



Issued on: 19 October 2017

Deadline For Application: 02 November 2017

JOB TITLE: Epidemiologist, Category B

TYPE OF CONTRACT: Consultant

DUTY STATION: Various duty stations

ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT: EMERGENCY AND REHABILITATION DIVISION, TCE
TECHNICAL COOPERATION DEPARTMENT, TC

DURATION: 11 months

FAO seeks gender, geographical and linguistic diversity in its staff and international consultants in order to best serve FAO Members in all regions.

Qualified female applicants and qualified nationals of non-and under-represented member countries are encouraged to apply.

Persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

Organizational Setting

The tasks envisaged for this consultancy are to be carried out through the Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD), which is currently implementing a number of projects in various countries in Africa. Within the ECTAD framework, the Animal Production and Health Division (AGA) is closely working with the Emergency and Rehabilitation Division (TCE) under the Strategic Program 5 to support various aspects of the animal health programme of FAO, including the Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT-2) and Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) Programmes.

Reporting Lines

Depending on the duty station, the Epidemiologist reports to the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO/Chief, Animal Health Services), and works under the functional and administrative supervision of the Assistant Director General/Regional Representative or FAO Country Representative, and the direct supervision of the ECTAD Country Team Leader or Regional Manager or Global Coordinator, and in collaboration with the Head of the Emergency Prevention System for Animal Health (EMPRES-AH), the Head of the Global Early Warning System for Livestock Diseases (GLEWS) Unit of the Animal Health Service (AGAH) and the animal production and health officers from the Regional and sub-Regional Offices and Country Offices.

Technical Focus

Technical backstopping support and guidance for risk assessments including systems characterisation and value chains mapping and analyses, planning and evaluation of epidemiological surveillance, contingency planning and simulation exercises and various epidemiology capacity development activities in target countries.

Tasks and responsibilities

- Lead the development and implementation of work plans relevant to the GHSA 'Zoonotic Diseases' and 'Workforce Development' Action Packages.
 - Support assessment of the status of epidemiological surveillance capacities in target country(ies) and develop, update and harmonize regional/national strategies and plans, and provide technical support for their implementation, where required;
 - Provide guidance and technical support for the design and implementation of risk assessment in the context of farming systems, risk modeling, value chain studies, disease ecology and the livestock-wildlife-human interface, simulation exercises and other related activities;
 - Support early warning activities and conduct environmental monitoring for risk assessment;
 - Support spatial disease and risk factors analysis for spill-over, spread and persistence of priority zoonotic diseases including GIS training in countries;
 - Provide guidance and support to target countries on the use of mobile based applications for surveillance data collection, analyses and sharing of results;
 - In close collaboration with GLEWS and EMPRES technical teams at FAO HQ, support the evaluation of tools related to surveillance such as GLEWS/Event Mobile Application (EMA-I), EpiCollect data collection and storage technology, FAO Surveillance Evaluation Tool (SET), etc., in the field.
 - In close collaboration with Crisis Management Centre - Animal Health (CMC-AH) and ECTAD regional and country teams, coordinate and participate in emergency preparedness and rapid response planning and missions;
- Lead and organize various activities in line with the GHSA "Work Force Development" Action Package:
 - Support and coordinate regional Field Epidemiology Training Programme for Veterinarians (FETP-V) development, Participatory Disease Surveillance (PDS)/Personal Data Assistant (PDA), Participatory Epidemiology (PE), Community Animal Health & Outreach (CAHO), etc., training programs in close collaboration with other FETP-V activities implemented by EMPRES and GLEWS Units.
 - Provide technical support for the development and review of curricula for epidemiology capacity building at various levels of workforce.
- Contribute to the One Health multi-sectoral coordination and partnerships
 - Participate, when required, in the World Health Organization (WHO) Joint External Evaluation (JEE), World Organization for Animal Health Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services (OIE PVS), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention One Health disease prioritization missions/process evaluations at various levels (global, regional and national) in order to ensure the needs of the animal health sector are effectively reflected in the context of the One Health Approach;

- Serve as liaison officer with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on matters relevant to surveillance capacity building, regional animal health networking, and animal welfare.
- Enhance One Health multi-sectoral collaboration including with public health, wildlife, environment, education, etc., sectors with respect to zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance/use (AMR/U) using available/new tools and information technologies/guidelines.
- Prepare regular epidemiological updates and timely situation reports on major diseases in target countries and sub-regions in Africa or Asia;
- Perform other key activities in the region and in country ECTAD Units
 - Attend regular coordination teleconferences or meetings to share activity reports, including challenges, and discuss solutions found and lessons learned with other project countries, regional and HQ teams;
 - Contribute to the ECTAD resource mobilization efforts through the development of project concept notes and fundable project proposals;
 - Contribute to the preparation of regular progress reports on projects implemented by the ECTAD Units;
 - Contribute to EMPRES and GLEWS publications (risk assessment, disease updates, guidelines) when pertinent;
 - Support the collection, storage, analysis and publication of data generated from field surveillance activities;
 - Contribute to the preparation of project reports as required by the Governments, FAO and donors;
- Perform other related duties as required.

CANDIDATES WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST THE FOLLOWING

Minimum Requirements

- Advanced university degree in veterinary or biological sciences and relevant post-graduate training or experience in epidemiology or disease ecology or related fields;
- At least 5 years of proven experience in the management and implementation of infectious disease control programmes, preferably in developing countries;
- Working knowledge of English, French or Spanish and limited knowledge of one of the other two or Arabic, Chinese, Russian.

FAO Core Competencies

- Results Focus
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Building Effective Relationships
- Knowledge Sharing and Continuous Improvement

Technical/Functional Skills

- Work experience in more than one location or area of work, particularly in field positions is desirable.
- Extent and relevance of experience at international level.
- Ability to write briefs and reports
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines

Familiarity with FAO policies and programmes and systems is desirable

Selection Criteria

Based on requirements, competencies and skills.

Please note that all candidates should adhere to *FAO Values of Commitment to FAO, Respect for All and Integrity and Transparency*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- FAO does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process (application, interview meeting, processing).
- Incomplete applications will not be considered. If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org
- Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
- Only language proficiency certificates from UN accredited external providers and/or FAO language official examinations (LPE, ILE, LRT) will be accepted as proof of the level of knowledge of languages indicated in the online applications.
- For other issues, visit the FAO employment website: <http://www.fao.org/employment/home/en/>

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, visit the iRecruitment website at <http://www.fao.org/employment/irecruitment-access/en/> and complete your online profile. Only applications received through iRecruitment will be considered.

Candidates are requested to attach a letter of motivation to the online profile.

Vacancies will be removed from iRecruitment at 23:59 Central European Time (CET) on the deadline for applications date. We encourage applicants to submit the application well before the deadline date.

If you need help, or have queries, please contact: iRecruitment@fao.org

