



State Wetland Authority Kerala (SWAK)

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CALL FOR PROPOSAL FOR A COMMISSIONED PROJECT: **SUSTAINABLE CLAM CULTIVATION IN VEMBANAD LAKE**

The State Wetland Authority Kerala under Department of Environment invites proposal in prescribed format on the topic “**Sustainable Clam Cultivation in Vembanad Lake**”. Vembanad lake is a rich source of live as well as sub fossil deposit of clam. Six species of clam have been recorded here. Declining fish catch has led to increasing pressure on harvest of clams as a livelihood resource. Scouring by trawlers also limits opportunities for regeneration of clam juveniles. The project envisages in cultivating clam resources of Vembanad Lake in a sustainable way. The study has to be completed within a period of 18 MONTHS.

The guidelines and application form are available on the website of the Directorate of Environment & Climate Change www.envt.kerala.gov.in.

Investigators are requested to submit three hard copies of the proposals for office use through Registered/Speed Post by 09/08/2019 to the address given below and one electronic copy via email.

For further details please contact:

The Member Secretary
State Wetland Authority Kerala,
4th Floor, KSRTC Bus Terminal Complex
Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 001
Phone: 0471-2326264

Email : swak.kerala@gmail.com, swak.envt@kerala.gov.in

Guidelines for the submission of proposal

Introduction

State Wetland Authority Kerala (SWAK) under Department of Environment housed in the premises of the Directorate of Environment & Climate Change (DoECC), function as nodal authority for all wetland specific activities within the State. The authority also identifies mechanisms for convergence with regard to implementation of integrated management action plans of notified wetlands through various line departments; issue necessary directions for conservation and sustainable management of wetlands to the respective implementing agencies; undertake measures for enhancing awareness among stakeholders and local communities on values and functions of wetlands.

Implementation of the approved Integrated Management Action Plans (MAPs) of the three Ramsar sites Vembanad-Kol, Ashtamudi, Sasthamkotta is one of the impactful projects of SWAK.

Sustainable Clam fisheries form a component in Sustainable Resource Development of the Management Action Plan of the Vembanad-Kol. Vembanad estuary is a rich source of live as well as sub fossil deposit of clam. Six species of clam have been recorded here. Lack of consideration of wetland functioning within developmental programming has resulted in shrinkage and transformation of wetland area, reduced water holding capacity, clogging of channels, pollution, growth of invasives, and decline in brackish water fisheries and clam resources. Local clam collectors' societies are highly impacted by commercial clam trawling operations which lead to shifting of beds and reduced natural recruitment. Declining fish catch has led to increasing pressure on harvest of clams as a livelihood resource. Scouring by trawlers also limits opportunities for regeneration of clam juveniles.

The objectives of this commissioned project, procedures for inviting/receipt and processing the proposals for funding, norms for funding, conditions of support and dissemination of the findings, are summarized as follows:

Objectives

The objective of this project is as follows:

- To investigate the present status of clam resources in Vembanad Estuary
- To identify different potential clam resource sites
- To suggest measures to ensure sustainable production of different varieties of clam
- To suggest measures to diversify livelihoods thereby reducing dependence on wetlands by clam collecting communities and device additional income source for them.
- To promote value addition in clam fishery.

- Promoting an alternate means of whole clam processing (rather than shucking clam meat) by depuration, prototype.
- Capacity building of resource user groups (clam collectors units)

Who are Eligible

Recognized R&D Institutions, Universities, Academic Institutions, Government Departments and reputed non-governmental organizations who have background working experience in the project subject area/problems to be addressed.

A consortium formed by the above mentioned entities can also apply and funds will be dealt with the lead institutions who should undertake clear cut MoU /agreement with the collaborating institutions.

In the case of Non-Governmental institutions, they should have declared mandate for environmental research and development, as evident from their by-laws, should be registered under appropriate laws and should have been functioning for at least 5 years in the relevant field at the time of submission of the project.

