



सत्यमेव जयते

Department of Science and Technology (DST)
Government of India
Invitation for EOI for a New Initiative in
“Co-ordinated Programme for Arid and Semi-Arid Regions
(ASAR)”

Summary

The Department of Science and Technology (DST), under its Societal initiatives plans to initiate a S&T driven programme with the aim to provide S&T solutions to addressing issues/problems for people living in the **Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (ASAR)** thereby enhancing the quality of life for people of this difficult area.

The focus of the call is on S&T based interventions in these geographical area, to include adaptive R&D, field testing of available technology and technology transfer of technology packages already available which can provide enhanced livelihood opportunities, drudgery reduction leading to a better quality of life of population living in the Arid and Semi-Arid Regions

1. Enhanced Livelihood opportunities
2. Health & Nutrition (Epidemiology, Prophylactics and Therapeutics for Stress adaptation, nutrition specially related to children and elderly, validation of both human and animal indigenous health practices)
3. Soil and water management
4. Sustainable Agriculture/Horticulture practices including post harvest and value addition
5. Nursery development/VADI concept, improvement, and utilization of fruits/leaves/wood [Ex- Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), other horticultural species like Phalsa (*Grewia asiatica*), Khirni, Kair (*Capparis deciduas*), Khejri/Sangari (*Prosopis cineraria*), Ber (*Ziziphus mauritiana*), etc., medicinal plants (i.e. Guggul (*Commiphora wightii*)]
6. Energy solutions.
7. Technology inputs for artisanal sectors

In the 1st phase the areas identified for the S&T based interventions are:-

- A. Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Banswara, Dungarpur (**Rajasthan**)
- B. Kutch, Panch Mahal, Dahod, Banaskantha (**Gujarat**)
- C. Ratlam, Jhabua, Mandsaur (**Madhya Pradesh**)

Expression of Interest (EOI) are sought from consortia of academic/R&D institutions and Panchayati Raj Institutions, NGOs, industry, State Government Organizations that will address the thematic areas articulated in this call document under the TIASN Scheme of the SEED Division. For organisations and institutions not situated in the area it would be essential a local partner. It is mandatory for voluntary organisations to tie up with technology providing institution to be eligible (Consent letter to be attached with EOI).

Review Process, Evaluation and Funding Decisions

The Steering Committee and the Programme Advisory Group has been established. EOI will be subjected to a screening process and short listed teams will be invited to submit full proposals. The proposals will be evaluated by the Programme Advisory Group.

Submission format

Expression of Interest (EOI) should be **emailed to Dr Usha Dixit** at **E.mail:** usha.dixit@nic.in as an attachment only in MS word format. The subject of the message will be: **“Co-ordinated Programme_Arid and Semi-Arid Regions (CP-ASAR)”**.

Important dates and deadlines

Deadline for declaration of intention to submit: 31st October 2011
Closing date: 05th November 2011

Contacts:

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(E.mail:usha.dixit@nic.in, Tel: 011- 26590322) *may be contacted for any
questions/queries relating to expression of intention to submit and submission of final
applications.*

