Request for Proposal
Women's Enterprise Ecosystem Landscape Study

Programme	Women Enterprise Acceleration & Market Linkage Programme in North-East (WEP), FY 2026-28
Commissioning organisation	Nasscom Foundation
Supported by	L&T Technology Services (LTTS)
Engagement	Individual academician / researcher to lead the Women's Enterprise Ecosystem Landscape Study
Geography	Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura (with secondary-data comparison across the North-East and India)
Engagement period	20 October 2026 to 22 January 2027 Core study: 20 October to 31 December 2026 (about 10 weeks), Dissemination: 4th to 22nd January 2027
Reports to	Lucky Pandey, MEL Manager, Nasscom Foundation Jaya Srivastava, MEL Director, Nasscom Foundation
Professional fee	INR 6,00,000 (Including TDS)
Proposal Submission Deadline	5 November 2026

1. Background

Nasscom Foundation, with support from L&T Technology Services (LTTS), has been running a women's enterprise programme across Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura. The FY 2026-28 phase (July 2026 to March 2027) works with 100 women entrepreneurs through a dual-cohort model of enterprise acceleration, foundation training, specialised mentoring and market linkages, supported by Digital Ambassadors.

The programme's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework includes two distinct studies:

- A Project Evaluation Study, to be carried out by an external evaluator, which assesses changes in income, enterprise growth, capability and market linkages for both cohorts.
- A Women's Enterprise Ecosystem Report (the Landscape Study), which brings together evidence from existing sources and distils it into policy briefs on potential roadmaps for the State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) and the Departments of MSME in Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura, informed by the two years of implementation under the LTTS grant.

This Statement of Work (SoW) covers only the second study. NF is engaging an academician to lead it so that the report carries independent, research-grade credibility, connects programme learnings to state and national policy (including the National Rural Livelihoods Mission), and gives the SRLMs and MSME departments something they can act on.

2. Objectives of the Engagement

O1 Map the macro landscape of women's enterprise in Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura, and how it compares with the rest of the North-East and India.

O2 Understand the sectors where women entrepreneurs in the region are concentrated (handicrafts, agriculture and allied activities, trade), and what drives or constrains growth in each.

O3 Assess the enabling environment: access to credit, digital access, capability and use, government schemes and their reach, market access, and structural, social, gender and regulatory barriers.

O4 Distinguish growth-oriented enterprises from subsistence enterprises, and identify what moves women from one to the other.

O5 Locate WEP's approach and early learnings within this landscape, and identify where the SRLMs, MSME departments and ecosystem partners can build on them.

O6 Produce actionable, state-specific policy and ecosystem recommendations tied to specific schemes and guidelines, and identify data gaps that limit planning and evaluation in the region.

3. Scope of Work

3.1 Components of the study

The last column shows the objectives (O) and research questions (RQ) each component serves. The academician will expand this into a full traceability matrix in D1 (Section 4).

