

Pre-Bid Queries and CLASP Responses

RFP: Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Impact Assessment of Solar Powered Micro Cold Storage Pilots Across Six Sites in India

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Sr. no.	Query	Response from CLASP
1	<p>Could you please confirm the total number of pilots planned in each of these states? If multiple pilots are planned per state, do we have further information on the number pilots per district. If yes, can you please share the name of districts to understand the coverage better, given its cost implications.</p>	<p>Three are installed, one is under planning and installation and remaining two are under tendering process. The districts are Dungarpur (Rajasthan), Kullu (Himachal Pradesh), Alluri Sitaram Raju District (Andhra Pradesh), Anakapalli (Andhra Pradesh) (one pilot each district). The remaining two are under tendering phase.</p>
2	<p>Please clarify the expected frequency of surveys (monthly, quarterly, half yearly or yearly) and site visits per state.</p>	<p>It will be decided post the finalization of the bidder. The firm will develop a detailed log frame with guidance from CLASP LEIA team.</p>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please clarify, how this is limited tender procurement as we have downloaded from your website. - Also, would subcontractor, or consortium be allowed under this proposal? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have updated the RFP on the website to open tender. Feel free to apply directly on the portal. - Yes, please explicitly mention it in the proposal.
4	<p>Will CLASP provide or facilitate access to baseline data, or is it expected that the selected partner will generate this data independently?</p>	<p>The MELI partner shall be responsible for conducting baseline survey as per the log frame and theory of change which are also under the scope of this RFP.</p>
5	<p>Will CLASP or its partners be providing any local logistical support in the selected states, such as field staff coordination or translation assistance?</p>	<p>We have CSO partners working alongside FPOs at some sites and will providing support in terms of coordination, but the data collection must be independently undertaken by MELI partner.</p>

6	How will the success of the solar micro cold storage (MCS) pilot be defined—technically, socially, and economically? Are there specific minimum benchmark?	The intention is to focus on policy and finance. The assessment would inform scale up model, building of a robust investment framework, test business models, impact on post-harvest management including income growth for the end users, and of course the performance of the technology itself under varying contexts across crops, geography, and community models. Please refer to the objectives mentioned in the RFP.
7	Is the project monitoring changes in food quality, shelf life, or waste reduction as a result of MCS adoption? If so, how should the MEL partner assess and evaluate these impacts-	Yes, it will be decided mutually as per the log frame. These are critical parameters to understand the system's impact on effective post-harvest management since installations are done at the first mile.
8	Are we expected to establish a counterfactual or comparison group (e.g., non-users), and will CLASP support access to such groups?	No, we do not require such comparisons. The assigned work is designated only for the six pilots.
9	We anticipate receiving more information on cold-chain units. Should the evaluation consider the broader cold chain (e.g., transport, market linkages) or only the micro cold units? Could CLASP share additional details in this respect. This will impact evaluation framework, indicator selection, stakeholder mapping, etc.	Yes, once the MELI firm is onboarded, more details on technical specifications shall be shared. Let us know if you would like to know anything specific. The systems are 5MT units with three being completely offgrid and three are hybrid systems. The monitoring and analysis of the cold chain ecosystem around the deployed pilot will be integral to the work
10	How will the results of this evaluation be used—are there specific decisions, stakeholders, or donor expectations it needs to feed into?	The primary goal is twofold; one is to inform policy decisions and other is to develop investment framework for scale up in collaboration with energy service companies and facilitate its implementation. The findings would inform both aspects.

11	<p>Will CLASP provide a Theory of Change, results framework, or indicators to guide MEL, or is the agency expected to develop these independently? This forms the core of scope of work</p>	<p>The selected agency shall be required to develop the theory of change to guide the assessment with the overall guidance of CLASP.</p>
12	<p>At what phase is the MEL firm being brought in—during, post deployment, or as a concurrent evaluation partner?</p>	<p>The work involves rigorous periodic monitoring, evaluation, development of learnings and final impact assessment at the end of the project cycle. once the installations are completed, the agency shall work with the end users, CLASP, local partners to conduct this work till the end of the project in September 2026.</p>
	<p>Will technical performance data (e.g., temperature, uptime, energy use) be shared by implementation partners, or must this be independently tracked? This clarifies the extent of primary data collection. Are there any mandatory or recommended indicators CLASP expects us to track? This helps frame tool development and analysis.</p>	<p>You are free to propose a log frame for monitoring and evaluation. This can be discussed with CLASP and local partners post onboarding to improve and making sure that we are tracking the right parameters. The installed systems are equipped with RMS to record and acquire important performance data, and the firm will have access to it. Please keep in mind the overall goals and intention (refer to RFP for objectives and query 10 in this document) to conduct this work while developing the log frame. The firm will be free to talk to end users/FPOs/ entrepreneurs to identify or inform your initial KPIs.</p>
13	<p>To ensure that our financial proposal is aligned with CLASP’s expectations and the scope of work, we would appreciate it if you could share a broad indication of the available budget range for this assignment.</p>	<p>We do not have a budget for this RFP and are open to bids reflecting the current market standard and scope of the work.</p>