

Request for Expressions of Interest

Commercial Agriculture Development Project

Country: Nepal

Project name: Commercial Agriculture Development Project (Grant 0063-NEP)

Name and Address of Executing Agency:

Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC),
Department of Agriculture (DOA),
Commercial Agriculture Development Project (CADP)
Biratnagar, Morang, Nepal

Ph No. : +977-1-5010184 / +977-21-470107

Email: mail@cadp.gov.np

Web site : www.cadp.gov.np

Background:

The Government of Nepal has received grant assistance from the Asian Development Bank towards the cost of the Commercial Agriculture Development Project (CADP), and intends to apply a portion of this grant to eligible payments under this Contract. The project has been in operation since August 2007 and will continue until December 2012. The Executing Agency (EA) is the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC), and the Implementing Agency (IA) is the Department of Agriculture (DOA)..

The project is being implemented in 11 districts of the Eastern Development Region (Saptari, Siraha, Sunsari, Morang, Jhapa, Udayapur, Terhathum, Dhankuta, Ilam, Panchthar and Taplejung). The overall goal of the Project is to reduce poverty by increasing (i) employment opportunities in rural areas (ii) value added of agriculture products and (iii) rural income. The expected outcome of the project is to improve efficiency in marketing and processing of high value crops, especially vegetables, fruits, tea and spices in the Eastern Development Region.

The scope of the project includes (i) commercial agriculture investment and management through (a) community based market infrastructure, and (b) non-infrastructure investments; (ii) inclusive development of stakeholders by (a) developing subsistence agricultural stakeholders, (b) enhancing semi-commercial agricultural stakeholders, and (c) promoting social inclusiveness among commercial agricultural stakeholders; (iii) market information dissemination; (iv) capacity enhancement of project partners; and (v) project implementation support. The Commercial Agriculture Alliance (CAA) will implement the project's first component i.e. commercial agriculture investment and management and other four components will be implemented by the Department of Agriculture.

Brief Description of the Consulting Services

As of 2007, the area planted to mangoes in the Eastern Region was reported to be around 5750 ha, of which 60% are concentrated in the districts of Siraha, Saptari and Sunsari. The area has been expanding at about 2-5% per annum. The total production was about 500 mt harvested mostly during the months of June to August, with harvest peak mostly in the month of July. The variety Malda comprises of more than 50% of the total harvest, with wholesale prices ranging from Rs10-15/kg compared to Rs40 to Rs 60 per kg during the off season months. During the lean months of April to May mangoes in Nepal come from South India (Andhra Pradesh and in July August from North India, Uttar Pradesh. About 300 mt are imported during these lean months. By inducing early fruiting in the months of April or May, or late fruiting in July–August, imports may be substantially reduced, with lower prices for the benefit of consumers. Similarly, prices at the farm level will be 50% higher than the normal season price. Within this context, the services of **Mango Fruit Induction Technology Specialist** (international) are required to perform the following.

Specific Tasks:

The Specialist will perform the following tasks:

- a) Visit mango production orchards in Saptari, Siraha and other districts where mango production is common;
- b) Conduct analysis to determine if the fruit induction technology for off season harvesting would suit local varieties under local conditions;
- c) Conduct test using different media and fruit flowering hormones;
- d) Check the availability of hormones used to affect flowering in the local market, and if required, attempt to arrange import from other countries;
- e) Train growers on the proper timing and methods of application as well as the necessary care of crop practices such as insecticides/pesticides application, etc;
- f) Prepare a report on findings and recommendations.

First Input (preferably two weeks in October 2010)

Objectives:

- To study the technical feasibility of using known technology of induced fruit flowering during off-season in selected districts in the Region where mango is commonly grown.
- To examine the local availability of the materials and other logistics needed for the introduction of the technology and if not arrange with the manufacturer and the prospect of bringing them to the country.

Output: Report on the finding, issues and recommendations

Second Input (six weeks in March-April 2011)

Objectives:

- To pre-test apply the technology in selected cooperatives prior to normal fruiting season
- To conduct training on farmers' fields on proper application of fruit inducing technology

Outputs

- At least 50 farmers trained in off-season flowering of mangoes
- Reports on problem and issues and recommendations related to the off-season flowering.

Dissemination of Technology

- Actual demonstration in the field by means of field day/farmer visit
- Pamphlets and brochures about technology
- CADP Market information system (MIS)

Technical Qualifications and experience:

The international specialist will:

- Have at the minimum a Masters degree in Agronomy/Horticulture and at least 10 years work experience in mango production and off-season flowering technology;
- have strong skills in written and spoken English.

Period of Work: 2 person- months

The Executing Agency, MOAC/DOA/CADP, Project Management Unit (PMU), invites eligible consultants to submit their Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the above services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating their qualification and relevant experience to perform the required services (description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, etc.).

The EOIs received would be evaluated and short-listed as per ADB guidelines. Consultants will be selected as individual consultants, with services provided as independent consultants or through a consulting firm, in accordance to the [Guidelines on the Use of Consultants by ADB and its Borrowers](#).

The EOI proposal must be received on or before 25 August 2010 to the physical or email address below:

(i) Commercial Agriculture Development Project,
Project Management Unit
Biratnagar, Morang, Nepal
Ph : +977-21-470107

Or

(ii) Commercial Agriculture Development Project,
Liaison Office, Harihar Bhawan, Lalitpur, Nepal
Ph: +977-1-5010184

Email: mail@cadp.gov.np

Attn: **Mr. Tek Bahadur Bam, Project Manager**