#	Component	What the academician will do	Links to
A	Macro landscape	Size and profile women-led and women-owned enterprises in the three states using national and state datasets, and benchmark them against the other five North-East states and India. Cover enterprise type, scale, formality, geography (rural/urban, tribal/non-tribal where data allows), and trends over time.	O1 RQ1
B	Sectoral analysis	Analyse handicrafts, agriculture and allied activities, and trade: value chains, women's roles, income potential, market structure and key constraints. Sectors beyond these three may be added only by mutual agreement.	O2 RQ2
C	State-wise profiles	Prepare a profile for each state using the fixed template and harmonised indicators approved in D1, covering the institutional set-up (SRLM, MSME/industries department, financial institutions, ecosystem partners), major programmes, and state-specific opportunities and gaps.	O1, O3 RQ1, RQ3
D	Enabling environment	Review credit (bank linkage, SHG-bank linkage, MUDRA and other schemes), digital access, capability and business use, government schemes, market platforms, and social, gender and regulatory barriers. Identify what works and what does not, and why.	O3 RQ3, RQ6, RQ7
E	Growth vs subsistence patterns	Build a simple typology of women's enterprises and identify the factors, including gender-related constraints, associated with growth, stagnation and exit.	O4 RQ4, RQ6
F	Disruption impacts	Assess how shocks relevant to the region (for example climate events, connectivity and supply-chain disruptions, and public-health or economic shocks) have affected women's enterprises and how they recover.	O3, O4 RQ4
G	Programme learnings	Draw on WEP programme data and documents shared by NF (aggregate and anonymised) to illustrate findings and identify implications for SRLM and MSME department programming. This is a learning exercise, not an evaluation.	O5 RQ5, RQ7
H	Data gaps	Maintain a register of missing, outdated or non-comparable data across states, with suggestions on how the gaps could be closed.	O6
I	Recommendations and policy briefs	Develop actionable recommendations, each linked to a scheme or guideline (Section 3.3), then convert them into policy briefs tailored to each state's SRLM and MSME department.	O6 RQ5

#	Component	What the academician will do	Links to
J	SRLM support and private-funding gap matrix	Map, for each state, the support the SRLM currently provides to women entrepreneurs and the gaps that private funding could fill, and present this as a matrix that NF's Fundraising (FR) team can use for pitching to CSR and other private funders. For each support area (for example capacity building and training, credit and capital, enterprise incubation and mentoring, market linkage, digital enablement, and gender-related support), the matrix should show: what the SRLM provides (scheme or component), its coverage and reach, the gap remaining, the type of private funding suited to the gap, an indicative scale or cost where evidence allows, a priority rating, and the evidence source.	O5, O6 RQ8

3.2 Research questions

RQ1 What is the size, composition and geographic spread of women's enterprises in each state, and how has it changed in recent years?

RQ2 Which sectors offer women the best prospects for sustainable income growth, and what stops them from realising it?

RQ3 Which schemes, programmes and institutions reach women entrepreneurs effectively, and where are the gaps in awareness, eligibility, access and follow-through?

RQ4 What distinguishes women whose enterprises grow from those whose enterprises remain at subsistence level?

RQ5 How can the SRLMs, MSME departments and private and civil-society partners align their efforts to support women's enterprises across the North-East?

RQ6 Which gender-related constraints (care burden and time poverty, mobility and safety, household decision-making, property and inheritance norms, and the role of male family members) most bind women's enterprises, and how do they differ across states and communities?

RQ7 Where are the largest gaps between digital access, digital capability and actual business use, and what does this imply for models such as the Digital Ambassadors?

RQ8 What support is currently being provided by the SRLM in each state to women entrepreneurs, and what are the gaps that private funding could fill?

3.3 Cross-cutting requirements

- **Harmonised indicators and comparability.** D1 must fix an indicator set (definition, source, year, geographic level, and sex and rural/urban disaggregation where available) and a single template for the three state profiles, both approved by NF. All profiles and tables use them. The comparison with the North-East and India must include the other five North-East states (Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim), using secondary data only, with no primary fieldwork there. Where an indicator is unavailable for a state, it goes into the data gap register rather than being replaced by a non-comparable measure.
- **Gender lens.** The analysis and the primary data collection must examine, by state and community: care burden and time poverty; mobility and safety (for example travel to markets, banks and training); household decision-making over income, assets and the enterprise; property, land and inheritance norms, including differences across communities and kinship systems; and the role of male family members as enablers, gatekeepers, co-workers or hidden operators. These are to be tested in interviews and FGDs, not only noted from literature. Data should be disaggregated by sex and, where available, by age, community and rural/urban location.
- **Digital: access, capability and business use.** Analyse separately (i) access (devices, connectivity, data affordability), (ii) capability (skills, confidence, language and literacy), and (iii) actual business use (digital payments, online platforms and marketplaces, and digital marketing and record-keeping). Assess how the Digital Ambassador approach addresses each level, and draw out implications for programme design. Access must not be assumed to mean use.
- **Recommendations tied to instruments.** Each recommendation in the report and briefs must name the scheme, guideline or policy it would use or amend (for example the enterprise-promotion components of DAY-NRLM, Lakhpati Didi, state MSME policies, and DoNER and NEDFi funding windows), the proposed change, the

responsible agency, the supporting evidence, an indicative time frame and a feasibility note. Recommendations that cannot be tied to an instrument must be marked as general guidance and kept to a minimum.

