

TERMS OF REFERENCE for

International study visit learning about the animal by-products management system in Poland

BACKGROUND

Moldova has received an Additional Financing (AF) from the International Development Association in the amount of US\$15.0 million for the Moldova Agriculture Competitiveness Project (MAC-P). The AF will be used for scaling up project activities under Component 1: *Enhancing Food Safety Management* aimed at strengthening human, institutional, and technical capacities of the country's food safety and quality management systems and ensuring regulatory and system compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards on premium food export markets (primarily European Union [EU] and EU-aligned markets). To this end, the AF will finance a series of activities and investments aiming to establish a comprehensive, EU-compliant system for the management of animal by-products (ABPs) unintended for human consumption.

The safe management and/or disposal of animal waste, particularly ABPs, is one of the biggest challenges in the current Moldovan food production context - both for the public and the private actors. The current methods and patterns of disposal of animal waste are not compliant with international best practice, resulting in high public health and environmental risks. To this end, safe management of ABPs is one of the key priorities identified in the framework of the Moldova-EU Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (concluded in 2014) in relation to required institutional and technical enhancements of the country's food safety management system.

Following the recent adoption of the ABP Law in 2019, the Government has reached an agreement with the World Bank over a project to establish a comprehensive, EU-compliant system for the management of ABPs unintended for human consumption. The Government of Moldova is committing significant public funds for establishing an ABP management system; however, no final decision has been made yet on the technical model of the intended facility and on the way in which the public and private sector would share the role in management of such facility.

A pre-feasibility study in this respect has been carried out under the EU-funded ENPARD technical assistance (project reference EuropeAid/137050/DH/SER/MD) in 2017-2018. Its findings are based on 2015-2016 data and propose several options to be considered in terms of creating the relevant ABP management infrastructure.

Currently, with the support of the International Finance Corporation, a feasibility study for the construction of the Processing Unit for the Animal By-Products (ABPs) not intended for human consumption (UPSOA) has been developed.

RATIONALE

Poland, medium-sized, Central-European country, with a total surface of 3 127 000 km² and population of 38.5 million, occupies the 6th place in the EU-28, both in terms of population and area. In terms of the agricultural population, Poland holds the 1st place in the European Union, as well as the 2nd place (after Romania) in terms of the number of agricultural holdings.

The main source of the ABPs in Poland are generated by slaughterhouses, cattle farms, dead farmed animals, and manure. Additionally, important stream of ABPs is being provided by retail shops, restaurants, catering activities, fur carnivores animals and breeding farms.

Approximately 2,5 million tons of ABP are generated on annual basis in Poland. Annually, Poland produces an average of about 86,5 thousand tons of meat and bone meals and 28 thousand tons of rendering fats of category 1 and 2. Additionally, Poland is a producer of 343 thousand tons of processed animal proteins (PAP) and about 250 thousand tons of category 3 feed fat. In Poland there are more than 350 big carnivorous fur animals farms, which use 305 thousand tons of raw category 2 and category 3 ABPs. Pet food sector in Poland consumes more than 186 thousand tons of raw category 3 ABPs, to produce different types of cats and dogs food.

In Poland, there are 6 648 business operators working in the rendering sector, related to the management of animal by-products and derived products. Companies operate the entire chain from farm to fork in the storage, collection, transportation, processing, incineration, use or disposal of ABP's. Mainly, the resulting ABP, depending on the presented risk, are sent for processing or disposal in processing plants of a certain category or to an incineration plant. In Poland, ABP processing activities of all categories are carried out by over 100 processing plants. Additionally, in 65 incinerators, ABP disposal is carried out by incineration the riskiest animal materials of category 1 and 2. ABPs are also used to produce pet food. In Poland, activity in this area is carried out in over 170 plants producing canned, dry, granulated, or raw pet food and dog chews.

In addition, in Poland there is a well-developed network of agricultural biogas plants, which use various types of ABPs in their biogas production, including manure. There are over 120 such plants and over 40 composting plants. The digestive residues and compost produced in these plants are used for fertilizing purposes. The ABPs collection and transportation system is based on a network of intermediate plants to which ABPs are delivered, temporarily stored, and send out to end-use plants. In Poland, there are over 600 such plants of various categories.

Poland also set up a system of national financial aid is in place for the collection, transport, and disposal of fallen stocks from farms keeping animals of the following species: horses, ruminants, and pigs. The system is run by the ARMA and consists in covering the costs for farmers, in whole or in part, of the collection, transport and disposal of fallen stocks of the above-mentioned species. Aid may be granted to an agricultural producer running a farm within the meaning of the provisions on agricultural tax or a special department of agricultural production. However, the support may not be used by producers that do not meet the criteria of micro, small or medium-sized enterprises.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY

General objective:

This international study visit aims at learning and enhancing knowledge about the ABP not intended for human consumption management system in Poland.

Also, during the Study Visit the group will learn about the agricultural biogas power plants in Poland and raw materials used, and namely biodegradable waste and cat. 2 and 3 by-products.

