



Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA)

Government of Assam

Call for expression of Interest on “Documentation of Traditional Coping Practices on floods and its adaptability to the present context in Assam” from Consultants / Agencies.

A. Background

The State of Assam lies at the heart of North-eastern region which is one of the most vulnerable States in the country with different areas being prone to multiple hazards like earthquakes, floods, landslides and cyclonic storms. Vulnerability to natural disasters combined with socio-economic vulnerability of the people living in the State pose a great challenge to the government machinery and underscores the need for a comprehensive plan for disaster response.

It is a recognized fact that sustainability of interventions at the community level greatly depends on the availability of relevant local culture, knowledge and indigenous practices in combination with new ideas helps to generate innovation. The importance of indigenous knowledge contributes not only to the success of intervention, but more importantly to its sustainability in the longer term.

Indigenous knowledge refers to the approaches and practices developed by a group of people from an advanced understanding of the local environment, which has formed over numerous generations. This knowledge contains several other important characteristics which distinguish it from other types of knowledge. These include originating within the community, maintaining a non-formal means of dissemination, collectively owned, developed over several generations and subject to adaptation, and imbedded in a community's way of life as a means of survival. The relationship between indigenous knowledge and natural disasters has developed more interest in recent years.

The value of indigenous knowledge / traditional coping practice is that they are knowledge based which prove valuable against natural disasters and it can be transferred and adapted to other communities in similar situations. It also encourages the participation of the affected community and empowers its members to take the leading role in all disaster risk reduction activities.

Further, the information contained in indigenous knowledge can help improve project implementation by providing valuable information about the local context and above all the non-formal means by which indigenous knowledge is disseminated provides a successful model for other education on disaster risk reduction.

The Assam State Disaster Management Authority, therefore, proposes to undertake an exercise of collecting specific indigenous strategies and mechanisms which are still relevant and has the scope for transferring and adaptation to other communities in the State.

B. Objective:

1. To build awareness about indigenous knowledge as an effective tool for reducing risk from natural disasters.
2. To facilitate availability of concrete information and examples about of how it can be successfully used by practitioners and policy makers to consider the knowledge held by local communities and act to integrate the same into disaster-related work.

C. Scope of the work:

3. Preparation of the document on Traditional Coping Practices on floods adopted by various communities across the State in Assam
4. Incorporation of suggestive measures on the relevance and adaptability of such practices in the present context in Assam.

D. Implementation Arrangements

1. *Duration of the work.* The entire exercise will have to be completed within 8 months from the date of award of the work subject to maximum extension of time by additional four months.

2. *Implementation of the work:* The Consultant / agency shall be the primarily responsible for the conduct and completion of the exercise. This includes the preparation of tools and methodologies and has to be validated by ASDMA. Further, ASDMA will facilitate some level of support to the consultant to ensure that data / information needed from various sources are collected. The consultant has the autonomy to hire needed human resources for the completion of the exercise. However, cost of such will be shouldered by the consultant/ agency which need to be mentioned along with the EOI.

E. Qualification & experience

1. Professionals having experience on documentation of at least two community / best practices. (copy of at least two documents must be submitted along with the EOI)

Interested Consultant may submit their profile along with the details as given below:

1. Name of the Consultant / Agency.
 - a) Type of organization and year of establishment (if an organisation).
 - b) Registration/ Affiliation no if any.
2. Copy of at least two high quality documents in terms of content, and flow of information prepared by him or by the organisation.
3. Professional staff strength along with detailed CV of the consultants / experts
4. Detailed activity schedule and time line
5. Financial involvement

Suitable Consultant / agency will be selected as per relevant procedure by Assam State Disaster Management Authority based on the EOIs received and subsequent evaluation through discussion and presentation with the shortlisted consultant / agency.

EOI must be delivered on or before 31st July 2014 at the following address

**Assam State Disaster Management Authority
Ancillary Block
Assam State Secretariat
Dispur, Guwahati- 781006**

The EOI may also be downloaded from
<http://www.asdma.gov.in>

EOI's received after the last date of submission shall not be considered. Assam State Disaster Management Authority shall not be responsible for any delay in submission including delay due to postal or any other reason whatsoever.


Chief Executive Officer
Assam State Disaster Management Authority