

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER THE SCHEME, BIODIVERSITY
CONSERVATION 2022-23
KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD**

The Kerala State Biodiversity Board is inviting proposals under the component "Identification, creation of database, propagation, conservation, and value addition of wild and underutilized edible varieties of leafy vegetables, tubers, fruits, pulses, edible mushrooms etc".

Objectives

Kerala has a unique collection of native wild edible leafy vegetables, tubers, minor fruits, mushrooms etc which have been neglected or underutilized. Most of them are being used by the tribal communities and are a rich source of carbohydrates, fats, proteins, energy, vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre. The project aims to identify, and create a data base, undertake scientific validation of nutritional content of wild edibles, and development of value added products. The project proposals should demonstrate viable technology/or lab-to-land technology transfer for development of value added products, which have the potential to give economic and nutritional security to people.

Eligibility

Scientists and academicians from recognized R&D Institutions, Universities, academic institutions, and Government Departments with experience in the relevant field can apply. Proposals in the prescribed format prepared by the Principal Investigator (PI) should be endorsed by the Head of the Institution.

Project duration

Two years

Project Title

Identification, creation of database, propagation, conservation, and value addition of wild and underutilized edible varieties of leafy vegetables, tubers, fruits, pulses, edible mushrooms, etc.

Project components

The project proposal shall address all the four components as mentioned below

1. Development of a database including local name of species/variety, area, location, approx. quantity cultivated, uses including associated traditional knowledge, and speciality if any
2. Development of techniques for cultivation and conservation
3. Assessment of nutritional content of prioritized crops and varieties
4. Possibility of value addition at farm gate level and commercial level.

Project location

The project area shall include all the districts of Kerala

Financial assistance

The budget for the two year project shall be limited to Rs 15.00 lakh with Rs 10 lakh during the 1st year and Rs 5.00 lakh during the second year, based on the progress made.

The assistance shall cover salary of research personnel appointed for the purpose, travel, contingency grant of 5 % of project cost and Institutional overhead to a maximum of 10% of project cost. Expenditure for furniture or equipment should not be met from the grant. The expenditure for printing of reports shall be met from the contingency grant.

Mode of applying and selection

Three hard copies of the detailed proposals in the prescribed format shall be communicated to the Member Secretary, Kerala State Biodiversity Board not later than 31.08.2022. The proposals shall be shortlisted and the shortlisted proposals will be assessed by the R&D Committee constituted. The Principal Investigators with feasible and complete proposals will be invited for making presentations before the Committee. No TA/DA is admissible for the presentation. Detailed guidelines for R & D projects are available in the website of KSBB.