



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Vacancy title	Equidae animals raising, husbandry and movement pattern in South-East Asia and China
Type of contract	Consultancy contract
Location	Home-based work, electronic meetings
Starting date	1 January 2021
Expected working days	28 days
Expected duration	from 1 January to 31 May 2021
Application deadline	30 November 2020

Background

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is the intergovernmental organisation responsible for improving animal health worldwide. The standards it develops for the trade of live animals and products of animal origin are recognized by the World Trade Organization as reference international sanitary rules (<http://www.oie.int/fr/>).

The OIE has 182 Members and is present on all continents through 13 Representations, including the Sub-Regional Representation for South-East Asia (SRR-SEA), based in Bangkok, Thailand, which provides supports to OIE Members in South-East Asia to enhance the capacity of national Veterinary Services to implement the OIE standards and guidelines for securing animal health and welfare.

Equidae animals play various roles in human livelihoods. FAO Stat estimates over 1 million equids (horses, donkeys and mules) in South-East Asia and over 5 million equids in China. Many of these are working animals who support the livelihoods of people by providing traction and transportation power. With the booming of the tourist industry, working equids have also been increasingly used as carriage animals to attract tourists. In addition and in contrast to working equids who usually belong to the most impoverished socio-economic strata of society, some high-value horses are owned by the richest strata of society for pleasure riding or competitions. Finally, many wild equids such as zebras are kept in parks and natural reserves. The diversity in equids' living conditions and the purposes of keeping them implies their different roles in disease epidemiology and that different disease surveillance and control approaches should be applied accordingly. However, knowledge about the equine industry in Asia is rather limited, representing a significant gap for equine disease surveillance and control.

For many decades, equine diseases had been considered as neglected diseases in Asia due to the less prominent social-economic impacts on animal production and public health compared to food-producing animals. However, this has changed since the first report of African horse sickness (AHS) outbreaks in Thailand in March 2020. AHS can cause serious diseases in horses with a mortality rate up to 95%. Asia was historically free from AHS, except for occasional excursions to India and Pakistan in 1950s-1960s. The emergence of AHS in South-East Asia poses a significant challenge to the equine industry and Veterinary

Services at a regional scale. More than 500 horses have died or been culled in Thailand due to AHS, and the disease has further spread to Malaysia in September 2020.

To support its Members to protect the equine industry from severe equine diseases such as AHS, the OIE needs to better understand the raising and husbandry practices as well as movement patterns of equid animals in South-East Asia. This knowledge would help veterinary services to better engage key stakeholders in equine disease control, and develop tailored disease surveillance and control programs adapted to the local context. This is the purpose of the study proposed here.

1. Aims, scope and expected inputs & deliverables

1.1 Aims

The aim of the project is to conduct a regional study to better understand the following:

- raising and husbandry practice of domestic equids (incl working, companion and competition equids) and captive wild equids
- movement patterns and drivers of domestic and captive wild equids, including mobility network and socio-economic factors, value chain at national and regional level
- movement protocols for equids in the target countries

The study target areas will include South-East Asia and China (incl Hong Kong SAR and Macao).

A consultant will be hired to carry out the study which includes development of workplan, literature review, interview of key stakeholders, data analysis and a report to describe the up-to-date raising, husbandry and movement patterns of equids in the target areas.

1.2 Expected inputs and deliverables

	Deadlines (tentative)	Estimated workload (TBC) (in days)
Reporting and coordination		
Direct reporting to the OIE SRR	-	-
In coordination with the OIE, contact with the Veterinary Services of participating countries	-	-
Development of the guidelines		
Develop the study methodology and workplans	15 January 2021	1
Conduct literature review and provide a review report	30 January 2021	5
Develop a list of stakeholders and questionnaire for interview	15 February 2021	2
Interview key stakeholders through emails or video/phone calls	15 March 2021	10
Present the initial findings to the OIE and key stakeholders through an online meeting	31 March 2021	1
Write the study report and share it with the OIE and key stakeholders for comments	15 April 2021	7
Finalise the report	31 May 2021	2

2. Required skills/expertise

The consultant should demonstrate the following skills/qualities and adhere to the highest standards and ethics expected by OIE:

- Knowledge of the horse industry in Asia, preferably in South-East Asia and China (both in sport horse industry and in working equids);
- Experience in horse movement related activities;
- Proven working experience with equine related associations/ organizations, preferably in South-East Asia and China;
- Experience in conducting interviews in LMICs (preferably in South-East Asia and China) is an asset;
- Excellent communication skills in English (both spoken and written);
- Strong analytical and research skills (document review, prepare questionnaire, conduct interviews, analyse data and prepare report).

3. WORK ARRANGEMENTS

3.1 . Timeframe

The timeframe is from 1 January to 31 May 2021.

3.2 Organisation of the work

This assignment requires home-based work with electronic interviews, discussions and meetings.

The OIE contact point will be Dr Yu Qiu (y.qiu@oie.int).

3.3 Payment schedule

The payment schedule will be progressive and will be agreed depending on the developed work plan.

It is proposed that 30% of the payment be paid when the OIE receives the list of stakeholders and questionnaire for interview, and the remaining 70% will be paid when the final study report is approved by the OIE.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE RESPONSE

Interested applicant(s) are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) including the following:

- Maximum 4-page 'Expression of Interest' that provides information on the:
 - Understanding of the project;
 - General methodology
 - Draft work plan (including if any, a list of teammates who would be delegated to conduct this project)
 - Budget plan (including a breakdown and schedule of proposed costs for each proposed deliverables);
 - Professional profiles (expertise, past similar experience, rationale for team-set up if more than one, language skills etc.);
 - Any additional information.

- Maximum 4-page CV with information on related experience (for each of the candidates, if joint submission);
- Two (2) work samples of peer reviewed related work;
- Contact details of 3 academic/professional referees.

5. RESPONSE PROCEDURE

The OIE places a high value on a multicultural and positive work environment and seeks gender and geographical balance in its international consultants. The OIE welcomes applications of all qualified candidates, irrespective of their ethnic origin, gender, opinions, or beliefs.

If you are interested in the position, please complete your application online by **30 November 2020** at the latest by clicking on the link below.

The OIE, as a data controller, will process the personal data you provide in the application form for the purposes of identifying a suitable consultant to support its work. The data collected will be processed internally for the aforementioned purposes and it shall be kept for 5 years. You have rights to access and rectify your personal data, as well as to request erasure and obtain data portability under certain circumstances. You may withdraw your consent to the processing of your data at any time by contacting srr.seasia@oie.int. To exercise these rights or if you have any questions about the processing of your data, you can contact our data protection officer at dpo@oie.int. For more information check our Privacy Policy: <https://www.oie.int/en/privacy-policy/>.

[APPLY HERE](#)

Should you have any questions, please contact srr.seasia@oie.int.