



Terms of Reference (ToRs)

WWF-PAKISTAN

Razor Clam Assessment for MSC Certification

1. Background:

Razor clam of genus *Solen* is harvested from mudflats of creek system of Indus deltaic area for about last 10 years. It is exported in live or in frozen form to Southeast Asian countries. Coastal communities of the creek areas are engaged in its harvesting using traditional technique of using salt and probing with thin sticks and hauling razor clams from burrow during low tides. In the harvest all members of families including men, women and children are engaged. This fishery because of scale of operation and its unique characteristics may be an ideal candidate for Maritime Stewardship Council (MSC) Certification which may open new a marketing avenue for this small scale fishery.

2. Purpose of consultancy:

WWF-Pakistan requires a short-term consultancy to develop instrument and conduct a preliminary assessment of the Razor clam fisheries of Thatta District that is a possible candidate for MSC Certification.

3. Description of Study:

I: Information about fisheries:

A scientific field study is required to be undertaken to understand the extent of fisheries in the Indus Deltaic Creek mainly located in Thatta District. The area of fishing, harvesting methods, seasonality, fishing intensity, daily harvesting levels, price structure, marketing, loaning, transportation and disposal of catch will be investigated. Mapping of the fishing ground, possible assessment of stocks, impact of harvesting pressures, closure of fishing grounds, competition and other harvesting related aspects.

II: socio-economic conditions of fishermen:

An assessment of socio-economic conditions of communities involved in razor clam fisheries which may include household data, family structure, income (individual, family) , housing, assets (boats, vehicles), expenditure, health, education, comparison with other trades (fisheries), community status, migration, loaning burden. Social and economic benefits of engaging in razor clam harvesting.

III: Draft project formulation for fisheries improvement plan (FIP):

Keeping in view, the status of fishery for razor clam, financial and socio-economic conditions of the community, drafting a fisheries improvement plan for submission to funding agencies. The draft FIP document may cover fisheries management aspects, improvement in harvesting,

handling and marketing techniques and export. A preliminary assessment of stocks, harvesting pressure and threat to fisheries may be documented.

4. Required skill/ expertise:

For this purpose **consulting institute** is required to have following expertise:

- Around 5-8 year experience in conducting field research in Pakistan;
- Well-acquainted with coastal communities of Sindh;
- Background knowledge about marine sciences;
- Good at data acquisition, data entry and processing

5. Timeline:

- The overall time period for this consultancy is 20 days (from 10 – 30 December 2016)
- Draft fisheries assessment report is due by 25 December 2016
- Final report inclusive of draft proposal for FIP is due by 30 December 2016

6. Conditions and payment

- In total this service will require 20 days of work. 40 % payment will be made at the start of assignment after signing of contract. Remaining 60 % will be paid after completion of the task. Total project cost will be Euro 5,000. Taxes will be deducted according to the Rules and Regulations in place.