Himachal Pradesh Forest Department (HPECOSOC)

Invites

Expression of Interest

For

Settings up of Eco-Tourism Projects

(PPP Mode)

Chief Executive Officer-cum
Chief Conservator of Forests (ET & Pub)
Mist Chamber, Khalini, Shimla-2
Telephone No. 0177-2623036

24th July, 2019
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Invitation for the Expression of Interest

Eco-Tourism Society of H.P. Forest Department invites sealed Expression of Interest (EOI) from individual entrepreneurs / local groups for “Settings up of Eco-Tourism Projects in Himachal Pradesh” under the PPP mode.

The EOI document containing the details of qualification criteria, submission requirement, brief objectives and scope of work (for the listed 12 sites) etc. may be downloaded from our website www.himachalecotourism.org.

Further details, if any, may be obtained from Chief Executive officer cum- Chief Conservator of Forests (ET & Pub), Mist Chamber Khalini Shimla-02 Telephone no .0177-2623036 during working hours.

Last date for submission of EOI is 26th August, 2019 up to 13:00 hours. Sealed envelope marked to the captioned address, containing EOI and non-refundable fee of Rs. 5000/- by way of DD/ Pay order in favor of “CCF-cum- CEO, HP ECO SOC Shimla” , payable at New Shimla may be submitted mentioning “Settings up of Eco-Tourism Projects in (Name of Site) Himachal Pradesh “ on top cover and addressed to the undersigned.

Applicants meeting the qualification criteria may be invited for presentation of proposal before a selection committee to be constituted for the purpose. Bid documents will be subsequently issued to the short listed applicants only.

HP Eco-Tourism Society or any of its designates reserve the right to cancel this request for EOI and /or invite fresh with or without a amendment , without liability or any obligation for such request for EOI and without assigning any reasons. Information provided at this stage is indicative and HPECOSOC reserves the right to amend / add further details in the EOI.

Address:
CEO-cum CCF Eco-Tourism & Publicity
Msit Chamber Khalini Shimla- 02
LETTER OF INVITATION

Himachal Pradesh Eco-tourism (HPECOSOC)
Mist Chamber Khalini Shimla -02.

No .......................................................... dated .........................................................

Dear Sir / Madam,

Eco-Tourism Society of H.P. Forest department invites sealed expression of interest (EOI) from individual entrepreneurs / local groups for “Settings up of Eco-Tourism Projects in Himachal Pradesh”.

The EOI document containing the details of qualification criteria, submission requirement brief objective and scope of work scope of work and evaluation criteria etc. can be downloaded from our website www.himachalecotourism.org

Address:
CEO-cum CCF Eco-Tourism & Publicity
Msit Chamber Khalini Shimla- 02
DATES FOR THE EOI ARE AS UNDER:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Particular</th>
<th>Last date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Publishing date</td>
<td>7th August 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Document download start date</td>
<td>7th August 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Document download end date</td>
<td>26th August 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Date of presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td>To be intimated separately to shortlisted candidates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bid submission start date</td>
<td></td>
<td>To be intimated after presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bid submission end date</td>
<td></td>
<td>To be intimated after presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bid opening date</td>
<td></td>
<td>To be intimated after presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Handing over the site</td>
<td></td>
<td>To be intimated after presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Preparation of FCA case of site</td>
<td></td>
<td>To be intimated after presentation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CEO-Cum-CCF  
Eco-Tourism & Publicity  
Msit Chamber Khalini Shimla-02
1. Background
Himachal Pradesh, situated in the heartland of the Indian Himalayas, is amongst the top tourist destinations in the country, attracting both domestic and foreign tourists. Recent estimates suggest yearly tourist footfall at about 160 lakh visitors which is more than twice the State’s population. Majority of the tourist locations are concentrated in and around four major cities, viz. Shimla, Manali, Dharamshala and Dalhousie. As a result, tourists often miss out on experiencing the rich and diverse bio-cultural tapestry of the state in and around its protected areas like National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, and the local inhabitants living in these regions are also not able to benefit from tourism activity in the state.