Principal Investigators / Co-Investigator (s)/ Institution

The Principal Investigator (PI) has the primary responsibility in implementing the project. The PI should have either Ph. D in the subject area or research/project execution experience. If there is more than one investigator, it is necessary to ensure that the project is carried out by the project team in a cohesive manner. Periodic meetings of the team are essential for this purpose.

Procedure for Submission, Appraisal, Monitoring and Review of the Proposals

A) Submission of Proposals

- Three copies of the proposal to be submitted in the prescribed proforma as available in the DoECC website (Annexure I), upon invitation to the designated office as detailed in the public advertisement, to be published as and when required.
- The proposal should clearly describe the problem to be addressed, methodologies involved, data sources, and physical and financial timeline including budget details with month wise split up.
- Breakup of the costs consistent with the funding norms should be described in

detail. The equipments (including computers and peripherals) and instruments available with the institute and that specially required for the project should be mentioned in detail.

- The project time lines, milestones, and an indication of the expected output and outcomes should be clearly depicted in the project proposal.
- Salary of Principal Investigator (PI) / Co-PI will not be borne under the project, except very essential research fellowships for the project period, to be filled by eligible candidates as per CSIR/UGC norms.
- Proposals prepared by the Principal Investigator (PI) should be endorsed by the Administrative Head of the Institution. In case, a proposal involves a network of research institutions, the PI would identify the Lead Investigator from each of the participating Institutions with the approval of Heads of Institution.
- The proposal should accompany required the details of complete Team of Investigators comprising of their detailed resume, highlighting their academic backgrounds and publications record.

B) Scrutiny of the Proposal

Proposals received will be duly acknowledged. The proposals will be examined by the Internal Screening Committee. Incomplete, diffused, repetitive and/or superfluous proposal(s) shall be rejected at this stage. The internal screening committee can call for a presentation of the proposal if necessary.

C) Date of Commencement of Project and Duration

The duration of the project is 18 months and the report should be submitted within the next 2 months. The project becomes operative with effect from the date of receipt of the first installment by Draft/NEFT/RTGS transfer by the implementing Institution. This date should be intimated by the Institution authorities/ Principal Investigator to the SWAK within 15 days from the receipt of fund. Extension of the project will not be permitted. If the project is not completed within the stipulated time, the entire project cost with interest as per the existing government approved rates should be remitted to SWAK.

D) Release of Funds

The applicant institution shall execute an agreement on undertaking with regard to the

acceptance of the conditions for taking up the project as per the Terms and Conditions prescribed by SWAK. The full text of Terms and Conditions shall be appended to the undertaking.

The sanction order will indicate the budgetary allocation for the duration of the project under various heads. The total funds will be released in 3 installments in the order of 50:30:20.

After receipt of the undertaking, the first installment of funds (50%) will be released to the institution. The second installments ie, 30% will be disbursed at the time of submission of draft final report, UC (KFC Form 44) and ES and 20% after the acceptance of final report by SWAK and final settlement of fund up to the date released.

The implementing institution shall maintain a separate bank account exclusively for the project and it should be reported to SWAK and the interest accrued should be reflected in the Statement of Income & Expenditure.

The draft final technical report, the audited Statement of Expenditure and the Utilization Certificates (KFC Form 44) are to be submitted before 2 months from the completion of the project duration.

D) Acceptance of the Final Technical Report

The Principal Investigator has to submit the draft Final Technical Report (FTR) (1 copy) to the SWAK before 2 months from the completion of the project along with other useful deliverables such as video clips, photos, digital data information including geospatial files. The PI should make a presentation before the Technical Committee/Scrutiny Committee and a panel of experts appointed by SWAK. The suggestions/recommendation of Technical Scrutiny committee should be incorporated in the draft Final Technical Report and the Final Technical Report be submitted accordingly. The applicant institution is bound to incorporate all the suggestion of the technical/scrutiny committee in the Final Technical Report. Based on the recommendation of the Technical Committee/Scrutiny Committee, the SWAK would undertake the final acceptance of the Final Technical Report and, thereafter, the final settlement of accounts and closure of the project would be done.