3.4 Approach and minimum fieldwork

The study is primarily a synthesis study built on existing evidence, with limited primary data collection to fill gaps and test findings. The numbers below are minimums that make the scope measurable; the academician may add more.

- Desk review and secondary data analysis of national surveys, administrative and MIS data, government and multilateral reports, and academic literature (see Annex B for indicative sources).
- Key informant interviews (KIIs): at least [6] per state ([18] in total) with representatives of the SRLMs, MSME and industries departments, banks and financial institutions, NEDFi or similar development institutions, market platforms, and civil-society and ecosystem partners. Window: 10 to 25 November 2026.
- Focus group discussions (FGDs): at least [2] per state ([6] in total), of about [8 to 10] women entrepreneurs each, including WEP participants. Window: 12 to 26 November 2026.
- All consultations are to close by Friday 27 November 2026 so that D3 is based on complete evidence.
- A validation workshop (online) on Thursday 10 December 2026 with NF and, where appropriate, the SRLMs and MSME departments, on the draft circulated on Monday 7 December.

NF will facilitate introductions and logistics for the consultations (Section 5.2). The academician may propose a different mix of methods in D1, provided the scope in Section 3.1 and the minimum numbers above are met.

4. Deliverables and Timeline

The donor's timeline requires the study to be complete by the end of December 2026. This SoW therefore treats D4 and D5 as the study deliverables, to be accepted by Wednesday 30 December 2026 (hard stop: Thursday 31 December). D6 is post-study dissemination in January 2027. All dates assume the contract is signed by Monday 19 October 2026 and work starts on Tuesday 20 October 2026; any later signing shortens the time available and must be discussed with NF at once.

#	Deliverable	Description	Dates
D1	Inception Report	Analytical framework and an objective → research question → component → data source → output matrix, so that every component traces to an objective and a question. Harmonised indicator set and fixed state-profile template (Section 3.3). Methodology, detailed report outline, work plan and risks. Stakeholder list and the KII and FGD schedule, for NF to book appointments early. Draft consent forms, safeguarding and referral protocol, code of conduct, and the named team with language coverage (Sections 6 and 9).	Submit: Fri 5 Nov NF comments: Wed 4 Nov Review meeting: Thu 5 Nov Revised D1 accepted: Mon 9 Nov
D2	Data Analysis	Consolidated secondary data tables on the harmonised indicators for the three states, the other five North-East states and India; annotated source list; preliminary findings; and a first version of the data gap register.	Due: Fri 20 Nov Review meeting: Wed 25 Nov
D3	Draft Landscape Report	Full draft covering components A to H and a draft of the Component J matrix, with tables, charts and preliminary scheme-linked recommendations. Consultations closed by Fri 27 Nov.	Due: Fri 4 Dec Circulated for workshop: Mon 7 Dec Validation workshop: Thu 10 Dec NF consolidated feedback: Fri 11 Dec Review meeting: Mon 14 Dec

