

SCOPE OF WORK

Consultant Name:	TBD				
Project/Activity Name:	USAID/Sweden FARMA II Project {Bosnia}	Activity #	4729		
Assignment Title:	Animal health and disease control consultant				
Position Type:	Full Time		Part Time		STTA X
Consultant Nationality:			TCN		CCN X
Engaged By:	Cardno Emerging Markets USA, Ltd.				
Position Reports to:	CoP / Policy Component Lead				
Assignment Period:	Start Date: March, 2018		End Date: December, 2018		
Total LOE for Position:	Total LOE: up to 35	Onsite: 35	Offsite:	Travel:	

USAID/Sweden FARMA II - Description of Project

USAID and the Government of Sweden have awarded Cardno Emerging Markets USA a five year contract for implementation of the Fostering Agricultural Markets Activity II (FARMA II) project in Bosnia & Herzegovina (BiH). The purpose of the FARMA II Project is to create agricultural and agribusiness economic opportunities for BiH farmers and entrepreneurs. FARMA II will achieve this by assisting agricultural producer organizations to adopt European Union (EU) and international agricultural and food standards and new production techniques, produce new high value products and expand their access to foreign and domestic markets. The objective of FARMA II's Component 2 is to strengthen the BiH public sector capacity to implement regulations, norms, practices, and rules in the areas of agriculture & food, veterinary & plant health and safety, accreditation, standardization and quality certifications related to food and agricultural products which meet EU and international best practice requirements.

Background

EC Progress Reports noted that BiH should harmonize its official control system and upgrade its food establishments to be able to exports products of animal origin to the EU. As a potential candidate country for EU accession, BiH should gradually align its regulations with the EU acquis and ensure their effective implementation. This objective should also be reflected in the plans, programs and strategies adopted at state and entity levels.

Amongst other activities, FARMA II has been working with the Entity Ministries of Agriculture to prepare necessary implementation of relevant EU policies, including food safety, veterinary and phyto-sanitary regulations. Gradual alignment in this field is defined by the EU negotiation Chapter 12 (Food Safety, Veterinary and Phyto-sanitary Policy), and reflects the EU's integrated approach to food safety aiming to assure a high level of food safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health within the EU, through coherent farm-to-table measures and adequate monitoring, while ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market. The principal pre-requisites for a candidate country in this domain are the transposition of the EU legislation, and its implementation by a properly structured and trained administration.

During the last six months FARMA II has provided support for a technical working group appointed by the Minister of the FBiH Ministry of Agriculture to prepare the Draft Law on Veterinary and Regulatory Impact Assessment. The project also provided targeted training and awareness raising support for working group members on existing and new aspects of veterinary legislation that have been evolving within the EU which the new draft law seeks to encompass, including elaboration of the estimated costs and benefits. Further activities in the veterinary sector will refer to the implementation of animal health rules, both for POs and the

public sector, arising from the new veterinary legislation on the Entity and BiH levels. In order to increase productivity and avoid the spread of infectious diseases animal disease control systems, whose operation and outcome must be recorded and demonstrable, must be in place. These systems include the registration of holdings, animal identification and movement controls (traceability), so that compliance with EU health certification requirements can be confirmed.

Purpose of the assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to provide technical assistance to BiH relevant authorities (including the BiH SVO, Entity MoAs and Inspection Services) and relevant private sector associations and enterprises in support of a number of related veterinary issues (subject to progress with other activities). This includes providing technical support for:

- (i) *Completion of RIA livestock and veterinary data estimates*: Support will be provided to support identification, review and verification of all relevant livestock and veterinary sector data to be used for the completion of a detailed cost-benefit analysis, central to the final Regulatory Impact Assessment of the draft Veterinary Law. This support may also include support for training of relevant staff on proxy data estimates and assumptions made, as part of the preparatory action in support of the public consultation process;
- (ii) *Private sector awareness-raising on the FBiH new draft veterinary law*: The new Draft FBiH Veterinary Law (when adopted) will introduce new standards and best practices in the livestock and veterinary sector, including clear tasks for public and private sector actors, all required to help reduce risks to human and animal health, the environment, reduction of transaction costs, improved access to reliable statistical data and other benefits, in accordance with EU requirements and standards. Training and awareness raising is required for targeted private sector stakeholder groups on the most relevant and crucial issues affecting their businesses, anticipated to focus upon issues related to animal welfare, health prevention and control and animal identification. Through targeted meetings with private sector stakeholders, the practical aspects of implementation will be presented and explained. It is anticipated that this support will enable key stakeholders to better understand the main provisions of the animal health legal provisions and their implications for the livestock sector, thereby enhancing the opportunities for a smooth adoption and implementation of the new veterinary law;
- (iii) *Development of priority veterinary bylaws/implementing acts*: In 2017, the RS passed a new veterinary law. In the Federation of BiH, FARMA II supported the drafting of a new draft Veterinary Law. In both entities, in order to secure proper and timely implementation of these primary laws, it will be crucial to develop effective bylaws across a wide spectrum of topics. In the immediate term it is anticipated that bylaws related to animal health and animal identification and movement will be required to be developed, where these are not already regulated at state level. Technical support for MoA working groups will be provided to assist in the drafting of these by-laws, subject to final agreement on the legal basis in both entities;
- (iv) *Risk assessment of bovine spongiform encephalopathies (BSE)*: Fulfillment of outstanding assessment requirements to facilitate BiH trade in live animals, embryos, ova and products of bovine animal origin is needed by the SVO. In particular, the determination of the BiH risk status for bovine spongiform encephalopathies (BSE) is required to meet international standards adopted by the OIE. Failure to complete this risk assessment may result in trade restrictions for the dairy and beef industry. Technical support will be provided to the SVO to complete this risk assessment;
- (v) *Animal identification and movement system support*: Development of an operational country-wide animal identification and movement system has been acknowledged as a high priority for the dairy and livestock sector. The establishment of a functional and reliable system is one of the main prerequisites underpinning the regulation of trade in animals and animal products and the surveillance and control of infectious diseases. Subject to agreement with relevant authorities and donors, support will be provided for

