

Terms of Reference – National Project Director

OSRO/NEP/401/USA

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Representative (FAOR) in Nepal, the functional guidance of the Chief, Animal Health Service (AGAH), the direct supervision of the assigned Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Disease (ECTAD) Regional (RAP) Technical Focal Point (TFP) and the Sub-regional ECTAD/RSU-SAARC, the National Project Director will be responsible for the following duties:

- Act as national focal point for FAO and liaise with other relevant national project staff in facilitating interaction/collaboration between the ECTAD Regional TFP and government authorities to ensure national inputs, ownership and timely implementation of the project;
- Communicate with the ECTAD Regional TFP electronically or in person to implement and monitor progress of the work plan on a weekly basis;
- Promote multi-sectoral coordination under One Health and epizone approaches for effective detection, prevention and response for HPAI H5N1 and other high impact and zoonotic influenzas in Nepal within the Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP);
- Assist the ECTAD Regional TFP in his/her duties related to the ECTAD Country programme in Nepal, in collaboration with the Sub-regional ECTAD/RSU-SAARC and consistent with the objectives of the EPT-2 Regional Programme;
- Assist the ECTAD Regional TFP from the inception of the project in developing, implementing and monitoring a detailed work plan for the USAID funded HPAI Project in Nepal as summarized by the project outputs in the logical framework;
- Assist in designing, implementing and monitoring research studies, sample collection and training related to understanding the drivers for spread and possible emergence of new strains of HPAI H5N1 and other high impact and zoonotic influenzas;
- Identify existing data/information as well as mechanisms for collection, processing and dissemination within Nepal and in the epizone;
- Assist in developing and implementing a plan to strengthen the linkage between laboratory and epidemiology at the Department of Livestock Services (DLS) including training and information platforms such as the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), the Emergency Preparedness System for Animal Health Emergency Management Event Mobile Application (EMPRES-EMA) and Transboundary Animal Disease Information System (TAD *info*);
- Assist in developing and monitoring Letters of Agreement (LOA) and organizing workshops related to the review of national policy and best practices to reduce the risk of disease spread and emergence in Nepal and in the IGP epizone;
- Assist in planning and conducting simulation exercises to improve the national preparedness and response system for Notifiable avian influenza and other high impact and zoonotic influenzas;
- Coordinate with the Government of Nepal in planning and implementing conferences, meetings, seminars, workshops and training to build synergies with other One Health partners;
- Provide assistance to the project and the working groups on animal health including the annual plan, strategic meetings, monitoring and evaluation, translation and publication of outputs;

- Establish functional linkages with projects funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Ministry of Agriculture Development and other key stakeholders to ensure sustainability and avoid duplication;
- Facilitate interaction with national non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that are involved in program delivery;
- Provide technical advice to the DLS concerning the ECTAD Country Programme improvement and implementation;
- Contribute to report writing required under the project;
- Oversee the daily work and output of national project staff;
- Perform other project-related activities as required.

Qualifications:

The National Project Director will meet the following requirements:

- Degree in Veterinary Medicine with additional post-graduate training and experience in epidemiology and knowledge of laboratory diagnosis and procedures;
- Excellent communication, project management and team-building skills with a high level of initiative;
- Expertise in the use of computer software such as Microsoft Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, epidemiological software
- In-depth understanding of avian influenza, emerging diseases and the One Health approach;
- A record of producing peer-reviewed scientific publications and official reports;
- In-depth knowledge of the Government of Nepal, Department of Livestock Services its programs and affiliated partners;
- Concrete knowledge of livestock value chains and disease detection, prevention and control systems in Nepal.