

TOR for Field Enumeration Service from Consulting Firm

In 1957, Heifer International began working in Nepal at the request of the government, supplying livestock to introduce high-yield breeds to native animal populations. To date, it has supported 289,000 families, more than 11,000 self-help groups and more than 235 women's cooperatives, strengthening agricultural production and market access. Heifer Nepal's projects focus on the goat and dairy value chains, connecting women farmers to resources such as electronic banking services and live weight stations, enabling them to increase their production and profits.

Heifer's general programming is rooted in women becoming leaders in their communities and as inclusive actors within their respective market systems. Heifer's approach to personal transformation uses the Values-Based Holistic Community Development (VBHCD) model, the foundational model that facilitates women's growth as individuals and their roles as business leaders. VBHCD is designed to provide women with the tools to confront patriarchal social norms, attitudes, behaviors, and systems that perpetuate gender inequalities at the household and societal levels. Heifer's programming provides gender-targeted interventions to support women meaningfully and deliver additional leadership models to promote and strengthen women-led cooperatives and support women Agri-entrepreneurship. Heifer's intervention models enhance women's opportunities to make household decisions jointly as well as hold high-level leadership positions in their communities and own their businesses, keeping the wealth and resources within their communities and ensuring women's voices and decisions are sustained.

Heifer Nepal has implemented its flagship project, Strengthening Smallholder Enterprises of Livestock Value Chain for Poverty Reduction and Economic Growth in Nepal (SLVC II). This project aims to improve livelihoods, and women's empowerment, through the strengthening of small ruminants, and of horticultural value chains, as well as by bringing collectives of farmers together to improve access to markets and income. Heifer Nepal's key empowerment strategy is to work directly with women-only self-help groups (SHGs). The SHGs aim to build economic empowerment through savings group membership, asset transfers, women-led cooperatives, and links between women's cooperatives and markets and market actors.

In addition to the increases in women's leadership roles in their communities, several anecdotal stories and testimonies have revealed that Heifer's program intervention has induced changes in intrahousehold labor allocation and food consumption patterns. Anecdotal evidence suggests reduction in gender-based domestic violence and increase in women economic empowerment. However, there are no systematic and rigorous study that confirms Heifer's effects on women's empowerment in Nepal. In connection to this, Heifer is intended to investigate Heifer Nepal's programs, and its effects in the sphere of women's empowerment (its strengths and its shortcomings), potentially positioning Heifer for future opportunities and to identify areas of growth.

Scope of work of consulting firm:

- Work closely and frequently with International Research Expert and concerned Heifer staff for this component of the study
- Mobilize experienced field workers according to sampling plan
- Manage administrative and logistic to conduct research
- Manage other research related works at field level

Specific Roles:

- Provide Research Assistants, Note takers, and enumerators for qualitative and quantitative data collection. Consulting firm is flexible to propose other type of expertise for field work as required.
- Manage field survey of qualitative and quantitative data collection related works at field level.
- Coordinate project areas to identify respondents, FGDs, KIIs and other stakeholders for field work.
- Organize data cleaning activities, coding qualitative data, and transcribing responses as required.
- Provide needed training and supervision for field surveyors. Ensure quality data collection, back check of data, timely availability of data as needed. Pilot testing of survey tool is essential before executing field work.
- Ensure field enumerators are trained in confidentiality and other requirements for field work in human subjects.
- Be available for discussions, questions, and clarifications from planning stages through to finalization of data.
- The start date for this project is anticipated on November 4th week 2021.

Sampling:

- At least 10 FGDs with women beneficiaries will be carried out at field level. FGDs will be carried out in workshop model. Appropriate number of note takers will be required for archiving notes.
- Sample size for quantitative survey will be 250. From 10 project districts. The proposed sample size will be changed during the inception meeting with consulting firm.
- Total of 90 KIIs with BFIs, Input suppliers, district level NGOs, LGs etc.

Personnel:

- **Coordinator:** At least Bachelor's degree in any field with experience in logistics management, field level coordination, data cleaning and quality assurance of data.

Required competencies field workers:

- **Research Assistant:** At least Bachelor's in Development Studies, Gender or Social Science with proven experiences on qualitative survey. Master's degree is preferred. Experiences on gender related works will be given priority.
- **Enumerators:** At least Bachelor's degree in social science in relevant field with experience in primary data collection in the areas of women empowerment. Experience on digital data collection by using online and offline tools.
- **Note taker:** Bachelor's degree in social science (Fresher's accepted).

Required Documents:

- a. Company/firm profile showing past similar experiences
- b. Financial proposal
- c. Legal documents such as company/firm registration, tax clearance certificate (FY 077/78)
- d. VAT certificate