

## Expression of Interest

HCLFoundation, under its Environment flagship programme Harit , invites EOI from NGOs / CSR organizations working in Water Conservation for the Rejuvenation of Water Structures etc.

EOI released by	HCLFoundation
EOI Code	HCLF/EOI/HAR/MLOC/27022024
Program Name	Harit
Date of Posting	27/02/2024
Last Date for submission of Proposal	10/03/2024
Location	Chennai, Nagpur, Lucknow, Gautam Buddh Nagar

### ABOUT HCLFOUNDATION

HCLFoundation delivers the corporate social responsibility agenda of HCLTech in India through its flagship programmes and special initiatives. As a not-for-profit organization, it strives to contribute towards national and international development goals, bringing about positive impact in the lives of people, through long-term sustainable programmes.

HCLFoundation aims to alleviate poverty and achieve inclusive growth and development through life cycle based, integrated community development approach that focuses on Education, Health, Skill Development and Livelihood, Environment, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Response. Child protective strategies, inclusion, and gender transformative approaches remain central in all initiatives, thus ensuring comprehensive development. At present, it is implementing five flagship programmes - Samuday and HCLTech Grant (Rural Development); Uday and My Clean City (Urban Development); Harit (Environment Action) and four special initiatives - Power of One, Sports for Change, Academy and My E-Haat.

For more details, please visit our website - <https://www.hclfoundation.org>

### VISION

To be the source code for sustainable socio-economic and environmental development.

### MISSION

Nurture clean, green and healthy communities where everyone is empowered and equipped to reach their full potential in partnership with its employees, communities and stakeholders, while promoting volunteerism and establishing international standards of strategic planning, execution and measuring impact.

## **Harit by HCLFoundation– The Green Initiative**

Harit is a distinct flagship programme for Environment Action. Harit is a multi-year, ongoing programme, addressing environment, operational in 9 States of India, with multiple long-mid-short-term projects under its ambit.

Under this, HCLFoundation is committed towards conservation of environment and the indigenous flora and fauna; with the primary objective to conserve, restore and enhance local ecosystems and respond to climate change in a sustainable manner through community engagement.

## **Vision**

To conserve, restore and enhance indigenous environmental systems and respond to climate change in a sustainable manner through community engagement.

## **Background – The Environmental Complex**

We are all interdependent and share the same environment. The pressing issues such as environmental degradation and climate change are complex, boundary agnostic and are triggered by different drivers; exacerbating environmental risks and leading to deteriorating quality of life and human health. Many times issues that seem local, would require an ecosystem approach to deal with. World leaders have identified awareness as a key solution towards sustainable development of countries; as creating a strong link between the environment and the quality of human life is crucial to ensure conservation of the environment and natural resources.

Against this context, Harit is aimed towards restoring the environmental balance; with the primary objective to conserve, restore and enhance indigenous ecosystems and its services and respond to climate change in a sustainable manner through community engagement. Throughout the process, Harit focuses at building scalable and replicable nature based solutions that are economically viable, socially acceptable, environmentally sustainable, holistic and inclusive.

An integrated and strategic broader-scale approach to environmental action and conservation enables to bring in stakeholders and partners together to work on a common and shared environment and deal better with both the site-level and wider landscape needs. This will also enable us to better understand feedback of the interventions, optimize resources and prioritize actions.

## **Key Intervention Areas**

All these interventions under Harit follow a 'Participatory and Convergent Approach' in attaining the desired results towards Sustainable Developmental Goals aligned to the National Indicator Framework for SDG.

Operational in nine States - Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Harit by HCLFoundation is building sustainable and inclusive models towards:

- A flourishing biodiversity, green cover and building climate resilience through afforestation;

- An abundance of water resources through rejuvenating vanishing waterbodies;
- A thriving coastal and marine habitats by on and off-shore cleaning initiatives;
- A better life for animals by improving human animal relationships and addressing animal welfare inside community areas;
- Cleaner air through reducing and neutralizing CO2 emissions;
- Protecting and preserving the environment through education, community stewardship and participation.

## **Achievement**

We have successful existing partnership models on mass afforestation and water bodies rejuvenation in various cities across India. Till now, HCLFoundation has greened over 66,000+ acres of land and brought under community governance, 1.45 million+ saplings planted, 57.9 bn litres water harvested and 70,000+ animals rescued, treated and protected. As stories of transformation reverberate across 22 states and 3 Union Territories, our commitment and investment towards the planet continues to be strengthened!

