



ENGAGING RESEARCH INSTITUTES/FIRMS/CENTRES/THINK
TANKS/UNIVERSITIES FOR RESEARCH STUDIES ROUND-II

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Planning Commission/Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform has outlined economic research program to assist the Government for evidence based planning/ policy making, so that, feasible and optimal interventions/solutions could be designed for the uplift of socioeconomic development. In this connection, expressions of interest are required for Sixteen (16) Proposed Research Studies Round-II. Topics/Themes of these studies are available on the website of Planning Commission.

Research institutes/firms/centres/think tanks/universities with a good track record of publications in peer reviewed journals and having experience of 05 years in conducting Research Studies are invited to submit their technical & financial proposals in two separate envelopes under one sealed envelope as per PPRA rules. Topic of research proposal should be clearly mentioned on top right side of envelope. Last date for submission of Proposals is 40 days after this advertisement in newspaper up to 2.00 pm and technical bids will be opened at 2:30 pm on same day. Only tax registered firms/entities are eligible to apply.

The advertisement alongwith broad based outlines of RFP can be downloaded from the websites of PPRA (info@ppra.gov.pk) and the Planning Commission (<http://pc.gov.pk>) or obtained from the address given below during office hours.

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ENGAGING RESEARCH INSTITUTES/FIRMS/CENTRES/THINK TANKS/UNIVERSITIES FOR RESEARCH STUDIES ROUND-II

Background

Ministry of Planning Development and Reform has outlined economic research program to assist Government for evidence based planning/policy making, so that, feasible and optimal interventions/solutions could be designed for the uplift of socioeconomic development. In this connection, expressions of interest are required for the following research Themes.

- I. Why rate of population growth in Pakistan is higher than other South Asian Countries
- II. Strengths and weaknesses of the population welfare programs in different Provinces of Pakistan
- III. Role of SME's in promoting employment
- IV. Role of Social Entrepreneurship in Employment Promotion
- V. Analysis of income inequalities in different provinces of Pakistan
- VI. Graduation strategies for social safety net programs in Pakistan
- VII. Impact of climate change on fluctuation in availability of water in the past two decades
- VIII. Leveraging agriculture for improving nutrition in Pakistan
- IX. Mobilizing Pakistan Diaspora for investment and technology transfer
- X. Prospects of expanding and modernizing engineering industries in Pakistan
- XI. Policies and other measures for promoting agricultural exports from Pakistan
- XII. Potential of the grid solar energy programme in different parts of Pakistan
- XIII. Comparative cost and technologies of desalinization of sea water in the region
- XIV. Exploring the tax potential of the services sectors in Pakistan
- XV. Potential of e-commerce in Pakistan including required payment mechanism
- XVI. Identification of initiatives for programs in the health sector to supplement the health programs of Provincial Governments keeping in view the national flagship programs like National Health Insurance Program

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Procedures for the Engagement of the Consultants and PPRA Rules would be applicable. Part D would be applicable after award of contract for research studies.

Topics of research proposal should be clearly mentioned on top right side of envelope.

Part A

- i. Background and comprehensive literature review
- ii. Objectives and scope of the research studies
- iii. Problem statement and research design
- iv. Work-plans, including approach and methodology
- v. Timelines – Indicative implementation plan
- vi. Personnel specification and expertise
- vii. Expected outcomes
- viii. The research proposals shall not exceed 10-12 pages including bibliography
- ix. Copies of plagiarism (Similarity Index) reports of the research proposals

Part B

- i. Research proposals will be examined/evaluated by the Research Studies Evaluation and Review Committee (RSERC)
- ii. Presentations of qualified research proposals will be made to RSERC
- iii. RSERC is authorized to accept or reject any research proposal after presentation. therefore, the final decision of the award rests with the RSERC

Part C

- i. Cost of the research studies
- ii. Financial Plan of the research studies

Part D

- i. Provide regular updates on monthly basis after award of research studies
- ii. Copies of plagiarism (Similarity Index) reports of the final research studies must be attached
- iii. Presentations of findings of research studies in seminars/workshops

- iv. Submit soft and 50 hard copies of the final research studies
- v. All the applicable federal, provincial & local taxes must be considered while preparing the financial proposals. The consulting firms providing substandard and / or incorrect information are liable to rejection/legal action or disqualification
- vi. The successful bidders in all respects would be awarded contract on merit and transparent basis and the report complete in all respects would be submitted by the consulting firm within the stipulated time, date and within the agreed cost otherwise the client would be free to impose penalty on the defaulting Consultants as per rules

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