

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Gender-Inclusive Paravet Network Advisor (Consultancy Assignment)	
SUPERVISOR: Project Manager	GRADE: NA
DIRECT REPORTING TO POSITION: Project Manager	WORK LOCATION: Remote, with requirement for field-based support in Luang Prabang Province
BUDGET RESPONSIBILITY: No	TEAM: Women's Resilience and Climate Action Advisor, Program Director and relevant project partners
<p>INTRODUCTION:</p> <p>CARE International, a global NGO dedicated to eradicating poverty and advancing social justice, focuses on empowering vulnerable populations, particularly women and girls who face profound marginalization. In 2024, CARE's reach extended to over 100 countries, providing support to 200 million individuals striving to overcome poverty and inequality. To date, their efforts have positively impacted over 52 million participants, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>In Laos, CARE International has been active since 1992, concentrating on improving the lives of vulnerable groups, especially ethnic minority communities in both rural and urban settings. Working in collaboration with community members, government entities, civil society organizations, and the private sector, CARE currently implements projects across seven provinces: Vientiane Capital, Phongsaly, Luang Namtha, Luang Prabang, Salavan, Champasak, and Sekong. CARE Laos' "Marginalized Women and Girls" program utilizes integrated initiatives focused on women's health, economic empowerment, and climate resilience to foster sustainable socio-economic justice, with a strong commitment to local capacity building.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and AgCoTech, the Enhancing the Commercial Paravet Program in Northern Lao PDR Pilot Project in Luang Prabang Province (ECPPNL) has designed a pilot project aimed at both climate change mitigation and rural livelihood enhancement. The proposed initiative involves a two-year pilot project in Luang Prabang province to establish a "paravet" scheme with the aim to scale up, funded through AgCoTech's carbon credit revenues. In close collaboration with the Lao government, this initiative will facilitate collaboration between CARE and AgCoTech, establish a community-based program, and refine AgCoTech's business model to ensure gender inclusivity and sustainable smallholder benefits.</p>	
<p>PURPOSE OF THE POSITION:</p> <p>The consultancy aims to support the ECPPNL Project to refine and improve the implementation of a sustainable, gender-inclusive paravet network in Luang Prabang Province. The assignment involves collaborating with DAFO, AgcoTech, CARE and relevant project partners to conduct feasibility of integrating education of Emission Control Block (ECBs) and design a commercially viable paravet network contributing to sustainable animal health service provider principles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring paravet income primarily derives from user fees, potentially with an additional base salary amount paid by the project and, in the future, from ECB carbon credit incomes should the feasibility assessment determine this feasible. • Assigning one DAFO-approved, registered, and supported paravet per sub-district (Khet) to achieve commercial viability. • Implementing a competitive selection process where aspiring paravets contribute to training costs. • Initially focusing on livestock vaccination, with a phased introduction of additional services based on farmer demand, technical feasibility, and productivity enhancement. • Promoting export-oriented cattle production to improve market opportunities. 	

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Reporting Relationships:

The Gender-Inclusive Paravet Network Advisor will collaborate with the Project Manager, CARE Women's Resilience and Climate Action Advisor and Program Director in ensuring the delivery of the assignment. The role will involve collaborating with CARE Laos Monitoring Impact Learning Knowledge Accountability (MILKA) Advisor)

The consultant will also collaborate with relevant stakeholders throughout the entire consultation to refine and improve the implementation of a sustainable, gender-inclusive paravet network.

The total consultancy assignment involves maximum of 20 days (based on the detailed plan agreed with CARE) and can be implemented remotely with the requirement for field work and consultation of relevant stakeholders in Luang Prabang Province, Lao PDR.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

The key consultancy assignments for establishing and operating a gender-inclusive paravet network include:

- Work with the project team in planning the assignment effectively.
- Design a commercially viable paravet network model that involves:
 - Consideration of the structure, operational procedures, and financial sustainability plan for the network.
 - A competitive selection process and criteria for paravets: this includes the selection and deployment of DAFO-prioritized/approved/registered paravets, with one per sub-district.
 - A training program and cost-sharing model for paravets, ensuring capacity assessments and designing training program to focus on necessary skills and knowledge to provide effective services.
 - Establishment of a phased service network and potential expansion plan, starting with vaccinations and progressing to additional services based on farmer demand and feasibility.
 - A market-oriented strategy promoting export-oriented cattle production aimed at improving market opportunities for farmers.
 - Gender inclusion integration into all aspects of the network, ensuring equitable participation and benefits for women and specific recommendations to strengthen the role and engagement of the women in the network.
 - An understanding of the feasibility of integrating ECB carbon credit incomes into the paravet network model.
- Document the network's establishment/refinement, operation, and impact
- A briefing session for DAFO, CARE, AgCoTech, and key stakeholders, providing a detailed overview of the findings and recommendations.

FINAL DELIVERABLES:

- **A comprehensive report** (with a simplified guideline as annex) in English, limited to a maximum of 50 pages (excluding annexes), detailing all aspects of the consultancy assignment.
- **A detailed paravet network design document** developed including incentive structures, selection and training criteria and processes, online Kobo based performance monitoring system (link MILKA) and costed workplan for paravet establishment and operation processes finalized.
- **Paravet training package document** consisting of at least 6 one day training sessions designed and documented.

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EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS:

- A degree in agricultural economics, veterinary medicine, animal science, business administration, or a related field is preferred.
- Proven experience in livestock health management, disease control, and paraveterinary practices, preferably in developing country contexts particularly Lao PDR.
- Experience in supporting paravet network model, ideally within the agricultural sector.
- Experience working with rural communities, particularly ethnic minority groups.
- Demonstrated ability to facilitate participatory approaches and community engagement.
- Strong understanding of gender issues and experience in integrating gender considerations into development programs.
- Experience with training and capacity building.
- Proven experience in project management, including planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Experience in conducting feasibility studies relevant to the paravet and developing the paravet network at the community level.
- Strong report-writing, communication, and presentation skills.
- Experience working in Southeast Asia, ideally in Laos, is highly desirable.
- Familiarity with the local context, culture, and language (Lao); knowledge of a local ethnic language is an advantage.
- Proficiency in data analysis and reporting.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Commitment to sustainable development and gender equality.

How to apply

If you are interested in this role, please submit your (1) CV, (2) cover letter, (3) two references, (4) proposal, and (5) cost quotation (daily rate) to: Lao.contracts@care.org by **16th June 2025**,

Please subject your email as: “Application for Gender-inclusive Paravet Network Advisor”.