



World Organisation for Animal Health

Founded as OIE

SCI/CFEOI2023/1

Call for Expression of Interest	
Title	Development of Guidelines for Alternative Strategies for the control of Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex infection in livestock
Internal reference	SCI/CFEOI2023/1
Type of contract	Consultancy contract
Location	Remote (Home-based)
Starting date	1 May 2023
Expected working days	100 days
Expected duration	May 2023 – October 2023
CFEOI launching date	23 March 2023
Submission deadline	7 April 2023



1. CONTEXT

1.1. BACKGROUND

World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) whose statutory name is “Office International des Epizooties”, was created on the 25th of January 1924. Its headquarters is based in Paris. It comprises 182 Member and is present on all continents through 13 Representations or Bureaus in total.

WOAH an intergovernmental organisation subject to public international law. It is 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 ([Home - WOAH - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)).

The UN Sustainable Development Goals have set the target of ending tuberculosis by 2030 in humans. The path to achieving this target includes the reduction of the human burden of zoonotic tuberculosis (zTB), which is caused by infection with a member of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (MTBC) primarily transmitted from livestock to humans through direct exposure to infected animals or the consumption of contaminated milk and other animal products.

The mitigation of tuberculosis (TB) risk in livestock and, in consequence, zTB in humans, is accomplished in many countries through a combination of risk mitigation measures such as milk pasteurization combined with the control of the disease in live animals through a ‘test and slaughter’ strategy. In countries where TB risk mitigation measures are applied, animals are regularly screened using the tuberculin skin test and reactors are slaughtered, post-mortem inspection is carried out for carcasses, with condemnation or other appropriate dispositions in the case of detection of TB lesions as well as follow-up case investigations to further identify infected herds.

These measures have been proven to be effective in some countries, but these are not viable solutions in many of the least economically developed countries of the world—where the greatest disease burden of the disease in humans and animals is mostly concentrated. Therefore, in those communities, the control of TB in livestock will contribute to the reduction of TB transmission at the human-animal interface which may occur from livestock to humans, but also from humans to livestock (i.e. reverse zoonosis). However, the currently practised test-and-slaughter approach is unfeasible for economic or social reasons in many of those regions. **There is a need to develop alternative and innovative strategies for controlling TB in livestock in those regions where slaughter is not an option or expertise, and technical capability is lacking.**

In 2017, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (Union) jointly developed a [Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis](#) and a call for action to tackle zTB in people and animals. This Roadmap lays down 10 priorities, which include:

- i. The need to reduce the prevalence of TB in livestock;
- ii. The development of policies and guidelines for the prevention and surveillance and control of TB in animals; and
- iii. The implementation of community-based interventions to reduce the burden of TB in humans and livestock, recognizing the cultural and socioeconomic realities of each setting.



1.2. PURPOSE

In September 2020, WOA *ad hoc* Group ([Ad hoc Groups - WOA - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)) on Alternative Strategies for the Control and Elimination of Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex infection in livestock was convened to consider addressing the three specific priorities listed above and to explore and recommend actionable strategies to control TB in livestock other than by test and slaughter. The selected TB control strategies would need to be **flexible and adaptable to the changing conditions of real-world scenarios taking into account the socioeconomic and cultural settings**. The *ad hoc* Group recognised that one of the critical tasks of this initiative is to elicit expert opinion on science-based and community accepted TB control strategies through interviews and focus groups with subject-matter experts.

To support the Roadmap for Zoonotic Tuberculosis and a call for action to tackle zTB in people and animals, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USA) has awarded a federally funded project to WOA: 'Strengthening animal health systems to enhance prevention, detection and response to emerging zoonotic diseases'. As a part of the project, the WOA is hiring a consultant to lead the development of guidelines for alternative Strategies for TB control in livestock.

2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT AND SCOPE OF WORK

The proposed consultancy is intended to include identify existing science-based strategies for the control of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (MTBC) infection in livestock other than test and slaughter. This will be achieved through a literature review and expert opinion elicitation using surveys, interviews and focus group discussions.

