Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India

National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS)

1st Call for Demand-Driven Research & Pilot Demonstration
Project Grant under NMHS 2025-26

Realizing the significance of the Himalaya in the sustainable development of the nation, the "National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS)" is being implemented since 2015-16 across the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) with a Vision "*to support the sustenance and enhancement of the ecological, natural, cultural and socio-economic capital assets and values of the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR)".*

For the current year 2025-26, project proposals are invited under NMHS from individuals working in reputed Institutions/Universities/Organizations equipped with adequate resources and prior proven demand-driven action Research and Development (R&D) experience, addressing one or more of the following Identified Thrust Areas under specific Broad Thematic Areas (BTAs). The proposals submitted under NMHS should complement national priorities such as "Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)", "Self-Reliant Bharat", "Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan" as well as supplement the international commitments like Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the IHR. The project proposals should also take cognizance of the NMHS cross-cutting themes, i.e. gender equality and climate change.

The Identified Thrust Areas (ITAs) for submission of proposals under different BTAs of the Mission-NMHS are as follows:

S#	Identified Thrust Areas (ITAs)	Broad Thematic Areas (BTAs)
1.	• Flood and landslide risk mitigation • Community-managed Water Governance Model in Himalayan villages • Smart & Precision Water Management for Himalayan Agriculture • Sustainable Water Resources Development in IHR and their impacts • Efficient and decentralized water supply/ distribution systems for urban and peri-urban areas in IHR • Environmental flows (e-flows) for maintaining river ecosystems • Improving water use efficiency • Location-specific mapping of local hydrogeological and socio-economic settings at aquifer scale	Water Resource Management (WRM) ***Complementing & Supplementing –***SDG 6, SDG 13, and SDG 15
2.	• Farm-to-Table and GI-tagged Products to boost rural economy along with addressing environmental challenges. • Farm to Fuel: Energy Solutions from agro-waste • Traditional Knowledge blended with Modern Design & Tools for Livelihood development • Circular Economy Models for Sustainability and Employment • On- and Off-Farm Livelihood Innovations for Sustainable Himalayan Ecosystems	Livelihood Options & Employment Generation (LOEG) ***Complementing & Supplementing –***SDG 1, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 11
3.	• Microhabitat restoration of high-altitude grasslands and alpine pastures under climate stress • Community-managed High-altitude Biodiversity Hotspots for Climate Resilience and Ecosystem Services and their conservation • Green Accounting and Ecosystem Service Valuation Frameworks for Himalayan landscapes for improved policy making in the IHR	Biodiversity Conservation & Management (BCM) ***Complementing & Supplementing –***SDG 2, SDG 12, SDG 14, and SDG 15

S#	Identified Thrust Areas (ITAs)	Broad Thematic Areas (BTAs)
	• Seed banks & indigenous crop preservation for food security	
4.	• Skill Hubs for Himalayan Youth, focusing on Green Tourism, Smart Farming and Digital Livelihoods, Agri-value Chain Platforms • E-Learning Hubs and Telemedicine in Remote Border Villages • Geo-tagged green infrastructure planning tools for Himalayan hill towns. • Sustainable Infrastructure Auditing Toolkits	Skill Development & Capacity Building (SDCB) ***Complementing & Supplementing*** –SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 10, and SDG 12
5.	• Climate-Resilient Road Infrastructure/ Pathways • Digital-Physical Integration (Smart Mobility) • GIS-based route planning for disaster-prone zones • Solar-integrated Footpaths and Ropeways • Connectivity for Perishable Produce Supply Chains	Physical Connectivity (PC) ***Complementing & Supplementing*** –SDG 9, SDG 11
6.	• Waste to energy • Decentralized waste energy models • Reducing pollutions through sustainable waste management • Plastic-Free Himalayan Pilgrimages: Waste Monitoring & Sustainable Alternatives • Models for Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) for recyclables (plastic, glass, metal) • Waste Upcycling Initiatives/ Models • Panchayat-led Waste Management Models.	Handling of Waste (HW) ***Complementing & Supplementing*** – SDG 12, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15

The interested individuals working in reputed Institutions/ agencies may submit the research proposal in the prescribed format in their area(s) of expertise along with the Endorsement Certificate from the Head of the Institution and detailed bio-data of the PI and Co-PIs. The detailed project submission guidelines and prescribed formats for preparing Project Proposal are available on the websites of the NMHS-PMU: http://nmhs.org.in; https://gbpihed.gov.in/index.php; and https://moef.gov.in/

Proposal Submission Procedure: The complete proposal prepared in the prescribed NMHS should be **submitted through Online Portal of NMHS**: **https://newprojectsubmission.nmhs-himal.res.in/ before 5:00 PM on 30th June 2025** *(extended due date)*.

17/6/2025

Administrative Officer
GBP NIHE HQs