**Expression of Interest**

 The Embassy of India, Moscow invites ‘Expression of Interest and Bids’ with proposed terms of reference from reputed research firms, institutes and organizations with proven track record, to undertake a study on **“Opportunities for India-Russia cooperation in Timber \ Wood sector.**” The terms of reference for the study are enclosed.

The Study will be bilingual (English & Russian) length of the study should be approximately 50000 words and it should be completed within six weeks from the date of acceptance of the bid or proposal.

 Interested parties with sound financial background and experience in undertaking market studies may send their ‘Expression of Interest and Bids’ to Mr. S Inbasekar, Counsellor, Head-Economic and Commerce Wing, Embassy of India, Moscow at eco.moscow@mea.gov.in on or before October 20, 2017.

**India-Russia cooperation in Wood/Timber Sector**

**Overview**

* Russia’s Timber sector
	+ present trend and future forecast (including statistics)
	+ Russia’s potential
	+ Russia’s strategy , with specific reference to continuing Western Sanctions
* Russia’s Timber & its direction – past, present and future
* Overview of Russian authorities/ agencies/ research institutions dealing with exports of Timber and Timber goods
* Analysis of strategy of countries importing timber from Russia in terms of capacity building and establishment of wood-working facilities

**Opportunities for India**

* Overview of Indian timber market
	+ present trend and future forecast (including statistics)
	+ Growth potential vis-à-vis availability of raw material in various regions(detailed graphs/statistics)
	+ Policy directions
* Potential Russian partners
* Long-term lease contracts for use of Timber Resource in Russia
* Acquisition of assets, joint research and development
* Feasibility and viability of procurement of raw, semi-processed and processed timber

**Models of cooperation**

* Joint ventures/ partnership in development & innovations
* Production sharing agreements

**Transportation:**

* Inland haulage
* Viable Sea-routes

**Quality:**

* As compared to quality of exports from other major supplier countries
* Viable Sea-routes

**Non-Trade Barriers:**

* **Regulatory issues with specific reference to India**
* **Phytosanitary Issues with reference to Indian regulations**
* **Russian Timber Regulations, including the latest rules/proviso**

**Future roadmap**

* Short term plan -up to five years
* Long term beyond five years

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