## **1. Description of EOI**

HCLFoundation requests for proposal from eligible NGOs / CSR agencies for feasibility study, assessment and implementation of waterbody/water structure rejuvenation project. HCLFoundation's response towards the development and rejuvenation of water structure, and their ecosystem will include

- To conserve and maintain water as critical common and to restore depleting water table and enhance the ecological and social value of waterbodies within target communities.
- To promote sustainable water management practices and increase water availability for communities and ecosystems.
- To improve the health and resilience of targeted waterbodies by addressing pollution, degradation, and habitat loss.
- To protect and restore native biodiversity by mitigating the impact of invasive species on waterbodies and surrounding ecosystems.
- To raise awareness and actively involve communities and concerned govt. department in water conservation efforts.
- To measure and assess the effectiveness of water conservation initiatives and adapt strategies accordingly.

## **2. Scope of Work for Rejuvenation of water structure**

The response towards development and rejuvenation of water structure by HCLFoundation, has been envisioned as under,

- a. Assessment Phase
  - Conduct a thorough assessment of the existing water structure.

- Evaluate its current condition, functionality, and performance.
  - Identify any structural, hydraulic, environmental, or operational issues.
  - Assess the impact of the water structure on the surrounding ecosystem and communities.
- b. Rejuvenation Phase
- Permission/NOC from concern govt. department
  - Intervention with in water structure, periphery and larger catchment area
  - Filtration Chamber and nature-based solutions
  - Inlet-Outlet Management
- c. Sustainability and Awareness Generation
- Community mobilization
  - Capacity building and knowledge enhancement
  - Defining a clear Theory of Change (TOC) and developing corresponding Output, Outcome and Impact-level indicators
  - Raise awareness on community accountability for groundwater extraction
  - Advocacy with authorities to have stricter regulations
- d. Documentation and Reporting
- Pre and Post video and photo documentation
  - Capture the process documentation
  - Document lessons learned and best practices for future reference

Budget for all activities and line items to be attached as per applicable at unit rate.

### 3. Geography

Chennai, Nagpur, Lucknow, Gautam Buddh Nagar

### 4. Project Duration

Maximum project duration can be conceptualized for 3 years along with 1 year financial budget.

### 5. Expected Outcomes

- Prefeasibility assessment and baseline report for all the ponds
- Enhancements to the water structure's design, operation, and maintenance result in improved functionality, efficiency, and performance.
- Implementation of Nature-based solution for restoration water quality improvement
- Community and institutional ownership of ponds' maintenance and sustainability.
- Formation of user groups, trained on operations & maintenance of pond and filtration Chamber
- Drawing design and DPR for water structure rejuvenation
- Success Story and case study

## How to Apply

NGOs / CSR agencies should have following documents;

- Registration Certificate
- 12 A Certificate
- 80 G certificate
- CSR-1 registration
- Trust Deed (if NGO) otherwise Memorandum of Association/ By- Law
- Pan Card
- FCRA certification (Not Mandatory)
- Last three-year Income Tax return (ITR)
- Audited financials for the last three years
- Last year's Annual Report

## Assessment:

- All the applicants are expected to submit details of similar activities done in last three years, an illustration of proposed methodology and project plan in accordance with the above SOW; which will be used for the assessment.
- Please note that only the shortlisted NGOs/NPOs will be contacted for the submission of a detailed proposal.

## Eligibility criteria:

NGOs/NPOs with experience in following parameters are invited to submit their EOI:

- Demonstrable experience in working on afforestation and habitat restoration projects or water conservation projects.
- Proven track record and experience in managing multiple stakeholders and complex situations on ground.
- Familiarity with relevant Government Policies, UN SDGs, National Indicators Framework, NDC, etc.
- Clear track record and no legal issues.
- Adherence to all relevant CSR rules and regulations.
- Ability to submit all the relevant documents and registration certificates when requested.

