documents and financial proposal.	Yes, it is correct. You may submit the technical proposal upto 20 pages.
45	Terms of Reference, Pages 13-14	Each proposed resource is allocated 275 fee days between 1 December 2026 and 28 February 2029. However, the deployment schedule is not specified.	275 working days is approximately equivalent to 12 months. Kindly clarify whether the experts will be deployed continuously for approximately 12 months based on project requirements or engaged intermittently on a part-time basis throughout the three-year assignment period. - Since none of the experts appears to be engaged on a full-time basis throughout the assignment, please also clarify how monthly progress reports are expected to be prepared and submitted at the end of every month.	Yes, experts will be based in the Partners location and assignment will conclude in February 2029. Please read the ToR. There should be State Specific Monthly progress reports and once consolidated National level progress report.
46	Bidding Conditions, Page- 4	Bid Submission Deadline: 2 nd Nov 2026	Given the scope of the assignment and the festival holidays in India, we respectfully request the Authority to consider extending the last date of submission by 15 working days to allow adequate time to prepare a comprehensive and high-quality proposal.	As the assignment is required to commence at the earliest, an extension of the submission deadline cannot be accommodated.

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47	ToR – Ch. 4 Costing requirements (Specification of inputs, p.13–14); Ch. 1 Period of assignment (p.6); Important points (b) & (e) (p.6–7)	Each of the 9 positions is allotted 275 expert days. Period of assignment is 01.12.2026 to 28.02.2029 (27 months). Experts "shall be based in the respective project states and Delhi" and office space will be provided within MoEFCC / State Nodal Departments / GIZ.	275 days over 27 months works out to about 10 days per month (roughly 2.5 days per week). However, the ToR places each expert in a partner ministry or department for regular interaction and day-to-day coordination, which would normally mean full-time deployment (about 20–22 days per month, or 550+ days over 27 months). Please clarify: (a) Are the positions full-time, dedicated placements, or part-time / intermittent inputs? (b) If full-time placement is expected, will the input days per expert be revised to match full-time deployment over 27 months? (c) If 275 days is final, please confirm that experts need to be physically present at the partner office only on about 10 days per month. Please also confirm that the partner departments will be informed of this, and that experts may take up other assignments on the remaining days.	Yes, these are full-time positions, and the terms and conditions will not be revised. The experts are required to be physically present and work full-time with their respective partner departments. They will not be permitted to take up any other assignments, as this could divert their focus and affect their commitment to the assigned responsibilities.
48	ToR – Ch. 7 (p.15); GTCC 3.1.1 & 3.2.2 (Time records)	"The number of days ... will be contractually agreed as maximum limits." Fees are invoiced on the basis of time records of expert days.	If partner departments need the experts on more days than budgeted (e.g., during the inception phase, work-plan preparation or reviews), how will the extra days be handled? Will they need prior GIZ approval and a contract amendment, or will a flexible remuneration item be provided? Is there an indicative phasing of the 275 days by month or year (e.g., a monthly ceiling), or may the bidder propose its own distribution in the personnel assignment plan?	We cannot rely on assumptions in this matter. The experts are required to comply with the requirements of their respective partner organisations. No contract amendments or flexibility in remuneration will be permitted. Experts must be physically present in the office as per the partner's requirements, with the specific

				arrangements to be determined by GIZ in consultation with the respective partner.
49	ToR – WP1 (g), WP3 (m); Table of contents "Workshops, events and trainings – Error! Bookmark not defined"; Ch. 4 Costing	The agency is to support national and state-level consultations, workshops, knowledge-sharing events and capacity-building programmes on climate finance, investment readiness, carbon markets, etc. The costing section has no budget line for workshops, events or trainings.	Please confirm that venue, logistics, participant travel, catering, printing and external resource-person costs for all workshops, consultations and trainings will be borne directly by GIZ or the partner departments, and that the agency's role is limited to technical content, facilitation and coordination through the budgeted expert days. If bidders are expected to budget for events, please give the number, type, duration and location of events, so that all bidders price on the same basis.	Yes, any expenditure related to workshops, if applicable, will be borne by GIZ. However, no travel is envisaged under this assignment. Please review the Terms of Reference (ToR) carefully and submit your proposal accordingly.
50	ToR – Ch. 1 Travel sectors (p.6); Ch. 4 Travel expenses & Travel costs (p.14); WP3 (j), (o); Important points (d)	"There is no travel required for the assignment for the entire duration" and "no provisions for outstation travels are made". However, the tasks include facilitating pilots in selected districts/landscapes, community and producer-group participation, and periodic presentations to partner ministries and the GIZ CAFRI III team.	Please confirm whether state experts are expected to visit project districts, landscapes or pilot sites within their states, and whether experts will need to travel to New Delhi or between states (e.g., for inception workshops, annual reviews or cross-state learning events). If so, will such travel be arranged and paid for directly by GIZ / partners, or reimbursed to the agency on actuals under the GIZ travel guidelines? Should bidders include a provisional amount in Table 2 (Reimbursable Costs) of the financial template? If no travel at all is to be costed, please confirm that the agency will not be held responsible for field-level tasks that need travel.	No travel is envisaged under this assignment, as the proposed experts will be based at the respective partner's office. Kindly read the Terms of Reference (ToR) carefully and prepare your proposal accordingly. .
51	ToR – Ch. 2 Project management of the contractor (1.6); Technical Assessment Grid 1.6.1–1.6.3	The bidder must explain coordination with the GIZ project and a backstopping strategy, "incl. CVs of the technical and administrative backstopper" (Grid 1.6.3). The ToR has no Team Leader / Project Coordinator position, and there are no input days for backstopping.	Is one of the 9 positions (e.g., the Project Expert at MoEFCC, New Delhi) expected to act as Team Leader / overall coordinator across the national and state teams? Or is overall coordination to be handled by the agency's backstopping team? Please confirm that backstopper CVs are needed, in which folder they should go, whether they count towards the 20-page limit, and that backstopping costs are to be absorbed in the overheads within the expert daily fees (no separate days).	Please read the ToR carefully. Overall coordination may be handled by the backstopping team. Please read the ToR carefully. We have not requested backstopper CV.
52	ToR – WP2 (d), (f); WP3 (g), (j)	The agency is to support preparation of concept notes, feasibility studies, detailed project proposals and	Please confirm that the funding for pilots, demonstrations or grants to enterprises / FPOs / communities is outside the	Yes, the agency's role is limited to technical facilitation.

