



BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION (BOBP-IGO)

Chennai-600 018, Tamil Nadu, India

Call for Expression of Interest (Eoi)

The Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO), as part of the BOBLME Phase II Project, invites applications from qualified professionals for the position of:

National Expert in Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) (Bangladesh)

1.0 Background

The Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO) is executing the **“Sustainable management of fisheries, marine living resources and their habitats in the Bay of Bengal region for the benefit of coastal states and communities” (BOBLME-II)**. The project supports implementation of the BOBLME Strategic Action Programme (SAP), which seeks to safeguard and maintain the regulating and provisioning ecosystem services in the BOBLME. The project will support the BOBLME member countries in delivering the project outcomes through a coordinated partnership including IUCN, BOBP-IGO, and Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC). The BOBP-IGO will be executing the project in its member countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka.

The project objective is to contribute to sustainable management of fisheries, marine living resources and their habitats in the Bay of Bengal region, to reduce environmental stress and improve environmental status for the benefit of coastal states and communities. This will be achieved through interlinked project components based on the SAP themes, by undertaking country-led and adopting a participatory, bottom-up, integrated focus area approach to planning and implementation at community, sub- national, national, and regional levels to ensure greatest impact.

BOBP-IGO will be responsible for implementation of key parts of the work plan, including **“Sustainable Management of Fisheries”** (Component 1 of the Project), ensuring coordination and delivery of the work on **Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)**.

BOBP-IGO seeks applications from highly-motivated and suitable candidates to be appointed as the **National Expert in Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (Bangladesh)** under Component 1 of the BOBLME project in Bangladesh.

2.0 Job description

The National Expert in Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) will provide critical oversight, coordination, and technical expertise for the effective management and execution of the EAFM component of the BOBLME Project in Bangladesh. This role involves collaboration with national counterparts, the National Working Group-EAFM, and other project stakeholders to ensure the successful planning and implementation of EAFM in selected sites within Bangladesh.

2.1 Major responsibilities

- Provide **technical oversight and coordination** for the planning and implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) under the BOBLME Project in Bangladesh, in alignment with established EAFM principles and BOBP-IGO guidelines.
- Extend **practical support, guidance, and advisory services** to the Department of Fisheries and the National Working Group-EAFM for the effective rollout of EAFM at three government-approved sites:
 - **Nijhum Dwip Fishery**
 - **Estuarine Set-bag Net Fishery (Central Coastal Bangladesh)**
 - **Set-bag Net Fishery (Sonadia & Moheshkhali Channel)**
- Coordinate and collaborate with other national consultants and experts involved in **Component 1 and other Components** of the BOBLME Project to ensure coherent implementation.
- Report regularly to the **Project Management Unit (PMU)** of BOBP-IGO, sharing progress updates and addressing implementation issues.
- Undertake any other technical assignments related to the BOBLME Project as advised by the PMU of BOBP-IGO.

2.2 Specific duties

- Lead the **planning and implementation of EAFM** in the three selected FMUs, including:
 - Preparation of **scoping documents**,
 - Stakeholder identification and engagement,
 - Formation of **co-management arrangements**,
 - Development of **site-specific EAFM Plans**,
 - Oversight of implementation, **monitoring, evaluation**, and **adaptive management** measures.
- Design and deliver **EAFM capacity development programmes**, and support mainstreaming of EAFM training into national and local institutional frameworks.
- Facilitate regular meetings and dialogues with the **National Working Group-EAFM**, Department of Fisheries, field-level officials, NGOs, academic institutions, and community representatives.
- Support the **establishment and/or strengthening of national platforms** to enhance grassroots participation in fisheries management decision-making.
- Support other consultants in conducting these activities.

2.3 Deliverables

The Consultant is expected to produce the following deliverables during the course of the assignment:

- Inception Report with detailed methodology, stakeholder mapping, and work plan for activities across the three FMUs
- Scoping Reports for each FMU (Nijhum Dwip, Central Coastal Bangladesh, Sonadia-Moheshkhali) including Resource and Ecological Assessment (REA), Socio-Economic Assessment (SEA), and Legal and Institutional Assessment (LIA)
- Stakeholder Validation Workshop Reports (one per FMU):
- EAFM Plans for the three FMUs ready for implementation
- Capacity Building programmes in coordination with BOBP-IGO
- Contract completion report

2.4 Contract Duration

The consultancy is initially for one year, with the possibility of further extension during the project period, based on mutual agreement and performance. The remuneration will be on a monthly basis.

3.0 Required Qualifications and Experience

- Formal post-graduate academic degree in fisheries, environmental science, social science, economics, or other related disciplines.
- At least 5 years' work experience in fisheries and environmental management in national environment;
- Familiarity with the Bay of Bengal region and its ecological and socio-economic dynamics;
- Proven expertise in EAFM planning & implementation, and related regulatory frameworks;
- Strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills;
- Proficiency in English; knowledge of at least one local language of the project area;
- Ability to work in multi-cultural environment.

The Position is open to citizens of Bangladesh only. The chosen candidate should be ready for frequent travels and visits to field sites.

4.0. Application Process

Interested candidates should submit their CV (without certificates) and a cover letter describing their relevant experience to info@bobbigo.org with the subject line: 'EoI – National Consultant – EAFM, Bangladesh'. The last date for receiving applications is 26 April 2025 (10 days from the date of publication on the BOBP-IGO website). Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

This position was originally advertised in April 2024. It is now being re-advertised with revised Terms of Reference. Applicants who submitted their applications in response to the earlier call will be automatically considered unless they choose to withdraw their candidature.