

ABCD Programme 2019-20
(Adopt Biototechnology for Community Development)
A Biotech-based Programme for Societal Development

About the Scheme:

The Biotechnology Branch, Department of Science & Technology and Biotechnology, Government of West Bengal, has a scheme on “Biotech-based Programmes for Societal Development” which is being implemented throughout the State to benefit SC, ST, OBC, Women and Rural people. Through this scheme skill development, training & demonstration are being conducted in various income and employment generating activities and proven and field-tested technologies are being demonstrated to help the target populace in their skill development, self-employment and income generation etc. Introduction of new technologies with justification is also welcome.

Supporting Areas:

1. Agro-climatic zone based development of microbial biofertilizers (nitrogen fixing, phosphate solubilizing, potash solubilizing, zinc solubilizing etc. microbes) and microbial pesticides; deposition of all important germplasms to the national repositories for future access and use.
2. Identification of useful soil microbes, knowledge dissemination and mass propagation.
3. Biofortification and quality improvement of cereals, pulses and oilseeds.
4. Improvement of quality and quantity of perennial plantation crops through Biotechnological inputs.
5. Utilization of tissue culture technology for the improvement of horticulture crops and disease-free plant materials.
6. Domestication of wild edible mushrooms commonly found in different agro-climatic zones of West Bengal and/or technology transfer to the rural community for sustainable development.
7. Technology utilization for animal-feed production using regional bio-resources.
8. Development of feed for pisciculture using phytoplankton, zooplankton, microbes etc.-based biotechnology.
9. Biotechnological intervention for upgradation of traditional technology for quality improvement of processed food and beverages.
10. Biotechnology assisted mass production and utilization of Cyanobacteria & Micro algae, Mushroom, stevia, medicinal herbs etc. for the production of value added food products and other product development.
11. Assessment of genetic disorders – scientific documentation and general awareness.
12. Biotechnology-based household waste management for sustainable utilization.
13. Promotion of biotechnological methods using local natural resources to small scale industries.
14. Community-based genetic epidemiological studies on human health and diseases.

15. Any other tropical relevant to rural biotechnology.

Essential Requirements:

A. Expertise with the organization:

- The organization and Principal Investigator should have essential qualifications and experience in the discipline of the proposed area. They should have successfully implemented at least a few field-based extension oriented projects benefiting target population. This should be indicated as an evidence of expertise available in the proposal.
- In case, the organization wishes to engage experts from the government organization/national labs/institute or similar organization for the overall project duration, written consents from the competent authority of the organization/lab/institute is required to be obtained and the document is to be enclosed with the project proposal during submission.
- Retired professionals may be engaged in the project as per the norms of the organization, provided they are actively engaged with them in the field-implementation nature of projects.
- Necessary forwarding by the head of the organization is mandatory.

B. Other requirements in case of non-government organizations or trust:

- Registration Certificate of the Society/Association/Trust
- Memorandum of Association (MoA) including by-laws and mandate of the organization.
- Audited statement of accounts for the last three years (the organization should have a minimum balance of Rs. 5 lakh at the end of last three subsequent financial years)
- Annual Reports including activity profile for the last three years.
- FCRA certificate, if available.

Note: Single attested copy of all these documents are required to be submitted with the original copy of the proposal. Other copies of the proposal may not include these documents.

Addresses should be written in a legible manner and as far as possible, detailed communication addresses including land phone/cell phone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses etc. should be provided.

Programme Details:

- The proposal should be specifically aimed on field demonstration/extension oriented activities for the welfare of society (SC/ST population, weaker sections, rural population, women and youths) using biotechnological processes / techniques. If required, a little R&D component can be included for standardization of techniques already developed. There shall be a quantifiable social cost-benefit analysis of the project.
- The objectives of the proposal should be well focused and compact. The objectives are required to be provided list-wise and should indicate about number of awareness, training and demonstration programmes, number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (in terms of individuals, families, villages, blocks and districts etc.), names of crops/species and types of interventions proposed.
- The methodology, organization of work elements and time schedule of activities indicating monitorable milestones should be very clearly stated.
- The targets and milestones should be laid on a quarterly basis and they should be quantifiable.
- The list of beneficiaries should be provided both in terms of number of persons and number of families indicating number of SC/ST/OBC/Women. As far as possible, list should be provided with their authentication (signature / thumb impression) and addresses. The BPL card numbers, if available, may also be provided.
- Marketing linkages with documentary evidence and buy-back arrangements should be clearly specified in the project with necessary evidences. If organization is opting for buy-back, it may clearly be indicated that how the organization will be disposing the material in the market.

Infrastructure requirement:

- Organizations seeking this kind of funding support for conducting training and demonstration activities are required to have essential infrastructure viz. building, training hall, demonstration farms, essential equipment for analytical and training work, projection facility, vehicle and other transportation facility and computational facilities etc.
- Necessary evidences of linkages with the other user agencies are required to be provided for buy-back arrangements.

