Annexure C

Assessing the production feasibility of your aquaculture venture:

1. Compile information on the culture potential and biological needs of the species.
- Make a list of your most valuable resource materials (e.g. personal contacts, books, etc.) for culture of your species.
- List permits and regulations that apply to use of the species, water use, land use, waste water and other legal aspects pertaining to starting your venture.

2. Biological factors
- What are the water-quality requirements of the species?
- Does your system meet these requirements?
- What diseases and predators can affect the species?
- What parameters need to be controlled and how will they be controlled?

3. Factors affecting profitability
- How many fish will you need to stock your system?
- What percentage of the original stock do you expect to lose?
- What is the potential yield of your system?
- How long will it take to produce a marketable product?
- What could cause losses (e.g. water quality, predation, theft, disease, competition)?
- How and at what cost can losses be controlled?

4. Production costs
- What are the initial construction or facility costs?
- List equipment needs for the following culture operations:
    - water-quality maintenance
    - harvesting
    - storage (product)
    - loading and transport
    - processing
    - electricity
- List and estimate variable costs for the system:
    - feed (price per kg and per year)
    - labour (cost to feed, harvest, process, etc.)
    - electricity
- Do you have adequate environmental information on water temperature, water quality and flow?
- Are you able to extract water legally, and at what rate and cost?

5. Emergency plans
- What are the production risks?
- How can these risks be reduced?
- What will risk-reduction methods cost?