Taking cognizance of this, the Forest Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh has released Eco-Tourism Policy 2005 to create an enabling ecosystem for tourists to truly experience the scenic beauty of its natural locations as well as the immense cultural value associated with it. In the past few years, the policy has undergone revisions particularly regarding taking into consideration the procedural requirements for obtaining clearance of ecotourism sites under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 as per guidelines of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India. It is now mandatory to seek FCA clearance, prior to commissioning of the project for the Eco-Tourism proposals under the PPP mode. This clearance shall be sought by the finally selected project proponent who shall also bear the cost of various components pertaining to FCA 1980. HPECOSOC along with concerned Circle Level Eco-Tourism Society shall extend all kind of assistance to the proponent for securing the FCA clearance. Some changes in the existing policy document have also been necessitated in view of evolving understanding of eco-tourism concepts and principles.

The Revised Eco-Tourism Policy 2017 aims at bringing the beauty of the wilderness of Himachal Pradesh closer to visitors while at the same time ensuring adequate safeguards and systems for the protection and conservation of these natural resources. By involving local communities, the policy focuses on increased livelihood opportunities as well as protection and conservation. It also intends to encourage formulation of strategies for generation of financial returns which can be ploughed back for proper upkeep and maintenance of natural resources and the environment as a whole. The policy encourages greater understanding and appreciation for natural and cultural heritage both among tourists as well as local residents.

The ongoing Eco-Tourism projects also need to be relooked and reviewed in view of Central Ministry’s guidelines on Eco-Tourism. It may be necessary to evaluate the ongoing projects to decide the future plan of action post their culmination.

2. Aims and objectives
The purpose of EoI is to develop the Eco-tourism site in Himachal Pradesh under the PPP mode as per the Eco-tourism re-revised Policy 2017. The focus is on developing tourism models that are environmentally and culturally sensitive, promote social equity by ensuring equitable distribution of income from tourism across the state as well as incentivize preservation of traditional cultural and conservation practices.
3. Scope of Work

Technical proposals shall be invited from interested parties for the development of Eco tourism activities at the following sites after evaluation of the EOI responses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. no</th>
<th>Circle</th>
<th>Name of Site</th>
<th>Area (Upto)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bilaspur</td>
<td>Chalella, Naina devi, Bilapur</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chamba</td>
<td>Langha, Chamba</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chamba</td>
<td>Ranikot, Chamba</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dharamshala</td>
<td>Kareri, Dharamshala</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hamirpur</td>
<td>Sidchaler, Una</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kullu</td>
<td>Kulang, Kullu</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mandi</td>
<td>Thanser, Karsog</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Nahan</td>
<td>Bhurshing Mahadev Temple, Rajgarh</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nahan</td>
<td>Banali Dhar Habban, Rajgarh</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rampur</td>
<td>Nichar, Kinnaur</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Shimla</td>
<td>Potter Hills, Shimla</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Solan</td>
<td>R-30 Chabal, Solan</td>
<td>1 hectare</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The proposal required to be submitted by the parties, found successful after evaluation of EOI, must contain the complete details of activities proposed to be undertaken along with tentative cost projection for each activity. The proposed activities need to be in consonance with the provision of Re-revised Eco-Tourism Policy 2017 of GoHP.

Selected applicants may be called for presentation at Shimla and the proposals shall be evaluated by the Technical Committee. The proposal eventually finalized may be one of the proposals submitted by the applicant after incorporating due amendments as suggested by the technical committee or may be a separate proposal altogether.

