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## **The World Animal Health and Welfare Fund**

**First**

**OIE/Japan Special Trust Fund (JSTF-I)**

**Project to fight against Avian Influenza in Asia**

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**Final Report**

**July 31, 2008**

(Ref AD/MGR 2008/231)

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***The World Animal Health and Welfare Fund***

## Background

The Government of Japan confirmed<sup>1</sup> on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2006 its voluntary contribution “to the newly proposed project for fighting against Avian Influenza for the response to the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) epidemic in Asia.”.

This is the “OIE/Japan Special Trust Fund (JSTF) Project to fight against Avian Influenza in Asia” (hereafter referred to as the “JSTF”).

The activities of the JSTF project are:

- 1) To encourage the improvement of regional and national HPAI control strategies including the development of a contingency plan;
- 2) To encourage HPAI information sharing to further strengthen regional early warning systems;
- 3) To strengthen diagnostic capacity of regional collaborating laboratories and national reference/diagnostic laboratories for HPAI including the holding of training courses on advanced HPAI diagnosis and instalment of high-performance diagnostic equipment;
- 4) To hold training courses for field veterinarians and paraprofessionals on HPAI strategic surveillance.

There are eight participating countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The direct beneficiaries are the National Veterinary Services, veterinary professionals and policy makers working on HPAI control.

The project aims at their increased capacities to help poultry producers control HPAI and their sustainable livelihood, and to reduce the risk of general public’s exposure to the disease. Because of the transboundary nature of HPAI, much wider populations including those outside the Region will also benefit from the project.

On October 11, 2006, the OIE confirmed the “Work Plan of the Project under The OIE/Japan Special Trust Fund and the OIE/Japan Supplementary Trust Fund for HPAI Control at Source in Southeast Asia” which includes “Programme H: *The prevention and control of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) at source in Southeast Asia by establishing national and regional strategies, strengthening laboratory diagnosis including provision of laboratory equipment/materials and capacity building of local veterinarians and paraprofessionals*”.

The initial project implementation period was scheduled for the 2006 Japanese fiscal year (April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007). Following the recommendations of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coordination Committee held in Bangkok, Thailand on December 15, 2006, the Government of Japan approved<sup>2</sup> the prolongation of the Programme until the end of March 2008.

1. Letter from H.E. the Ambassador of Japan in France (Ref. 55/ECO/ACB/06 of February 28, 2006)

2. Message received from the First Secretary (Embassy of Japan in France) received on March 1st, 2007

**Activities and Outputs for the four Components of the Project validated during the OIE meeting of September 2006 held in Bangkok, Thailand**

**Component 1**

**Activities**

- Review national strategies, and recommend improvements
- Draft an updated regional strategy in coherence with existing documents, organize a workshop to promote awareness

**Outputs**

- National strategy are reviewed and recommendations for improvements are made
- Regional strategy is developed

**Component 2**

**Activities**

- Improve HPAI information network in the region, in coherence with OIE/ASEAN/WAHIS/ARAHIS systems
- Provide training on information system management at the national level
- Provide training on epidemiological information collection and analysis, targeting veterinary officials at regional and national level

**Outputs**

- Regional HPAI (and other TADs) Information Network (based in Regional representation) is established with permanent link with OIE/WAHIS system

**Component 3**

**Activities**

- Select target laboratories in each country, and identify equipments to be provided
- Finalise equipment lists
- Sign letters (Exchange of Notes) with participating countries on ownership
- Procure equipments
- Provide training on diagnosis

**Outputs**

- Select laboratories are adequate/complementarily equipped to be able to carry out diagnosis
- Laboratory veterinarians are trained in HPAI diagnosis

**Component 4**

**Activities**

- Organize national Training of the Trainers workshops in epidemiology, diagnostics and information systems in selected countries

**Outputs**

- Field veterinarians and paraprofessionals are trained in the above topics

**(a) Development of Regional HPAI Control Strategies**

The main cornerstones of this activity are as follows (all completed):

- Obtaining documentations of National strategies from the participating countries;
- Preliminary review of the National strategies;
- Further review;
- Consultation with the participating countries for reviewing and recommendations;
- Improvement of National HPAI Control Strategies;
- Improvement of the Regional HPAI Control Strategies (done during (i) the first OIE/ASEAN meeting in Jakarta, in October 2006; (ii) the second ASEAN workshop on Emergency preparedness, Containment, Stamping-out and vaccination in February 2007, (iii) the third OIE/ASEAN workshop in August 2007 and (iv) the fourth ASEAN Workshop in Bali, February 2008);
- Organisation and participation in the OIE Regional Workshop on HPAI Control at Source in Southeast Asia in Queenstown, New Zealand, November 2007;
- Review of and final recommendations for the Regional Strategies in February and March 2008;
- Final report of the reviewing the National Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Control Strategies, including Developments of Contingency Plans sent to Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam as well as to the ASEAN Secretariat for the Regional strategies, on 21 August 2008.

