

Call for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Engagement of Research Agency

Project Title:

Assessing the Impact of Low-Intensity Disasters on Older Persons through an Intersectional Place Perspective (IPP)

1. About HelpAge India

HelpAge India is a leading national non-profit organization committed to improving the quality of life of disadvantaged older persons. Established in 1978, the organization works across multiple states through a wide network of field projects and partner organizations.

HelpAge India focuses on key areas including healthcare, livelihoods, disaster response, and advocacy, with a strong emphasis on promoting dignity, rights, and well-being of the elderly. It has extensive experience in disaster response and resilience building, HelpAge India has increasingly focused on the intersection of ageing and climate change - ensuring that the needs of older persons are integrated into humanitarian and development frameworks.

Through its programmes, HelpAge India continues to generate evidence-based insights to influence policy and strengthen inclusive systems for ageing populations in India.

2. Background & Objective

Environmental degradation and slow-onset climate hazards—such as recurring heatwaves, minor flooding, and coastal erosion—pose significant risks to older populations, particularly in rural and vulnerable geographies.

This study aims to adopt an **Intersectional Place Perspective (IPP)** to examine how age, combined with other social identities such as gender, disability, and socio-economic status, interacts with geographic contexts to shape vulnerability, resilience, and access to resources.

This Flagship 2026 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) National Study under the HelpAge India initiative uniquely integrates gerontology, climate resilience, and intersectional analysis to highlight older persons' experiences in slow-onset disasters such as heatwaves, minor floods, and coastal erosion. The findings of this study will directly inform WEAAD National and Media Advocacy campaigns, evidence-based policy briefs, and state-level policy dialogues for inclusive ageing frameworks.

This flagship national study has unique focus on:

- The intersection of ageing and climate vulnerability
- The impact of low-intensity, cumulative disasters
- Use of Intersectional Place Perspective (IIP) framework
- A large scale, multi state Pan India evidence

HelpAge India seeks to engage a competent research agency to undertake a mixed-methods study that will generate actionable insights and inform inclusive, climate-resilient policy and programmatic interventions for older persons.

3. Scope of Work

The selected agency will conduct the study across two districts in each identified state (with a rural focus), particularly in regions prone to low-intensity disasters, coordinating multi-state primary data collection (directly or via partners) and managing complex field logistics in remote areas.

Key responsibilities include:

- **Needs Assessment:**
Assess care, income, health, and housing needs of older persons.
- **Care Ecosystem Analysis:**
Map the roles of family systems, community networks, and government services.
- **Resilience Analysis:**
Examine how older persons adapt to and recover from slow-onset hazards, including identification of often-overlooked coping mechanisms.
- **Policy & Service Gap Analysis:**
Identify gaps in disaster management and social protection systems affecting marginalized elderly populations.
- **Documentation of Good Practices:**
Capture scalable models and practices that support resilience and equitable outcomes.

4. Methodology & Deliverables

The agency must adopt a **mixed-methods research approach**, quantitative household surveys followed by qualitative deep dives, case studies and participatory methods.

A. Quantitative Component

- Household surveys with a minimum of **200 older persons per state**
- Stratified sampling ensuring representation across:
 - Age groups (60+ and 80+)
 - Gender
 - Persons with disabilities
- Development of a **Resilience Index** covering:
 - Natural
 - Physical
 - Economic
 - Social
 - Institutional dimensions

B. Qualitative Component

- **6 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)** per state
- **4 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)** per state
- Use of participatory approaches such as **Appreciative Inquiry** or **Life Stories**

C. Data Analysis

- Quantitative: Descriptive statistical analysis, regression, group comparisons.
- Qualitative: Thematic analysis (coding, matrixes, specify software)

D. Final Deliverables

- Comprehensive research report including:
 - Key findings on vulnerability and resilience
 - Coping mechanisms and lived experiences
 - Policy recommendations
 - A **Scalability Framework**

5. Eligibility Criteria

Interested agencies must meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrated experience in social science research, particularly in ageing (gerontology) and/or climate change
- Experience in applying intersectional and gender-sensitive frameworks
- Strong field implementation and coordination capacity in rural and disaster-prone areas (strong field presence across multiple states).
- Ability to coordinate large-scale, multi-state primary data collection
- Ability to ensure data quality, consistency, and ethical compliance
- Proven expertise in mixed-methods research, data analysis, and report writing
- **Minimum average annual turnover of INR 5 crore over the last three financial years**
- **Submission of audited financial statements/proof of turnover for the last three financial years is mandatory**

6. Submission Requirements

Interested agencies are invited to submit a detailed Technical proposal (**maximum 10 pages**) including:

1. **Organizational Profile**
 - Relevant experience and expertise
 - Regional presence
2. **Technical Approach**
 - Contextual Understanding of the study
 - Methodology for implementing the IPP framework
 - Sampling design – Sampling Strategy with justification for reaching sub-groups (80+, widows, elderly living alone, elderly with disabilities)
 - Strategy for constructing a resilience index.
3. **Project Timeline**
 - Detailed timeline from inception to submission of final report
4. **Financial Documents**
 - Audited financial statements/proof of annual turnover for the last three financial years

7. Submission Details

- **Submission Deadline:** 27th March 2026
- **Mode of Submission:** Email submission
- **Email ID:** Procurement@helpageindia.org
- **Subject Line:** *EOI Submission – IPP Study on Low-Intensity Disasters*

8. General Terms

- HelpAge India reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason.
- Only shortlisted agencies will be contacted for further evaluation.
- Incomplete submissions will not be considered.