Terms of Reference
for
Developing Recommendations for Draft Policy for Organic Agriculture in Balochistan Province

Section 1: Instructions to Offerors

1.1 Introduction

WWF-Pakistan’s Sustainable Agriculture & Food Programme (SAFP) endeavors to empower and build capacity of the marginalized resource, poor farmers’ communities. This is done through innovation and dissemination of economically efficient ecological farming solutions and technologies, linkage development for agricultural commodities’ supply chain improvement, ensuring food security and promotion of Decent Work.

Balochistan is considered highly vulnerable to climate-related challenges, with high reliance on rain-fed agriculture for agriculture production. Large segments of poor rural populations are engaged in subsistence farming with limited profitability. Relatively undiversified agriculture production systems and poorly developed infrastructure contributes to the overall vulnerability of small-scale agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture and Government of Balochistan and WWF-Pakistan have partnered to implement Organic Cotton production in the selected areas of the province. This project aims at to strengthen institutional and technical capacity to better anticipate and manage climate risks, reduce the vulnerabilities associated with climate variability including climate extremes and change and build resilience into agriculture systems to livelihood improvement.

WWF-Pakistan is looking for a short-term Consultant who will develop recommendations for draft policy for Organic Agriculture in Balochistan. This policy will help the stakeholders, especially the farmers, in production of organic crops as they are shifting from conventional farming to organic agriculture practices by the support of WWF-Pakistan’s Organic Cotton Project (OCP) – based in Barkhan and Lasbela districts. This policy will be prepared according to the international standards on best practices on organic agriculture, but it should address the areas that favors the domestic farmers of Balochistan taking into account various factors like climate, soil, irrigation techniques etc. The consultant will look towards the development of recommendations for an overall organic agriculture policy that should also support the rural families, especially women, in provision of sustainable environment where they would contribute in improving their livelihood by getting involved in organic kitchen gardening, backyard organic poultry farming and other related activities.
1.2 Objectives

One of the objectives of the project is to enhance the capacities of the policy makers to develop policies and financing for Organic Agriculture; facilitate up-scaling and implementation of organic practices in agriculture to enhance resilience to climate change.

1.3 Technical Focus

The consultant will work in assessing the socio-economic and environmental benefits of organic agriculture to identify needs for mainstreaming the same into policies, plans and strategies of agriculture sector and assess the level of integration of supportive mechanism into those documents and analyze the possibilities for mainstreaming organic commodity production and value chain development into agriculture and food security policies and plans.

1.4 Technical Proposal

The Technical Proposal must be specific, complete, and concise, describing the offeror’s proposed plan to complete the scope of work (SOW) and deliverables found in Section 2. It should demonstrate a clear understanding of the work to be undertaken and the responsibilities of all parties involved. The Technical Proposal should respond to all requirements as per Section 2 and ensure compliance with 100% of the required technical specifications.

1.5 Financial Proposal

The Financial Proposal must include a detailed budget, as well as a budget narrative which explains the basis for the estimate of each budget element (where required). Supporting information should be provided in sufficient detail to allow a complete analysis of each cost element. Cost must be expressed in Pakistani Rupees. Should include the estimates for conducting workshops and field visits (if any) and other events.

Section 2: Scope of Work

Develop Recommendations for Draft Policy for Organic Agriculture in Balochistan in light of WWF-Pakistan’s Organic Cotton Project with an overall objective to promote Organic Agriculture in Balochistan and facilitate various stakeholders involved in its promotion. The policy will be made through extensive consultation with the stakeholders, organic agriculture policy makers, auditors, expats, input suppliers and other key experts through conducting workshops and meetings.

Different beneficiaries of the project will be interviewed regarding sharing their experiences and lessons learned in order to address the issues and challenges in the field. Several policy makers and agriculture specialists will be invited in the workshops and seminars on a large scale regarding the development of recommendations for draft policy for organic agriculture by collecting suggestions and recommendations. The policy should be in line according to the international standards of Organic Agriculture.

2.1 Tasks and Responsibilities

The consultant will be required to undertake following tasks:
• Review of relevant literature and conduct gap analysis (establish policy gaps).
• Field consultations with relevant stakeholders to bring interventions at the ground level.
• Conduct a consultative workshop of key stakeholders and perform gap analysis to understand how organic agriculture can be streamlined in provincial agriculture policies and normative work.
• Conduct a series of brainstorming sessions with a range of key stakeholders to seek their specific recommendations.
• Analyze the institutional aspects and policy requirements to better link the organic agriculture sector into new agriculture policy and strategy.
• Assess institutional and policy requirements to better link the current and long-term actions for organic agriculture.
• Conduct national level policy dialogues related to agricultural sector and analyze the possibilities for mainstreaming organic agriculture into agriculture and food security policies and plans.
• Organize consultation meetings in collaboration with national counterparts at the national level to identify needs for mainstreaming.
• Analyze the policies, plans and strategies of agriculture sector and assess the level of integration of organic agriculture value chain development into those documents.
• Analyze the organic agriculture standards, plans and strategies and identify the level of integration of agriculture and food security aspects into provincial organic agriculture policies.
• Submit a substantive draft of technical report to WWF at the end of the mission.
• Conduct a result sharing workshop to share the policy recommendations with relevant stakeholders.

Activity Breakdown (tentative):

• Meetings and workshops with Agriculture Extension Department and various stakeholders/experts including policy makers, key experts, agriculture specialists etc.: 30 days - (June – August, 2021)
• Visits to the project sites in Barkhan and Lasbela districts: 15 days (June – August, 2021)
• Development and submission of draft organic agriculture policy: 25 days (September – October, 2021)
• Review the Recommendations for Draft Policy with WWF-Pakistan’s SAFP/ OCP team: 10 days
• Editing/ incorporating feedback if any: 10 days

TOTAL DAYS: 90 (June – November)

3. Required Qualifications/ Skills

• A Master’s or a PhD degree in agriculture/ horticulture, soil/ earth sciences, crop/ plant science or a related field is required.
• Experience in designing agriculture policies for short and long-term projects.
• Experience in research publications in peer journals in the field of organic agriculture/ horticulture/ food security will be an asset.
• Serving on the positions like Agriculture Consultants/ Advisers who provide technical, commercial and financial advice and information to farming, agricultural and public sector staff will be preferred.
• The consultant should have the knowledge on organic production processes for various crops.
• He/ she should have technical expertise regarding organic farms, production processes as well as conducting various analysis on crop yield etc.
• He/ she should have a sound knowledge on international standards for organic production processes and requirements.

4. Expected Outputs/ Deliverables

• Consultative workshop report
• Draft Policy document along with concrete recommendations for the promotion/up scaling of Organic Agriculture in Balochistan
• Submission of reports/ documents that includes photographs on conducting consultative workshops and meetings with various stakeholders including policy makers, researchers, agriculture analysts etc.
• Submission of contact details of all stakeholders who attended the aforementioned workshops and meetings.

5. Responsibilities of WWF-Pakistan’s SAFP/ OCP team

• Ensure active participation in all meetings and workshops as and when arranged.
• Facilitate the consultant in submission of project reports and details of project sites/ personnel.
• Regular follow-up with the consultant on progress of the assignment throughout the consultancy period.
• Any other support required by the consultant.