

# Request for Proposal (RFP)

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**Opening Date:** February 13, 2024

**Closing Date:** March 12, 2024

**Subject:** Service Consultancy – Conducting Impact Study of CBED Project

## **The Organization:**

Afghanaid is a British humanitarian and development organization operating in Afghanistan. For close to forty years, we have worked with millions of deprived, excluded, and vulnerable families in some of the poorest and most remote communities in Afghanistan. We build basic services, improve livelihoods, and strengthen the rights of women and children, help communities protect against natural disasters, adapt to climate change, and respond to humanitarian emergencies.

Our community-led approach gives ordinary Afghans a voice in their own development, making them active participants in shaping the future of their country. With our years of experience, the majority of the Afghan team, and our deep understanding of local, cultural, and ethnic issues, we have earned great trust and respect among the communities we work alongside. This has allowed us access to some of the most underserved areas of the country.

## **Project Background:**

Afghanistan is located in the Himalayan Hindukush Mountain range, and its ecosystem is classified as Mountain Ecosystem. Ecosystem plays a critical role in the lives of people whose livelihoods depend on their ecosystem. However, most parts of Afghanistan's mountain ecosystem are highly degraded and unable to provide the best ecosystem services to the people and communities dependent on them.

The CBED project is implemented in Afghanistan's 245 communities in 6 provinces (Takhar, Badakshan, Samangan, Jawzjan, Sar-e-pul and Bamyan). The first phase of the project (CBED-I), implemented between November 2018 and April 2021, focused on improving the ecosystem by undertaking Integrated Watershed Development (IWM) in 30 micro-watersheds and Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) in 245 communities. The project's second phase (CBED-II) is being implemented from April 2022 to March 2025 and focuses on improving the Livelihoods of vulnerable households in the 245 communities.

## **The Consultancy Assignment:**

Impact Study of the Community level infrastructures implemented in CBED project, such as:

- Integrated watershed development (Trenches, Terraces, Gully plugs and Check dams)
- Flood canal cleaning
- Irrigation canal, Aqueduct, Water intake, Super passage and Canal protection wall
- Veterinary field unit
- Agro-service center
- Bio-climatic potato storage structure

- Road repair and extension
- Culvert

To be conducted in 6 provinces (with target districts): Takhar (Chahab), Badakhshan (Argo and Kishem), Samangan (Aybak and Hazrat-e-Sultan), Jawzjan (Shebergan), Sar-e-pul (Sar-e-pul center) and Bamyan (Bamyan center and Yakawlang)

A list of the infrastructures and their locations is provided in [Annex-1](#).

### **The overall objective of the consultancy:**

To understand the livelihood impact of the community-level infrastructures implemented by the Community Based Eco-DRR (CBED) project.

### **The Overall Responsibilities:**

#### **Consultant:**

- Organize logistics and conduct the study independently
- Coordinate with the field teams
- Follow partners' policies and security protocols
- Engage high-quality consultants and surveyors
- Manage time and complete the study on time
- Study and determine the following:
  - Impact of watershed management, check-dams and canal cleaning on flood protection
  - Impact of watershed management, check-dams, canal cleaning and canal lining on water conservation and water availability
  - Impact of flood protection on agriculture and livestock
  - Impact of water availability on agriculture, cash crops, fruits and vegetables production and productivity, food security and income from agriculture
  - Impact of agro-service centres and bio-climatic storage structures on agriculture production, productivity, and income
  - Impact of water availability, agriculture and veterinary field units on livestock productivity and income
  - Impact of watershed management on ecosystem services
  - Impact of watershed management, water availability, agriculture and livestock on gender and women
  - Any other unanticipated impacts of the CBED project
- Undertake social cost-benefit analysis of community-level infrastructures built by the CBED project.

A list of key questions for the study is provided in [Annex-2](#).

#### **Afghanaid:**

- Establish contact with the field teams
- Introduce the communities to the consultant teams

#### **Payment:**

- 40% on signing of contract
- 40% on submission of the draft report
- 20% on submission of the final report

## **Working days and Hours:**

The study will take 3 months and is expected to start as soon as possible

## **Service Provider's Deliverables:**

1. Inception report
2. Draft Narrative and analytical impact study report
3. Final Narrative and analytical impact study report
4. Summary report
5. Powerpoint presentation
6. Pictures (original format) taken during the study

## **Methodology:**

The consultant will develop a comprehensive study methodology that will be reviewed by the Afghanaid Evaluation Review Team (ERT) during the inception phase. A mixed study design is preferred for this study, with clear methods, techniques, data collection processes, analysis, and reporting.

