

Expression of Interest (EOI)

National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency (NARA)

Date: 13.08.2025

1. Introduction

NARA invites Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from qualified consultants to provide expert services for preparing and supporting accreditation of the Disease Diagnosis Laboratory under the Inland Aquatic Resources & Aquaculture Division.

2. Background

Aquatic animal disease diagnosis and fish health management are essential for productivity in Sri Lanka's aquaculture sector. The Inland Aquatic Resources and Aquaculture Division (IARAD) of NARA plays a pivotal role in enhancing aquatic animal health management through disease diagnosis, surveillance, recommending treatments and research in aquaculture. Establishing internationally accredited disease diagnostic capacity within NARA is a priority to ensure quality services and regulatory compliance. Thus, to strengthen its scientific credibility and ensure the reliability and international recognition of diagnostic services, IARAD seeks to implement a Quality Management System (QMS) for its Disease Diagnosis Laboratory. This initiative aims to comply with the ISO 17025:2017 standard in compliance with the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard, which specifies the general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories to achieve accreditation.

3. Objectives

- Conduct a gap-analysis aligned with relevant accreditation standards (e.g. ISO/IEC 17025).
- Advise on improvements to laboratory systems, quality assurance, documentation, personnel training, equipment and biosafety.
- Assist in procedural documentation and mock assessments.
- Provide guidance through the formal accreditation process with recognized accrediting bodies.

4. Scope of Services

- Conduct initial gap analysis comparing existing practices with ISO 17025:2017 requirements
- Develop a detailed implementation plan and timeline
- Draft and finalize documentation (Quality Manual, SOPs, Test Methods, and Records).
- Design and deliver training for laboratory personnel and mentorship of staff on quality management systems.
- Assist in the establishment of a quality policy, quality objectives, and risk-based thinking.
- Support method validation/verification
- Guide internal audit execution and management review procedures
- Prepare laboratory for third-party accreditation by SLAB

5. Consultant Profile

- Proven experience in laboratory accreditation (preferably ISO/IEC 17025) in diagnostic labs.
- Understanding of animal disease diagnostics.
- Excellent English communication and report writing skills.

6. Submission Requirements

Interested consultants/firms should submit:

- CV(s) indicating relevant experience.
- Summary of similar accreditation assignments.
- Approach and work plan outline.
- Financial proposal (estimated daily/ activity wise rates).

7. Submission Deadline

Sealed EOIs must be send to Chairman, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA), Crow Island, Colombo 15, **on or before 28.08.2025.**

8. Contact Information

For queries, contact,
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