

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Vacancy title	Development of practical guidelines for national procurement of veterinary vaccines
Internal reference	SRR-SEA/CFEOI2021/2
Type of contract	Consultancy contract
Location	Home-based work, electronic meetings
Starting date	15 October 2021
Expected working days	15 days
Expected duration	15 October 2021 to 31 March 2022
Application deadline	30 September 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, then known as the « Office international des épizooties », was created on the 25th of January 1924. Its headquarters are based in Paris. It comprises 182 Member and is present on all continents through 13 Representations or Bureaus in total.

1.2 PURPOSE

Veterinary vaccines are known to be key tools to prevent, control and eradicate animal diseases. However, many OIE Members have expressed the need for guidance when facing challenges in vaccine procurement. Amongst the challenges expressed by OIE Members, some countries do not benefit from clear national procurement processes; some others have national processes which are not appropriate for veterinary products (e.g. national process based on prices with limited/no consideration to quality), and for some others their regulatory framework makes difficult to import vaccines for systematic or emergency vaccination¹. In addition, many factors differ from country to country, such as: the balance of considerations between quality, price, the interactions and capacities of the national regulatory authority for veterinary product market authorization, other strategic considerations (e.g. supporting domestic manufacturing capacity) and primary vs secondary objectives (e.g. poly-valent vaccines that combine protection against other important diseases that might not be the target of the national policy).

As the international organisation for animal health, the OIE is involved in animal disease prevention, control and eradication programmes. Numerous activities are already conducted or have been conducted to ease access to quality veterinary vaccine manufactured according to international standards. Amongst them, standards have been, and are still developed; collaborating centres have been accredited for vaccine (or veterinary products) quality control; WAHIS collects annually the vaccine

¹ As per *Terrestrial Code* Chapter 4.18

production capacity of all OIE Members; vaccines banks have been established for some diseases (PPR and rabies in 2021), and some countries, but are not meant to replace national procurement processes.

To date, while the OIE has elaborated an internal mechanism for its vaccine bank procurement (regular international calls for tender), Article 4.18.8. of the *Terrestrial Code* identified the procurement of vaccine as a key element for a vaccination programme. However, the OIE does not provide practical guidance for its Members as to how to conduct their own vaccine procurement process.

Other organisations have developed or are working on processes and mechanisms to improve access to quality vaccines, including:

- EuFMD is working on a pre-qualification procedure for vaccines against FAST diseases;² This procedure will assess the quality of vaccines and their compliance with International Standards and GMP and establish a list of preselected vaccines and manufacturers. If this may facilitate vaccine procurement and ensure the quality if a country add a clause requesting prequalification in its call for tender, it will not replace the procurement step at country level.
- Similarly, WHO has also developed a prequalification procedure for assessing the acceptability, in principle, of several health products (for human, not animals) for purchase by United Nations agencies³.
- WHO Operational principles for good pharmaceutical procurement⁴ presents the operational principles to procurement settings and situations, targeting primarily pharmaceutical procurement for public human health systems.

Acknowledging the differences between human and animal health services, the needs expressed by OIE Members, and the evident risk of using poor quality vaccines due to a deficient national vaccine procurement process, it is believed that developing a guidelines document to support Members in their procurement process would be aligned with current OIE activities and would contribute to the global efforts linked to the access to high quality vaccines.

2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT AND SCOPE OF WORK

2.1.1 Objective

The objective of the assignment is to develop practical guidelines for national vaccine procurement process to be used by the Veterinary Services.

2.1.1 Approach

The consultant will be supported by an OIE Team composed of colleagues having experience in relevant domains (OIE Vaccine Bank, OIE Veterinary Legislation Support Programme, global and regional disease control strategies, OIE Standards, Partnership between public and private sectors, vaccine quality control, OIE procurement...)

In addition, a group of external experts will be gathered and consulted to ensure the relevance and quality of the document. While its composition will be finalised with the consultant, it may include OIE Reference Centres, organisations/institutions such as WHO, FAO/EuFMD, GALVmed, Health for Animals, smaller local or regional compagnies (for example through the PPR manufacturer group).

A consultation /piloting phase would be proposed to 3-4 countries' Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services who have expressed interest in being guided and may be responsible through

² EuFMD, A pre-qualification procedure for vaccines against FAST diseases, Discussion document

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https://www.who.int/immunization_standards/vaccine_quality/TRS_978_61st_report_Annex_6_PQ_vaccine_procedure.pdf

⁴ <https://www.who.int/3by5/en/who-edm-par-99-5.pdf>

their function, to source the adequate vaccines for systematic or emergency vaccination. This step will help checking whether the guidelines are practical, if anything is missing, etc.

