

**USDA-funded Bangladesh Trade Facilitation Project**  
**Technical Consultant: Plant Health Systems and Procedures**

**Assignment Budget Code:** BTF201 and BTF204 (or other)  
**Assignment Manager:** Deputy Chief of Party and SPS Director  
**Assignment Title:** Technical Consultant: Plant Health Expert  
**Assignment Dates:** Starting February 2025  
**Estimated Level of Effort:** 6-12 Month  
**Assignment Location:** Dhaka, Bangladesh

**I. About the Bangladesh Trade Facilitation Project:**

The Bangladesh Trade Facilitation project (BTF), which is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), supports the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) to expand regional and international trade in agricultural goods. The five-year project is being implemented by Land O'Lakes Venture37. USDA initiated the project in response to GoB's request for technical support from the development partners to achieve the WTO-TFA Category C measures covering Test Procedures, Risk Management, Perishable Goods, and WTO Notifications and Formalities.

**II. Background:**

BTF supports regulatory agencies of Bangladesh that regulate and promote trade in food and agricultural products, including the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Department of Fisheries (DoF), Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA), Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC), Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM). The project aims to develop the capabilities of the agencies and capacity of staff in various areas related to international trade. As the Plant Quarantine Wing under the Department of Agricultural Extension is the prime agency to regulate and facilitate the export and import of plants and plant products, the agency is one of the prime partners of BTF. Various activities are at various stages of implementation, including: (i) introducing e-contract farming and traceability targeting export, (ii) regulatory reforms to make the trade regime for horticulture products consistent with international standards, (iii) institutionalizing a systematic pest risk analysis system within DAE or PQW, (iv) introducing and operationalizing risk-based clearance system based on international best practices, (v) strengthening overall capacity of the PQW, (vi) developing necessary standard operating procedures (SOPs) and (vii) preparing and introducing guidelines targeting facilitated trade in line with international standards.

The assignment aims to provide technical inputs in the trade facilitating activities with PQW. The Consultant is expected to develop and support technical documents and reports, facilitate operationalization of systems and reformed procedures, etc.

**III. Objective and Specific Tasks:**

The Technical Consultant will work with the officials of PQW to prepare SOPs, risk profiles, contribute to legislative reforms, etc. and support the quarantine-related technical works of BTF. Specific tasks include but are not limited to:

- Operationalize the automated contract farming system addressing all technical and functional requirements;
- Identify and include other plant products to the existing automated contract farming system and support system customization as necessary;
- Lead to conduct Pesticide Residue Study;
- Support PQW to establish the dedicated Unit for Pest Risk Analysis;
- Work with PQW to institutionalize the PRA Unit;
- Lead to develop a coordination mechanism at DAE to reduce the export consignment of the plant and plant products;
- Develop Risk Profile of ISPM-32 Category 4 products;
- Finalize and support approval of Category 1-3 products in collaboration with PQW;
- Support to introduce Risk-based clearance process of Plant and Plant Products;
- Conduct assessment on PQW's readiness to join e-phyto and lead operationalization of e-phyto;
- Develop Export Manual/SOP for plant and plant products;
- Support to develop NSPM based on selected ISPM in consultation with PQW;
- Review and provide technical input for amendment of Plant Quarantine Act, 2011;
- Work with PQW to approve the amendment of the Plant Quarantine Act;
- Any other technical activity with GoB, as and when required.

**IV. Reporting & Supervision:**

Plant Health Expert will report to the Deputy Chief of Party for around 50% of the responsibilities and to the SPS Director for the other half.

**V. Deliverables:**

Sl.	Particulars/Milestones
1.	Operational Contract Farming System
2.	Office Order of PRA Committee
3.	Risk Profile of ISPM 32 Category 4 products
4.	Approval of ISPM 32 Category 1,2 and 3 Category Products
5.	Assessment Report on PQW's readiness to join e-phyto
6.	Final Report of the Pesticide Residue Study
7.	Export Inspection and Sampling SOP
8.	Review and Prepare Recommendation on Reform of Plant Quarantine Act

**VI. Timeline**

Six to 12 Months from the date of contract

**VII. Expected Start Date**

The assignment is expected to start February 2025

**VIII. Travel**

Domestic overnight travel in Bangladesh is not anticipated for this assignment. If necessary, all overnight travel requires prior written approval from Venture37 Assignment Manager noted above. Such approval will be provided in advance via email to the Contractor from the Assignment Manager or his designee and will indicate logistical instructions, duration of trip, travel expense procedures, authorized per diem rates for meals and incidental costs, and/or other assignment-related expenses.

**IX. Tax:**

The BTF project will deduct the Advance Income Tax from the consultant's remuneration as per the rules of the Government of Bangladesh.

**How to apply:**

Interested applicants are requested to submit their CV and cover letter highlighting their relevant experience and suitability for the positions in a single document.

Please send your application to [umtama@landolakes.com](mailto:umtama@landolakes.com) by 15 February 2025.