TERMS OF REFERENCES

Develop Cluster Specific Integrated Mangrove and Other Natural Resource Management Plans

TIMELINE: 25 February 2021 – 15 April 2021

BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION:

WWF-Pakistan’s BMZ funded mangrove conservation project focuses on protection and restoration of mangrove in the Indus delta while addressing key challenges to mangroves. Local communities of the Indus delta are highly dependent on mangroves for shelter, fodder, fuelwood, timber, livelihood, etc. This higher dependence increases pressure on the mangroves ecosystem requires comprehensive protection and conservation measures.

PURPOSE OF THE CONSULTANCY:

The aforementioned project plans to develop six community inclusive cluster specific mangroves conservation and management plan in order to strengthen community stewardship and provide a road map for the integrated mangroves conservation and management efforts at grass-root level in the Indus delta. The project aims to develop six cluster specific plans; each cluster is represented by a set of villages, which are a part of the project. These plans will be developed including local communities and other key stakeholders working at the local level. The assignment seeks a suitable candidate to draft these plans following a consultative approach for all six clusters and also get them endorsed from the district coordination committee forum which is overlooking at the work of WWF in the Indus delta.

The consultant is expected to arrange consultations at community level with each cluster seeking their inputs on the vulnerabilities, challenges, and dependence on natural resources including mangroves with associated management measures. The methodology and conduct of these sessions must ensure representation of key community groups, department and gender from each cluster. The consultant is also expected to work closely with the team of WWF-Pakistan and align the objectives of the management plans with WWF’s existing mangroves conservation and management strategies. The draft plans must be endorsed by the relevant communities and later by the District Coordination Committee (DCC) as guiding document to support mangroves conservation and development needs of natural resource dependent communities.

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

- Conduct qualitative research, review and analysis using the participatory and socially inclusive approach for the development of cluster specific mangroves conservation and management plan;
- Investigate key issues associated with mangrove conversion and degradation;
- Conduct participatory micro-planning for mangrove management in associated with agriculture and aquaculture development;
• Suggest best practices in mangrove restoration and management and aquaculture in mangrove forests in the project area;
• Advise alternative sustainable livelihood and community development initiatives within the project area;
• Prescribe policy development capacity to facilitate design and implementation of mangrove restoration and management;
• Identify and approach key stakeholders (relevant Government and non-government organization) who will be participating in 6 planning workshops one in each cluster to develop cluster specific plan;
• Review relevant published and unpublished material on mangroves of Keti Bunder and Kharro Chan coastal areas, vulnerability to climate change impacting agriculture and fisheries sectors;
• Conduct six community and stakeholder consultative workshops, one in each cluster to develop integrated management plan for each project cluster;
• Develop six cluster specific mangroves conservation and management plans to strengthen community stewardship and provide a road map for the integrated mangroves conservation and management efforts at grass-root level in the Indus delta in Sindhi and English;
• Ensure endorsement of all six cluster specific mangroves conservation and management plans from cluster office bearers.

Expected Outputs
• Integrated micro-planning approaches for sustainable mangrove management in association with agriculture and aquaculture production in Keti Bunder and Kharo Chan;
• Cluster six Specific Participatory Mangroves Conservation and Management Plans in English and Sindhi;
• Community level workshops for endorsement of plans from communities and its brief report
• PowerPoint presentations in English and Urdu and related handouts;

Key Deliverables:
• Develop Six cluster specific mangrove conservation and natural resource management plans
• One community level workshop for understanding and sharing the plans to the BMZ project communities for their adoption.
• One district level workshop to present the plans and get endorse the plans from the district administration

Qualifications:
The successful consultant will meet the following minimum requirements:

• Education: At least a Masters or equivalent in forestry, zoology (preferably marine biologist, marine environmental economist), Agricultural Economics, social sciences i.e. Anthropology, Sociology, Development Studies or related disciplines etc.
• Experience: 10 years of extensive field-based research experience and assignment related experience of develop or support community inclusive management plans
• Language: Fluent in English, and Urdu working knowledge of Sindhi, would be an additional asset.

Competencies:
• The consultant should have demonstrated expertise, experience and to carry out the aforementioned tasks:
  • Familiarity with qualitative research methodologies, information collection
  • Understand relationships between poverty, environment, climate vulnerability and adaptation
  • Excellent knowledge and understanding of the Indus Delta, and coastal communities
  • Proactive and able to work with minimal supervision and a high degree of initiative, reliability, flexibility, motivation, and resourcefulness
  • Professionalism: flexibility to make ad-hoc changes as and when the need arises; ability to perform under stress; willingness to keep flexible working hours.
  • Excellent data collection and analysis skills
  • Have previous experience developing action-plans particularly at community level

COPY RIGHTS:

WWF-Pakistan will have the copy rights for the entire study and the data; the consultant(s) will have no right to use the data at any forum or in publication.