



## CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

<b>Vacancy title</b>	Development of practical guidelines for the control of African horse sickness vectors in Asia
<b>Type of contract</b>	Consultancy contract
<b>Location</b>	Home-based work, electronic meetings
<b>Starting date</b>	1 February 2021
<b>Expected working days</b>	7 days
<b>Expected duration</b>	from 1 to 28 February 2021
<b>Application deadline</b>	25 January 2021

### 1. CONTEXT

#### 1.1 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.

#### 1.2 PURPOSE

African horse sickness (AHS) is a *Culicoides*-borne disease that has serious health impacts and economic implications for equidae animals. Asia was traditionally free from AHS except for the isolated outbreaks in India and Pakistan in 1950s-1960s. The AHS outbreaks in Thailand in March 2020 and in Malaysia in September 2020<sup>1</sup> have raised significant concerns as the last report of AHS in Asia was almost 60 years ago. This lethal horse disease is posing a significant challenge to the equine industry and Veterinary Services at both national and regional level.

A good knowledge about *Culicoides* control practices is critical to reducing vector-host contact and therefore controlling the spread of AHS. While having raised this topic in a dedicated webinar, the OIE has identified the need to develop a pragmatic guideline on the control of AHS vectors in the Asian context. This guideline

---

<sup>1</sup> ([https://www.oie.int/wahis\\_2/public/wahid.php/Diseaseinformation/WI/index/newlang/en](https://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Diseaseinformation/WI/index/newlang/en))



will support OIE members in Asia to better prevent and control AHS and other related *Culicoides*-borne disease.

## 2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 2.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENTS AND SCOPE OF THE WORK

The aim of the project is to develop a practical guideline for the control of AHS transmission through reducing vector-host contact in the Asian context. The guidelines will be in line with OIE Standards and Recommendations, such as the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code chapter on AHS (Chapter 12.1). It will be short (no more than 5 pages), user-friendly and very practical; it will also propose a sustainable, cost-effective and environment friendly approach. The target users are veterinarians, veterinary para-professionals and equine practitioners who are involved in AHS control.

The consultant is required to develop a short and practical document, providing pragmatic guidance on the control of AHS transmission through reducing vector-host contact in the Asian context.

The consultant will also consider the opinion and advice from a group of experts consulted on that purpose.

The scope of work will include:

- Consultation with an expert group all along the development of the guidelines
- Development of the guidelines
- If needed, development of communication material related to the guidelines (short video or document explaining how to use it)

### 2.2 EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

Activity	Deadlines (tentative)	Estimated workload (TBC) (in days)
<b>Reporting and coordination</b>		
Direct reporting to the OIE SRR Project Manager;	-	-
In coordination with the OIE, contact with the expert group;	-	-
<b>Development of the guidelines</b>		
Develop the outlines of the guidelines	3 February 2021	1
Consult the expert group and finalise the outlines (electronic discussion to be scheduled around 8 February)	10 February 2021	1
Develop a first draft based on the agreed outlines	15 February 2021	2
Consult the expert group for their comments on the draft guidelines (electronic discussion to be scheduled around 19 February)	19 February 2021	1
Finalise the guidelines	24 February 2021	1
If needed, develop communication material related to the guidelines (short video or document explaining how to use it)	28 February 2021	1

## 3. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE



The consultant should demonstrate the following skills/qualities and adhere to the highest review standards and code of ethics expected by OIE and its partners:

- Experience in practical and realistic approach to the control of *Culicoides spp*;
- Experience in vector control in equids;
- Knowledge of the OIE standards and recommendations;
- Knowledge of African horse sickness control would be an asset;
- Experience in the horse or livestock industry in Asia would be an asset;
- Excellent writing skills in English, including the ability to convey complex issues and ideas in simple easy-to-understand forms.

## **4. WORK ARRANGEMENTS**

### **4.1 ORGANISATION OF THE WORK**

The consultant(s) will report directly to the OIE SRR Project Manager. S/he may contact directly the expert group, after close coordination with the OIE. This assignment requires home-based work with electronic consultations.

The OIE contact point will be Dr Laure Weber-Vintzel ([l.weber-vintzel@oie.int](mailto:l.weber-vintzel@oie.int)).

### **4.2. PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

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

It is proposed that 50% of the payment be paid when the first draft is accepted by the OIE for distribution to the expert group and the remaining 50% once the final guidelines are endorsed by the expert group and the potential communication tool developed.

## **5. 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 and approach (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;

## **6. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND AWARD OF THE CONTRACT**

The OIE will proceed to an evaluation of all final proposals according to the criteria described below:



- Non-financial criteria (80%)
  - Expertise (40%)
  - Demonstrated understanding of the context (40%)
- Global cost (20%)

## 7. RESPONSE PROCEDURE

The OIE places 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 25 January 2021 at the latest by clicking on the link below.

Short-listed candidates may be further contacted by the OIE should additional information/clarification is required.

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.sea@oie.int](mailto:srr.sea@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](mailto: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.sea@oie.int](mailto:srr.sea@oie.int).