

**Development Monitoring Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog**  
**Request for Proposal (RFP) for Evaluation of Bio-RIDE Scheme**  
**Response to Queries of Bidders**

S. No.	RfP Clause Reference	Query	Response
1.	Clause 4.1.3 (Eligible assignment)	Considering the study domain, studies involving large beneficiary survey sample size is rare. Requesting for <b>relaxation in sample size</b> for assignments that will be shared to review eligibility.	Please refer to RfP clause 4.1.3 at page no. 27. No changes contemplated.
2.		Evaluation Criteria (Clause 4.1.3): The provision of awarding maximum marks to those who have conducted 10 such studies may inadvertently disadvantage MSMEs. We humbly request whether the <b>criteria can be rationalized</b> so as not to negate the purpose of MSME encouragement. Since this criteria will award 10 marks to bigger market research organisations having done 10 such assignments with larger sample size.	
3.	Clause 4.2 (Eligible Assignment)	i). Request to consider research studies conducted for <b>private entities</b> as well. ii). Can <b>global studies</b> in similar domain done outside India by our organisation be considered eligible?	Please refer to RfP clause 4.2 (b) at page no. 29. No changes contemplated.
4.		Relevant Experience Criteria (Clause 4.2): The requirement of having executed two eligible assignment of at least INR 10 lakh value with a sample size of 500 within the last 8 years is restrictive. We kindly request whether this time frame can be <b>relaxed to cover projects executed within the last 15 years</b> with lesser assignment value ( <b>eg INR 5lakh – 10 lakh</b> ), thereby accommodating organizations with substantial experience in biotechnology sector but projects executed slightly earlier.	Please refer to RfP clause 4.2 (d) at page no. 29. No changes contemplated.

5.	Clause 1.4.2 (Eligibility of Applicants)	Considering the nature of study and requirements of key professional with subject knowledge and research experience, request to <b>relax the upper age limit.</b>	Please refer to RfP clause 1.4.2 (E) at page no. 14. No changes contemplated.
6.	Schedule 1(ToR), Clause 5 (Scope of work)	Considering the type of beneficiary, face to face CAPI survey may not be feasible. Can <b>multi-mode data collection including self-filled</b> online forms be proposed?	Please refer to RfP clause 5.2.2 at page no. 51, which is clear & self-explanatory. The Consultant is expected to propose their best mechanism, suited to meet the objectives of the evaluation study. However, the mechanism may be finalized in consultation with DMEO after award of the study.
7.	Schedule 1(ToR), Clause 7 (Deliverable and Timeline)	We anticipate requirement of more time considering the scale of study and type of respondents to be involved at different level and request to <b>increase overall 8 months</b> timelines for evaluation.	Please refer to RfP clause 7 at page no. 56. No changes contemplated.
8.	Annexure A (Details of Key Personnel)	Please consider the following amendment for minimum education qualification- Master's Degree (or equivalent) in Public Health/Bio-technology field(s) for the <b>sectoral expert and junior researcher.</b>	Please refer to <b>annexure A</b> of RfP at page no. 34-35. No changes contemplated.
9.	Schedule 1(ToR), Table 3 under clause 4.3.5 (Indicative coverage and sample size)	For KIIs, surveys, facility survey and FGDs as the stakeholders include Government industry, academia, incubators etc. – will DMEO team <b>support in identifying the stakeholders, sharing contact information</b> , especially for Government stakeholders?	DMEO will endeavour to facilitate by writing to relevant authorities once the contract has been awarded. However, the responsibility of collecting information/data lies with the Consultant only.
10.		For facility survey, will it include technical assessment of equipment or infrastructure funded by DBT or is it overall physical observation of the facilities as per the checklist to be developed for the study?	Please refer to clause 4.3.5 of RfP at page no. 45-48. The Consultant is expected to propose their best mechanism, suited to meet the objectives of the evaluation study. However, the mechanism may be finalized in consultation with DMEO after award of the study.
11.	Clause 1.5 (Conflict of Interest)	Conflict of Interest (Clause 1.5) Clarification: We seek clarity on whether the following ongoing engagements	Please refer to RfP clause 1.5 at page no.15 and schedule 3 (Point 3 b). It is a conflict of interest.

		<p>would constitute a conflict-of-interest event under the RFP as:</p> <p>a. BCIL is currently managing a DBT scheme (DBT-CTEP) under the BioRIDE umbrella (HRD programme).</p> <p>b. DBT-BIRAC has established a Technology Transfer Office (TTO) at BCIL under the DBT-National Biopharma Mission.</p> <p>c. Upto March 2020, BCIL has managed several programmes of DBT.</p>	
12.	Clause 1.14.2	<p>Tax Clarification (Clause 1.14.2): Sub-clause (ii) requires quoting cost exclusive of GST/Tax, while (iii) states that the consultant is liable to pay all applicable taxes.</p> <p>Do we understand that <b>GST will be paid separately?</b></p> <p>We request clarification on this issue for accurate financial planning and compliance.</p>	Yes. Please refer to clause 1.14.2 (ii) & (iii) of RfP at page no. 20. All the applicable taxes will be paid separately.
13.	Schedule 1(ToR), Clause 4 ()	<p>Scope of Evaluation (BioRIDE): Considering that BioRIDE includes a wide range of programmes and schemes (e.g. thematic R&amp;D, mission mode programmes, HRD, societal, CoEs, PPP, BT park, incubation, etc) implemented by DBT and BIRAC, we would appreciate clarification on whether the evaluation is intended to be conducted programme-wise or by thematic areas. Such guidance would greatly assist us in appropriately <b>structuring our approach and methodology.</b></p>	Please refer to clause 4 of RfP at page no. 43-45. The Consultant is expected to propose their best mechanism, suited to meet the objectives of the evaluation study. However, the mechanism may be finalized in consultation with DMEO after award of the study.
14.	Clause 3.1.3	<p>Key Professionals (Clause 3.1.3): Please clarify how DMEO <b>proposes to verify the relevant experience certificates</b> of professionals.</p>	Please refer to Clause 3.1.3 of RfP at page no. 25. Which is clear and self-explanatory.

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