



Government of Nepal  
Ministry of Agricultural Development  
**PROJECT FOR AGRICULTURE COMMERCIALIZATION AND TRADE (PACT),**  
Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, Nepal

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR  
End line Survey of PACT Competitive Matching Grants Scheme (call 1 to 4)  
(NP-MOAD-PACT-10214-CS-QBS)**

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The Government of Nepal has received financing from the World Bank/IDA towards the cost of Project for Agriculture Commercialization and Trade (PACT) and, intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The consulting services ("the Services") include the End line Survey of PACT Competitive Matching Grants Scheme (call 1 to 4).

Of the several activities implemented by the PACT, partial financing of the sub-projects implemented by eligible value chain participants of selected value chains on competitive basis is the key. This activity is implemented under project's first component that is Agriculture and Rural Business Development Component. As part of this component, PACT has been providing matching grant assistance to potential beneficiaries on competitive basis to co-finance eligible sub projects proposed by them. The purpose of project's matching grant is to assist eligible value chain participants to actively engage in profitable market oriented production and better integrate with respective value chains. PACT has made a provision of grants to meet one of its key objectives of developing partnerships in well-performing or emerging agricultural commodity value chains. Therefore, PACT's grants are available only to the eligible value chain participants of the selected agricultural commodity value chains on competitive basis. National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) selects the value chains for each round of matching grant.

The project expects that through the implementation of those sub projects, grant recipients (GRs)/project's beneficiaries will enhance their capacity to actively engage in profitable market oriented production and better integrate with respective agricultural commodity value chains. PACT has worked on 24 value chains across 4 calls.

PACT is recruiting a consulting company to carry out the end line survey using mobile data collection at the beneficiary and subproject level covering the Matching Grant Scheme (MGS). The project has already carried out baseline surveys for calls 1,2,3,4 through the services of consultants. The project expects that the selected bidder will provide comprehensive final study report with an unbiased, statistically valid and reliable analysis. The collected data will also be used for the impact evaluation of the project, which will be carried out by Development Impact Evaluation (DIME), a unit of the World Bank's research group.

#### **Project and Evaluation Design-**

PACT implemented the Matching Grant Scheme through different calls/rounds. The first call was completed in 2016, while the second and third calls are expected to be completely finished by June 30th, 2017. Call 4 is scheduled to be completed by December 31st, 2017. The project will come to a closure in 30 June 2018. All activities related to the activity laid out in this TOR in the following sections (data collection, analysis, report submission) must be complete before then.

Baseline data for Call 1, 2 and 3 was collected across 2011-2015, and for Call 4 in 2016. The project envisages collecting end line data for all 4 MGS calls in early 2017. This data will result in the production of two sets of products:

1. For Calls 1-3, baseline data and the subsequent report will be used to draft an "end of project assessment" that descriptively evaluates the change in a range of key indicators related to the project in order to assess the changing patterns in lives of beneficiaries and productivity of businesses over the last several years that PACT has been in operation.
2. Call 4 includes a rigorous impact evaluation that uses a regression discontinuity design focusing on Call 4's scoring system. The study treats grant recipients who received the program as the treatment group, and those who received high technical scores but missed out on receiving the grant as the control group. Given the scoring system implemented for the 4th call, the end-product of this exercise is an "impact evaluation of call 4"

#### **1. Study Objectives**

The data collection across the 4 MGS calls will go towards the compilation of a single end-of-project report. This report will contain 4 chapters - one corresponding to each MGS call. As mentioned in Section 1.2 above, the first 3 chapters of the report will aim to assess how the project changed the lives of grant recipients and their related beneficiaries. The 4th chapter will be an impact evaluation of the 4th call of the MGS scheme.

Across the 4th calls, the objective of the study is to track indicators at two levels:

- a. At the level of the sub-project, to track changes in income status, firm productivity and a variety of other business development outcomes.
- b. At the level of beneficiaries to track changes in human development and productivity outcomes. Direct beneficiaries might include members of the farmer group that received the grant as a sub-project, for example; or of members of the household of the firm manager who received the grant.

The implementation period of this service will be for 11 months.

PACT now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and the relevant experience to perform the Services. Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of joint venture or sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications. The Consultant should indicate form of the association, and the lead partner in the applications for expression of interest.

#### **2. Short listing Criteria are:**

1. Core business and years in business.
2. Demonstrable capability to manage complex and rigorous research and data collection assignments in Nepal.
3. Demonstrable experience with and knowledge conducting household and enterprise surveys.
4. Qualification of key staff
5. Experience with use of electronic devices (mobile / tablet) for data capture.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. The Consultants will be selected in accordance with the Quality-Based Selection (QBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 10:00 to 17:00 hours. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by 14:00 hours of 26 May 2017.

PACT reserves the right to shortlist or not shortlist any or all applicants without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

#### **Project Director**

**Project for Agriculture Commercialization and Trade (PACT),** Sallaghari, Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, Nepal, Telephone No: +977-1-4017765, Fax No: +977-1-4373236, Email: mail@pact.gov.np

Please include "EOI End line Survey of PACT Competitive Matching Grants Scheme (call 1 to 4)" in the envelope / subject line of email, as applicable. Only shortlisted firms shall be contacted.