the planning of actions to develop the system and design project support interventions, linked to training of field staff and awareness raising of livestock farmers.

- (vi) *BiH disease free status*: Support and training is needed to support the relevant authorities to fulfill EU requirements which would allow BiH to achieve and sustain a 'disease free status' (from an animal disease control perspective). This activity will be subject to progress with relevant legislation which will provide the legal basis for relevant control systems.

Animal health and disease control consultant will support the following activities subject to agreement on the specific tasks outlined above:

Activity 1: Support for finalization of relevant cost-benefit analysis in line with the final version of the veterinary law, including elaboration of the implications of the technical provisions of the law and identification of relevant local costs and data estimates and/or proxy data indicators (and assumptions), as required. This activity will support the F BiH MoA and SVO, as required.

Activity 2: Support for preparation and delivery of tailor-made awareness-raising materials and presentations targeting relevant private sector stakeholder groups to raise awareness and clarification of the main benefits of the new draft veterinary law and its implications related to animal health and disease control. This will also include preparation of relevant training materials for wider dissemination, as required. This activity will support the F BiH MoA (and may also be extended to the RS MoA, subject to agreement, linked to their newly adopted veterinary law).

Activity 3: Support for the development of relevant by-laws related to animal health, and/or guidelines on best practices and appropriate steps in building effective animal health, welfare and animal disease control systems.

Activity 4: Support for the planning, implementation and reporting on animal disease risk assessment with particular focus on determination of the bovine spongiform encephalopathies (BSE) status of BiH. This activity will support the SVO.

Activity 5: Support for activities related to improvement of the BiH animal Identification and movement system as the main prerequisite for animal health and disease control. This activity will support entity and BiH relevant authorities (and relevant donors, as required).

Activity 6: Support and training on fulfillment of EU requirements to allow BiH to achieve 'free status' (animal disease control aspect). This activity will support Entity and BiH relevant authorities, as required (and subject to progress with relevant legislation).

Deliverables

- Relevant data collection, collation and analysis to support completion of the cost-benefit analysis for inclusion in the F BiH RIA;
- Presentations defining the main aspects of the draft F BiH Veterinary Law, including materials that explain in clear terms the technical rationale and relevance of key aspects of the law for private sector stakeholders, as these relate to animal health and disease control.
- Development of relevant training and awareness-raising materials, as needed;
- Support for preparation of at least two relevant bylaws related to animal health and disease control (subject to agreement with the RS MoA and adoption of the new F BiH Veterinary Law), and/or guidelines on best practices;
- Technical and analytical support for completion of a BSE risk assessment process and draft status report;

- Support for preparation of draft documents and/ or working groups and/or forums to facilitate strengthening of the BiH animal Identification and movement system, as required by relevant authorities (and/or relevant donors).
- Training materials and report on EU requirements to allow BiH to achieve 'free status' (animal disease control aspect).
- Final report on all main activities, results, conclusions and recommendations.

Timing and Level of Effort

Total LOE is estimated at up to 35 days and is expected to take place between March and December 2018. Allocation of expert days for specific tasks defined in this SoW will be subject to agreement with relevant authorities. No expert days will be used without such prior agreement being in place with clearly defined outcomes for each task.

Qualifications and skills

- University degree in veterinary science or closely related subject;
- Ideally, post-graduate degree in veterinary science or closely related subject;
- Excellent analytical, presentation and facilitation skills;
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in both BHS and English language;
- Excellent computer skills and proficiency in Microsoft Office applications;
- Proven ability to work in a team and under pressure.

Professional experience

- At least 10 years of relevant professional experience;
- At least 2 years of relevant professional experience working in support of the BiH livestock public and private sector;
- Experience in implementation of the EU acquis in the field of veterinary, food safety, animal health and animal welfare;
- Experience in BiH in legal approximation of veterinary regulations will be considered an advantage.