The Moldovan group will constitute of 12 participants and namely from the State Chancellery, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Ministry of Environment, the National Food Safety Agency, and other relevant stakeholders. The delegation will also have representatives from the fiduciary unit.

SPECIFIC TASKS

Core activities to be included in the Study Visit are:

1. Meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Main topics to be discussed relate to the management system of ABPs not intended for human consumption in Poland: legal and regulatory framework and stakeholders involved, aid program implemented for the disposal of animal by products, lessons learned.
2. Meetings with representatives of General Veterinary Inspectorate. Topics to be discussed relate to veterinary inspections conducted at regional and national level.
3. Meeting with the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture (ARMA) and learn about the aid programs for the disposal of animal by-products. Legal basis applied, beneficiaries of the program, financial aid provided per by-products category, program duration and budget allocated.
4. Organize field trips to representatives of ABP processing facility (-ies), collection points, and transportation fleet, which will include:
 - a. Learn about the collecting, transporting, and processing services provided for: Category 1, 2 and 3 by-products, waste cooking oil and biodegradable waste from kitchens and canteens and other waste of biological origin. Raw materials obtained after processing (e.g., pet food from Cat 3 by-products, raw materials for biodiesel or energy resources from cat 1 and 2 by-products, etc.) and further management.
 - b. Learn about collection points and transportation fleet. Conduct at least one visit to an ABP collection point.
 - c. Learn about the ABP management information system.
 - d. Employees, qualifications, and trainings provided.
 - e. Learn about the technological and environmental aspects and quality management certification implemented within the ABP processing / rendering facility (-ies).
5. Meetings with food business operators working with all three categories of ABPs not intended for human consumption e.g., meat processing industry, slaughterhouses, farms, general food processing industry, chain stores, etc. Learn about their experience of ABPs management, cooperation with specialized companies dealing with by-products as well as other waste, state aid received for disposal of animal by-products, specialized trainings received and communication with ABPs' stakeholders.
6. Also, conduct at least one field trip to a modern milk production farm.
7. Meet with other stakeholders operating in animal by-products management in Poland.
8. Learn about the agricultural biogas power plants in Poland and raw materials used. Learn the Polish practices in using biodegradable waste and cat. 2 and 3 by-products. Conduct at least two field trips to such Biogas plants in Poland.

The selected national Company / NGO (hereinafter "Consultant") will be required to perform also the following logistical tasks:

- Identify two Polish experts: one with solid experience in the field of ABPs management to facilitate all meetings with stakeholders from this area. The second expert will

facilitate all meetings with stakeholders experts from the renewable energy sector and field trips to Biogas plants.

- Develop a tentative itinerary for the study visit, accompanied by short descriptions of each activity (locations, name of the stakeholders and companies to be visited, specific activities to be performed), considering the Goal of the program and suggested activities described above.
- Preparation of the Study Visit materials and guidelines, etc. for handing out to the participants covering main activities as described above. Ensure translation of materials into English.
- Suggest potential lodging sites, which are appropriate for the proposed itinerary.
- Arrange logistical arrangements (transportation, accommodation, lunches, and dinners while in Poland).
- Provide translation services for the group during the Study Visit.
- Provide at least one expert to accompany the group during the visits included in itinerary.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES

1. Agenda accompanied by short descriptions of each activity (locations, name of the stakeholder, companies to be visited, specific activities to be performed), considering the Goal of the Study Visit and core specified activities.
2. Logistical arrangements carried out: transportation from and to the airport, including within Poland, accommodation (single rooms required), meals and translation services provided (from Polish into Romanian or Russian), etc.
3. Study Visit Reports with described deliverables achieved. Assessment questionnaire completed by all group participants.

TIMING

The proposed timeframe for the study visit is planned for the end of September – beginning of October 2022. The proposed duration of the study visit, including travel shall not exceed 7 days. The actual dates for the study visit will depend on the schedule proposed by the Consultant.

REPORTING

The Consultant will be responsible for submission of the following reports:

Inception report – will cover the preparatory phase of the implementation of the project: agenda of the study visit with short descriptions of each activity and logistical arrangements carried (flight tickets for participants, transportation from and to the airport, including within Poland, accommodation (single rooms required), meals and translation services provided (from Polish into Romanian or Russian).

Final report - After the completion of the Study Visit, the Consultant shall submit a Study Visit Report with included final agenda, list of participants, description of achieved deliverables, stakeholders met, participants' assessment of the event and pictures taken.

Both reports will be submitted in electronic and printed versions in Romanian language to CAPMU for disbursement of payments.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The tasks will be undertaken by a local consulting company/NGO with the following qualifications:

- Proved experience in organization of local and international study visits for official delegations.
- Demonstrated previous experience in cooperation with Polish representatives of the central and local governments, private sector, ABPs operators, etc.
- Satisfactory past performance record in similar activity.
- Highly qualified team with good communication and facilitation skills.
- Good writing skills and relevant language abilities, including in English.