The consultant will receive technical support for the expert opinion elicitation process (*i.e.* design the questionnaire, conduct interviews and focus group discussion).

The consultancy is expected to consider different socio-economic contexts to provide science-based recommendations in the form of guidelines that will support WOA Members and partners in their efforts to reduce the burden of MTBC infection in livestock.

Specifically, the consultant is required to deliver the following project **outputs**:

1. Output 1: Literature review, and with the technical support, development, design, deployment and administer of the questionnaire and conduct interviews and focus group discussion.
2. Output 2: Report summarising the finding of output 1.
3. Output 3: Produce guidelines describing alternative strategies for the control of MTBC infection in livestock.

Scope:

1. The consultant will conduct a literature review on existing strategies for the control of MTBC infection in livestock considering different regional and socio-economic contexts.
2. As a results of the literature review and with the support of WOA identify relevant stakeholders to be consulted. These could include key value-chain actors from varied domains such as animal and public health decision makers, field veterinarians, epidemiologists, meat and dairy exporters, dairy farmers etc.



3. Design a questionnaire to collect information on existing or potential scientifically-sound strategies to control MTBC infection in livestock across different socioeconomic and cultural settings around the world. The collected information will be used to assess the impact of the interventions in the reduction of the burden of MTBC in livestock considering the cultural and socioeconomic impact of such interventions.
4. Design and conduct an expert opinion elicitation with the technical support -
5. Analyse data collected and, in consultation with WOAH and the ad hoc Group produced the guidelines for alternative strategies for the control of Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex infection in livestock.

2.2. EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

The expected deliverables for the objectives of the assignment are as follows. All deliverables must be provided in English. Progress updates will be requested from the consultant with an agree frequency (e.g. fortnightly basis), either electronically, through virtual meetings or both. WOAH will be responsible and will cover the cost of for the organisation of the *ad hoc* Group.

Sr no	Deliverables	Deadline (orientative)	Days of work (orientative)
Project inception and coordination			
1	Develop project methodology and project workplan including reporting timelines	Early May 2023	5
2	Kick-off meeting (virtual)		0.5
1. Output 1: Literature review, and with the technical support, development, design, deployment and administer of the questionnaire and conduct interviews and focus group discussion.			
3	Conduct literature review on existing strategies for the control of TB and identify key stakeholders/ persons for survey	May, June and July 2023	20
4	Design the questionnaire and plan approach for survey, interviews and focus group discussions with third party survey specialist, including pre-testing		14
5	Administer survey and conduct interviews and focus group discussions		20
Output 2: Data Analysis of interviews/questionnaire, produce report summarising findings.			
6	Data analysis of output 1 and draft summary report	Early August 2023	7
Output 3: Draft and finalise guidelines for alternative strategies for the control of Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex infection in livestock			
7	Produce first draft of guidelines for alternative strategies for the control of Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex infection in livestock	Late August – Early September 2023	20



8	Present guidelines to the <i>ad hoc</i> Group / Specialist Commission	September 2023	3.5
9	Revise and finalise guidelines	October 2023	10

Bidders are informed that all Deliverables, including draft and final work products, are “works made for hire” exclusively for WOA. The awarded bidder will assign to WOA all rights, title and interest in and to all such Deliverables. WOA may use or pursue all Deliverables without restriction or additional compensation.

3. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Bidders can be one consultant or a team of consultants possessing expertise in the following areas, and adhere to the highest review standards and code of ethics expected by WOA and its partners:

3.1. QUALIFICATIONS

- Excellent technical knowledge and working experience in prevention and control of livestock diseases at regional or international level (required), experience with MCTB complex control in livestock will be an asset;
- Proven experience in designing, planning, and conducting qualitative and quantitative studies such as surveys, interviews and focus group discussions with stakeholders in a multi-sectoral environment (required);
- Proven experience in the review, assessment, and evaluation of epidemiological characteristic of animal diseases and associated prevention and control activities for different husbandry systems (required)
- Strong analytical and research skills (document review, ability to synthesize evaluative findings from raw data) (required);
- Proven experience in developing guidelines/manuals at the regional or international level (desired);