Selection of the Beneficiaries for training / demonstration:

- The implementing agency should target the villages in the vicinity (which should not be concentrated at the organization's office/headquarter), in which the real need of interventions are required for the benefit of the target population. Based upon the

nature of activity for training, the beneficiaries are required to be identified, who are willing to share their assets and labour and contribute some of their earnings in the activities. A resolution taken in meetings of participating cooperative society / Farmer's club etc. with this effect may be submitted.

- In case of agro-cropping, details are required on new crops to be cultivated, area to be covered under each activity, number of beneficiaries to be trained, acreage covered by each beneficiary, creation of employment due to new crop introduction, buy-back arrangements and linkages with other user agencies including banking support etc.
- Details are required to be provided in a tabular form about number of training programmes year-wise, their duration and number of trainees to be trained *vis a vis* number of trainers – activity-wise as part of project summary.
- Under demonstration activity, name of the crop(s) to be raised, methodology for adopting novel approach in cultivation using organic farming, number of demonstrations to be conducted year-wise, beneficiaries to be trained and list of villages to be covered, their demographics etc. are essentially required.
- Self-help group (SHG) approach is required to be built up in the implementation schedule. It may help other categories of beneficiaries, who does not have their own land and they can be trained in various other professions of income generation, traits of marketing, product making and its launching.

Expected outcomes and deliverables:

- The project should clearly bring out the social and monetary benefits to the target populace through technology transfer using locally available resources.
- Attention should be paid on incremental income and additional employment generation in addition to their present income and occupation. Changes in lifestyle in terms of monetary gain, generation of employment in rural areas and nutritional as well as livelihood security should be the main aims of the project.
- The project should create avenues for the target populace to stay back in their areas and stop migrating to the cities.
- The activity undertaken should be employment/revenue generating and not job displacing.
- It should also pertain to the judicious utilization of bio-resources in the implementation area through the involvement of target population in farm activities. It should not lead to environmental degradation or ecological imbalance. Assessment in this regard must be submitted along with the project proposal.
- During the project duration, implementing agency should encourage formation of cooperative society of the beneficiaries / Farmers' clubs / Water user's association

(WUA) etc. to continue the activity in a sustainable manner. After termination of Govt. support, assets generated are required to be transferred to the cooperatives or such other community based organizations (CBOs) so formed for operation and maintenance of assets.

Funding support likely to be provided:

- In view of extension-oriented programme, sophisticated and expensive equipment would not be provided. Marginal support would be provided for creating small infrastructure/ equipment, if it is absolutely essential.
- Recurring grant will be limited for engaging project staff (excluding project investigators), consumables, training materials, travel and contingencies etc.
- The Project Investigators may be provided with honoraria.

Who can apply?

The projects are being supported at universities, research institutes, established farmers' co-operatives, trust, voluntary and non-government organizations (NGO) with relevant society registration and proven track record etc.

How to apply?

Online applications (complete in all respect) are invited from eligible UG/PG Departments at West Bengal State Govt./Govt. funded Colleges or Universities through Departmental Portal 'Vigyansathi' (www.vigyansathi.in) on or before **28th February, 2020** till **05.00 pm**.

Prescribed Guidelines and Format are also available on the website: www.wbdstbt.in.

One hard copy of complete proposal is to be submitted to the following address:

To
The Joint Secretary
Department of Science & Technology
Government of West Bengal
Vigyan Chetana Bhavan
26/B, DD Block, Sector-I, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064.

UTILISATION CERTIFICATE IN RESPECT OF GRANT-IN-AID

No.

Date:

1. Name of the Grantee Institution(s):
[Attach separate list for more than one Grantee Institutions]
2. Sanctioning Authority:
3. Sanction Order Number and Date:
4. Amount Sanctioned:
5. Drawing & Disbursing Officer:
6. Treasury/ PAO:
[From where the bill was drawn]
7. Bill No. & Date:
8. T.V. No. & Date:
9. Amount drawn:
10. Unspent balance of previous year, if any:
11. Amount utilized:
12. Unspent balance, if any, in current year:
13. Purpose of Utilization:

CERTIFICATE

Certified that I have satisfied myself that the conditions on which the Grants-in-Aid was sanctioned have been duly fulfilled/are being fulfilled and that I have exercised the following checks to see that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

[Applicable in of unspent balance] The unspent fund has been surrendered to the Government under appropriate head of account vide Challan No. Date / will be adjusted against the grant-in-aid to be sanctioned and paid in the current Financial Year (applicable in case of recurring grant only).

Kinds of checks exercised:

- 1.
- 2....

Signature of the
Coordinator/PI/Co-PI (with Seal)

Head of the Institution
(with Seal)

Signature of the Financial
Authority (with Seal)

N.B.: ● The Utilization of the Grant-in-Aid must be in compliance with the rules and guidelines of the Finance Department, Government of West Bengal.

● Interest earned, if any, on the fund released so far in respect of the said scheme should be accounted for.

● If, as a result of a check or audit objection, some irregularity is noticed at a later stage, action will be taken to refund/adjust or regularize the objected amount.

● For any correspondence in this regard, the Department's letter number and date may please be quoted without fail.