

ACCESS Development Services

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Engagement of a Knowledge & Impact Assessment Partner for Didi Smart Rasoi (Sustainability Phase)

Issue Date: 1 September 2026

Background

Dadri Development Program (DDP) invites proposals from eligible organizations/consultants/consulting firms/research institutions to serve as a Knowledge & Impact Assessment Partner for the Didi Smart Rasoi (DSR) Sustainability Phase. The project will focus on sustaining and strengthening the existing three women-led community kitchens and associated carts in Dadri, with emphasis on women's entrepreneurship, enterprise strengthening, market linkages, capacity building and long-term sustainability.

About Didi Smart Rasoi (DSR)

Didi Smart Rasoi is a women-led livelihood and entrepreneurship initiative of Dadri Development Program (DDP), aimed at empowering SHG women through community-based food enterprises. Under the pilot phase, three community kitchens and supporting food carts were established in Dadri, enabling women to build culinary, digital, financial and entrepreneurial capabilities while offering affordable and hygienic food options to the community. Building on the learnings and enterprise progress of the pilot, the current phase focuses on strengthening the existing Didi Smart Rasoi units through capacity building, product diversification, market linkages, branding and ecosystem convergence, with a long-term focus on developing sustainable women-led enterprises.

About ACCESS Development Services

ACCESS Development Services ("ACCESS") is a national livelihoods promotion organisation, registered as a Section 8 (not-for-profit) company, that has worked since 2006 to strengthen the livelihoods of the rural and urban poor through market-led approaches. To this end, ACCESS is structured uniquely to work at all levels of the value chain – implementing programmes on the ground (Tier I), working with Civil Society Organizations, Government Departments, Corporate sector, and Multilateral / Bilateral Agencies (Tier II) as also undertaking national initiatives to influence and support policy initiatives and strengthening the enabling environment (Tier III). ACCESS, with its head office in New Delhi has a pan-India presence having state offices in 9 states and 26 project offices. More at www.accessdev.org

ACCESS is supporting the Dadri Development Program (DDP) in strengthening Didi Smart Rasoi (DSR), providing technical and programmatic backstopping for enterprise development, branding, market linkages and impact

documentation of women-led food enterprises. This assignment is being issued by ACCESS Development Services to identify a suitable Consultant/Agency for the engagement described below.

Programme Duration: 7 August 2026 to 7 August 2027

Objective of the Assignment:

The Knowledge Partner will support DDP & ACCESS program team to:

- Review and refine the Theory of Change (ToC) and Logical Framework Approach (LFA)
- Mutually identify and finalise key output, outcome, case stories and impact indicators
- Design and conduct the baseline assessment
- Provide evidence-based learning inputs during implementation, as mutually agreed
- Conduct the endline assessment and analyse programme-level changes
- Support in developing impact video with relevant data (from both baseline & end line)
- Develop a practical Sustainability and Way-Forward Plan for the existing three Didi Smart Rasoi kitchens.

Scope of Work & Key Deliverables

Workstream	Scope	Key Deliverables
1. Inception & Desk Review	Review programme documents, last year progress & development, existing scoping/baseline findings, enterprise data and stakeholder insights; conduct consultations with DDP and the ACCESS Development team	Inception Report, methodology, work plan and stakeholder engagement plan
2. Theory of Change (ToC)	Review & refine the programme logic, including pathways for women's empowerment, enterprise growth and sustainability.	Mutually agreed ToC document
3. LFA & Impact Framework	Develop/revise the LFA & mutually finalise output, outcome and impact indicators, data sources and measurement approach.	LFA, Indicator Framework/ Reference Sheet and Results Measurement Plan.
4. Baseline Assessment	Design tools and methodology; undertake quantitative and qualitative assessment of women of 45-60 beneficiaries, enterprises and relevant stakeholders.	Baseline Report, dataset, indicator baseline values & management presentation
5. Learning Support	Provide periodic evidence-based insights and recommendations for programme strengthening (as mutually agreed), food plate pricing mechanism	Brief learning/review inputs (during mid-year review)
6. Endline Assessment	Assess changes against agreed	Endline/Impact Report and

	indicators and analyse programme outcomes, enterprise performance and sustainability readiness.	Baseline-Endline comparative analysis.
7. Sustainability & Way-Forward	Develop a practical sustainability roadmap covering enterprise viability, governance, market linkages, ecosystem convergence and transition from project support.	Sustainability & Way-Forward Plan with prioritised roadmap and transition milestones.