## How to apply:

Applications should have the following attachments

- NGOs/NPOs can send their EOI for either of the two interventions or both depending upon their expertise.
- All proposals must be submitted as per the prescribed **format** mentioned in the **Annexure**
- Send your application with subject line **HCLF/HARIT/EOI/WC** to [ankit.kuma@hcl.com](mailto:ankit.kuma@hcl.com) marking [ssanthosh.kumar@hcl.com](mailto:ssanthosh.kumar@hcl.com) in cc, latest by March 10, 2024

## Terms & Conditions

- **Deadline:** EoI received after the designated deadline may be subject to rejection by HCL Foundation.
- **Validity:** Your EoI must remain valid for a minimum of three (3) months from the date of receipt by HCL Foundation.
- **Negotiations:** The most competitive EoI is requested. It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded on the basis of merit of EoI. However, HCL Foundation reserves the right to request responses to questions and conduct negotiations with any individual consultant prior to awarding a contract.
- **Rejection of EoI:** This document is an expression of interest only, and in no way binds HCL Foundation to make an award. HCL Foundation reserves the right to reject any and all offers received and/or to cancel the EoI. HCL Foundation will not be obliged to either inform or provide a justification for rejection of proposals.
- **Incurring costs:** HCL Foundation will not be liable for any cost incurred during preparation, submission, or negotiation of an award for this EoI.
- **Financial responsibility:** EoI must certify the financial viability and adequacy of resources of the organization to complete the proposed assignment within the agreed time frame and in conformity with the agreed terms of payment. HCL Foundation reserves the right to request and review up to the last three financial statements and audit reports including schedules and annexures, as part of the basis of the award if required.
- **Branding aligned:** HCL Foundation has set brand guidelines that should be incorporated and followed while demonstrating the Foundation's brand.
- **Copyright and Patents:** HCL Foundation shall be entitled to all copyrights, patents and other proprietary rights and trademarks with regard to the products or documents and other materials which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected in consequences of or in the course of the execution of the contract. All plans, reports, recommendations, estimates, documents and data compiled by the independent subject matter expert under the contract shall be the property of HCL Foundation and shall be treated as confidential. All confidential documents should be delivered to the relevant people within HCL Foundation during the project duration and upon completion.
- **Child Safeguarding:** We hold ourselves accountable to children. Adherence to comply with HCL Foundation's Child Protection Policy and procedures with respect to child safeguarding is non-negotiable. A range of pre-employment checks can be undertaken in conformity with HCL Foundation's Child Protection Policy.

## ANNEXURE: EOI FORMAT

### A. Organizational Profile

1. General information *(Please provide supporting documents wherever applicable)*

<b>a. Organization Name</b> (as per registration certificate)			
<b>b. Registered Address</b> (as per registration certificate)			
<b>c. Correspondence Address</b>			
<b>d. Website</b>			
<b>e. Total number of Full Time Employees</b>			
<b>f. Average Turnover (last three years)</b>			
<b>g. Contact person</b>		<b>Designation</b>	
<b>h. Mobile Number</b>	+91	<b>Alternate Mobile Number</b>	
<b>i. Email Address</b>	+91	<b>Alternate Email address</b>	

2. Legal and Registration Status: Please provide supporting documents for this section  
(Without supporting documentation, proposal will be rejected)

<b>a. Date of Registration</b>	
<b>b. Registration Type</b>	
<b>c. PAN</b>	
<b>d. TAN</b>	
<b>e. GST</b>	
<b>f. Tax Exemption Certificate</b> (Please choose and provide supporting Document)	12A(A)
	80G
	Any Other (example: 35AC)



g. Registration under FCRA 2010 (applicable to organizations receiving contribution from sources outside India)	<i>Applicable / Not Applicable</i>	
	<i>Date of Registration</i>	
	<i>Registration number</i>	
h. CSR Registration	<i>Date of Registration</i>	
	<i>Registration number</i>	

3. List and describe projects implemented by the organization towards water conservation (Last three years) (You may add pre & post intervention images as annexure)

PROJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION	REACH & BUDGET	SUPPORTED BY	Reference Details (Name, Designation, mob., email)

4. List down all current & past projects with HCL ecosystem

PROJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION	REACH & BUDGET


**B. Concept Note:**

1. Methodology used in the past for water structure rejuvenation (*Mention any innovative approach taken up*)

2. Proposed list of activities for water structure rejuvenation project including awareness/volunteer engagement plan