		business plans, and to "identify, develop and pilot" gender-responsive climate-resilient business models.	agency's scope and budget, and that the agency's role is limited to technical facilitation. Please give the indicative number of feasibility studies or detailed project proposals expected over the assignment, and confirm whether primary surveys, specialist inputs (e.g., financial modelling, carbon-credit methodology or validation) or non-key short-term experts are expected. The Technical Assessment Grid row 2.8 "non-specified positions" carries 0% weight. If such inputs are needed, how should they be costed?	NA. Please read the ToR carefully.
53	ToR – WP1, WP2 & WP3 (p.4–6)	Each Work Package "will encompass, but not be limited to" the listed activities.	Since inputs are capped at 275 days per expert and the price is a maximum amount (GTCC 3.1), please confirm that the scope will be limited to the activities listed in the ToR. Any additional activities requested by GIZ or partner departments should be taken up only through a mutually agreed change in scope, days and remuneration.	Yes, only ToR related activities.
54	ToR – Deliverable and timeline schedule (p.6)	Inception Report – December 2026; Monthly update reports – 30th of every month from 30 December 2026 to 28 February 2029; Final report – February 2029. "All the milestones to be approved by AV / Component Manager, MoEFCC Component of CAFRI III."	Please confirm whether one consolidated monthly report covering all states and the national level is needed, or separate state-wise reports plus a consolidated report. Is the Inception Report due within December 2026 (i.e., within 30 days of start)? Are annual work plans or annual progress reports needed in addition to the monthly reports? Please indicate the time GIZ / AV will take to review and approve deliverables, and confirm whether payments depend on deliverable approval or only on approved monthly time records.	State wise report and then one National level report will also be required. Only monthly time records.
55	Bidding Conditions – Annexure A, item 7; GAEF Part A-II	Evidence: work order and / or completion certificate / experience certificates of assignments.	For ongoing projects, is a work order or contract together with a client certificate of progress acceptable?	Yes work orders/ successful completion certificates mentioning commission value must be submitted.
56.	GTCC 2.1; ToR Ch. 4A	No provision on replacing experts during the assignment.	Please describe the process and timelines for replacing an expert during the 27-month assignment (e.g., resignation, health, or a request from a partner department). Must the replacement have equal or better qualifications, and may the fee rate stay the same? Is any penalty or deduction applied for vacancy periods?	GIZ recommends that the Team Leader (TL) and core team members be on the rolls of the agency to minimise the risk of unexpected personnel changes. Any replacement of the proposed consultants/experts

				during the progress of contract is subject to the certain GIZ procedures and approvals. Furthermore, GIZ expects continuity of the Team Leader and core team throughout the assignment, as their premature exit or replacement could adversely affect project implementation and successful delivery of the assignment.
57	GTCC 1.1 Applicable law, place of jurisdiction	"The place of jurisdiction is <place>."	Please confirm the place of jurisdiction (e.g., New Delhi) and whether disputes will first go to amicable settlement or arbitration before any court proceedings.	New Delhi.
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TECHNICAL QUERIES RELATED TO TERMS OF REFERENCE				
58	ToR, Section 4 – Specification of inputs (pp. 13–14)	The costing table allocates 275 days to each of the nine positions for the assignment period of 1 December 2026 to 28 February 2029.	Please confirm whether experts are expected to be deployed full-time throughout the assignment period (1 Dec 2026 to 28 Feb 2029) or through intermittent deployment on a need-based basis, with experts engaged on specific days as required (up to 275 days).	Yes, they will be deployed on full-time basis.
QUERIES RELATED ELIGIBILITY OF FIRMS (GAEF) & TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT GRID				
59	ToR, Section 3 – Technical assessment criteria (p. 8); Bidding Conditions, Annexure A (pp. 7–8)	The ToR requires at least three reference projects with a minimum commission value of EUR 50,000 and at least three similar projects in India in the last three years.	Please clarify whether the minimum commission value of EUR 50,000 applies to each reference project or to the aggregate value of the reference projects.	Yes, it will be applicable to each reference project.