3.2. COMPETENCIES: TECHNICAL, INTERPERSONAL, LINGUISTIC ETC.

- Excellent command of English, including excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent writing skills, including the ability to distil and summarise complex technical discussions into clear, concise and reader-friendly reports
- Excellent communication skills demonstrated ability to communicate complex concepts appropriate to a range of stakeholders.
- Ability to establish and maintain good working relationships in a multinational and multicultural environment;
- Excellent organisation skills and ability to meet specific deadlines, while remaining flexible to the needs of the project.



4. WORK ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. ORGANISATION OF THE WORK

The consultant will be home-based and report to the WOAHA Headquarters in Paris. A physical meeting may be organised for the peer review (see 2.2. above). The duration of the contract is expected to be 5 months, subject to the project methodology and completion of deliverables to an accepted quality.

4.1. BUDGET

Bidders are invited to propose the financial offer they deem most economically appropriate.

The financial offer (firm tranche) must not exceed: USD 85,000.

The financial offer should include all travel expenses (ticket and any expenses), taking into account that the consultant will be expected to travel to attend at least one physical meeting, at WOAHA HQ in Paris, during the consultancy. Depending on the methodology and workplan of the selected bidder, the interview can be done in presential or remotely.

4.2. PAYMENT SCHEDULE

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

- Twenty percent (20%) of the total price will be paid upon the conduct of the literature review, the design of the questionnaire with a summary report and identification of the list of stakeholders/ persons for the survey
- Twenty percent (20%) of the total price will be paid upon the completion of the survey, focus group discussions, interviews and analysis of results.
- The balance payment will be issued upon reception and validation of the final deliverables (i.e output 3).

5. STRUCTURE OF THE RESPONSE

While it is understood that the methodology, approach, and timeline will need to be finalised between the WOAHA and the successful bidder, it is expected that the response elaborates on how the project could/ should be handled from the consultant's perspective.

Responses to the call for expression of interest should therefore cover the following elements to provide sufficient background to the evaluation of the offers and ensure homogenous assessment.

- A short CV with reference to relevant experience (no longer than 3 pages)
- A cover letter detailing interest and past experience relevant to this assignment (no longer than 2 pages)
- A sample of the bidder's previous work, relevant to this assignment
- An 'Expression of Interest' that provides information on the following, no longer than 4 pages:
 - 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);



- Annex 1 “Financial offer” duly completed and signed;
- Annex 2 “Declaration of integrity” duly completed and signed;

6. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS AND AWARD OF THE CONTRACT REPORTING

WOAH will proceed to an evaluation of all proposals according to the criteria described below:

- Criteria 1: technical criteria (70%)
 - Expertise (30%)
 - Demonstrated understanding of the context (30%)
 - Relevance and quality of the proposed methodology (40%)
- Criteria 2: financial criteria (25%)
 - Global cost (100%)
- Criteria 3: deadline criteria (5%)
 - Ability, depending on project proposal, for work to be conducted expediently and meet deadline (100%)

Shortlisted candidates may be further contacted by the WOAHA for an interview as part of the selection process. Up to three bidders who will receive the best score according to the technical criteria will be invited to an interview to discuss his/her expertise and experience relevant to the call for expression of interest and expectations. This interview will allow WOAHA to review the assessment done.

The oral presentation format will be the following:

- Self-introduction: 5’
- Presentation of the understanding of the context and the proposed methodology: 15’
- Question and answers: 10’

7. RESPONSE PROCEDURE

7.1. Response process

WOAH reserves the right to introduce non-substantial modifications to the tender documents. In the event that WOAHA, either following a request from a tenderer or on its own initiative, introduces a modification of the tender documents, all tenderers having received the invitation to tender and indicated an intention to respond will be informed simultaneously. WOAHA may extend the deadline for submission of bids to all bidders to allow bidders to take into account these changes.