#	Deliverable	Description	Dates
D4	Final Landscape Report	Final report (indicatively 50 to 60 pages excluding annexes), with an executive summary of up to 3 pages, data tables and a source list, after incorporating consolidated feedback. Includes the final SRLM support and private-funding gap matrix (Component J), also shared in editable Excel format for NF's Fundraising team. Submitted with the handover package in Section 10.	Due: Fri 18 Dec NF feedback: Wed 23 Dec Revised D4: [Mon 28 Dec]
D5	Policy Briefs	Three state-specific briefs (Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura) for the SRLM and MSME department, each 4 to 6 pages, plus one synthesis brief on the North-East. Recommendations follow the instrument-linked format in Section 3.3.	Due: Tue 22 Dec NF feedback: Mon 28 Dec Final briefs: Tue 29 Dec
D6	Dissemination Support	A presentation deck; content inputs for NF's communications team (key messages and infographic data; quotes and images only where separate publication consent exists, see Section 9.2); and participation in up to [two] dissemination events, in person or online.	4 to 22 Jan 2027 (post-study, subject to LTTS confirmation)

Sign-off on D4 and D5 is targeted for Wednesday 30 December 2026, with Thursday 31 December as the hard stop. Between the D3 review meeting and D4, NF's feedback reaches the academician by Friday 11 December, leaving about four working days for revision, so the academician should plan the drafting accordingly. D5 and its feedback fall in Christmas week, so there is little slack in this schedule.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 Academician

- Lead the study end to end: design, analysis, writing and quality assurance of all deliverables.
- Engage and supervise research support and any co-researcher or partner, at the academician's own cost within the agreed fee. The academician remains fully accountable for quality, ethics, safeguarding and confidentiality, and ensures every team member signs the code of conduct (Section 9.4).
- Conduct stakeholder consultations with appropriate consent, sensitivity and cultural awareness, in the local languages of the participants (Section 6).
- Attend fortnightly check-ins and the review meetings in Section 7, and flag risks and delays early.

5.2 Nasscom Foundation

- Share the programme data pack (documents and aggregate, anonymised WEP data) by Friday 23 October 2026.
- Introduce the academician to the SRLMs, MSME departments and other stakeholders, and to WEP participants for FGDs, once the stakeholder list is shared in D1.
- Arrange logistics for consultations, including permissions, venues and mobilisation of participants.
- Return feedback within the turnaround times in Section 7, as a single consolidated comment set.
- Coordinate with the external evaluator to avoid duplication and respondent fatigue, and manage review by LTTS.
- Name a safeguarding focal person for disclosures (Section 9.3) and process payments on time against accepted deliverables.

6. Profile of the Academician and Study Team

Essential: academician

- Doctorate in Economics, Development Studies, Public Policy, Gender Studies, Rural Management or a related field.

- At least [10] years of research experience on women's entrepreneurship, livelihoods, MSMEs or rural development, with peer-reviewed or policy publications.
- Demonstrated experience with mixed-methods and secondary-data analysis, and with writing policy briefs for government audiences.
- Working knowledge of India's rural livelihoods and MSME policy landscape, including DAY-NRLM and SRLMs.
- Institutional affiliation with a university or research institution. If currently serving faculty, an undertaking that a no-objection certificate (NOC) will be provided must be given at the EOI stage, and the NOC itself submitted before fieldwork begins [and no later than 6 November 2026]. Signing of the contract does not wait for the NOC.

Essential: study team

- Fieldwork depends on language. Between the academician, research assistants and a co-researcher or partner organisation based in the North-East, the team must be able to conduct interviews and FGDs in Assamese and Bengali (Assam), Khasi and Garo (Meghalaya), and Bengali and Kokborok (Tripura), plus other local languages needed for the sampled participants.
- If the academician cannot cover these languages personally, a co-researcher or partner from the North-East must be named in the EOI and in D1, with their role and languages. Changes to the team need NF's written approval.
- FGDs with women entrepreneurs must be facilitated by women.

Desirable

- Prior research or fieldwork in Assam, Meghalaya or Tripura, and existing networks with state departments or SRLMs.
- Familiarity with handicrafts, agriculture or trade value chains.
- Experience with gender-based violence referral and safeguarding in research settings.