The consultant should develop a methodology in consideration of the information outlined in the ToR and the annexes to ensure accuracy and rigor. The choice of methods and techniques must adhere to the measurement of variables under the study scope and should answer all the study questions.

## **Reporting Line:**

The consultant will work closely with the ARC Deputy Director, the MEAL Specialist, and the ARC Secretariat team.

## **EXPERTISE REQUIRED**

The firm or consulting team engaged for the impact study must provide evidence of the following qualifications and competencies:

- Past projects or studies were conducted in watershed development, water resource management, climate change adaptation, and/or climate resilient agriculture, producing very high-quality reports.
- Credentials and certifications of team members/lead consultant in watershed development, water resource management, climate change adaptation, climate resilient agriculture, social science and project management.
- Evidence of team members' proficiency in relevant local languages and understanding of cultural dynamics in the regions where they have previously worked, particularly in Afghanistan.
- Excellent writing skills (English)
- Full-time commitment to the lead consultant
- The firm must clearly understand the impact and outcome areas of the project.
- Good understanding of DRR and Climate Change
- Good knowledge of Agriculture and Livestock based livelihoods
- Should have qualified technical specialists and are available in Afghanistan
- Thorough understanding of ecosystem services impact assessments
- Produce high-quality reports with very good analysis

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR RFP:**

### **1) Contact Information**

Provide a Primary Contact Person, Company Name, Address, Phone Number, E-mail Address.

### **2) Background and Experience**

- In detail, describe your methodologies for providing the deliverables listed in the ToR/assignment.
- Describe your organization's expertise and experience related to assignments with other NGOs by providing your clients' names, project details, location, total contract value and other relevant information.
- Detailed background and qualifications of your team experts who will execute the assignment.
- Attach recent related work samples (impact study/evaluation reports on watershed development, water resource management, climate change adaptation and/or climate resilient agriculture) from at least two recent organizations where the services of the consultant/ team or firm have been utilized.

### **Ability to travel (to Afghanistan and/or working area of Afghanaid), if require Covid-19 vaccination certificate:**

Able to provide COVID-19 vaccination certificate and observe COVID-19 SOPs whenever required during the assignment in Afghanistan

### **3) Key Staff/Lead Consultant**

- Identify key staff that will be dedicated to providing this consultancy.
- Describe the education and experience of key staff relevant to the requested services.
- Team composition and time allocation

### **4) Consultancy Cost**

- Provide a detailed budget for the consultancy services and a breakdown of consultancy costs for the overall assignment in USD.

## **CONTACT DETAILS & SUBMISSIONS**

National/International firms/individuals that meet the above requirements should submit their application to [jobs@afghanaid.org.uk](mailto:jobs@afghanaid.org.uk) by **4:30 pm (Kabul time) on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**, including the following as the subject line: **"RFP No. AAD-03-2024 Proposal for Consultancy Services for Conducting CBED Project Impact Study"**. Applications without the proper subject line or submitted after the deadline will not be considered. Due to the high volume of applications we receive, we are unable to respond to every application. If you have not heard from us within 2 weeks of the deadline, then you have not been successful for shortlisting

The application should include the following:

- A letter of interest including complete contact details, previous relevant experience and references
- CV or company profile
- Quotation/ Professional fee

If you have any questions regarding this request for proposal, please email [jobs@afghanaid.org.uk](mailto:jobs@afghanaid.org.uk) no later than **4:30 pm (Kabul Time) on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024** so that we have time to respond to your request before the deadline for applications.

Electronic copies of the Proposals/Quotations in response to this request are to be submitted by **4:30 pm (Kabul Time) on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

Only qualified applications meeting the above criteria will be shortlisted. Due to the high volume of applications we receive, we are unable to respond to every application. If you have not heard from us within 2 weeks of the deadline, then you have not been successful for shortlisting.

