

Checklist for interview with Law Enforcement (Coast Guard, Navy, Police, RAB)

This set of questions is for interviews with security agencies/management. Interviews will be held with the representative of Coast Guard, Bangladesh Navy, Police, Rapid Action Battalion who are involved with fisheries and fishers, safety and security at sea. Each interview is expected to take 45 to 60 minutes.

Focus of the interview

- Understanding the perception of agencies about safety and security at sea for fishers, the role and responsibility of the agencies in providing safe and security to fisher and fisheries
- Understanding the structure, process and functions of agencies and security arrangements
- Exploring the principle, nature, scale, coverage of safety and security arrangement in relation with fishers and fisheries and how this arrangement impacts the community
- Structure and process of remedy, compensation and accountability mechanism
- Experiences and lesson learned for improving fishers safety and security and recommendations

Guideline questions

Structure and process of security services

- Can you tell me something about you and your mandate? Daily work/list of regular assignments and priorities? How do you set priority of task?
- Year of experience working in this area? Team capacity in relation to task?
- Describe the process of work and process of involvement with complainants, complainers and fishers? Complaint receiving and recording system? Monitoring system?
- What types of security are easy to provide and what are difficult? Examples why? Think of time, place, distance and capacity. Willingness, accountability and monitoring?
- How are your activities monitored? Is there an accountability mechanism?
- How are you involved in fishing and the activity of fishers? Nature of involvement, types of tasks, way of communication? (using force technology, etc.)
- How does your work/department get in touch with other departments/stakeholder in relation to safety and security of fishing and fishers? Process, frequency, reason for involvement? Who organizes, where, and what level of meeting? Do you have examples of the degree of formality and informality? Is there any pattern of meeting arrangement for fisher's security?

Access to basic services

- What are the general risks of fishermen's life? Did you experience any such challenges that fishers faced in recent time (please elaborate)? Why have these happened? What are the impacts of such incidents to the lives and livelihoods of fishers?
- Did you have any action plan for developing the lives of fishermen or protecting them? If yes, what are the activities of the plan, who else involved in implementing this plan (e.g. stakeholders)? If not, do you have any plan for the future? Please explain: Actions to fishers, children, women. Does the safety and security of fishers at sea have a clear departmental policy, national policy or operational plan? Do you have any special plan for women in your department? What role will the project play to develop their life?
- What steps do you take when fishermen go missing at the sea (e.g. boat lost or damaged due to disaster)? How are you informed? Who informs? How long does it take to respond? What is the impact of timely response and non-response? Examples?
- Is there a specific law for bailing out fishermen who get arrested in another border country? Is the law convenient and helpful for fishermen?
- What steps do you take when fishermen or their boats are abducted by pirates?
- Do fishermen get your help easily? Is there any bureaucratic complexity?
- Previously, did you observe any coordination in your area following stakeholder work to develop the lives of fishermen? District/upazila/union administration, local/national NGOs, local community, local police, coast guard, RAB, navy and others? What integrated steps were taken?
- Are there any representatives of fishermen group in any of your local committee? If yes, are those representors present in the regular committee meeting and do they participate in the discussion? Do they give their opinion on anything? Has any decision ever made based on their opinion?
- How is your department's relation with fishermen, boat owner, merchant, warehouse owner, government, local government or NGOs? Through which mechanism do you communicate with them – formality and informality? Who do you listen most to and why?
- How are emergency needs addressed? Is there a mechanism? What else you wish to do for emergency management?
- What more steps do you think might be taken for improving the lives of fishermen? What are the challenges to achieving those?
- Do you have any programs for improving or protecting the lives of fishermen?

Security arrangements

- What security arrangements exist in fishing and for fishers? Do you have security management guidelines or rules for business or a code of conduct?
- Availability of security services to fishers? Accessibility of complainer/fishers? Acceptability of fisher complains? Quality of service provided to fishers? How quick, efficient and effective are they?
- What kind of training do the security guards receive? By whom? (This is to understand if human rights principles are included as part of the training)
- What tasks do security carry out? (Think of fishing, use of force, etc.)
- Are security guards allowed to detain persons? Have there ever been any incidents between security personnel and fishers or the community? If yes, please elaborate?

Community impacts

- Tell me about the community of fishers/fishing-related families. What do you think about their quality or value of life? Do you think the community is secure and safe? What do you suggest improving the lives and livelihoods of the community and the safety and security of family (e.g. untimely death, financial risk, natural climate/social acceptance, access to resources)?
- Do you have any assessment or baseline information about this community? How is the community perceived at different level of your administration and among stakeholders?
- Do you work with the community to ensure safety and security at sea? If yes, what type of involvement, how and what is the impact of such involvement?
- Is there any conflict among fishing communities (e.g. among the district, national boundary or with other country fishers)? Why types of conflict, why does it occur, with which frequency? Examples? How do you manage such conflicts? Is there a mechanism for disposal or limitation of intervention? How are the conflicts minimized? Through compensation, returning fishing stuffs, gear, boat or fish or otherwise?
- Do you conduct any operation for illegal trawlers, fishers, gears, trespasser or robbers? How frequently do you conduct these? How is this patrolling initiated? By whom, when, why and over whom?
- Do you provide any license/ID cards? Who can you get it and how?

Access to remedy

- Do you have in place a grievance/complaints mechanism for fishers? Can trade unions and/or other labour organization(s) access the grievance mechanism as well?
- Is there a warning system in place? How does it work? Impact of such warning system?

- Could you elaborate how the grievance mechanism was designed and how is functions?