Indicative Impact Domains

- Women's economic empowerment and income
- Entrepreneurial and business management capacity
- Enterprise revenue, sales and operational performance
- Market access, customer engagement and product diversification
- Digital and financial capability
- Women's confidence, agency and participation in decision-making
- Enterprise formalisation and governance
- Government, financial and market ecosystem linkages
- Operational and financial sustainability

Payment Schedule – Deliverable Linked

Tranche	%	Deliverables / Milestone
Tranche 1 (advance) Month	45%	Advance to plan: Inception Report, mutually agreed ToC & LFA, tentative timeline, Impact Indicator & Results Measurement Framework; baseline methodology and tools.
Tranche 2 Month	45%	Tranche 1 deliverables, Completion of Baseline Assessment; Baseline Report and dataset; agreed knowledge/learning inputs and recommendations.
Tranche 3	10%	Endline Assessment and comparative analysis; Final Impact Report; Sustainability & Way-Forward Plan (final dissemination/presentation)

Eligibility & Technical Competence

- Demonstrated experience in ToC, LFA, MEL and impact assessment
- Experience in Dadri location
- Experience in baseline and endline studies using mixed methods.
- Relevant experience in livelihoods, women entrepreneurship, SHGs and/or enterprise development.

- Experience in enterprise sustainability and business model assessment.
- Strong quantitative and qualitative research and analytical capabilities.
- Experience of working with community-based programmes and multi-stakeholder ecosystems.
- **Legal standing:** registered as a company, society, trust, LLP or partnership firm, with a valid PAN and GST registration, and in operation for at least five years as on the date of this RFP.
- **Financial capacity:** a minimum average annual turnover/ operating budget of INR 50 lakh over the last three financial years (audited financial statements/ annual reports to be submitted as proof).
- **Track record:** at least three assignments involving ToC/LFA development, MEL systems, or baseline-endline/impact assessments completed in the last five years, of which at least one should be in the livelihoods, women's entrepreneurship, SHG or enterprise development sector (completion certificates/ client references to be provided).
- **Proposed team:** a Team Lead with a minimum of eight years of relevant experience in MEL/impact evaluation, supported by team members with demonstrated qualifications in social sciences, statistics/economics, and enterprise or livelihoods development.
- **Sector familiarity:** prior experience of engagement with DAY-NRLM, State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs), or comparable Government-anchored livelihoods programmes will be considered an added advantage.
- **No conflict of interest/ debarment:** the applicant (and any of its proposed team members) should not currently be blacklisted or debarred by any Government department, donor agency, financial institution or development organisation, and must furnish a self-declaration to this effect.
- **Fieldwork readiness:** demonstrated willingness and logistical ability to undertake fieldwork in Dadri (Uttar Pradesh) and to deliver against the timelines indicated in the Payment Schedule above.

Proposal Submission: Interested applicants should submit:

- Technical Proposal: understanding of the assignment, methodology, work plan, team composition and relevant experience.
- Financial Proposal: total professional fee, cost break-up, taxes and assumptions/exclusions.

ACCESS Development Services – SPOC

Proposals, queries and clarifications regarding this RFP shall be sent at sarthak@accessdev.org

Selection Approach: Proposals will be assessed based on understanding of the assignment, technical methodology, relevant organisational experience, proposed team and financial competitiveness. DDP may invite shortlisted bidders for a presentation/discussion.

Proposals will be evaluated using a Quality-and-Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) approach, with the Technical Proposal carrying a weightage of 70% and the Financial Proposal carrying a weightage of 30%. Only bidders securing a minimum qualifying technical score of 70 out of 100 will have their financial proposals opened and evaluated. The indicative technical evaluation break-up is as follows:

Evaluation Parameter	Weightage
Organisational profile, credibility and relevant track record (ToC/LFA/MEL, baseline-endline studies, livelihoods/enterprise sector experience)	20%
Understanding of the assignment and quality of the proposed technical approach and methodology	25%
Composition, qualification and relevant experience of the proposed team	20%
Robustness of the proposed MEL/ impact assessment framework, tools and analytical approach	20%
Presentation and response to queries (for shortlisted bidders, where applicable)	15%
Total	100%

The combined score for each qualifying bidder will be computed as: Combined Score = $(0.70 \times \text{Technical Score}) + (0.30 \times \text{Lowest Financial Quote} / \text{Bidder's Financial Quote} \times 100)$. The bidder with the highest combined score will be recommended for award, subject to satisfactory due diligence and reference checks. DDP and ACCESS Development Services reserve the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, or to annul the selection process at any stage, without assigning any reason and without incurring any liability towards the applicants.

Expected Strategic Value: DDP & ACCESS Development team seeks a partner that goes beyond a conventional survey exercise and combines programme design, impact measurement and practical enterprise sustainability expertise to help strengthen the existing Didi Smart Rasoi ecosystem and define a credible pathway for long-term sustainability and future scale-up.

Conclusion

ACCESS Development Services looks forward to receiving proposals from organisations, consulting firms and research institutions that bring credible experience, methodological rigour and a genuine commitment to strengthening women-led enterprises. We view this assignment as a partnership that will help anchor the Didi Smart Rasoi units in robust evidence, and chart a realistic, actionable pathway towards their long-term sustainability. Applicants are encouraged to reach out to the SPOC above for any clarifications well before the submission deadline.

Note: The ToC, LFA and impact indicators will be mutually developed and finalised with DDP, ACCESS core program team as well as with relevant programme stakeholders.

Timeline: Interested stakeholders shall submit their proposals no later than 20th September 2026 at sarthak@accessdev.org