

**TA-9738 IND: Strengthening Capacity to Design and Implement Water and Rural Infrastructure Facility - Clean Plant Program - National Plant Virologist (53145-001)**

Date Published: **04-Jan-2023** Deadline of Submitting EOI: **13-Jan-2023 11:59 PM Manila local time**

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**Terms of Reference (Individual Consultant)**

Expertise	<b>Agricultural Sciences, Horticulture Science</b>	Consultant Source	<b>National</b>
Expertise Group	<b>Agriculture/Rural Development</b>	TOR Keywords	<b>Plant Virologist, Nursery Certification Expert, Tissue Culture Expert, Horticulturist, and Plant Protection Expert</b>

**Objective and Purpose of the Assignment**

1. The TA facility finances the services of consultants, training, seminars, and workshops. The TA facility supports project preparation, capacity building, undertaking due diligence, and increasing project readiness for ensuing investment projects, including those identified in the country operations business plan for India, 2019-2021 and future projects that the government may propose for ADB's assistance. The TA facility's outputs are (i) well-designed agriculture, rural development, and water resource project proposals and project readiness achieved; and (ii) project implementation and management capacity of executing agency improved.

2. Under this TA facility, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide transaction technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the National Horticulture Board to ensure Indian farmers access and use disease-free horticulture plant materials to maintain global competitiveness. The main objective of the TA facility is to complete the feasibility studies, review the detailed project report, support preparation of the loan documents, support the executing agency to advance project readiness activities, and build capacities of key stakeholders to launch and operate the clean plant programme.

**Scope of Work**

3. A National Consultant for this project will support coordination among line agencies, international and national experts, and other stakeholders for the preparation and operation of clean plant programme for horticulture. Different line agencies and stakeholders include public and private organizations such as government agencies within the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, National Horticulture Board, universities, research institutions, private nurseries, orchardists, and subject matter specialists such as Plant Virologist, Nursery Certification Expert, Tissue Culture Expert, Horticulturist, and Plant Protection Expert.

**Detailed Tasks and/or Expected Output**

4. A National Consultant is a critical position that enables an international team (comprising both national and international experts) to work efficiently and effectively for creating the environment to achieve the project goal. The consultant will work within the scope of the project as a national focal person, expert, and problem solver. The consultant will coordinate and assist line agencies and experts to execute the project activities. The consultant is expected to work together with a team of experts, and coordinate project activities with the team as needed in consultation with various experts. The consultant will work as a liaison between the national team and international experts. This consultant will review and assess current regional and national capability of research institutes and nursery management; provide a preliminary assessment for challenges and opportunities horticultural industries; recommend and identified regions and areas for fruit crops expansion and development; conduct national stakeholders consultation meetings with relevant agencies and stakeholders to present guidelines, priorities, and recommendations to obtain comments and consensus; lead discussion among line agencies and stakeholders for policy advocacy, regulation revisions, and changes in relation to clean plant programme; assist and work together with the international team of experts to ensure the approval and execution of the project in a timely manner; and organize and attend other relevant meetings and undertake project related activities.

Output 1. Feasibility studies on India's clean plant material production, maintenance and distribution capacities including identification of potential clean plant center locations

- Maintain regular online meeting with international experts and organize coordination meetings among key stakeholders between
- Prepare a note on the current nursery management practice of India in collaboration with the Project

Management Unit (PMU) of Horticulture Cluster Development Programme (CDP)

- Join the field visit to assess relevant ICAR Institutes and other potential institutes to develop future clean plant centers
- Support identification of max 3 priority crops to pilot a clean plant programme
- Finalize all the communication materials consolidating comments from MoAFW, NHB, ADB project team and international experts

Output 2. Input and support to the preparation of DRAFT design report for ADB and review of the EA’s detailed project report

- Support the consultant team leader and provide required inputs for the Indian market studies
- Support the NHB to prepare a draft detailed project report in consultation with key stakeholders, through collecting data, organizing consultation meetings, preparing meeting minutes in the process of preparation of the detailed project report, and addressing ADB comments

Possible additional tasks: The contract may be extended, based on satisfactory performance and mutual agreement, to include the additional outputs below. Evaluation of EOIs will consider suitability of candidate to undertake these additional tasks.

- Input and support to the preparation of the FINAL design report for ADB and review of the detailed project report for the EA
  - Support the consultant team leader and provide required inputs as required
  - Support the NHB to finalize the detailed project report through collecting data, organizing consultation meetings and preparing meeting minutes in the process of preparation of the detailed project report
- Preparation of national guidelines for importation, testing, and introduction of climate resilient plants and plant parts for planting and clean plant center standard operating procedures
  - Identify key stakeholders and organize a preliminary network for knowledge and information exchange
  - Identify preliminary challenges in the horticulture sector, particularly related to planting material quality and its management, and prepare draft presentation materials for consultation meetings
  - Provide input to international experts feeding the information on India and conveying the national contexts
  - Update draft guidelines consolidating input from various stakeholders
  - Support the international team to develop training manual as a pilot for priority horticulture crops through gathering recommendations from national agencies including the potential EA of the project

**Minimum Qualification Requirements**

1. The consultant should have earned an advanced degree (either MSc or PhD) in Agricultural Sciences preferably in Horticultural Science focused on fruit crops. The candidate with plant virology will be prioritized.
2. The consultant should have at least 5 years of research, extension, and development experience in the temperate, sub-temperate, and/or sub-tropical fruit crops in India with a clear focus on agricultural science.

Minimum General Experience **7 Years**  
 Minimum Specific Experience (relevant to assignment) **7 Years**  
 Regional/Country Experience  **Required**  **Desired**  **Not Required**

**Deliverables**

Details	Name	Type	Estimated Submission Date
<a href="#">+ Show</a>	Output 1	Report	01-Mar-2023
<a href="#">+ Show</a>	Output 2	Report	03-Jul-2023

**Schedule and Places of Assignment (chronological and inclusive of travel)**

Schedule Type  **Continuous**  **Intermittent**  
 Max. Working Days/Week Home Office **5** Field **6**

City and Country	Working Days	Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date	Other Details (use if place selected is Others)
Home Office, Other	50	03-Jan-2023	31-Mar-2023	
Other City, Nepal	20	01-Apr-2023	31-May-2023	TBD
Home Office, Other	50	01-Jun-2023	31-Dec-2023	
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>			

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