

Request for Proposal (RFP)

(Code: HCLF/Harit/10022026/A&HR-BioMon/RFP)

HCLFoundation, under its Environment flagship programme Harit, invites RFP from NGOs / CSR organizations/ agencies / Institutions working towards Biodiversity monitoring for Pan-India Afforestation sites

RFP released by	HCLFoundation
RFP Code	HCLF/Harit/10022026A&HR- BioMon/RFP
Program Name	Harit by HCLF
Date of Posting	10-01-2026
Last Date for submission of Proposal	10-02-2026
Location	GBN, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh); Chennai Madurai, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu); Nagpur (Maharashtra), Bangalore (Karnataka).

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 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

Till now, HCLFoundation has planted 822,000+ saplings on 233+ acres area across India. Around 124+ waterbodies are being rejuvenated with an increased water holding capacity of 6,600+ Mn Liters. Through the afforestation and carbon reduction initiatives, we have been able to sequester/ reduce emission to 6500+ tons of CO₂e. We worked towards improvement of coastal habitats planting more than 8,20,000+ Mangrove and Shelter belt saplings and around 1,20,000+ Kgs of ghost nets were retrieved from coastal waters. We have been able to treat 79,000+ domestic animals and around 7,500+ wild animals through our Animal Welfare vertical. Through our outreach and environment education programme we have been able to reach out to 17,900+ people pan India.

1. Description of RFP

Techno-Commercial Proposals are invited from agencies/ service providers/ organizations/ institutions (herein after called as agencies) with proven track record in performing ground level environmental and biodiversity assessment especially related to restoration and conservation strategies. The purpose of this document is to request proposals in line with the standards of HCLFoundation from suitable and technically competent agencies that can deliver high-impact results at the most cost-effective Social Return of Investment (SROI).

2. Scope of Work for Biodiversity monitoring-Pan-India Afforestation sites

The objective of this is to conduct a comprehensive biodiversity assessment across 11 restored and rejuvenated afforestation site across India, to evaluate ecological health, habitat diversity, and overall impact of restoration interventions under HCLFoundation initiatives. The assessment will generate a detailed understanding of species composition, ecosystem functionality and biodiversity trends across varying landscapes.

A. Target groups

- **Flora-** Trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses
- **Fauna-** Birds, Insects (Moth-Butterfly, Dragonfly-damselfly, bugs-beetles, spiders)- minimum two, reptiles, amphibians, mammals.

B. Baseline and site profiling

- Conduct detailed mapping and ecological profiling of each afforestation site, capturing habitat type, vegetation structure and surrounding landscape features
- Identify the sampling plots within each sites for biodiversity monitoring.
- Document site history, plantation design, current ecological conditions.

C. Biodiversity Inventory and Monitoring

- Carry out systematic surveys using standard ecological methods such as line transects, point counts, quadrat sampling, or other relevant techniques to assess faunal diversity for 2 seasons and floral diversity once a year.

- Identify and record keystone, endemic, and invasive species and evaluate their ecological roles.
- Assess habitat quality parameters such as canopy cover, regeneration potential, vegetation density, and canopy closure.
- Document and map species richness and abundance across sites to evaluate ecosystem functionality.
- Monitoring of any disease, pest infestation, and other stress factors across sites

D. Data Collection, Analysis, and Reporting

- Develop scientifically robust methodology and sampling framework for biodiversity monitoring
- Analyse collected data to generate indicators on biodiversity status
- Prepare periodic progress reports, dashboards, and impact summaries based on field data.
- Integrate findings with relevant national and global biodiversity databases and platforms.
- Prepare a comprehensive biodiversity assessment report with visual documentation, including species checklist, and photographic records of representative species and habitats
- Prepare multiple scientific manuscripts based on the results obtained.

E. Deliverables

- Seasonal biodiversity reports of each site, along with the Natural Asset Map
- Site-specific biodiversity scorecard/checklist
- Photographic documentation and visual repository of identified species and habitats
- Draft scientific manuscripts based on taxa/location/site-specific or overall.

