

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #: A5-27
Project #: Date and Quarter Updated: July-Sept. 2010 (3rd Quarter)

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

Title	Strengthening the capacity of the Iraqi Veterinary Services for control of zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases				
Geographic Location	Nationwide				
Project Cost	US\$ 3,001,715				
Duration	24 months				
Approval Date (SC)	07/10/2008	Starting Date	29/01/2009	Completion Date	29 Jul 2010, extended till 30/04/2011
Project Description	<p>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.</p>				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives

Development Goal: 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.

Immediate Objectives:

1. Strengthening of the capacity of the Iraqi veterinary services in disease prevention and control
- 2- Effective surveillance and control of targeted zoonotic and transboundary animal diseases

Outputs, Key activities and Procurement

Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Improved veterinary organization and legislation 1.2. Strengthened institutional capacity for senior veterinary managers 1.3 Strengthened capacity for epidemiology and disease information analysis at the central level 1.4 Strengthened capacity of surveillance and response systems at the provincial and local levels 1.5 Strengthened laboratory capacity for investigation, diagnosis and surveillance of major livestock and poultry diseases 1.6 Strengthened capacity in veterinary border control and inspection 2.1 Sound control strategies for priority animal diseases (FMD, HPAI, Brucellosis, etc)
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	<p>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>
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identification and recruitment of consultant 2) Review vet services organization and legislations in line with OIE performance standards and veterinary legislation 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 4) Relevant staff in-service to be trained in data management and analysis 5) 4 key veterinary staff to be trained abroad for two weeks as future trainers in disease surveillance systems and disease epidemiology 6) Workshops for provincial and local vets on disease surveillance, reporting, outbreak investigations and response 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 8) 6 key veterinary staff to be trained as future trainers, two weeks refresher training and study tour abroad in border inspection and quarantine 9) An HPAI emergency preparedness plan, and control strategies for priority TADs and zoonotic diseases FMD, Brucellosis to be developed 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 11) Disease control campaigns in line with the agreed national disease control programmes to be implemented 12) Vaccination coverage of cattle and small ruminants to be increased (80- 90%) for specific diseases (FMD and Brucellosis)
Procurement (major items)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Epidemiology Unit to be equipped with necessary equipment for data processing, analysis and mapping. • Local and provincial vets surveillance equipments and supplies to be properly equipped. • Equipment to be procured and installed in central and selected provincial labs. • Border points to be properly equipped.

Funds Committed	USD \$ 695,367	% of approved	23.1%
Funds Disbursed	USD \$ 562,410	% of approved	18.7%
Forecast final date	30-April-2011	Delay (months)	9 Months

Direct Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries	% of planned (current status)
Men (Public Sector)	300	60%
Women (Public Sector)	50	70%
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	80
	Identification of training institutes	% of planned	80
Outputs 1.1 Strengthened veterinary institutional capacity	Preparation of ToRs	% of planned	20
	Review veterinary organization and legislation	% of planned	50
	Prepare paper and present/circulate to PSC meeting	% of planned	50
Output 1.2: 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	20
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	20
	Implementation of training	% of planned	0
Outputs 1.3 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	70
	Identification of training site	% of planned	100
	Contracting of trainer/institute	% of planned	100
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	100
Outputs 1.4 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
Outputs 1.5 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	70
	Identification of training site	% of planned	100
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	100
	Contract IZSVE/Italian	% of planned	100
	Training implementation	% of planned	100
Outputs 1.6 Strengthened capacity in veterinary border control and inspection	Assess key strategic crossings: functioning, volumes, needs, etc	% of planned	80
	Identification of training site (ToT)	% of planned	0
	Contracting of trainer/institute	% of planned	0
Outputs 2.1 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	% of planned	100
	PSC to agree on priority animal diseases	% of planned	100
	Prepare brief justification for MoA priority diseases	% of planned	100
	Identification and recruitment of consultant(s)	% of planned	40
Brucellosis training	Identification of training institutes	% of planned	100
	Selection of trainees	% of planned	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	% of planned	100
Rabies training	Identification of training institutes	% of planned	100

	Selection of trainees	% of planned	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 and conducting the training are completed.	% of planned	100
Outputs 2.2 Targeted and active surveillance programmes in place and implemented for priority animal diseases	Planning of sero-surveillance campaigns for targeted diseases	% of planned	90
	MOA official team selection	% of planned	100
	4 National workshops to be conducted in Baghdad for the 400 veterinarian nominated to this programme	% of planned	50
Outputs 2.3 Strategic disease control programmes implemented and monitored	Field workshops and meeting have occurred.	% of planned	70
	Eight posters and folders with 8,000 copies to be designed, printed and distributed nationwide	% of planned	80

Qualitative achievements against objectives and results

This project is extremely important for disease control and diagnosis for Iraq. The project consists of training, procurement and technology transfer, and future contingency planning.

The equipment provided to MoA has better enabled them for livestock and poultry disease investigation, diagnosis, and surveillance, is urgently required to be completed, using the extension time. This will help MoA to use equipment effectively after all training sessions are completed. Such equipment is currently not available in MoA or in the local market easily and therefore international tenders have already been underway to purchase and install the equipment. In addition, Chemical, regents and kits were also delivered.

Training has been an important component of the project, with a successful training for two veterinarians from GSCVS on Brucellosis was undertaken for four weeks in FAO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Brucellosis/OIE Brucellosis National Reference Laboratory /Veterinary Laboratories Agency/Weybridge/UK. Four veterinarians from GSCVS/MOA have joint a training course on Rabies for four weeks from 21/9/2010 in Morocco. The training is conducted by Hassan Second Agronomy and veterinary Medicine in Rabat. Second National workshop on Rabies disease was conducted in Baghdad. More than 150 veterinarians from all governorates of Iraq participated. The remaining activities consist of a field Survey of the epidemic disease and the procurement of additional requested equipments, chemicals, regents and accessories. Four National workshops are to be conducted in Baghdad for the 400 veterinarian. An international FMD training is also going to be conducted end of this year. Virology training will be last component of training outputs with vaccination campaign to follow.

Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)

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