7. Governance and Reporting

7.1 Meetings and turnaround

- Fortnightly 30-minute check-ins between the academician and NF's point of contact, with a short written update.
- Formal review meetings: D1 on Thu 5 Nov; D2 on Wed 25 Nov; D3 on Mon 14 Dec; and a closing review of D4 and D5 [Mon 28 Dec]. The online validation workshop is on Thu 10 Dec.
- NF feedback turnaround: 5 working days for D1 to D3 (D1 is compressed to 3 working days, as in Section 4) and 3 working days for D4 and D5. The academician will return revisions within [3] working days.
- NF may share drafts with LTTS and the external evaluator for comment. NF will consolidate all feedback and send a single set of comments to the academician.
- Any change to scope, timeline or fee requires prior written agreement from both parties (see Section 11).

7.2 LTTS review before public release

NF will share D4 and D5 with LTTS in parallel with its own review, so that LTTS comments are included in NF's consolidated feedback (23 December for D4 and 28 December for D5), before sign-off. No part of the study, including D6 materials, will be released publicly until NF has given written clearance after LTTS review. LTTS comments reach the academician through NF.

7.3 No-surprises briefing and editorial independence

Where a finding or recommendation is critical of a specific state scheme, department or institution, NF and the academician will brief the concerned body, through NF, before public release. The briefing:

- shares the relevant finding (not the full draft), invites correction of factual errors, and allows a short written response;

- takes place before D4 is submitted on 18 December, ideally following the 10 December workshop, and again at least [3] working days before any public release;
- does not give the department or institution any right to approve, edit or remove findings. The academician decides whether a factual correction is accepted and may show the department's response in a footnote or box.

The findings and conclusions are the academician's own. NF may ask for factual corrections and clarity edits, but will not ask for supported conclusions to be softened or changed, and will not publish excerpts in a way that changes their meaning.

8. Professional Fee and Payment Schedule

The total professional fee is INR 6,00,000 (Including TDS). Tax deducted at source (TDS) will be deducted from each payment as per applicable law, and the net amount paid; TDS is a deduction from the fee, not part of it. The fee covers the academician's time, research assistance, translation and transcription, travel, honoraria or costs of consultations, data access and any other expense needed to deliver this SoW, unless NF agrees a specific reimbursable in writing beforehand.

Milestone	Payment	Condition
1. Inception	[30]% of fee	Upon the submission of Inception Report
2. Draft report and PPT	[30]% of fee	Upon Submission of Draft Landscape Report and PPT
3. Final report, PPT and briefs	[30]% of fee	Upon Submission of Final Report, PPT and Briefs
4. Dissemination	[10]% of fee	After completion of Dissemination workshop

Payment will be made within [30] days of receiving a valid invoice following written acceptance of the relevant deliverable.

9. Quality, Ethics, Consent and Safeguarding

9.1 Quality and data protection

- All facts, figures and claims must be sourced, with data tables traceable to their original source and year. Data limitations and comparability issues must be stated openly.
- The report must be original work. NF may run a plagiarism check, and any text generated or assisted by AI tools must be disclosed and fully verified by the academician.
- Personal data must be handled in line with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023: a plain-language consent notice in the participant's language stating what data is collected and why, collection limited to what is needed, secure storage, the right to withdraw, and deletion at the end of the engagement except for records NF asks to retain. Programme data shared by NF may be used only for this study. Any suspected data breach must be reported to NF within [24] hours.
- Writing and analysis must apply the gender lens in Section 3.3 and be respectful of the region's communities, and recommendations must be realistic for the fiscal and administrative capacity of the states.

9.2 Consent, including publication

Consent to take part in research does not cover publication. Consent forms, approved by NF in D1 and available in the participants' languages, must ask for each of the following separately, with an opt-in for each:

- participation in the interview or FGD, and audio recording;
- use of anonymised quotes in public outputs;
- use of quotes attributed by name, enterprise or place (only if the participant opts in, and only after the participant has seen the quote);
- use of any photograph, image or video of the participant or her enterprise.