3. Geography

Gautam Buddha Nagar, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh); Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu); Nagpur (Maharashtra), Bangalore (Karnataka)

Sr. No.	State	Location	# of Sites and average area
1	Uttar Pradesh	GBN	3 sites (~35 acres)
		Lucknow	2 sites (~25 acres)
2	Maharashtra	Nagpur	1 site (~ 18 acres)
3	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	2 sites (~2.5 acres)
		Madurai	1 site (~30 acres)
		Coimbatore	1 site (~20 acres)
4	Karnataka	Bangalore	1 site (~10 acres)

Who Can apply

The Agency applying to develop these solutions must fulfill the following conditions:

1. The Agency may be a Government Undertaking / Registered Company / Registered Consultancy Firm / Registered Non-Government Organization / Academic Institution with valid financial documents as per statutory laws.
2. The Agency must have a minimum of three years' experience of developing and implementing similar assessments/projects similar solutions.
3. Proven track record and experience in managing multiple stakeholders and complex situations on the ground.
4. Familiarity with relevant Government Policies, UN SDGs, National Indicators Framework, Global Biodiversity framework and indicators, NBSAP, LBSAP, is preferred.

Submission details and deadlines

- Separate proposals need to be submitted per location
- Proposals must be submitted with a short narrative indicating the objectives, features, etc., proposed methodologies, sampling design, past experiences, proposed team, proposed timelines, and clearly defined milestones, along with a set of deliverables and commercials.
- The proposal should be split into the techno-commercial components as two separate documents.
 - The **technical components** of the proposal should be shared with modala.rakesh@hcltech.com, marking roshaniumesh.gharde@hcltech.com in cc.
 - The **commercial proposals** should be sent only to shobhit-jain@hcltech.com marking amendranath.pandey@hcltech.com in cc.
- Please note that there is no set format for submission of the technical proposal along with details mentioned below (under selection criteria).
- The proposed timeline should be 12 months/ or 2 seasons, whichever is earlier
- Budget should be submitted with clearly defined milestones and deliverables that can be assessed and verified with outputs/indicators.
- The finalization of the commercials will be done by the team mentioned above based on which service contract will be issued, and the services will be taxable as per the relevant laws.
- Please send in your submissions with Subject Line in the given format: HCLF/Harit/10022026A&HR-BioMon/RFP/<Name of Agency> latest by **10th February 2026**.
- All non-commercial enquiries regarding this RFP should be made latest by **30th January 2026** via email to modala.rakesh@hcltech.com.
- Proposals which are considered non-technically compliant and non-responsive will not be given further consideration.

Selection Process and Methodology

Based on the documents submitted, the technical capability of the agency shall be evaluated as per the evaluation methodology indicated below. The agencies fulfilling the experience criteria and securing more than 40 marks out of 70 in the technical evaluation will be further shortlisted, and their commercial proposals will be scored and evaluated. The combination of the techno-commercial score based on the weightage below will be the final criterion of selection.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION	SCORE
TECHNICAL SCORE	70
Proposed Methodology	30
Experience in environmental and biodiversity-related projects in the last 3 years	15
Team composition	15
Proposed Timeline	10
COMMERCIAL SCORE	30
Total	100

Terms and Conditions

1. From the time the proposals are opened to the time the contract is awarded, Agencies shall not contact HCLFoundation on any matter, and any attempt to influence HCLF in its evaluation of the proposals and award recommendation may result in rejection of the proposal.
2. Your proposal abstract must remain valid for a minimum of six (6) months from the date of expiry of the RfP deadline by HCLFoundation.
3. HCLFoundation holds us accountable to children. Adherence to comply with HCLFoundation's Child Protection Policy and procedures with respect to child safeguarding is non-negotiable. A range of pre-onboarding checks can be undertaken in conformity with HCLFoundation's Child Protection Policy.
4. This document in no way binds HCLFoundation to make an award. HCLFoundation reserves the right to reject all responses received and/or to cancel the RfP. HCLFoundation will not be obliged to either inform or provide justification for the rejection of proposals.
5. HCLFoundation will not be liable for any cost incurred during the preparation or submission of this RfP.
6. The most competitive proposal is requested. It is anticipated that the partnership will be made based on merit of proposal. However, HCLFoundation reserves the right to request responses to questions and conduct negotiations with any potential agency/consultant prior to awarding the contract.
7. HCLFoundation has set brand guidelines that should be incorporated and followed while demonstrating the Foundation's brand.
8. HCLFoundation shall be entitled to all copyrights, patents, and other proprietary rights and trademarks regarding the products or documents and other materials which bear a direct relation to or are produced or prepared or collected as consequences of or during the execution of the contract. All plans, reports, recommendations, estimates, documents, and data compiled by the service providers under the contract shall be the property of HCLFoundation and shall be treated as confidential. All confidential documents should be delivered to the relevant people within HCLFoundation during the project duration and upon completion.