**(b) Development of disease information systems**

The main cornerstones of this activity are as follows:

- Regional workshop on HPAI Information systems (done in Bangkok, Thailand, September 2006);
- Regional training workshop on Epidemiological information of HPAI in collection and analysis (done in Bangkok, Thailand, July 2006);
- National workshops on Epidemiological information collection and analysis (in Hanoi, Vietnam in November 2006, in Philippines in January 2007, in Indonesia in February 2007, in Myanmar in April 2007, in Thailand in June 2007 and in Malaysia in June 2007);
- Renewal of the OIE Asia-Pacific web-site;
- Development of computer software for HPAI information systems (Consultations with the Central Bureau to develop the OIE Regional Core);
- Provision of personal computers to participating countries for information network;

**(c) Training for diagnostic tests to prepare emergency**

Regional workshop for Sequencing was held in Thailand in March 2007.

As the extension of the project has been authorized until the end of the 2007 Japanese Fiscal Year, some workshops and training session at national and regional level only took place after actual procurement and delivery of laboratory equipments to the eight participating countries.

**(a) Strengthening National Reference/Diagnostic Laboratories**

The main cornerstones of this activity are as follows (all completed):

- Selection of National laboratories to be strengthened under the Project;
- Identification of the equipment and materials;
- Verification/finalization of the equipment lists;
- Formal agreements between OIE and authorities of the participating countries;
- Contract for procurement and renovation (JICS was finally selected after comparison of public procurement organizations -see below-);
- Procurement of equipment and materials and Renovation of national laboratories (equipment delivered to end-users by the end of March 2008);
- On-the-job training of laboratory staff members of Laos and Myanmar for 6 months in Thailand;
- Donation of four Mobile laboratories in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam;
- National training workshops on laboratory diagnosis: training at national laboratories in Laos in February 2008; in Myanmar in March 2008 and in Philippines in March 2008.

**(b) Training of Veterinarians and Para-Professionals**

The main cornerstones of this activity are as follows:

- Preparation for national training (Started consultation with relevant organizations for implementation in August 2006);
- Further examination with other partners, in particular with FAO, for the effective implementation of training;
- Organisation and participation in the OIE/FAO Regional Workshop on Trainer's Training on HPAI Surveillance and Control (23-24 July 2007) in order to up date the situation of training local veterinarians and para-professionals in surveillance and control of HPAI and the outcome of the Workshop will result in the practical planning of National Trainer's Training courses;
- Organisation and participation in the training courses on HPAI Surveillance and Control for Field Veterinarians and Para-professionals in collaboration with FAO held in: Myanmar (11-13 Sept 2007), Cambodia (1-5 Oct 2007), Laos (8-10 Oct 2007), Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City (15-17 Oct 2007) and Hanoi (22-24 Oct 2007) and Indonesia (29-31 Oct 2007).

The plan for this was to firstly organize the Regional Workshop by jointly with FAO for trainers' training for selected veterinary officers from the central government (organized in Bangkok.) and secondly to step forward for other trainers' training courses at a national level for local veterinarians and para-professionals (who are working at a provincial level). Selected local veterinarians and para-professionals from various provinces were invited to Capitals as trainers at a provincial level.

The OIE/FAO regional Workshop was attended by 38 people including delegates of National governments (two governments officials were invited by OIE from national central bureaus and from local offices who are involved in the training of local veterinarians and paraprofessionals). The workshop was organised to further facilitate the planning and smooth implementation of national level trainers' training courses.

The principal recommendations were as follows:

- the objectives of the national training courses were to establish national resources to provide further training on surveillance for local veterinarians and para-professionals;
- The design of trainers' training should be linked with the plan for overall training according to the country needs under the national HPAI control strategies and implementation frame;
- Training should be considered as an issue of crosscutting various needs for surveillance; Training should be organised in a collaborative and synergistic manner with existing donors and be coherent with past and ongoing activities;
- Training courses should be designed to ensure that quality control and evaluation process are in place;
- Training materials should be prepared in consultation with experts to ensure quality and practicality. Existing training materials should be reviewed and translated to local languages.

163 Veterinarians and 24 para-professionals were trained in "train the trainers" courses at a national level in the five countries. The achievements of the trainees were measure in pre and post tests.

The training courses focused on:

- Clinical signs;
- Collection and transportation of samples;
- Diagnosis;
- Prevention and control activities including surveillance;
- Disease prevention/control principle and strategies;
- Role of local veterinarians and para-professionals;
- Bio-safety and bio-security.