

Mid-Term Review of the Vietnam Integrated National Operational Programme for Avian Influenza (OPI), 2006-2010

Terms of Reference: National Consultant – Health Planning/ Strategy Expert (Human Avian Influenza and Pandemic Influenza)

Background and Context

The *Vietnam Integrated National Operational Programme for Avian Influenza (OPI), 2006-2010* (commonly referred to as the *Green Book*) was adopted by the the Government of Vietnam (GoV) and its international ODA partners in June 2006. The overall objective of the OPI is to reduce the health risk to humans from avian influenza by controlling the disease at source in domestic poultry, by detecting and responding promptly to human cases, and by preparing for the medical consequences of a human pandemic.

The *Green Book* identifies an integrated programme of activities to address Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) control and pandemic preparedness during the period until 2010. The total cost of public sector and ODA financing for activities within the *Green Book* on enhanced coordination, HPAI control and eradication in the Agriculture Sector, and Influenza Prevention and Pandemic Preparedness in the Health Sector was estimated at US\$250 million for the period 2006-2010. Additionally, the *Green Book* estimates a further US\$225 million in private sector financing for poultry sector restructuring in line with the Livestock Roadmap development by the Department of Livestock Production (DLP) of the Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), as well as approximately US\$222 million for influenza preparedness and response activities in the Health Sector ranked as second-level priority by the Ministry of Health (MOH).

The Partnership on Avian and Human Influenza (PAHI) was established in November 2006 to support coordination and monitoring of *Green Book* implementation. The Partnership has 26 signatories including GoV, UN System, World Bank and other international donors, international NGOs, research organizations and others. As of December 2008, combined public sector and ODA financing for the Green Book is estimated to be more than US\$200 million, including approximately US\$70 million in public sector financing by GoV and total ODA commitments of more than US\$130 million. There are 16 bilateral and multilateral donors supporting Green Book implementation.

For the Human Health Sector, the specific objectives are: (a) to minimize the incidence and mortality of human avian influenza infections; (b) to reduce the risk of an influenza pandemic occurring; and (c) to take other steps necessary to reduce the impact of a human influenza pandemic. The principle underlying the health sector's response is to

link activities targeting HPAI to a broader agenda to strengthen the capacity of the sector to detect, control and respond to emerging infectious diseases, especially zoonoses.

As indicated in the Green Book, a comprehensive Mid-Term Progress Report would be prepared approximately half-way during the implementation period. This report would support the Mid-Term Review to be carried out by government with the participation of all stakeholders including civil society and the international donor community.

Objective of the Consultancy

The National Health Planning/Strategy Expert (Human Avian Influenza and Pandemic Influenza) will work jointly with and closely support the International Consultant to provide high level technical inputs into the mid-term review report on the Green Book, focusing on relevant parts of Component A: Enhanced Coordination Activities, as well as all of Component C: Influenza Prevention and Pandemic Preparedness in the Health Sector.

Tasks, Assignments and Activities

The National Consultant will work under the direction of an International Consultant - Health Planning/Strategy Expert (Human Avian Influenza and Pandemic Influenza). In the absence of the International Consultant the National Consultant will be under the direct supervision of the Director-General of the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, who is the Director of the Secretariat for the Partnership for Avian and Human Influenza (PAHI Secretariat).

The National Consultant will work jointly with and closely support the International Consultant to provide high level technical inputs into the mid-term review report on the Green Book, focusing on relevant parts of Component A: Enhanced Coordination Activities, as well as all of Component C: Influenza Prevention and Pandemic Preparedness in the Health Sector. In addition to reviewing progress to date and identifying recommendations for the remaining period of *Green Book* implementation, a primary focus will be to develop clear, strategic, technical sound and feasible recommendations to ensure an effective, long term and sustainable response to Avian and Pandemic Influenza beyond the period of the *Green Book*, including institutionalization of enhanced capacity of the sector to detect, control and respond to emerging infectious diseases, especially zoonoses. In this context, consideration should also be given to other potential and actual sources of pandemic influenza, including the current Pandemic Influenza H1N1.

Specifically, the National Consultant will work jointly with and closely support the International Consultant to undertake the following activities:

- Review the draft Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the *Green Book* prepared by PAHI Secretariat

- Meet with key stakeholders including Government agencies, Donors, NGOs and others to collect further information including progress, lessons learned, gaps and areas of overlap
- Based on stakeholder inputs as well as the latest available international technical understanding of the virus and control measures, formulate recommendations for future directions of the health sector response during and beyond the period of *Green Book* implementation
- Provide direct written inputs to finalize an enhanced overall Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the *Green Book*, and develop the presentation of key justified recommendations for the Health Sector for the Government and ODA partners

Expected Deliverables

- Support to the International Consultant to develop written inputs to the final Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the *Green Book*, focusing on recommendation and future directions
- Presentation on key justified recommendations for the Health Sector to the Government and ODA partners

Qualifications

- A medical or public health degree from a nationally/internationally recognized medical faculty and a minimum of 8 years of proven experience in public health programme planning and management
- Preferably, post-graduate qualifications in epidemiology, disease surveillance and response, or related disciplines with relevance to human influenza, public health emergencies and emerging diseases including zoonoses
- Sound knowledge of emerging diseases control and pandemic preparedness measures in Vietnam
- Experience in review and evaluation of complex programmes in the health sector, including formulation of high level technical recommendations taking into account feasibility in terms of political, economic, human resource capacity, cultural and other factors.
- Experience working with Vietnamese agencies responsible for the national response to SARS, H5N1 and other public health emergencies
- Experience working in the Southeast Asia region, preferably in Vietnam
- Capacity to work with a wide range of stakeholders
- Excellent spoken and written Vietnamese; good spoken and written English

Location:

The duty station for this consultancy is Hanoi, Vietnam. The National Consultant will be attached to the PAHI Secretariat Office located within MARD.

Duration:

Duration (contract period): 30 days between October and November, 2009