### Impact Study for CBED Project

#### Annex-1: CBED Community level Infrastructures

S.N.	Province	District	S.N.	Communities	Locations							
					Integrated Watershed Development (Trenches/ Terraces/ Gully plugs/ Checkdam/ Reservoir)	Flood Canal Cleaning	Irrigation canal/ Aqueduct/ Water intake/ Super passage/ Canal protection wall	Veterinary Field Unit	Agro Service Center	Potato Storage Structure	Road repair & extension	Culvert
1	Samangan	Hazrat-e-Sultan	1	Hazrat-e-Sultan	Y			Y	Y			
			2	Solokot	Y							
		Aybak	3	Dalkhaki	Y			Y	Y			
			4	Chaghat	Y			Y	Y			Y
			5	Hazrat-e-Khalid	Y			Y	Y			
			6	Wahdat	Y			Y	Y			
2	Takhar	Chahab	7	Nawabad Khalian	Y			Y	Y			
			8	Khairabad	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y		
			9	Colan	Y		Y	Y	Y			
			10	Safakan Bala & Payen	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
			11	Kharsangan	Y			Y	Y		Y	
			12	Jami Nasruall							Y	
			13	Jami Khanaqa							Y	
			14	Qala-e-Khalian							Y	
			15	Plang Baba Pahlawan							Y	
			16	Righai							Y	
3	Badakshan	Kesham	18	Kiznakan	Y		Y	Y	Y			
			19	Wakshi Bala	Y			Y	Y			
			20	Nayaba-e-gharbi			Y					
		Argo	21	Samadi	Y			Y	Y			
			22	Petwan	Y			Y	Y			
			23	Ganda Chasma Bala	Y			Y	Y			
			24	Boinaqara			Y					
			25	Deh Norak	Y							
Bamyan Center	26	Deh Hazara	Y			Y	Y		Y			
	27	Gorwana					Y	Y				
	28	Do Ab Zard sang						Y				
	29	Borsona #1				Y		Y				
	30	Katwai						Y				
	31	Monar/Borsona #2						Y				
	32	Dasht-e- sayed			Y	Y		Y				
	33	Shash toda katwy								Y		
	34	Abkhana katwy								Y		
	35	Dom dasht katwy								Y		
	36	Robat katwy								Y		
	37	Do Ab Chapdarah						Y				
	38	Samadi	Y				Y	Y				
	39	Raqol	Y									

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4	Bamyan	Yakawlang	40	Gawhargin	Y				Y					
			41	Mayandayak	Y				Y					
			42	Chel Gawe				Y				Y		
			43	feroz Bahar				Y				Y		
			44	Gorgak				Y						
			45	Hawz Sha				Y	Y					
			46	Joy Now				Y						
			47	Kata Qala				Y						
			48	Monara				Y						
			49	Namadak				Y						
			50	Dow borja				Y						
			51	Sang Surakh				Y						
			52	Seh Pakhsa				Y						
			53	Rashaki Petab				Y						
			54	Qala Miana				Y						
			55	Now Joy				Y						
			56	Feroz Bahar Bala				Y						
			57	Boghundak Choshma				Y		Y				Y
			58	Nashir				Y						
			59	Parjoyak										Y
			60	Khoskak										Y
			61	Mohammad sharaf										Y
			62	Gird bid (Dedmoshkin)										Y
			63	Qala shnahang								Y		Y
			64	Safed rah								Y		
			65	Char dewari								Y		
			66	Jamak									Y	Y
			67	Kharistan									Y	Y
			68	Kapkan								Y		
69	Zurab								Y		Y			
			70	Khatoon Qala	Y	Y								
			71	Eraghli	Y									
			72	Mongotia Arabia	Y									
			73	Nawabad Arabia	Y		Y							
			74	Yangi Arigh Payen		Y								
			75	Hassan Abad		Y	Y							
			76	Jalalabad Bala		Y								
			77	Sofi Qala		Y								
			78	Islam Joy		Y								
			79	Noker Abad		Y								

