

State Institute “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development” Project Management Unit
One Health for Pandemic Prevention Food Systems Resilience and Ecosystem Health in
Central Asia Project (OHP)

Terms of reference for Environmental Protection Coordinator

I. BACKGROUND

The One Health approach is an integrated and unifying framework that aims to achieve optimal health for people, animals, and ecosystems. It recognizes the interdependence between human, animal, plant, and environmental health, and it mobilizes various sectors and communities to address global challenges, such as pandemic prevention, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), food safety, and environmental sustainability. This approach is essential for fostering well-being and tackling complex health issues in interconnected systems.

Phase 1 of the One Health for Pandemic Prevention Food Systems Resilience and Ecosystem Health in Central Asia Program for Tajikistan is funded from US\$31.79 million grant, with US\$30 million sourced from the International Development Association (IDA) and an additional US\$1.79 million from the Pandemic Fund. This initiative, part of the World Bank's Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA), aims to support the five Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) in addressing prevalent challenges related to zoonotic diseases, AMR, and food safety.

The One Health Program in Tajikistan, implemented as part of Phase 1 under the World Bank's Multiphase Programmatic Approach (MPA), is designed to strengthen the country's capacities for preventing, detecting, and responding to zoonotic diseases, AMR, and food safety risks. It supports investments across national and regional One Health coordination, communication, information sharing, regulatory frameworks, knowledge development, workforce capacity, risk-based surveillance, prevention and response systems, laboratory capacity, and data systems.

The project includes four key components:

1. **Strengthening One Health Governance** – Establishing a cross-sectoral governance structure to enhance coordination and policy alignment.
2. **Enhancing One Health Knowledge and Workforce Capacity** – Developing and implementing workforce training programs and research initiatives.
3. **Improving One Health Prevention, Detection, and Response Systems** – Strengthening national and regional laboratory networks, enhancing risk-based surveillance, and supporting digital information systems.
4. **Project Management, Monitoring & Evaluation, and Learning** – Establishing systems to manage and track project progress, ensure compliance, and facilitate knowledge dissemination.

The One Health Program in Tajikistan is implemented by the State Institute “Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development” Project Management Unit (SI AED PMU). The implementing agency works closely with national and regional stakeholders to ensure effective and sustainable implementation of the One Health approach.

The Project primarily focuses on technical assistance, capacity building, procurement of laboratory equipment, construction of research centers and laboratories, and One Health risks related to the laboratory civil works.

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

To strengthen the capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to priority zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and food safety issues in Asia Tajikistan through a regional One Health approach.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

The following agencies are engaged in implementing the project: the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the Ministry of Health and Social Population Protection (MoHSPP), the Committee on Food Security (CFS), and the Committee on Environmental Protection (CEP).

The Environmental Protection Coordinator will support the implementation of all three Components by the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the guidance of the OHP Coordinator. The EP Coordinator in close collaboration with the specialist from CEP responsible for developing ToRs for each activity of the three components and agreeing with relevant agencies, supporting tendering, and monitoring activities realization according to WB regulations and the Project Operation Manual.

The Environmental Protection Coordinator's duties and responsibilities

Liaison with CEP

- Within the PMU, act as a focal point for all activities and coordination efforts to the activities to be implemented by the CEP.
- Support the preparation of detailed work plans for activities under the responsibility of CEP.
- Organize coordination meetings with CEP and other stakeholders to discuss on overall project activities of One Health.

Technical expertise on protected areas and wildlife monitoring

- Provide technical input in the preparation of the procurement plan and procurement of materials and services required for the CEP project activities and ensure that the arrangements are in place for the timely delivery of these inputs.
- Prepare ToRs for hiring short-term consultants/specialists in close coordination with CEP; (attend during the hiring process and support on preparation of the evaluation report).
- Monitor the service providers' performance and verify that it conforms to the technical requirements and quality standards agreed to in the terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement.
- Take notes on any material deficiencies in the service providers' performance and submit them to the immediate attention of the OHP Project Coordinator and AED PMU Management.
- Provide expert opinion on technical matters related to the OHP implementation.
- Facilitate technical training of CEP on regulatory compliance.

Project Management

- Liaise with E&S colleagues for due diligence, especially regarding construction activities;
- Contribute and assist M&E Specialist in monitoring progress and quality of inputs and outputs;
- Undertake day-to-day planning, implementation, and coordination activities under the responsibility of CEP and be responsible for ensuring in-time planned activities for implementation.

- Regularly review progress in the implementation of activities support to CEP, including regular visits to institutional partners and meetings with them, report any feedback and help develop measures to improve activities implementation.

National One Health coordination

- Contribute to the preparation and implementation of meetings of the National One Health Coordination structure: contribute to the agenda and prepare technical briefs
- Facilitate and assist in conducting consultation workshops with key stakeholders.

IV. REPORTING

The **EP Coordinator** will report to and work under the direct supervision of the AED PMU Director/Deputy Director.

V. LANGUAGES

The **EP Coordinator** shall work in the Tajik, and Russian, languages. The Reports/Documents shall be prepared in the Tajik, if needed in Russian languages.

VI. QUALIFICATIONS

- University degree in Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Ecology, Agricultural ecology, Agronomy-management, economics, protected areas or related expertise;
- Having at least 3 years of working experience with projects funded by International Financial Institutions (eg. the World Bank, ADB, AIIB, etc.) and/or international donors in the field of environmental assessment, protected areas, risk management, and environmental assessment monitoring procedures;
- Demonstrated expertise and experience in wildlife ecology and practical experience of technical coordination across agencies and/or sectors;
- Knowledge of environmental laws and regulations, with familiarity in conducting Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and developing Environmental Management Plans (EMP);
- Proficiency in Tajik and Russian is required. English language skills will be considered an advantage;
- Excellent communication and computer skills.

VII. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The assignment will start in _____ and will initially be for a duration of one year, including a three-month probation period. The SI AED PMU will decide on the extension of the contract with the approval of the World Bank.