No quote is used in D4, D5 or D6 unless the participant has consented to that use, and no image is used without specific written consent. Participants may withdraw consent before publication. The academician will hand over the signed consent records, kept separately from the anonymised data, so that NF's communications team can check consent before any use. In FGDs, participants will be told that confidentiality within the group cannot be guaranteed.

9.3 Safeguarding, referral and disclosure protocol

FGDs and interviews with women may surface violence, coercion, debt distress or exploitation. Before any fieldwork, the academician will submit for NF's approval, as part of D1, a protocol that includes:

- a referral directory for each fieldwork district (for example the 112 emergency number, 181 Women Helpline, One Stop Centres, District Legal Services Authorities, and local counselling or SRLM grievance channels), verified before use and carried by every field team member;
- a rule that a team member responds to a disclosure by listening, not investigating or probing, pausing the discussion if the person wishes, and offering information on referral options and, only with the person's consent, helping her contact them;
- a rule that no promise of complete confidentiality is made, and that where a child or any person is at risk of serious harm, or where the law requires reporting (for example under POCSO where a child is involved), the matter is reported;
- same-day notification of any disclosure to the academician and then to NF's safeguarding focal person, with only the minimum facts recorded, kept apart from the research data and without identifying details unless the person has agreed. NF decides on next steps, with the academician's support.

9.4 Code of conduct

The academician and every research assistant, co-researcher and partner team member must sign a code of conduct before fieldwork. It will cover, at minimum: respect for participants' dignity and choice to refuse or stop; no coercion, payment or promise of benefits to influence participation; no exploitation of the researcher's position; no photography or recording without consent; no discussion of participants' information outside the team; conduct in line with NF's safeguarding policy; and an obligation to report any breach to NF.

10. Intellectual Property, Handover, Confidentiality and Acknowledgement

- All deliverables, datasets, code, analysis files and interview records created under this SoW belong to Nasscom Foundation, which may share them with LTTS and publish them in whole or in part, subject to Section 7.3.
- The academician will be credited as the lead author. Any co-branding will be agreed in writing.
- The academician may use the findings in academic publications only with NF's prior written consent, after the report has been publicly released, and with acknowledgement of Nasscom Foundation and LTTS.
- All non-public information received during the engagement is confidential, and this obligation continues after the engagement ends.
- All outputs must acknowledge the support of LTTS in the form agreed with NF.

Handover package. With D4, the academician will hand over, in editable formats:

- all code, scripts, syntax files and spreadsheet models used to produce the tables, charts and estimates (for example R or Python scripts, Stata do-files, Excel workbooks with formulas intact), with a short README that lets NF or another party reproduce the results;
- cleaned datasets with codebooks or data dictionaries, and a source log with links and access dates, flagging any licensed data and its restrictions;
- anonymised interview and FGD notes or transcripts, and the signed consent records, handled as set out in Section 9.2.

Acceptance of D4 and release of milestone 3 depend on this handover being complete.

11. Acceptance, Changes and Termination

- A deliverable is accepted when NF confirms in writing that it covers the agreed scope, meets the standards in Section 9, includes the handover package where applicable, and addresses consolidated feedback.
- D4 and D5 must be accepted by 31 December 2026 because of the donor deadline. Any delay to them requires NF's prior written approval. If the academician delays a deliverable by more than [15] days without NF's written approval, NF may reduce the corresponding payment by [10]% or reallocate part of the work.
- Scope, timeline or fee changes require a written amendment signed by both parties. Delays caused by late access to data or stakeholders on NF's side will extend the timeline without penalty, except for the 31 December deadline, which NF will discuss with LTTS if it is at risk.
- Either party may end the engagement with [30] days' written notice. NF will pay for deliverables accepted, and for work in progress in proportion to what has been completed, and the academician will hand over all work products and data.