APPLICATION PRO FORMA

(To be filled in by the Principal Investigator)

1. Title of the Project :
2. Name and Designation of the Principal Investigator :
3. Name and Designation of the Co-investigators :
4. Postal Address of the Principal Investigator and Co-investigator :
(including e-mail id and Contact Numbers)
5. Name of the institution(s)/organization(s) in which the project will be carried out
(Specify whether College (Government / Aided/ Autonomous/ Private), University Department, Government Institution, Non-governmental organization, etc.)
6. Name of co-institution(s)/Organization(s) involved in the project (Specify whether College (Government / Aided/ Autonomous/ Private), University Department, Government Institution, Non-governmental organization, etc.)
7. Geographic location of research project site (latitude and longitude), wherever applicable :
8. Participation of public and private sector and/or other government ventures:
(Please give details regarding sharing of work components, cost and outputs, including implementation arrangements, and modalities of achievement of the envisaged objectives against the stated milestones of work)
9. Duration of the Project :
10. Total amount of assistance required :
11. The detailed project proposal consists of the following :

Part I – An Abstract, not exceeding one page, describing the background, objectives, methodology and figures of quarter-wise budget and keywords (six words)

Part II – should contain the following

- a) State of Art of the subject: including work done in India and elsewhere
- b) Detailed literature survey (one page)
- c) Objectives
- d) Detailed methodology
- e) Month-wise work plan
- f) Practical relevance/utility of the project
- g) Socio-economic and environmental relevance of the project
- h) Expected and other physical outcomes of the project
- i) Agencies which can utilize the results of the project
- j) Component-wise justification of the costing of the project
- k) Statement of originality and certification on No Duplication with existing work/ongoing projects

Part III - Biographical Sketch of the investigator(s) detailing research/project implementation credentials and research papers and project reports published in the area of the proposed research project

Part IV - Facilities (equipments/instruments) available at institution(s)/ organizations for carrying out the project

Part V - Project budget in the prescribed format

PROJECT BUDGET					
A.	Salaries and Wages	I Quarter	II Quarter	III Quarter	Total
1.	JRF/SRF (if any)				
2.	Supporting technical staff or other personnel , if any				
Grand Total					
B.	Permanent Equipment (Please specify various individual items of equipment)				
	Equipment			Amount	
	Total Equipment Cost				

C.	Travel and Field work
D.	Contingencies (this head may include items such as hiring services, analyses of samples, preparation of documents etc.)
E.	Other project Costs, if any (specify please)
F.	Institutional overheads
	Grand Total : (A+B+C+D+E+F)

(Justification for amounts proposed under each activity head must be furnished with a view to justify its need and relevance to the project).

Part VI) Time line of the project

Place
Date

Signature
Name & Address of investigator

counter signed by
The Head of the institution

(Seal)

COVERING LETTER FOR APPLYING FOR A COMMISSIONED PROJECT:
“.....”

To

The Member Secretary
State Wetland Authority Kerala
4th Floor, KSRTC Bus Terminal Complex
Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram-695001

Sir,

A research project entitled“.....” is forwarded herewith.

It is certified that the same project or project with similar objectives has not been submitted to any other funding agency by the Investigator.

We have carefully read the guidelines of sanctioning the project and agree to abide by them.

The organization will provide all necessary infrastructural facilities (both laboratory and administrative) if the project is sanctioned.

The organization is fully responsible in regard to matters pertaining to the project.

Yours faithfully,

(Principal Investigator)

(Registrar/Director/Head of the Institution)

Date.....

Place.....

ENDORSEMENT FROM HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION

(To be given on letter head)

Title of the Project:

The Institute certifies the participation ofas the Principal Investigator and.....as the Principal Co-investigator for the project and that in the unforeseen event of discontinuance by the Principal Investigator, the Principal Co-investigator or any other equally qualified Investigator will assume the responsibility of the successful completion of the project (with due information to the SWAK).

Certified that the equipments and other basic facilities mentioned in the Part IV of Application Form and such other administrative facilities as per terms and conditions of the grant, will be extended to the investigator(s) throughout the duration of the project.

The Institute assumes to undertake the financial and other management responsibilities of the project.

Date:

Place:

Name and Signature of
Head of the Institution