

Terms of Reference

Uptake of training and animal health and welfare practices

Background

The Australian Livestock Export Corporation (LiveCorp) is the rural Research and Development Corporation for the livestock export industry in Australia. LiveCorp's mandate is to provide research, development, extension (RD&E) and marketing services that maximise the productivity, sustainability and competitiveness of Australia's livestock export industry.

Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) is a research development corporation representing Australia's livestock producers.

LiveCorp and MLA have an active collaboration through a joint program, known as the Livestock Export Program (LEP). The LEP delivers animal welfare improvements in

Australia and overseas markets through funding programs in:

- Livestock management, health and welfare
- Market access and development
- Supply chain improvements
- Communication and stakeholder relationships
- Research, development and extension

It is a high priority for the livestock export industry (producers and exporters) to encourage greater uptake of animal health and welfare practices across the industry to reduce risks, increase supply chain productivity and support industry sustainability.

The development and improvement of the training environment to support this priority is a key objective of the LEP R&D program and to achieve this will require it to:

- Identify key risks, required capabilities and the capacity for change along the livestock export supply chain.
- Provide a sustainable training strategy that is informed by best practice in other industries and consideration of live export industry's specific requirements.
- Enable 'whole of industry' management of key capabilities for individuals working across the supply chain.

The LEP is now seeking expressions of interest from qualified consultants to deliver the below terms of reference. The LEP will select the best placed consultant or consultants to deliver the terms of reference.

Objective

Within the context of the broader goals identified in the Background, the specific objectives of this project are to answer the following key research questions:

1. What are the key animal health and welfare risks or opportunities along the livestock export supply chain that could be mitigated or improved through the provision of training or competency development?
2. With consideration of the identified risks and opportunities, what are the recommended priorities for training and competency development by the livestock export industry with consideration of likelihood of successfully achieving change and the significance or impact if success is achieved (e.g. in reducing a critical risk).
3. Who are the potential participants of this prioritised training and what are their characteristics and drivers to engage with development opportunities?
 - a. For example, what are the training participant needs and pain points, and what value proposition can be offered to them through training?
4. What is an effective pathway for relevant outcomes from R&D projects to flow into a structured training framework?
5. Develop a training strategy and roll out plan informed by the above and consideration of responsibilities / roles (e.g. LiveCorp, LEP, MLA, exporters etc) to guide research, development, extension and adoption investment and activities in priority training and competency development.

Methodology

Consultants should specify the methodologies that they intend to apply to address the project objectives and explain why these approaches have been selected.

While the LEP will assess all methodologies presented, it should be noted that delivery against objective 1 should consider the use of a HACCP risk assessment and that objective 3 should consider use of service design methodology.

Outputs

The key outputs from the project will include:

- A detailed **report** outlining the outcomes of the research and analysis phases required to deliver against the project objectives including the supply chain risk assessment, the prioritization assessments, the participant characteristics / profiles, and the identified participant value propositions and drivers.
- A **plan** outlining the recommended priorities for training and competency development by the livestock export industry, with consideration of likelihood of successfully achieving change and the significance or impact if success is achieved (e.g. in reducing a critical risk). It should also include an effective pathway for relevant outcomes from R&D projects to flow into a structured training framework.
- A **training strategy** and **roll out plan** informed by the above to guide research, development, extension and adoption investment and activities in priority training and competency development.

Project timing

The project must be delivered within six months. Proposals should be submitted within three weeks of the tender opening. Responses close 5pm 21 May 2021 (AEST).

Resources Required

The proposal should include all resources and personnel required to undertake the project together with a complete budget.

Confidentiality and IP

The consultant will be required to enter into a standard contract with LiveCorp.

Payment of Fees

The proposal should include a budget for the total cost of completing the project. It is also possible to incorporate a separate fee for travel, which will be reimbursed based on actual expenditure. An estimate of this cost should also be included.

Further Information

If you have questions regarding this project, contact:

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