

Invitation for Letters of Interest

The Department of Fisheries (DOF) under Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock is implementing the Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries project (SCMFP) with the financial assistance of International Development Association (IDA Credit No.6326-BD) to develop the marine and coastal fisheries of Bangladesh. SCMFP has an allocation for MARICULTURE APPLIED/ACTION RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION, COMMERCIALIZATION AND PRODUCTION PILOTING. The objective of this allocation is to provide competitive research grants for (i) studies on contemporary high priority blue economy issues such as climate change, and establishment of aqua-economic zones; and (ii) adaptive and/or action research that addresses coastal and marine fisheries development issues. Now, Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project (SCMFP) is hereby inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested and eligible public/private research and educational institutions and enterprises involved in mariculture value chain in Bangladesh to undertake sub-projects on applied mariculture (technology innovation, market studies, and production piloting) and aquaculture research (piloting commercial opportunities such as mud crab and finfish hatcheries, freshwater shrimp, and others as viable).

Eligibility conditions and co-finance ratio:


Window	Key Conditions	Co-finance (%)		Scope and eligibility
		SCMFP	Investor	
W1. Mariculture Sub-projects – mariculture applied/action research, technology innovation, production piloting, market studies, and commercialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contemporary and high priority action/adaptive research; ▪ Address identified efficiency gaps in value chains; ▪ Direct relevance to blue economy growth and Project Development Objective3 (PDO3) 	80	20 (Contributions can be in-kind, cash or a combination of both)	Relevant research costs; relevant operational costs; Contribution to capital works or upgrades for relevant infrastructure; Non-eligible -purchases, vehicles, recurrent costs, foreign exchange losses, loan interest costs

Terms and conditions:

1. Applicants must be registered and operating in Bangladesh (whether domestic or foreign owned or a joint venture) in compliance with relevant business regulations in Bangladesh;
2. Research organizations should have a minimum of 10 years' experience in research with at least five years' experience in the area of grant Application.
3. Host organization must have adequate Human Resources and Research Facilities,
4. Principal Investigators (PIs) of the sub-project will have at least a Master's degree and journal publications in relevant fields and S/he will devote at least 30% time to the project.
5. Experience of outreach research activities for commercialization of innovative technology will be preferred.
6. The applicant must demonstrate proven experience in conducting similar research and innovation;
7. All those above (Sl.no.4-6) will be endorsed by the head of respective organizations.
8. The sub-project must contribute to improved productivity and incomes, increased employment and create new economic opportunities across the seafood value chain, particularly for small-scale growers and creating opportunities for supplying international markets with seafood products (export-led growth);
9. The sub-project shall be relevant to the SCMFP geography and/or development area, and beneficiary groups
10. Sub-projects must be technically feasible, supported by complete materials and methods.
11. The sub-project must not create permanent unfair competition or otherwise distort markets.
12. The project encourages the co-financing whereas a bank defaulter will not be considered as an eligible applicant.
13. A for-profit (intending to generate a return for shareholders/members) private sector or joint venture enterprise



- that operates commercially and without government subsidy (business membership organisations and associations and NGOs are eligible to apply for funding provided they are in a consortium/partnership led by an eligible private or public-sector business);
14. The sub-project must comply with World Bank Group social and environmental safeguards policies and the Project Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and must not cause any social or environmental damage.
 15. Sub-project built on encroached areas viz. river levees, accredited chars, planted or natural mangrove patches or in illegally occupying or having legal disputes will not be eligible for grant support.
 16. Measurable contribution to social development, such as effective gender mainstreaming, employment of ethnic communities and disabled people, proactive measures to develop research capacity and skills among youth and women, entrepreneurship development and environmental sustainability will be given preferences.
 17. The beneficiary must complete the carrying out of the Sub-project before the Closing Date for the Project;
 18. Department of Fisheries (DoF) shall reserve the copyright of research findings/intellectual properties from all the sub-projects carried out under this grant facilities;
 19. The EOI shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, inscribing "Application for MARICULTURE APPLIED/ACTION RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION, COMMERCIALIZATION AND PRODUCTION PILOTING" to the Project Director, Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project (SCMFP), Room no. 1011 (10th Floor), Matshya Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka-1000" on or before 20 October 2021, 12.00 PM. The applicant shall submit online filled in Form along with PDF and soft copy of application through the link: <https://forms.gle/pVHuY4Ri4iNNXr2P8> and/or digital copy in pen drive.
 20. The offer for EOI as per this document shall be valid for a period of One Hundred and twenty days (120) initially which may be extended further if required by authority.
 21. The interested applicants can join a virtual meeting with issuing authority on 19 September 2021 10.00 AM (Meeting ID: 819 3221 9548, Passcode: 039385) and 28 September 2021 10.00 AM (Meeting ID: 835 5753 5349, Passcode: 540039) through Zoom.
 22. The EOI must be submitted in prescribed form. (For detail information and application Form, please follow 'Grant Operations Manual' available at: www.scmfp.fisheries.gov.bd & www.fisheries.gov.bd)
 23. The REOI is not an offer and is issued with no commitment. Authority reserves the right to withdraw EOI and/or vary any part thereof at any stage. Authority further reserves the right to disqualify any Firm, if necessary, at any stage.


7.09.2021

Kh. Mahabubul Haque
Project Director
Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project (SCMFP)
Department of Fisheries
Matshya Bhaban, Dhaka
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Copy forwarded for kind information and necessary action (Not in order of seniority):

1. Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
2. Director General, Department of Fisheries, Matshya Bhaban, Dhaka
3. Country Director, World Bank, Dhaka office (Attn: Mr. Istiak Sobhan, Co-Task team Leader, World Bank, Dhaka Office)
4. Chairman/Head.....
5. Advertisement Manager, The Bangladesh Pratidin (with request to publish the advertisement part (4 Column X 18 inch) for one time in your newspaper on or before 09/09/2021 using minimum space and to provide 03 copies of the same.
6. Advertisement Manager, The Daily Sun (with request to publish the advertisement part (4 Column X 18 inch) for one time in your newspaper on or before 09/09/2021 using minimum space and to provide 03 copies of the same.