

United Nations Development Group Iraq Trust Fund
Project #: A5-27
Project #: Date and Quarter Updated: Jul.-Sep. 2011 (3rd Quarter)

Participating UN Organisation: FAO **Sector:** AFFSOT
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, 2011
				Extension	31 Dec. 2011
Project Description	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.				

Development Goal and Immediate Objectives
<p>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.</p> <p>Immediate Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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		
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Outputs</td> <td> <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 </td> </tr> </table>	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
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 	

	<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>
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	<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 \$ 1,492,008	% of approved	49.7%
Funds Disbursed	USD \$ 1,374,938	% of approved	45.8%
Forecast final date	31-December-2011	Delay (months)	17 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		% of planned
General - training	Identification of training needs	100
	Preparation of ToRs for courses	100
	Identification of training institutes	90
Outputs 1.1 Strengthened veterinary institutional capacity	Preparation of ToRs	100
	Review veterinary organization and legislation	100
	Prepare paper and present/circulate to PSC meeting	100
Output 1.2: Strengthened institutional capacity for senior veterinary managers	Identification of training site (workshops to be organized by FAO in Amman)	100
	Contracting of trainer/institute	100
	Selection of trainees	100
	Implementation of training	100
Outputs 1.3 Strengthened capacity for epidemiology and disease information analysis at the central level	Identification of required equipment	100
	Procurement of required equipment	80
	Identification of training site	100
	Contracting of trainer/institute	100
	Selection of trainees	100
Outputs 1.4 Strengthened capacity of surveillance and response systems at the provincial and local levels	Identify information gaps and technical knowledge needs	100
	Identification of training site	100
	Contracting of trainer/institute	100
Outputs 1.5 Strengthened laboratory capacity for investigation, diagnosis and surveillance of major livestock and poultry diseases	Identification of required equipment	100
	Procurement, installation of equipment in selected labs	80
	Identification of training site	100
	Selection of trainees	100
	Contract IZSVE/Italian	100
Outputs 1.6 Strengthened capacity in veterinary border control and inspection	Training implementation	100
	Assess key strategic crossings: functioning, volumes, needs, etc	80
	Identification of training site (ToT)	0
Outputs 2.1 Sound control strategies for priority animal diseases (FMD, LPAI/ND, Rabies, Brucellosis) developed and agreed at all levels	Contracting of trainer/institute	0
	Prepare checklist/criteria to identify priority animal diseases	100
	PSC to agree on priority animal diseases	100
	Prepare brief justification for MoA priority diseases	100
Brucellosis training	Identification and recruitment of consultant(s)	100
	Identification of training institutes	100
	Selection of trainees	100
Rabies training	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	100
	Identification of training institutes	100
	Selection of trainees	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.	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	100
	MOA official team selection	100
	4 National workshops to be conducted in Baghdad for the 400 veterinarian nominated to this programme	50
Outputs 2.3 Strategic disease control programmes implemented and monitored	Field workshops and meeting have occurred.	100
	Eight posters and folders with 8,000 copies to be designed, printed and distributed nationwide	100

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.

Training has been an important component of the project.

- Two local workshops activities (on FMD and Brucellosis) still have to be carried out at national level. The workshops will be conducted in Baghdad or Najaf for 120 participants, this activity is in process and will be completed in one month time.
- A new proposal submitted by MoA for a study tour in one neighboring countries for (20) senior Iraqi Officials on "Vet Services Management". The main goal of this training is to ensure good communication between the governorate and center office which also helps early warning system by providing all required data without any delays, most of the preparations have been completed and it will take place at the end of November.
- A study tour on quarantine services for (20) senior Iraqi Officials in an Arabic speaking and advanced country (Morocco), the training program mentioned above and location were adopted by the PSC members, it will be conducted before the end of this year.

The equipment provided to MoA has better enabled them for livestock and poultry disease investigation, diagnosis, and surveillance. Number of POs was issued locally including the list of items requested by MoA, including the additional items submitted by MoA. Most of the items even delivered or in the shipping stag.

MoA will conduct an assessment about key strategic crossings: functioning, volumes, needs, etc regarding the check points, a committee formulated by MoA to do the assessment and it will be completed in two months time.

Main implementation constrains & challenges (2-3 sentences)

--