

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

of the Ministry of Agriculture of Bangladesh

1. Basic act and Financing source

The basic act for this action is the regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006.

The Budget line: 21.05.03

2. Objectives of the programme, priorities for 2009 and expected results

The **Global Purpose** of the GoB/EU Food Security Programme is to improve the food security of vulnerable households in Bangladesh.

The **overall objective** of the Food Security - Soil Fertility Component is: to improve food security of the families of poor and marginal farmers in agro-ecologically disadvantaged areas.

The **specific objectives** of this Call for Proposals are:

1. To promote sustainable soil management in target areas
2. To diversify crops in target areas
3. To improve yield (mt/ha) of target crops in target areas
4. To improve access to nutritious food in target households
5. FS SFC effectively managed

The **expected results** organised by specific objective are:

Result 1 : Improved soil management in target areas.

- a) Farmers in the target areas adopt a balanced use of fertilizers
- b) Production costs reduced (through adoption of more efficient management practices) in the target areas
- c) Soil degradation prevented or reversed

Result 2 : Increased diversity of crops being grown in the target areas

- a) Improved crop rotations adopted in target areas
- b) Increased cropping intensity of land

Result 3 : Yields (mt/ha) of target crops increased in target areas

- a) Improved germplasm/Seed/planting materials being used by target groups
- b) Improved farming practices adopted by target groups

Result 4 : Increased consumption of nutritious food by women and children in target households

- a) Women and children in target households have improved access to a nutritious diet.

Result 5 : FS SFC managed effectively

- a) Management training executed
- b) Programme findings documented and disseminated.
- c) M&E implemented at enhanced level
- d) National workshops executed
- e) EU visibility programmes implemented

3. Eligibility conditions

In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants **must**:

- be legal persons and
- be non profit making and
- be specific types of organisations such as: non-governmental organisations, public sector operators (institutions, departments, research organization, universities, etc), local authorities, international (inter-governmental) organisations as defined by Article 43 of the Implementing Rules to the EC Financial Regulation and
- be nationals of a Member State of the European Union or Bangladesh. This obligation does not apply to international organisations and
- NGOs must be registered with the NGOs Affairs Bureau of Bangladesh
- be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the action with their partners, not acting as an intermediary and
- Applicants for each lot must have at least 5 years proven track record in the successful management and implementation of interventions of at least one project with minimum total project value of EUR 500,000 for LOT 1, LOT 2, LOT 5 and EUR 300,000 for LOT 3 and LOT 6 and Euro 100,000 for LOT 4, and Euro 50,000 for LOT 7 during the period 2002 – 2008 and
- One or more of the partners must have at least three years experience of agricultural actions in Bangladesh and
- One or more of the partners must have experience of agricultural or rural development in the geographical area of the action and
- One or more of the partners must have experience of carrying out socio-economic and environmental monitoring and evaluation including comprehensive baseline work.
- In case of International NGOs, have had an office in Bangladesh or have worked with NGO partners in Bangladesh in the area of food security/poverty alleviation or agriculture or rural development for at least three years.

4. Selection and award criteria

The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the procedures set out in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions.

5. Maximum rate of Community financing

The Commission will finance up to 90% of the total budget of the proposed activities under lots 1-6 and up to 98%¹ of the total budget under Lot 7.

The balance must be financed from the applicant's or partners' own resources or from resources other than the European Community budget.

¹ Lot 7 has been included to provide support to the PTF and implementing partners in management training, Monitoring and Evaluation and dissemination of results. It also covers visibility. As it will be difficult for applicants to contribute financially more than a few percents for this kind of activity, it is proposed that the Commission will finance up to 98% for this lot.

6. Schedule of calls for proposals

The tentative time for launching of call for proposals is May/June 2009. The deadline for submission of proposals is foreseen for August/September 2009.

7. Indicative amount of calls for proposals

The overall indicative amount made available for this call for proposals is € 8 000 000. The CFP will work in six areas: Coastal zone, Active floodplains and charlands, Haor area, Peat basin, Piedmont plains (Foot hill) areas, Hilly areas. One Lot of the CFP will be set aside for each area. A seventh lot will cover management support for the project task force (PTF).

The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to award all available funds.