

Assessment of Commercially Viable Agricultural Products in Selected Micro Hydro Projects Sites in Jajarkot and West Rukum Districts

1. Introduction

The energy component of the Renewable Energy for Resilient Agri-Food System (RERAS) project is being implemented by Central Renewable Energy Fund (CREF) within Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC) with the technical assistance of Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood (RERL) which is a joint project of the UNDP and the government of Nepal and implemented by AEPC. CREF/AEPC's main responsibility in RERAS, with necessary technical support from RERL, is to ensure supply of reliable and quality electricity, mechanization of agricultural production and marketing, promotion of agricultural product based productive end uses, etc.

RERL supports livelihood opportunities for poor and marginalized communities by providing reliable electricity supply and fostering Productive Energy Uses (PEU). The focus is on increasing the plant load factor, improving electricity quality, and enhancing revenue generation for the sustainable operation of the micro hydro system.

Recently, UNDP has implemented the RERAS project in earth quake affected districts in Jajarkot and West Rukum under the priority of resilient recovery post-Jajarkot Earthquake, the immediate line of support will facilitate operationalization of renewable energy systems for productive end use, strengthen capacity of local governments on providing advisory support, technological support and strengthening cooperatives to promote women led green enterprises.

In addition to ongoing support for early recovery offered by UNDP and other actors, the proposed expansion of RERAS will provide additional livelihoods support to earthquake victims in Jajarkot and West Rukum. The activities will prioritize working with local governments to provide agro-support services and support cooperatives and farmers' groups for improved agricultural production and value chain linkages, agro-support services and support to better utilize renewable energy for agro- and non agro-enterprises, all aiming to create additional short and long-term employment opportunities for rapid economic recovery in the affected areas.

In this context, CREF/RERL intends to conduct the assessment of agricultural products and explore most commercial viable agricultural commodities/products in the selected MHPs sites in Jajarkot and West Rukum districts. (Detail list of MHPs are attached in annex-II)

1. Objectives

The main objective of the assignment is to assess the existing agriculture products and explore the most commercial viable agri products in the selected MHPs sites of both districts.

2. Scope of Work

The assignment shall include but not limited to:

- The consultant shall take stock of existing agricultural products and the agricultural value chain in selected site of MHPs in Jajarkot and West Rukum.
- Develop a detailed methodology and work plan demonstrating how the information will be collected and analyzed and share with CREF/RERL a inception report

- The consultant shall visit 11 MHPs sites of 5 Municipalities of Jajarkot and West Rukum (listed in annex-2)
- Explore the domestic market (e.g., quantification, market opportunities) for identified products using key informant's interview (KII), Focused Group Discussions (FGD), and other appropriate methods;
- Explore the local, regional and national markets for identified products from primary and secondary information, identify opportunities, issues, constraints and challenges based on field study and secondary information as required.
- Conduct interaction and validation with relevant stakeholders (Agriculture Knowledge Center, producers, processors, collectors, banks/MFIs, private sector and relevants organizations to understand their priorities, and preferences on potential agriculture value chains and desired intervention and capacity building.
- Identify challenges and opportunities in the value chain in the MHPs catchment areas in general and women and marginalized entrepreneurs/producers in particular
- Identify ways to mechanize agricultural related activities in the value chain utilizing electricity from MHPs, e.g lift irrigation, agro processing, packaging, storage etc.

3. Qualification of the proposed Human Resource

Consultant- Value Chain Expert

- Master's degree in Agriculture, Agricultural economics, Management, or other related fields
- Good understanding of agricultural and rural development from both a development cooperation and private sector perspective
- Good understanding of agribusinesses and agricultural value chain trends and direction, including major areas of interest and intervention, as well as interactions with the private sector
- At least 7 years' relevant experience working in the area of agribusiness and agricultural value chain development
- Fluency in English, with excellent written and oral communication skills

4. Inputs from AEPC/RERL

The following inputs will be made available for completing the assignment:

- Budget to carry out the assignment, relevant documents, and other available information
- Inputs to assist the consultant at different stages of the assignment from AEPC/RERL
- Provide related documents and reports

5. Estimated Budget and Activity

This budget will be borne from Sub-Activity 2.2.1.2: Provide support to rehabilitate MHPs to support agriculture-based productive end use. Travel and local logistic cost will be provided separately from RERL after submission of bills, supporting documents as per actual basis.

6. Selection and Evaluation

The selection process will be followed on Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS).

7. Duration of the Assignment and Payment Schedule

- i) The Consultant shall complete the work, including all reporting, within two months from the date of signing the Contract.
- ii) Payment will be provided after completion of the assignment with actual bill and supporting documents.

8. Documents to be submitted by the Firm (Eligibility Criteria)

SN	Documents
1	Copy of Company/Firm Registration Certificate with updated renewal
2	Copy of VAT Registration Certificate
3	Copy of TAX Clearance Certificate of F. Y. 2079/80
4	Latest Signed Resume of resource persons (as per ToR)
5	Financial Proposal with signed cover letter including VAT (as per given format)

9. Acceptance of Proposal

All rights are reserved with CREF/RERL either to approve or disapprove any proposal without giving any reasons whatsoever. If needed, the consultant will be asked for modifications and presentations of the proposal before approval.

Annex-1 Financial Proposal

Central for Renewable Energy Fund/Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood Assessment of Commercially Vaible Agricultural Products in Selected Micro Hydro Projects Sites in Jarjarkot and West Rukum Districts

A. Human Resources Fee						
S N	Name of Professionals	Unit	No.	Unit Rate (Rs.)	Total Amount (Rs.)	Remarks
1	Consultant- Value Expert	Days	3			Prepatory work
2	Travel	Days	4			
3	Field work	Days	15			
5	Local Agriculture Officer	Days	8			
4	Report Prepration and Submission	Days	5			
Sub-total						
Overhead (5%)						
					Total Fee	
					VAT 13%	
					Total Fee	

B. Travel and Daily Allowance (Managed by RERL field Staff)

S N	Reimbursable	Unit	No.	Unit Rate (Rs.)	Total Amount (Rs.)	Remarks
1						
2	Meeting snacks	person	20			
3	Transportation Cost	LS	1			
5	Miscellaneous	LS	1			
Sub Total (B2)						

**Annex-2 Name list of selected MHPs in Rukum (West) and
Jajarkot**

S.no	MHP	Municipalty	Capacity	HHs
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Jajarkot

1	Nalgad Khola	Nalgad # 7	25	300
2	Sipra Khola	Nalgad # 8	31	350
3	Simtara Khola	Barekot # 7	52	700

Rukum (West)

1	Sankh Khola III	Musikot # 4	60	700
2	Sankh Khola Dovan	Musikot # 11	58	550
3	Chun Khola I	Musikot # 9	28	350
4	Chun Khola III	Musikot # 9	27	300
5	Simli Khola	Sani Bheri # 9	29	522
6	Rol Khola	Sani Bheri # 8	33	500
7	Rijagad MHP	Aathbiskot # 10	58	467
8	Giga Gad	Aathbiskot # 9	44	350