**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI) (CONSULTANCY SERVICES)**

**Purpose:** Review and analysis of key water-related and natural resource governance policies and plans, as well as relevant ongoing programmes and initiatives in the states of Assam (Barak valley), Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura in India.

**Duration of contract:** 10 Oct 2019 – 31 December 2019 (short duration)

**Last date for EOI:** 30 September 2019

**Background Information:**

Building River Dialogue and Governance (BRIDGE) in the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) Basin, or [BRIDGE GBM](https://www.iucn.org/regions/asia/our-work/regional-projects/bridge-ganges-brahmaputra-meghna-river-basins-bridge-gbm), is an initiative facilitated by IUCN and funded by the Oxfam Transboundary Rivers of South Asia [(TROSA) Programme](https://cng-cdn.oxfam.org/cambodia.oxfam.org/s3fs-public/file_attachments/TROSA%20Brochure.pdf). The goal of the BRIDGE GBM initiative is to create an enabling environment for cooperative governance of shared river basins for poverty reduction and ecological conservation.

The Barak-Meghna is a transboundary river basin shared by India and Bangladesh. The total area drained by the Meghna River Basin is 82,000 km2, of which 47,000 km2 (57% of the total area) is located in India and 35,000 km2 (43% of the total area) is in Bangladesh. The Meghna Basin is notable for the number of transboundary tributaries. At least 29 named rivers flow into the Bangladesh part of the watershed from India. The Indian part of the basin includes six different northeastern states of India including the Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and the Barak Valley in Assam.

Since July 2018, IUCN has facilitated multi-stakeholder dialogues to develop a benefits sharing framework to support the cooperative governance of the Barak-Meghna Basin between Bangladesh and India. Based on the outcomes of the dialogues and literature review, IUCN published a report, [Opportunities for Benefit Sharing in the Meghna Basin (Bangladesh and India)](https://www.iucn.org/news/asia/201811/new-report-lays-groundwork-benefit-sharing-meghna-river-basin) in November 2018. The report provides information on the Meghna profile and specific benefit enhancing opportunities that exist at the transboundary level.

To support the further development of the Meghna benefit sharing framework, a review of existing policy and planning approaches in different states of India, linked to water and natural resource governance is proposed. This will help in understanding the entry points for the harmonization of the policies among the state to better contribute to the integrated water resource management. To undertake this review work, IUCN is seeking support of an experienced consultant, to review and document key policies and plans, as well as ongoing water governance initiatives in the Meghna Basin.

**Specific Objectives:**

1. Review and analysis of relevant water-related **policies, targets and plans** in the Indian states of Assam (Barak valley), Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura (indicative list of policies to be reviewed in Table 1, Annex 1).
2. Identify and document flagship programmes and initiatives funded by the national governments and international development agencies.

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| **Table 1: Indicative list of sectoral policies and plans** |
| **India**  |
| **Water acts and water resource development policies,** such as flood and erosion control in the Barak Valley, and the states of Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram |
| **Fisheries** development plans and policies, including aquaculture development strategies in the states of Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram and Assam (Barak Valley)  |
| **Forest, Environment and Biodiversity acts;** Policies under the Sixth Schedules of Indian Constitution with particular focus on Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram and the Barak Valley of Assam.  |
| **Mining policies and issues** in the state of Meghalaya, Assam and Tripura  |
| **Agriculture and Irrigation development policies and plans** in the state of Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram and Assam (Barak Valley)  |
| **Energy and hydropower development policie**s and plans in Assam (Barak Valley), Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.  |

**Activities:**

1. **Desk review** under IUCN coordination, the Consultant will create an inventory of relevant water-related and natural resource policies and planning documents; and relevant programmes and initiatives in the states of Assam (Barak Valley), Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
2. **Interview** with selected stakeholders and government agencies identified in consultation with IUCN
3. **Draft a report** summarising the policies and programmes with information on objectives, geographical focus and specific elements (suggested format).

**Deliverable:**

1. **Report on the review of relevant policies, plans and projects in the Assam (Barak Valley), Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram, with the completed table in Annex 2.**

**Timelines (Bangladesh and India)**

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| **Outputs**  | **Timeline**  |
| Inventory and review of relevant policies, plans and projects  | 15 November  |
| 1st Draft of the policy review report and completion of tables in Annex 2  | 15 December  |
| Final Draft report after incorporating comments from IUCN on draft report  | 30 December  |

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| **Suggested structure of the policy review report (to be adapted based on suggestions and proposals from the Consultant)*** Executive summary (max. two pages);
* Background and Methodology (max 2 page)
* Introduction to selected water-related policy and regulations in the selected Indian state (max 2 pages for each state, max 10 pages)
* 1-2 illustrative case studies, linked to the implementation of specific policies and possible improvements; (max 2 page)
* Completed table with the analysis of each policy, identifying objectives and targets; as well as strengths, weaknesses and opportunities (See Annex 1: Table 2 (a) and 2 (b))
* Summary of findings and preliminary recommendations to harmonise these policies to support integrated water resource management in the Meghna basin
* Annexes, including:
* References of key documents reviewed
* Summary of interviews conducted
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**Desired experience and qualification**

The consultancy is open to both individuals and institutions. However, considering the intensity of work proposed over a short duration, priority will be given to EOI clearly demonstrating the ability to devote 30-35 days during the contract period to deliver the outputs in a timely and efficient manner.

Preference to citizens/institutions in India, particularly those with demonstrated experience in water resource governance, community engagement, fisheries and other aspects linked to river basin management.

**Qualifications**

* Master’s Degree on issues and themes relevant to this consultancy, such as public policy and administration, natural resource management, river basin governance and international relations.
* 10 years of experience and demonstrated skills in policy analysis with particular focus on themes of water governance, fisheries, land rights and agriculture is desirable.
* Working relationships with public interest advocates, community advocates, and policymakers is desirable.
* Excellent communication skills and fluency in written and spoken English and Bengali/Hindi.

**Send the expression of interest to following:**

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| **For India component:**To: Ms Archanana Chatterjee, National Coordinator, IUCN India Email - archana.chatterjee@iucn.org CC: Mr. Vishwa Ranjan Sinha, Program Officer, Water and Wetland, South Asia, IUCN Asia Regional Office, Bangkok Email – Vishwaranjan.sinha@iucn.org  |

**Annex 1: Tables**

**Table 2 (a):** Water and natural resource governance policies and plans in the selected northeastern state in Barak-Meghna basin

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title of the policy and plans**  | **Ministry responsible**  | **Geographical focus** | **Key elements of the policy/plans** * Evolution (origin and amendments)
* Summary of content (goals, objectives, targets)
* Linkages with SGD 5, 6, 13 and 14
* Application of ecosystem system based adaptation to climate change and natural disasters
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**Table 2 (b):** Ongoing programmes and initiatives in the Meghna basin (relevant from the water and natural resources governance perspective)

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| **Title of the initiative and link to the webpage**  | **Donor and budget**  | **Start and end date**  | **Key elements** * Specific objectives and targets
* Partners
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**Annex 2: Format for the Expression of interest**

**Consultant Data**

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| * **Name**
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| * **Country of Nationality**
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| * **Address of consultant**
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| * **E-mail of consultant**
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| Required skills and experience (Max 500 words).Provide information demonstrating your ability, skills and experience to undertake the advertised assignment in an efficient manner to deliver the TOR. Mention the framework that you will apply for the policy analysis  |
| * Please provide summary of your relevant qualifications and attach your Curriculum Vitae (CV)
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| * Proposed budget and details expenditure, such as number of days, daily rates etc.
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