7.2. Costs of Responses

Bidders are responsible for all costs and expenses, including professional fees, incurred in connection with the preparation and submission of responses to, and generally their participation in, the tender procedure.



7.3. Conditions of Participation

Natural and legal persons as well as consortia (either officially established or constituted specifically for this consultation) who have provided a compliant response to the consultation as published may apply.

No more than one tender may be submitted by a person whether as a natural or legal person or member of a consortium. If a person submits more than one response, all responses in which they participate will be excluded from the selection process.

In participating to this consultation, a tenderer represents and warrants by doing so that:

- is not bankrupt or under mandatory liquidation, is not having its affairs administered by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, is not the subject of proceedings concerning its business activities, or is not in any similar situation arising from a procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- it or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control over it or a member of an administrative, a management or a supervisory body has not been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering, offences linked to terrorist activities, child labour, human trafficking, creating or being a shell company or any other irregular or illegal activity ;
- it or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over it have not been guilty of professional misconduct, including misrepresentation.
- it is in compliance with all its obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions and of taxes in accordance with the national legislation or regulations of the country in which the Tenderer is established;

Bidders undertake to provide documentary evidence related to the items mentioned above upon request by WOAHA at any point during the tender procedure and/or contracting process. Should a tenderer fail to produce reasonable evidence, WOAHA reserves the right to reject the tenderer's response and, in the event it has already entered into a Contract with the tenderer as a result of the tender process, to terminate such Contract with immediate effect.

The REFINITIV WORLD-CHEK ONE global compliance screening platform will be consulted. In accordance with WOAHA's internal rules, the identification of a tenderer by this platform may lead to its exclusion.

7.4. Conflicts of Interest

Under no circumstances is a tenderer to contact any person employed by or representing WOAHA regarding the tender procedure other than the person(s) mentioned in this document.

In participating to this consultation, a tenderer represents and warrants that:

- It does not have any conflict of interest arising from economic interests, political or national affinities, family or emotional ties, or any other relevant connection or shared interest in connection with any Contract that may be entered into between the tenderer and WOAHA as a result of the call;



- It will inform, without delay, of any situation constituting a conflict of interest or which could give rise to a conflict of interest;
- No offer of any type whatsoever from which an advantage can be derived under the Contract has been or will be made;
- It has not granted and will not grant, has not sought and will not seek, has not attempted and will not attempt to obtain, and has not accepted and will not accept, any advantage, financial or in kind, to or from any party whatsoever, constituting an illegal practice or involving corruption, either directly or indirectly, as an incentive or reward relating to the award of the Contract;
- It has not and will not make any misrepresentation, either knowingly or negligently, in supplying any of the information requested by WOAH.

7.5. Bid submission

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

If you are interested in this call for expression of interest, please complete your bids online by clicking on the link below.

[APPLY HERE](#)

WOAH, as a data controller, will process the personal data you provide in the bidder for the purposes of identifying a suitable Consultant, to support its work.

The data collected will be processed internally for the aforementioned purposes and for the resulting administrative acts, it shall be kept for the duration of the contract with you and in an intermediate archive for a duration of 10 during the audit period.

You have rights to access and rectify your personal data, as well as to request erasure and obtain data portability under certain circumstances.

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@woah.org. For more information check our [Privacy Policy](#)

Should you have any questions, please contact Dr Mariana Delgado: m.delgado@woah.org.

To comply with disclosure requirements and enhance transparency, WOAH shall publish on its [website](#) the following information about the Contract which shall be concluded with the awarded contractor: (i) the nature of the contract (ii) year of award (iii) name and locality of the Consultant; (iv) the title, purpose of the Consultant; and (v) the amount of this Agreement. WOAH will not release or publish information that could reasonably be considered confidential or proprietary.



8. ANNEXES

Annex 1: The financial offer to be returned dully completed and signed

Annex 2: The declaration of integrity to be returned dully completed and signed