

DRAFT

Concept Note

Call for RPHL Network Secondment Programme 2026

Overview

Since 2024, the RPHL Network has supported member countries in the development of their **National Laboratory Strategic Plans (NLSPs)** to strengthen national laboratory systems and accelerate progress toward sustainable laboratory capacity. Building on this foundation, the **RPHL Network Secondment Programme** aims to translate NLSP strategies into practical action through a structured, hands-on learning approach.

This second programme provides **tailored, country-specific capacity building** by placing nominated laboratory professionals in host institutions within the RPHL Network. The programme is designed to address priority gaps identified in respective NLSP through direct exposure to hands on best practices, peer learning, and practical application.

Through a **10-day intensive secondment**, participants will engage in focused learning aligned with their proposed thematic areas, preferably laboratory management, quality management systems, EQA and PT development, and biosafety and biosecurity—while fostering regional collaboration and knowledge exchange among RPHL Network members.

NLSP Participating countries :

1. Brunei Darussalam
2. Malaysia
3. Philippines
4. Thailand
5. Timor-Leste

Objectives

1. **To enhance technical and managerial competencies** of nominated participants through hands-on, practice-based learning aligned with country-specific NLSP priorities.
2. **To accelerate the implementation of NLSPs** by addressing identified gaps in areas such as laboratory management, quality management systems, EQA/PT development, and biosafety and biosecurity.
3. **To promote peer learning and regional collaboration** among RPHL Network member countries through direct engagement with host institutions and experts.

4. **To facilitate knowledge transfer and sustainability** by enabling participants to apply and scale up lessons learned within their national laboratory systems after completion of the secondment.
5. **To strengthen regional laboratory networks** by building long-term professional linkages and shared practices across participating countries.

How to Apply

Applicants are kindly requested to submit the following documents:

- A concept note, prepared in accordance with the provided template
- A curriculum vitae (CV) of the nominated candidate(s)

Duration of the Secondment

The secondment programme will be scheduled in selected host countries conducted over a period of **10 days**. During this period, participants will engage in structured, hands-on learning activities tailored to their proposed thematic areas and aligned with the priorities identified in their respective National Laboratory Strategic Plans (NLSPs).

Host Countries

The secondment programme will be hosted by selected RPHL Network member countries with well-established technical expertise and facilities relevant to the proposed secondment topics.

For this programme cycle, the proposed host countries are:

- **Thailand**
- **Singapore** (*to be confirmed*)

Final host country arrangements will be confirmed based on the selected themes, institutional capacity, and logistical considerations.

Award

- **Round-trip economy airfare**
- **Accommodation** in host country for the duration of the secondment
- **Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)** in accordance with applicable policies
- **Travel insurance** for the duration of the programme

This support package is intended to enable participants to fully focus on learning and knowledge exchange during the secondment.

Expected outcomes

1. Expansion of the RPHL Network roster of Subject Matter Experts, enhancing the availability of technical expertise within countries and the Network
2. Mentoring system established and strengthened bilateral collaboration participating countries
3. Expansion and consolidation of a Community of Practice (CoP) to promote continuous knowledge sharing and peer learning across the Network
4. Development and submission of a proposed post-return action plan to ensure practical application and sustainability of learning outcomes
5. Expansion of the RPHL Network roster of Subject Matter Experts, enhancing the availability of technical expertise within the Network

Remarks: Final selection of candidates shall be subject to consideration and endorsement of the **RPHL Network Selection Committee**.