

**United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund**  
**Project #: A5-27**  
**Project #: Date and Quarter Updated: Jan-March 2010 (1st Quarter)**

**Participating UN Organisation:** FAO      **Sector:** Agriculture, Food Security Environment, An  
Natural Resource Management  
**Government of Iraq – Responsible Line Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture

<b>Title</b>	Strengthening the capacity of the Iraqi Veterinary Services for control of zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases				
<b>Geographic Location</b>	Nationwide				
<b>Project Cost</b>	US\$ 3,001,715				
<b>Duration</b>	24 months				
<b>Approval Date (SC)</b>	07/10/2008	<b>Starting Date</b>	01/02/2009	<b>Completion Date</b>	July, 2010
<b>Project Description</b>	The project aims to strengthen the technical and institutional capacity of the Iraqi veterinary services for effective surveillance and control of zoonotic and transboundary diseases in order to protect livestock from losses and reduce serious threats to human health and safety. It will assist in establishing a modern Iraqi Veterinary Service functioning in line with the OIE guidelines and standards for animal disease control and safe trade of animals and animal products. The project will contribute to improving animal health services nationwide through capacity building and (limited) support to infrastructure development. The project will specifically address critical technical and institutional aspects of animal health services including veterinary capacity development, disease surveillance and laboratory capacity, emergency preparedness planning, border control and inspection capacity, development of disease control strategies and support to effective surveillance and control programs for priority zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases. The project will benefit the 575 000 livestock owners of Iraq and the rural communities around them by reducing the risk of infection by zoonotic diseases.				

<b>Development Goal and Immediate Objectives</b>
<p><b>Development Goal:</b> Protecting livestock from epidemic and endemic diseases through efficient veterinary services will increase the supply of healthy meat and other animal products (milk, eggs, etc) will contribute to improve human nutrition, household food security and employment. Increased local production will reduce the considerable imports of meats, poultry and milk products into Iraq and thus further add to employment opportunities within the country. Control of zoonotic diseases in animals will decrease the risk of contamination among the farmers and general public consumers.</p> <p><b>Immediate Objectives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthening of the capacity of the Iraqi veterinary services in disease prevention and control</li> <li>2- Effective surveillance and control of targeted zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases</li> </ol>

<b>Outputs, Key activities and Procurement</b>		
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	<p>provincial and local levels</p> <p>1.5 Strengthened laboratory capacity for investigation, diagnosis and surveillance of major livestock and poultry diseases</p> <p>1.6 Strengthened capacity in veterinary border control and inspection</p> <p>2.1 Sound control strategies for priority animal diseases (FMD, HPAI, Brucellosis, etc) developed and agreed by stakeholders at all levels</p> <p>2.2 Targeted and active surveillance programmes in place and implemented for priority animal diseases</p> <p>2.3 Strategic disease control programmes implemented and monitored</p>
<b>Activities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Identification and recruitment of consultant</li> <li>2) Review vet services organization and legislations in line with OIE performance standards and veterinary legislation</li> <li>3) 6 key senior veterinary staff to undertake refresher-train and participate in study tour on animal health policies and strategic planning for control of trans-boundary diseases, food safety of animal products and quarantine management</li> <li>4) Relevant staff in-service to be trained in data management and analysis</li> <li>5) 4 key veterinary staff to be trained abroad for two weeks as future trainers in disease surveillance systems and disease epidemiology</li> <li>6) Workshops for provincial and local vets on disease surveillance, reporting, outbreak investigations and response</li> <li>7) 16 veterinary laboratory staff (central and provincial) to be trained in overseas laboratories. Seven weeks training in advanced lab diagnostic techniques focused on HPAI, Brucellosis and FMD</li> <li>8) 6 key veterinary staff to be trained as future trainers, two weeks refresher training and study tour abroad in border inspection and quarantine</li> <li>9) An HPAI emergency preparedness plan, and control strategies for priority TADs and zoonotic diseases FMD, Brucellosis to be developed</li> <li>10) Specific sero-surveillance studies to be developed and implemented for high risk pathogens HPAI in poultry, Rinderpest, FMD, PPR and Brucellosis in cattle, sheep and goats</li> <li>11) Disease control campaigns in line with the agreed national disease control programmes to be implemented</li> <li>12) Vaccination coverage of cattle and small ruminants to be increased (80-90%) for specific diseases (FMD and Brucellosis)</li> </ol>
<b>Procurement (major items)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central Epidemiology Unit to be equipped with necessary equipment for data processing, analysis and mapping.</li> <li>• Local and provincial vets surveillance equipments and supplies to be properly equipped.</li> <li>• Equipment to be procured and installed in central and selected provincial labs.</li> <li>• Border points to be properly equipped.</li> </ul>

<b>Funds Committed</b>	\$ 262,616	<b>% of approved</b>	8.7%
<b>Funds Disbursed</b>	\$ 251,300	<b>% of approved</b>	8.4%
<b>Forecast final date</b>	17/7/2010	<b>Delay (months)</b>	N/A

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men	Not applicable as the project activities are covering veterinarian services nationwide	
Women		
Children		
IDPs		
Others		
Indirect beneficiaries		
Employment generation (men/women)		