12. Key Assumptions and Risks

- Selection, NOC and contracting are complete by Monday 19 October 2026. This is the largest risk to the December deadline: each day of delay reduces the time for fieldwork and drafting.
- Required secondary data is available at state level, or can be reasonably approximated. Where it cannot, this will be recorded in the data gap register instead of treated as a failure.
- State officials and ecosystem partners are available for interviews within the 10 to 25 November window. Persistent non-availability will be discussed and alternatives agreed.
- The field calendar will account for weather, travel conditions and festivals, to be verified against state calendars: Durga Puja and Dussehra (about 17 to 21 October, around the start date), Diwali (about 8 November, just before the fieldwork window), Wangala and Nongkrem in Meghalaya (typically November), Christmas week in Meghalaya (21 to 25 December, affecting D4 feedback and D5 delivery and feedback), and Magh Bihu in Assam (about 14 to 15 January, affecting D6).
- LTTS agrees that "complete by end-December 2026" means D4 and D5 accepted by 31 December, with D6 held in January 2027.

13. Expression of Interest

Interested academicians should submit the following to Nasscom Foundation by 15th October:

- Updated CV with a list of relevant publications and projects.
- Two writing samples, preferably one policy brief or report.
- Proposal covering understanding of the assignment, proposed approach, the named study team and research support arrangements, including the co-researcher or partner from the North-East and language coverage for each state (Section 6).
- A financial quote in INR, showing the fee and its inclusions.
- Confirmation of availability for the engagement period and, if serving faculty, an undertaking on the institutional NOC.

14. Acceptance of this SoW

For Nasscom Foundation	Academician
Name: Designation: Signature: Date:	Name: Institution: Signature: Date:

Annex A: Proposed Structure of the Landscape Report

Indicative length: 50 to 60 pages excluding annexes.

Section	Content
Executive summary	Key findings and recommendations (up to 3 pages)
1. Introduction	Context, purpose, methodology, ethics and consent, and limitations
2. Macro landscape	Women's enterprise in India, the North-East (including the other five states) and the three states
3. Sectoral analysis	Handicrafts, agriculture and allied activities, trade
4. State profiles	Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura, on the fixed template and harmonised indicators
5. Enabling environment	Credit, schemes, market access, regulatory barriers, and digital access, capability and business use
6. Gender and social norms	Care burden and time poverty, mobility and safety, household decision-making, property and inheritance, and the role of male family members
7. Growth vs subsistence	Typology and drivers of enterprise growth
8. Disruption impacts	Shocks, resilience and recovery
9. Programme learnings	What WEP's experience suggests for the ecosystem
10. Data gaps	Gaps and how to address them
11. Recommendations	For SRLMs, MSME departments, financial institutions, market platforms and private and civil-society partners, each linked to a scheme or guideline, with proposed change, responsible agency, evidence, time frame and feasibility
Annexes	Data tables, source list, list of stakeholders consulted, tools used, and the SRLM support and private-funding gap matrix (Component J)

Annex B: Indicative Secondary Sources

This list is illustrative. The academician should confirm currency and availability, and add sources as needed.

- Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) and the NSS Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE).
- Economic Census, Census of India, and NFHS-5 (women's financial inclusion, mobile phone and internet use, and decision-making), and the NSO Time Use Survey (care burden and time poverty).
- Udyam Registration data and state MSME and industries department records.
- DAY-NRLM MIS, SRLM annual reports and programme documents for Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura.
- RBI, NABARD and State Level Bankers' Committee data on credit and financial inclusion, plus NEDFi and Ministry of DoNER reports.
- Scheme and policy documents for mapping recommendations: DAY-NRLM guidelines (including enterprise-promotion components and Lakhpati Didi), state MSME and industrial policies, and DoNER and NEDFi scheme guidelines.
- Sector sources (handloom and handicraft data, agriculture and allied departments) and prior research on women's entrepreneurship and North-East livelihoods.