

Terms of Reference to conduct 'Action Research on Tenancy Land Issues in Nepal'

Background

Dual ownership over agricultural land has been considered as one of the main obstacle to the people centered land reform in Nepal. The provision for Tenancy Land Right was first introduced in 1964 with the introduction of the Land Related Act 1964 and the person who become tenant after 1997 is not eligible to claim tenancy right. All of the tenants have not yet received their rights and their condition is not well known among the policymakers and development partners. Meanwhile, land and agrarian movement in Nepal has a kind of consideration that "*without concluding the Tenancy Land Rights, land reform in Nepal could not have a good start.*" Therefore, it has become important to carry-out in-depth action research to inform a policy decision.

This action research program on "Tenancy Land Issues in Nepal" is being counted under the Asia NES-CBIs and Regional Engagement of the International Land Coalition (ILC) for supporting National Engagement Strategy (NES): A Multi-Stakeholder Partnership for People Centered Land Governance.

CSRC has been hosting ILC/NES Nepal and facilitating the implementation of National Engagement Strategy: A multi-stakeholder partnership for people centered land governance in Nepal in collaboration with the ILC's national members and other development partners.

In this context, Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) calls for the expression of intent from a qualified consultant who are willing to carry-out this research work.

Objective of the assignment

The main objective of this assignment is to carry-out the in-depth action research on Tenancy land related issues in Nepal. It will also assess the overall situation of the tenants in the study area.

Scope of the Work:

The consultant will conduct action research work in the districts where Tenancy problem is very significant. Consultant will provide a key leadership and supervisory role from the onset of the research study to the successful completion. Specific responsibilities of the consultant include:

- a. Design the overall research program in close collaboration with CSRC and NES Nepal Team.
- b. Prepare and design the research tools i.e. survey questionnaire, checklists and schedule for the interviews and etc.
- c. Provide orientation and research training to the field researchers and data enumerators and also supervise the research coordinator.
- d. Conduct field visit as per the requirement and ensure the quality and adequacy of the information collected.
- e. Make presentation on the research findings, share the draft report and incorporate received feedback, suggestions and address the comments provided on the report.

- f. Prepare data entry format and perform data analysis
- g. Develop and produce publishable detailed research report in Nepali

Key Deliverables

Consultant will provide following deliverables:

- An inception report (outlining the methodology, operationalization of questions and planned procedure and approach to the research)
- Documentation of the preliminary findings and recommendations along with the final discussion on-site (debriefing), additionally at headquarters (for a wider sharing of the research findings)
- Main Research Report in Nepali

Consultancy Period

The consultancy agreement is for the period of six months effective from 1 July 2020 – 31 December 2020.

Relevance of the assignment

Government has been opening and closing the applications to claim tenancy land rights from the registered tenant farmers but has not been seriously taking forward the tenancy land separation process as expected to conclude the tenancy issue. There are multiple myths around the tenants and the tenancy land which are further complicating the issue. To demystify the myths related to the tenants and tenancy land rights, this action research will play crucial role bringing the real stories with factual evidences to the surface. This will provide the right strategic move for the government on concluding this issue.

Methodology

The consultant will employ the mixed method, a blend of both qualitative and quantitative, of research while carrying out the research work. Consultant will develop standard methodology and design required research tools.

Budget

Total budget for the consultancy work is a total sum of NPR. 9,50,000 (in words rupees Nine Lakh Fifty thousand only) inclusive of all taxes.

Other expense related to the consultancy

Any travel and field visit costs will be paid by CSRC according to its rule.

Responsibilities of CSRC

During the entire period of the assignment, CSRC shall provide assistance on the field related research activities. In addition to that, if needed, regular suggestion, guidance, and supervision will be done by CSTRC/NES team. The contact authority from CSRC/NES is NES Facilitator.

Experiences and Qualifications

- Consultant at least have Masters' Degree in Development Economics, Development Studies, Sociology, agriculture or any other relevant subject.
- Consultant must have at least 15 years of research experience related to natural resources, and development sector.
- Consultant must have comprehensive knowledge on land tenure and dual ownership issues.
- Consultant must have PAN registration number.