

Request for Proposals

Consultancy to analyze the environmental footprint between farmed fish and different protein categories in East Africa

1. Introduction

Msingi is an independent industry development organization that supports the transformation of high potential industries in East Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda) through a range of initiatives such as support to pioneer businesses, technical assistance, policy support, or development of key industry institutions.

One of Msingi's focus industries is aquaculture; Msingi aims to develop a competitive, inclusive, and resilient aquaculture industry over the long term. Msingi believes that East Africa has a strong comparative advantage in aquaculture, with good natural water resources and climate, genetic resources, and a rapidly growing population leading to increasing demand for protein.

As the aquaculture industry grows in East Africa, Msingi believes it is imperative to achieve this growth in an environmentally sustainable way. We do not know the current impact that farmed fish in the East African region has on the environment as well as in relation to other commonly eaten proteins. In order to reduce environmental impact due to aquaculture, we must be able to first quantify the impact and attribute it to practices thereby identifying areas of improvement to achieve environmental sustainability of the industry as a whole.

2. Objectives of the consultancy

The objective of this consultancy is to undertake a **comparative analysis of the environmental footprint between different protein categories in East Africa.**

The comparative analysis should include farmed fish (specifically Tilapia and Catfish) and the most popular proteins eaten in the East African region including chicken, beef, pork, and goat. The environmental footprint should consider the entire life cycle including production (including inputs), processing, transport, storage, as well as disposal. Msingi is open to discussing with the selected consultant the key indicators that should be reviewed, but these are likely to include resource efficiency (including the environmental impact of feed and water intensity), carbon emissions, land use/land use change, waste/effluents, and any other relevant environmental factors.

3. Scope of Work

The consultant's scope of work for this study includes the following:

- a. Conduct a literature review of the meat and fish industry in East Africa: production scale and modalities, consumption patterns, sustainability practices, disposal, etc.
 - b. Engage directly with relevant players in the animal protein industry (farmed tilapia and catfish, chicken, beef, pork, and goat) in East Africa to understand the value chain from production to end use
 - Undertake assessment of practices and operations of animal production
 - Map supply chain and end use
 - Evaluate practices and supply chain against key environmental indicators
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- c. Develop a scoring system based on key environmental indicators to assess the comparative sustainability of each animal protein at each point in the value chain.
- d. Synthesize findings into a guidance document which ranks each protein source by comparative sustainability using the scoring system and proposes recommendations for improving sustainability.

Msingi is open to discussing the scope of work based on feedback from the selected consultant.

4. Deliverables

- a. An inception report that details a more specific scope of work, a detailed work plan, including the specific components of research that will be conducted and the specific methodology for each.
- b. A draft guidance document covering activities a-c outlined in the scope of work
- c. A final guide (finalized with Msingi feedback) containing background information on the meat and fish industry in East Africa, key findings from industry engagement, a well-developed sustainability scoring system based on key environmental indicators, an in-depth evaluation and ranking of each protein source by comparative sustainability, and recommendations for improving sustainability across the animal protein value chains.
- d. A Summary for Stakeholders that briefly outlines the comparative sustainability scores
- e. Presentation of final guide to Msingi staff

5. Consultancy timelines

Msingi estimates that this consultancy will take approximately 6-8 weeks to complete, including compiling the final deliverables.

6. Requirements for Consultant

1. Immediate availability to undertake this study
2. Demonstrated experience in undertaking similar or relevant research, preferably with a background in environmental sustainability and proven knowledge and understanding of the nuances of environmental footprint, its calculations and analysis of the data.
3. Analytical capabilities: ability to analyse and present data/information in a professional, simple, and straightforward manner.
4. Experience conducting similar research in East Africa strongly preferred.

7. Proposal

Completed proposals must include the following information:

1. A detailed workplan (including timelines) and any technical input requirements for performing the consultancy
 2. A brief description of the consultant(s) that will be undertaking the scope of work, including an outline of their qualifications, capabilities, and experience on assignments of a similar nature.
 3. A financial proposal of the fee for delivery of this assignment.
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Proposals should be no more than 1,000 words.

Proposals must be received no later than **Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 1700Hrs East Africa Time** at the email addresses below.

8. Msingi Contacts

Inquiries and clarifications regarding this Expression of Interest are welcomed and should be directed in writing to the email addresses below:

Nazmah Hasaan, Msingi East Africa Ltd
(nazmah.hasaan@msingi.com)

Meshvi Shah, Msingi East Africa Ltd
(meshvi.shah@msingi.com)