Quantitative achievements against objectives and results			
General - training	Identification of training needs	% of planned	100
	Preparation of ToRs for courses	% of planned	60
	Identification of training institutes	% of planned	60
<b>Outputs 1.1</b> Strengthened veterinary institutional capacity	Preparation of ToRs	% of planned	20
	Review veterinary organization and legislation	% of planned	40
	Prepare paper and present/circulate to PSC meeting	% of planned	50
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Strengthened institutional capacity for senior veterinary managers	Identification of training site (workshops to be organized by FAO in Amman)	% of planned	50
	Contracting of trainer/institute	% of planned	0
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	0
	Implementation of training	% of planned	0
<b>Outputs 1.3</b> Strengthened capacity for epidemiology and disease information analysis at the central level	Identification of required equipment	% of planned	100
	Procurement of required equipment	% of planned	50
	Identification of training site	% of planned	100
	Contracting of trainer/institute	% of planned	90
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	100
<b>Outputs 1.4</b> Strengthened capacity of surveillance and response systems at the provincial and local levels	Identify information gaps and technical knowledge needs	% of planned	0
	Identification of training site	% of planned	0
	Contracting of trainer/institute	% of planned	0
<b>Outputs 1.5</b> Strengthened laboratory capacity for investigation, diagnosis and surveillance of major livestock and poultry diseases	Identification of required equipment	% of planned	100
	Procurement, installation of equipment in selected labs	% of planned	40
	Identification of training site.	% of planned	100
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	100
	Contract IZSVE/Italian	% of planned	100
	Training implementation	% of planned	100
<b>Outputs 1.6</b> Strengthened capacity in	Assess key strategic crossings: functioning, volumes, needs, etc	% of planned	80

veterinary border control and inspection	Identification of training site (ToT)	<b>% of planned</b>	0
	Contracting of trainer/institute	<b>% of planned</b>	0
<b>Outputs 2.1</b> Sound control strategies for priority animal diseases (FMD, LPAI/ND, Rabies, Brucellosis) developed and agreed at all levels	Prepare checklist/criteria to identify priority animal diseases	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	PSC to agree on priority animal diseases	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	Prepare brief justification for MoA priority diseases	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	Identification and recruitment of consultant(s)	<b>% of planned</b>	0
Brucellosis training	Identification of training institutes	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	Selection of trainees	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	Contractual process of the training course on Brucellosis with FAO/WHO Collaborating centre for Reference and Research on Brucellosis OIE Brucellosis National Reference Laboratory, Veterinary Laboratories Agency, Surrey, ongoing	<b>% of planned</b>	70
Rabies training	Identification of training institutes	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	Selection of trainees	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	Successful contract was maintained with Veterinary Laboratories Agency in Weybridge, UK. Negotiations regarding TOR; training programme nomination; nominees CVs, logistic arrangements and budget required are ongoing.	<b>% of planned</b>	50
<b>Outputs 2.2</b> Targeted and active surveillance programmes in place and implemented for priority animal diseases	Planning of sero-surveillance campaigns for targeted diseases	<b>% of planned</b>	90
	MOA official team selection	<b>% of planned</b>	100
	4 National workshops to be conducted in Baghdad for the 400 veterinarian nominated to this programme	<b>% of planned</b>	40
<b>Outputs 2.3</b> Strategic disease control programmes implemented and monitored	Field workshops and meeting have occurred.	<b>% of planned</b>	40
	Eight posters and folders with 8000 copies to be designed, printed and distributed nationwide	<b>% of planned</b>	50

#### Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

- a) Negotiation was undertaken with FAO/WHO Collaborating centre for Reference and Research on Brucellosis OIE Brucellosis National Reference Laboratory, Veterinary Laboratories Agency, Surrey, UK to organize brucellosis training course. 1<sup>st</sup> week of May is a tentative date to start the training and was agreed upon.
- b) Successful contract was maintained with “Australian Bio security Cooperative Research Centre for

Emergy Infectious Diseases in Perth, Australia. The centre will organize a training course on epidemiology.. TOR for training programme nomination, nominees, CVS. Logistics arrangements and budget required are in process. The course will start on 10<sup>th</sup> April until 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2010.

- c) With regard to training on Rabies, successful contact was maintained with “Veterinary Laboratories Agency, in Weybridge, UK. Negotiations regarding the TOR, training programme nomination, nominees CVs, logistics arrangements and budget required are ongoing.
- d) First batch of chemical reagents (PO-UNDG/IRG/ZON/707/2009) was delivered to the central veterinary labs/GSCVS in Baghdad and the second was shipped.
- e) Posters (7000) and folders (1,000) were designed and the first drafts were printed.
- f) National plan to conduct local workshop on a national level was agreed upon between FAO and GSCVS and as follows:
  - 1. Workshop on poultry diseases during 2-3/5/2010
  - 2. Workshop on Brucellosis during 25-26/5/2010
  - 3. Workshop on rabies during 7-8/6/2010
  - 4. Workshop on FMD during 27-28/6/2010
- g) MOA/GSCVS and other institutes connected to the project activities were structured in order to organize the field implementation.
- h) 2<sup>nd</sup> PSC meeting was conducted during January 11-12, 2010

**Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)**

Difficulties in obtaining entry visas for the Iraqi trainees in many counties as well as the long and time consuming procedure.