



# TERMS OF REFERENCE

Date: 20 Sept 2023

## Conducting Baseline Study of targeted Villages on Climate Change Adaptation Related Practices, Issues, and Challenges

### Introduction

RDF (Research Development Foundation) is a registered non-profit non-governmental organisation in Pakistan since 2002. It works in the province of Sindh, mainly on basic education, vocational training, including development, health, income generation, agriculture and food security, environmental protection and resource conservation, climate change, emergency aid, disaster preparedness and human rights (especially women's and children's rights).

RDF with the assistance of Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) has launched a project 'Better Quality Cotton Production through Climate Resilient Practices with the Inclusion of Women Farmers' in District Sanghar of Sindh province. The proposed project improves the livelihood of small cotton growers in District Sanghar and their living conditions by expanding the awareness on climate change, disaster preparedness, improvement in soil health management, best practices and women empowerment, child protection and raising of daily wages for women cotton pickers and cleaners. This project aims to focus on increased women farmers participation throughout the project.

A baseline study of targeted villages on climate change adaptation-related practices, issues, and challenges is being conducted as part of the project activities to find the benchmarks for the project indicators. The project implementation has been started from April 1, 2023.

### Project Introduction

The project's overall objective is to improve cotton production and quality through the implementation of BCSS to produce better cotton for sustainability in cotton farming in Sanghar districts using seven principles and criteria in 100 villages. The project supports 2500 small farmers including 400 female and 2100 male farmers on "Better Quality Cotton Production Through Climate Resilient Practices with the Inclusion of Women Farmers".

The project is being implemented in two sub-districts (*taluka*) – Jam Nawaz Ali and Tando Adam in the Sanghar district, which is vulnerable to climate-related disasters such as drought and floods.

### Project Beneficiaries

We have selected 2,500 smallholder farmers from villages in the cotton-growing areas of Jam Nawaz Ali and Tando Adam tehsil in District Sanghar. Of these farmers, 2,100 are male and 400 are female. They have land holdings ranging from 1 to 49 acres.



## **Purpose of the Baseline Study**

Climate change is a significant global issue at present. Pakistan, particularly the province of Sindh, has been adversely affected by its consequences. This includes sudden rainfall, flash floods, and other impacts on both crops and human life. Sanghar district in Sindh province has been severely impacted, with losses in crop yield, human lives, livelihoods, and more.

In that scenario, the RDF BCI team seeks to know about the practices which tend to have significant adaptation potential to certain components of climate change, as well as it would be useful to identify any issues and challenges that may have an impact on cotton crop practices and production. Further, this knowledge will inform the development of future strategies, training modules, and materials. The insights gathered from this study will guide RDF's planning for the project area, ensuring a targeted and effective approach in addressing the climate-related challenges faced by the community.

There will be the following deliverables of the baseline

- Conduct a baseline of target villages on climate change adaptation-related practices, issues, and challenges

## **Outputs of the activities**

- Baseline survey format.
- Baseline database document.
- Baseline report
- Stakeholder's meeting feedback and meeting minutes.
- Recommendations on the basis of baseline

## **Firm/Consultant**

A minimum of ten years of relevant experience in conducting environmental or climate-related studies, preferably involving rural communities. The firm/consultant should possess expertise in climate change adaptation, agriculture, environmental sciences, or related fields, along with a strong understanding of the local context and the specific climate challenges faced by the farmers. Please include any relevant reports as annexes to the technical proposal. The technical proposal should include annexed CVs of the key individuals involved in the assignment. Please note that the personnel whose CVs will be submitted will be required to conduct the study.

## **Suggested Methodology**

The following methodology is suggested; however, the firm/consultant may propose a better methodology in detail with statistical parameters, with a combination of qualitative and quantitative tools. The baseline methodology for measuring the initial values of the indicator should be feasible to be used in future monitoring through RDF.



1. Review of the project document (Farmer List & other relevant documents)
2. To develop a baseline format
3. To Conduct a baseline survey
4. FGDs with different stakeholders
5. Smallholder BCI farmers interviews on a sample basis.

The firm/consultant has to generate an inception report, which should be based on a review of the documents, and initial discussions with RDF & BCI Team, including the development of the tools and later present the inception report to RDF & BCI team for its review.

#### **Duration, Date and Time**

Duration: 20 Days

#### **Submission of Proposals**

The firm/consultants are requested to submit both a technical and financial proposal:

#### **Financial Proposal**

The financial proposal must contain overall quotation in Pakistani Rupees (PKR) for the services to be provided including all the expenses but not limited to following (Consultant fees, travel, food and other logistics arrangements etc).

**Note: All applicable taxes (FBR, SRB) shall be deducted as per Government Rules, the consultants/Institutions may include the taxes in quoted rates.**

#### **Invitation to Bid:**

The Firms / Consultants are required to submit their technical and financial proposal in hard copy according to the TORs with a cover letter with signature of authorized person and organization seal latest by **26<sup>th</sup> September 2023** at 02:30 pm through courier/by hand at RDF Head Office Hyderabad (address mentioned below).

(Please mention the proposal title **“Conducting Baseline Study of targeted Villages on Climate Change Adaptation Related Practices, Issues, and Challenges”** on top of envelop)

#### **Procurement Department**

**Research and Development Foundation (RDF)**

**House NO. A. 50 Sindhi Muslim Cooperative Housing Society Qasimabad, Hyderabad**

**Contact: 022-2102702-3**

**Email: procurement.rdfhyd@gmail.com**