The HP ECOSOC, through the Administrative Department shall secure approval of the HPIDB to finalize the shape of the project which shall include the terms of concession agreement and period of concession. The project period shall be for 10 years which shall be further extendable by 5 years and time period shall be reckoned from the date of start of commercial operations of the Project since about period of 6-12 months would be spent in getting all the clearances. The documents that would need to be prepared would, inter-alia, include various agreements to be entered into with the concessionaire detailing the terms of the concession and the rights and obligations of the various parties. Typically, a PPP shall involve the concession agreement that will specify the terms of the concession granted to the private party and also include the rights and obligations of all parties. There could be associated agreements based on specific requirements as well. The proposed RFP from prospective parties will also be got approved from the HPIDB. Once the proposal is finalized, the financial bids shall be invited from the applicants, who had applied for the technical bids and have qualified for the same as per the Eco-Tourism Re-revised Policy 2017 of H.P.
After the final allotment of the project to the successful bidder, the concerned party shall obtain the necessary approvals under FCA, 1980 and shall also bear the cost of various components for clearance under FCA 1980. HPECOSOC along with the concerned Circle Level Eco-tourism Society shall extend all kind of assistance to the proponent for securing the FCA clearance. **It is pertinent to add that the site shall be handed over to project proponent only after final approval under FCA, 1980.**

4. **EOI processing fees**
   A Non-refundable processing fee of Rs. 5000/- (five thousand only) in the form of a Demand draft or Pay order drawn in favor of “CCF-cum CEO Eco-Tourism Shimla-02” payable at New Shimla has to be submitted along with EOI response. Bid received without or with inadequate EOI processing fees shall be liable to be rejected.

5. **Venue for submission of proposal**
   CEO-Cum-CCF, Eco-Tourism & Publicity
   Mist Chamber Khalini Shimla-02

6. **Validity of offer**
   30 days from the issue of assignment

7. **Period of work / time schedule**
   10 years after the FCA approval and further extendable by 5 years.

8. **Eligibility Criteria**
   To be considered as technically qualified, a Bidder shall fulfill the following minimum eligibility criteria (the "Minimum eligibility Criteria"):
   o **A. Technical Capacity:** For demonstrating technical capacity and experience, the Bidder shall, over the past 1(one) financial year preceding the Bid Due Date, have operated in India, any travel & tourism project (or related activity) with a minimum turnover/income of Rs. 3 crores. Provided further that in case of Himachali entrepreneurs, this amount shall be Rs. 1 Crores. Further, the applicant should have undertaken at least 3 successfully completed Tourism/ Eco-Tourism projects or related activities in the past. **Provided further that in case of Himachali entrepreneurs, the applicant should have undertaken at least 1(one) successfully completed Tourism/ Eco-Tourism project or related activity in the past.**
   o **B. Financial Capacity:** The Bidder shall have Net Worth of Rs. 2 Crores in absolute amount at the close of preceding financial year. **Provided further that in case of Himachali entrepreneurs, this amount shall be Rs.1 Crores.**

CEO-Cum-CCF
Eco-Tourism & Publicity
Mist Chamber Khalini, Shimla
Himachal Pradesh – 171002
To

The CEO-Cum-Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Department, Eco-Tourism & Publicity
Mist Chamber Khalini, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh - 171002

Subject: Submission of EOI for Settings up of Eco-Tourism Projects in (Name of Site) Himachal Pradesh.

Dear,

In response to the invitation for expression of interest (EOI) published on ……………………….. for the above purpose, I would like to express interest to carry out the above proposed asked. As per eligibility criteria in the detailed document, certificates of following are herewith attached.

1. Experience related documents of the organization (previous works in the related field carried out) as per prescribed eligibility as Annexure A1.
2. Education / Experience Certificates of the team members as Annexure A2.
3. Balance sheet for the last 3 years indicating the turnover and income as Annexure A3.
4. Proof of Technical capacity and the financial capacity (as mentioned in eligibility criteria) as Annexure A4.
5. Technical proposal, proposed by the applicant along with cost.(both in hard and soft form) as Annexure A5.

Signature of applicant:.............
Name : ..................................
Correspondence Address:.......... 
...........................................
...........................................
...........................................
Pin Code:.............................
Email ID: ............................
...........................................
Telephone No’s:......................