

**Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser
to the Government of India**

**Expression of Interest (EOI) for Impact Assessment Study for I-STEM
Portal**
EOI Ref. No.: G-30/2/2024-PROJ

The Expression of Interest is invited from the reputed relevant agencies for carrying out the “Impact Assessment Study for I-STEM National Portal.”

The Indian Science, Technology, and Engineering facilities Map (I-STEM) project is an initiative of the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India. I-STEM was set up at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru for sharing laboratory facilities available at publicly funded R&D institutions. Its primary objective is to democratize access to state-of-the-art laboratory equipment and facilities, regardless of geographical location or institutional affiliation. I-STEM facilitates sharing of costly R&D resources/equipment in order to optimize the usage of these resources established across the country by researchers, industries, and start-ups.

Scope of Study:

The study aims to assess the I-STEM portal's usefulness, effectiveness, and accessibility, as well as to evaluate its impact on researchers, research applicability, start-ups and industrial development.

Terms of Reference of the Study

1. To evaluate the I-STEM portal's impact on creating an inventory of resources (public funded equipment), linking resources and researchers, start-ups and industries across India.
2. To measure the efficiency gains achieved by the I-STEM portal in reducing time and cost for researchers by ensuring an even geographical distribution of laboratories and equipment facilitating access to research

facilities and optimising research utilization by avoiding duplication of research efforts.

3. Analyse the contribution of the I-STEM portal in facilitating research and indigenous product innovation in the country and evaluate its users from Tier-3 & Tier-2 cities, assessing potential barriers and improving their access to scientific equipment, research output, collaborations, skill development, start-up support, awareness, adoption rates, and challenges faced.
4. To perform the comparative analysis of the other similar portals with I-STEM for performance matrix and also explore their integration with I-STEM through APIs.
5. To assess the percentage of usage of equipment on I-STEM by internal and external users and to identify the varying costs of equipment among registered users.
6. To assess I-STEM user's feedback and grievance mechanism.
7. To assess the usage of equipment to get insights on instrument's downtime.
8. To include the database expanding from users who have utilized the services as well as the users who have registered but could not utilize the services of I-STEM portal.
9. Assess the user satisfaction levels with the I-STEM portal's user interface, accessibility features, and overall functionality, and usefulness, providing insights into user experience and areas of improvement.
10. Assess the role of the I-STEM portal in facilitating training and skill development opportunities for researchers, start-ups and industry empowering them with the necessary expertise to drive impactful research outcomes and product innovations.
11. Evaluate how the I-STEM Portal has enabled increased participation of women researchers and innovators examining its role in promoting gender diversity and inclusivity in research and innovation ecosystems.
12. Assess the extent of visibility provided by the I-STEM Portal to scientific research, publications, and patents related to research and development aiming to understand its role in promoting knowledge dissemination.

Eligibility Criteria:

The eligibility criteria for consultancy firm are as under:

1. The Agency should have at least Five (05) years of experience in conducting such impact evaluation studies/surveys.
2. The Agency should have conducted at least three (03) similar impact assessment studies for Ministries/Departments of Government of India.
3. The Agency should have well-equipped 'in-house' expert team.
4. The Agency should enclose copies of audited balance sheet for last three years.
5. The Annual Turnover of the Agency should be minimum Rs.5.00 crores per annum.
6. The Agency should not be blacklisted by any Central Govt. / State Govt. / PSU/Govt. Bodies.

The interested parties may submit their Expression of Interest in the enclosed proforma along with required documents in support of above. The offer must be submitted in a sealed envelope duly superscribed as “**EOI for Impact Evaluation Study for I-STEM National Portal**” and should be addressed to “Dr. Vishal Choudhary, SCIENTIST-F, Room No.-326, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi”.

The last date for receipt of sealed offer is on or before **10/09/2024**.

Timeline: The expected time frame to complete the study will be six (06) months from the date of award of work order.

Payment Terms: The payment terms will be as follows :

- 10% - Advance on acceptance of Work Order.
- 40% - Submission of draft Interim Report (in 03 Months from date of work order).
- 50% - Submission of Final Report (within 06 months from date of work order).

Note: Please note that Office of PSA reserves the right to accept / reject all or any offer without assigning reason for the same whatsoever it may be.

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APPLICATION PROFORMA FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EOI Ref. No.: G-30/2/2024-PROJ

1. Name of Organization with full address and contact details.
2. Scope of Study.
3. Terms of References (ToRs) as mentioned in EOI document.
4. Details of Payment with break-up under different heads.
5. Acceptance of Payment Terms as mentioned in EOI document.
6. Acceptance of Timelines as mentioned in EOI document.

I/We accept all the terms and conditions contained in EOI Document No.: **G-30/2/2024-PROJ**.

Signature with Seal
