



Call for Expression of Interest

Continuing Professional Development Training for Veterinary Paraprofessionals

Summary

Expressions of interest are invited from organizations with the capacity to provide services relating to development and delivery of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses for Veterinary Paraprofessionals (VPPs). The courses will cover topics including preventative animal healthcare and business skills. They will take place in Central and North-Eastern Uganda between July 2022 and December 2023. Training providers will be supported to develop long-term sustainability models for delivery of quality veterinary CPD in Uganda.

The purpose of this call is to gather initial information on the range and nature of organizations that are interested to provide services as part of the project.

Background information

The “Sustainable Business in Animal Health Service Provision through Training for Veterinary Paraprofessionals” project is co-ordinated by the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in partnership with HealthforAnimals (HfA) and the World Veterinary Association (WVA). The project aims to improve the availability and quality of preventative animal healthcare services for smallholder farmers by building the capacity of VPPs. The project will involve the organization of a series of CPD courses for VPPs. Initially the project activities will focus on two pilot regions: Central and North-Eastern Uganda.

The aim of this call for expression of interest is to identify potential partners for the development and delivery of training courses under the project. These courses will combine online training, face-to-face practical training, peer-to-peer support and mentorship. The subject areas of the courses will focus on business skills and preventative animal healthcare. A participatory needs assessment process is currently underway and will be used to guide the content of the courses.

The Uganda Veterinary Board (UVB) has recently developed guidelines to provide a framework for CPD for veterinarians and VPPs in Uganda. The training providers selected will be expected to register with UVB and meet requirements for accreditation of CPD courses.

The Project plans to work in partnership with the training service providers identified in order to build their capacity such that they are able to deliver CPD courses for veterinarians and VPPs through a sustainable business model in future, beyond the scope and timeline of the current project. The training provider(s) will have access to an international network of expertise on adult education for veterinary audiences who will provide guidance and mentorship towards building a sustainable model for delivery of high quality CPD training.



Activities

Training providers are expected to be involved in the following:

- Development of online and face-to-face training courses and resources, working closely with national and international partners.
- Logistical organization and delivery of face-to-face training and practical training for VPPs. Partner organizations will provide support, if required, for online training delivery.
- Organization of mentorship and peer-to-peer support groups for VPPs.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the training developed and delivered, in line with quality assurance frameworks established under the project.
- Development of a business plan for sustainable delivery of CPD type courses for veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals in future.

Characteristics of training providers

Suitable training providers may be public or private sector organizations and should have the following characteristics:

- Capacity to manage all logistical requirements (travel, accommodation, meeting facilities etc.) for at least four training courses, each involving 20 participants, per year.
- Access to suitable facilities to provide classroom and farm-based practical training in Central and/or North Eastern Uganda.
- Demonstrated expertise in delivering adult training courses in the past three years.
- Demonstrated expertise in animal health and production.
- Strong interest in building a long-term sustainable business/system for delivery of CPD training to VPPs.

The following characteristics are desirable:

- Experience of training VPPs and ability to mobilize experienced VPPs as trainers.
- Experience of gender sensitive approaches to adult training provision.
- Expertise in preventative animal healthcare, business skills and/or extension services.
- Experience of online training.
- Experience of business coaching.
- Experience of conducting research into either preventative animal healthcare, training or capacity building.



Timing

The training courses will be implemented between **July 2022 and December 2023**.

How to express interest

Please send a letter of interest, detailing the organization's capacity to meet the characteristics described above and motivation behind the application.

Letters should be sent by e-mail to: **EuFMD-VPP@fao.org**

Deadline

Expressions of interest should be received by **10 April 2022**.