



STATE FOREST DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, KERALA

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

No.E&TW3-765/17

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR UNDERTAKING CARRYING CAPACITY STUDIES IN 20 ECOTOURISM CENTRES IN KERALA.

I. Introduction: The State Forest Development Agency (SFDA), Kerala, invites proposals from reputed organizations and firms to undertake carrying capacity studies in 20 ecotourism centres in Kerala and submit the reports within a maximum of six months from the date of award of the contract. The last date for submission of bids is 30/09/2026 (5PM).

II. Objectives and scope of the Project: The State Forest Development Agency is in the process of undertaking studies to assess the carrying capacity, in ecotourism destinations in Kerala. The primary objective is to determine the maximum number of visitors each center can accommodate without degrading the ecosystem, specifically evaluating the Physical, Real, and Effective Carrying Capacities in accordance with the June 2011 guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change. The selected agency must identify the optimal visitor capacity, outline steps to minimize negative ecotourism impacts, and recommend methods to enhance overall visitor satisfaction.

Within this framework, the study must incorporate a comprehensive safety and security audit to identify potential hazards and deficiencies in existing protocols. The agency is expected to evaluate current safety measures, including health, safety, and environmental management systems, as well as electrical installations, to ensure compliance with legal requirements and industry standards. This detailed audit should culminate in the development of robust safety guidelines for activities such as trekking, boating, waterfall visits, and river-based activities, enabling the Forest Development Agencies to implement necessary corrective and preventive measures.

Furthermore, the study requires a detailed destination audit assessing attractions, access, activities, services, human resources, and promotional efforts.

The selected agency must evaluate basic destination facilities to identify infrastructural gaps that must be addressed to ensure sustainable, safe visitor management and protect visitor interests without compromising the ecological sustainability. Finally, the agency must analyze visitor trends, submit a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis, and suggest short-term and long-term mitigation measures for the smooth and sustainable operation of ecotourism activities at each center.

Proposed Study Locations:-

SI No.	Forest Division	Eco-Tourism Centre
1)	Thiruvananthapuram	Mangayam
2)		Kulathupuzha Forest Museum
3)	NSC Kalady	Abhayaranyam
4)		Panamkuzhy
5)		Mangalavanam
6)		Suvarnodhyanam
7)	Marayur	Anakottappara
8)		Rajeev Gandhi Nature Park
9)	Palakkad	Ananganmala
10)	Mannarkkad	Thodukappkunnu
11)	Nilambur North	Kozhippara
12)	Kannur	Alakapuri
13)		Sasippara
14)	Kozhikode	Kakkavayal
15)		Kakkad
16)	Peechi Wildlife Division	Peechi
17)		Vazhani
18)		Chulannur
19)	Malayattoor	Bhoothathankettu
20)	Wayanad Wildlife Division	Adavi

Those who are interested in undertaking the study and submitting recommendations on the above are requested to submit their Expression of Interest (Eol), Technical and Financial bids to the Chief Conservator of Forests (Eco-Development and Tribal Welfare) & Member Secretary, State Forest Development Agency, Kerala, exclusively by post to the address given in the Eol document on or before 30-09-2026 (5PM).

A pre-bid meeting will be scheduled on **18-09-2026** at 11.30 AM in Forest head quarters in hybrid mode (Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/pht-pkop-edk>). The purpose of this meeting is to clarify the doubts of interested parties, inform them of the details of the 20 ecotourism centers identified for the studies, and explain the procedure to be followed for the submission of technical and financial bids. The financial quote has to be submitted along with the detailed proposal based on the EoI document.

III. Bidding Process

Bids must be submitted using the following system:

(a) Technical Bid

The technical bid must be submitted as a detailed note containing

- **Organization Background:** Details including the organization type, date of incorporation, hierarchy, and staff strength.
- **Field of Expertise:** The organization's areas of expertise relevant to the studies proposed in the EOI.
- **Previous Studies:** Accessible Google Drive links to prior carrying capacity studies conducted by the organization. This shall include published reports, books, and related documents.

(b) Financial Bid

- Quotes must be in Indian Rupees (INR) and inclusive of all expenses.
- The bid must clearly specify cost components such as staff remuneration, professional charges, travel and lodging, stationery, GST, and the submission of five hard-copy & Soft copies of the reports (pdf).
- The agency will only be eligible for the exact amount quoted.

(c) Submission of Bids:

- i. **Modality of Submission:** The Technical and Financial Bid shall be enclosed in two separate covers with the name of the agency, clearly mentioned on both covers and the covers have to be sealed. Thereafter the two covers shall be placed in another cover and sent by post .
- ii. **Last date for Submission:** The final date for the receipt of bids is 30/09/2026 (5 PM).
- iii. **Address for Submission:** The Technical and Financial Bid shall be sent by post to the following address:-

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Eco-Development and Tribal Welfare) &
Member Secretary, State Forest Development Agency, Kerala,
4th Floor, Forest Headquarters,
Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 695014.
Ph: 0471 2529225

The decision of the Member Secretary, State Forest Development Agency
(SFDA), Kerala, regarding the selection process shall be final.

Date:07-09-2026



Chief Conservator of Forests (E&TW) &
Member Secretary, SFDA, Kerala