The OIE Biological Standard Commission and Aquatic Animals Commission should be consulted regularly, and peer-review.

2.1.2 Scope

The consultant is required to develop a short and practical document, providing pragmatic guidance on procurement process for veterinary vaccines, including for emergency procurement.

The guidelines will be in line with OIE Standards and Recommendations, such as the OIE *Manual*, the OIE *Terrestrial Code* and the OIE PVS Pathway and in particular the Veterinary Legislation Support Programme. However, the guidelines will have to allow for sufficient flexibility to account for different perspectives and capacities between OIE Members.

The guidelines will be developed in English.

The consultant will also consider the opinion and advice from the OIE team and from a group of external experts (see below).

The scope of work will include:

- Consultation with the OIE team and with the expert group along the development of the guidelines
- Development of the guidelines
- Technical support in the organisation of the consultation /piloting phase
- Consideration of the feedback received from the OIE team, the group of external experts and from the consultation /piloting phase

The OIE will manage the lay-out of the guidelines.

2.2 EXPECTED OUTPUTS, TIMELINE AND DELIVERABLES

Activity	Deadlines (tentative)	Estimated workload (TBC) (in days)
Kick off meeting	15 October 2021	
Develop the outlines of the guidelines	31 October 2021	1
Consult the OIE Team and finalise the outlines	15 November 2021	1
Develop a first draft based on the agreed outlines	30 November 2021	3
Consult the OIE Team and then the group of external experts for their comments on the draft guidelines	31 December 2021	1
Prepare an advanced draft (ready for use) of the guidelines taking into consideration comments from the OIE Team, the group of external experts and the OIE Specialist Commissions	31 January 2022	3
Support the technical organisation of the consultation/piloting phase	28 February 2022	2
Finalise the guidelines, taking into account the feedback from all consulted parties and pilot countries	31 March 2022	4

3. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

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

- Proven experience in national procurement of veterinary products (*would be an asset*);
- Proven experience in national veterinary services or in the country-relationship Dept in a pharmaceutical company;
- Experience with several countries/regions would be an asset;



- Good understanding of the OIE Standards and recommendations;
- Practical and realistic approach to procurement;
- Excellent writing skills in English, including the ability to convey complex issues and ideas in simple easy-to-understand forms.
- Knowledge of other OIE language (French, Spanish) would be an asset.

4. WORK ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 ORGANISATION OF THE WORK

The consultant(s) will report directly to the OIE Team. The OIE contact point will be Laure Weber-Vintzel.

The OIE Team will provide support to the consultant and establish link between the consultant and the group of external experts and the pilot countries. .

The OIE Team will review the drafted guidelines with the support of OIE Specialist Commissions.

This assignment requires home-based work with electronic consultations.

4.1 PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The following schedule of payments will be finalised in the Contract based on the agreed-upon workplan and set of deliverables:

Fifty percent (50%) of the total price will be paid upon validation by the OIE of the satisfactory delivery of the first draft of the guidelines (once the OIE agrees to send it to the external experts for their comments);

Fifty percent (50%) of the total price will be paid upon validation by the OIE of the satisfactory delivery of all Deliverables.

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;
 - Draft work plan and approach (including if any, a list of teammates who would be delegated to conduct this project)
 - Annex 1 "Financial offer" (including a breakdown of proposed costs for each proposed deliverable) duly completed and signed 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;
- Annex 2 "Declaration of integrity" duly completed and signed;

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 (70%)
 - Expertise (50%)
 - Demonstrated understanding of the context (30%)
- Global cost (30%)



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

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 proposals of all qualified consultants, irrespective of their ethnic origin, gender, opinions or beliefs.

If you are interested in the position, please complete your proposal online by 15 September at the latest by clicking on the link below.

[APPLY HERE](#)

The OIE, as a data controller, will process the personal data you provide in the proposal form for the purposes of establishing a list of interested experts and consultants and sharing with you subsequent calls for proposals. The data collected will be processed internally for the aforementioned purposes and it will be kept for 5 years. You have the right to access and rectify your data and 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 l.weber-vintzel@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/>.

8. ANNEXES

1. Financial offer (annex 1),
2. Declaration of Integrity (annex 2)

Should you have any questions, please contact Laure Weber-Vintzel at l.weber-vintzel@oie.int