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5	Jawzjan	Sheberghan	80	Oramast		Y								
			81	Qomsoy		Y								
			82	Yangi Arigh Bala		Y								
			83	Yangi Arigh Wasat		Y								
			84	Qanjogha Payeen		Y		Y	Y					
			85	Jalalabad Payeen		Y			Y					
			86	Yateemak Qala		Y				Y				
			87	Shobai Afghania					Y					
			88	Qazankol		Y								
			89	Afshar Khana		Y								
			90	Kenara		Y								
			91	Dida Mosh		Y								
			92	Ghajari		Y					Y			
			93	Chil Mard							Y			
			94	Tonukeay Afghanea			Y				Y			
			95	Char Paykal					Y					
			96	Tarnaw Uzbekey						Y				
			97	Oramast							Y			
			98	Eid Mohala										
			99	Mangotai Arabia						Y				
100	Qanjogha Bala				Y									
101	Charam Gharkhana						Y							
102	Yaka Bagh						Y							
6	Sar-e-pul	Sar-e-pul center	103	Choqor Gozar Olqani Kalan	Y	Y								
			104	Nawroz Tapa	Y									
			105	Nawabad Toghani	Y				Y					
			106	Toghani Hazara	Y									
			107	Aferdi	Y	Y				Y				
			108	Arab-e-Qadem	Y	Y								
			109	Arab-e Jadid	Y	Y								
			110	Korak Uzbekia	Y	Y					Y			
			111	Imam-e Khord	Y									
			112	Khairabad	Y									
			113	Behsood		Y			Y					
			114	Charbagh					Y					
			115	Anwaruqoran					Y					
			116	Takhta Koopruk					Y					
			117	Chabok							Y			
			118	Qeragu							Y			
			119	Asurabad							Y			

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			120	Beshbagh	Y	Y						
			121	Asyabad		Y						
			122	Olqani kalan		Y						
			123	Selbor kocha		Y						
			124	Nawabad Imam kalan	Y	Y						
			125	Kharaba	Y	Y						



**Impact study of CBED project**  
**Annex-2: Key Questions**

1. Impact on flood protection (Watersheds, check-dams and canal cleaning)
  - Has there been any increased protection of habitat and infrastructure from floods? If so, to what extent?
  - Has there been any increased protection of agricultural land from floods (flood water and rolling stones)? If so, to what extent?
  - Has there been any increased protection of irrigation infrastructure from floods? If so, to what extent?
  - Has there been any increased resumption/continuation of agriculture due to protection from floods? If so, to what extent?
  
2. Impact on water availability (Watersheds, check-dams, canal cleaning and canal lining)
  - Has there been any increased availability of surface water (canal, stream, spring, river)? If so, to what extent?
    - For irrigation
    - For livestock
    - For human consumption
  - Has there been any increased availability of ground water? If so, to what extent?
  - Has there been any increased access to groundwater (Solar pump, farmers own initiative)? If so, to what extent?
    - For irrigation
    - For livestock
    - For human consumption
  
3. Impact on agriculture
  - Has the flood protection and increased water availability resulted in any increased or improved agriculture? If so, to what extent?
    - On Staple crop (wheat, rice, maize etc.) production
    - On Cash crop (Onion, potato, cotton, melon, ferulla etc.) production
    - On Fruit crops (Grape, apple, apricot etc.) production
    - On Vegetable (Okra, brinjal, cauliflower, chili etc.) production
  - Has the Agro-service centers helped farmers in production or post-production? If so, to what extent?
  - Has the bio-climatic potato storage structures helped farmers in the longer-term storage of potatoes? If so, to what extent?
  - Has it resulted in increased income from agriculture? If so, to what extent?
  
4. Impact on livestock
  - Has the increased water and agriculture resulted in any improvement in livestock? If so, to what extent?
    - As a result of the availability of drinking water for livestock
    - As a result of increased vegetation in watershed areas
    - As a result of the increased availability of agriculture bi-products (straw etc.)
  - Has the Veterinary Field Units helped livestock owners in animal health and management? If so, to what extent?

5. Impact on ecosystem services
  - Has the watershed interventions resulted in any improvement in ecosystem services?  
If so, to what extent?
    - Increase in provisioning services (Food, Fresh water, Wood etc.)
    - Increase in regulating services (Flood control, carbon storage, clean air etc.)
    - Increase in cultural services (Recreation, tourism, beauty etc.)
    - Increase in supporting services (Fertile soil, biodiversity, habitat etc.)
  
6. Impact on gender and women
  - Has the above interventions resulted in any change in the role and status of women at home and in the community?
    - Decision-making of investment in agriculture at the household level
    - Decision-making of use of resources at the community level
    - Participation in agriculture activities at the household level
  
7. Other unanticipated impacts
  - Has there been any other project impacts? If so, to what extent?
    - Use of flood-protected areas for IDP resettlement, if any
    - Use of flood-protected areas for cultivation by farmers, if any
    - Use of trenches and terraces for cultivation by farmers, if any
    - Purchase of a large number of solar pumps by farmers on their own, if any
    - Solar pump suppliers/agents promoting solar pumps after watershed development, if any
    - Private sector banks providing credit to farmers after watershed development, if any
    - Any other
    - Any other