

Update on the Avian Influenza situation (As of 13/05/2004) – Issue no. 14



Photo: Dr. J. Lambers (Netherlands)

The information summarized below is gathered from official and non official sources, which are quoted in the text. AIDE news is prepared by the FAO Technical Task force on Avian Influenza.

1. Summary of the situation

- **Viet Nam:** Sero-positive birds were found in Dong Thap Province (south of the country), about 20 backyard chicken were destroyed. This could show that the virus is still circulating. (6/05/04 source: gphin, FAO; government)
- **Cambodia:** Four birds were reported to be sick in Takeo Province. (09/05/04 source: FAO; government)
- **Russia:** Avian Influenza was reported to be occurred in Altay Region (12/05/04 source: gphin)



2. Post-epidemic surveillance and rehabilitation activities – What next?

- **FAO/OIE Regional follow-up meeting:** During the initial phase of implementation of the first regional emergency technical cooperation project (TCP/RAS/3004(E)), two major international meetings took place; an expert consultation followed by a regional meeting in Bangkok to review surveillance and control strategies adopted in the region. It is now foreseen that a third meeting of Chief Veterinary Officers will be held in September or October 2004 to review the progress made in the control of HPAI in the most affected countries or those at risk of being infected. This meeting will be jointly organised by FAO and the OIE with the participation of WHO.

- **VIET NAM - FAO Regional project prepares the Rehabilitation of the poultry industry**



(Photo: FAO Library - P. Johnson)

In Viet Nam, chicken production has a very important role in the rural Development. Chicken are present in almost all households. Livelihood of nearly 80% population of Viet Nam (12 million households) is based on agriculture, and usually keeps some dozens to one hundred birds.

Chicken production supplies more protein for farmers, generate more income and improve the living standard. Other commercial farming systems with hybrids birds are also kept by families divided into small holders to large holders. Both the direct and indirect effects of the crisis is having a devastating impact on the livelihoods of the resource poor households, who kept poultry household flocks, as well as the small to medium-scale commercial producers.

Emergency post-avian influenza rehabilitation activities have started in Viet Nam in the framework of a FAO Regional Technical Cooperation project on Rehabilitation; TCP/RAS/3010(E).

The international Coordinator for this Regional Project has been recruited and has started to initiate the activities in Viet Nam early May. A National Rehabilitation Task Force has been created with the objective to quickly evaluate the impact of the avian influenza outbreak on people's livelihoods, production systems and trade. It will also assist in identifying the major issues associated with rehabilitation, options that are available and their associated implications. This will provide policy makers with a rational basis for making decisions regarding the rehabilitation of their respective poultry sectors.

The National Task Force will consist of the key stakeholders and may include representatives from: government; private/commercial sector; trade and service industries; academia and research; farmers associations; Women's Union; Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)/community-based organizations (CBOs).

Scope of work

The National Task Force will undertake a rapid assessment of the impact of the avian influenza outbreak (and its control) by identifying and quantifying its effect on different sectors of the farming community and predominant production systems. In addition, it will identify the major issues (for example: restocking, compensation, improving production/sanitary standards, etc.) associated with rehabilitation, available options and their associated implications. This will be undertaken in a consultative process with full involvement of the concerned stakeholders. The results and conclusions of the survey(s) and the issues and options analysis will be discussed at a national workshop which will identify and indicate the specific needs in Viet Nam for rehabilitating the poultry subsector.

A pilot case study on AI assessment has been planned with the General Statistics Office of Viet Nam from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery under the TCP/RAS/3010, and 800 samples of farms will be studied. The study will provide the base line information; identify the most affected household cluster that lost most of livelihood and having difficulty to support their own rehabilitation.

Some of the issues and options discussed in the national workshop will include the following:

- rebuilding a sustainable and viable poultry subsector;
- restocking;
- compensation;
- assisting recovery of family livelihoods;
- seeking alternative production practices to prevent repetition of such crises;
- providing tools and guidance in the restructuring and development of institutions responsible for the industry on a national and a regional basis;
- providing education/training aimed at the worst affected socio-economic groups in risk management, diversification of income generation and microcredit;
- ensuring, as far as possible the preservation of the gene pool of local breeds.

The same strategy will be utilized in the four other countries that are concerned by the TCP/RAS/3010, namely Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia and LAO. A Regional Coordination based in Bangkok will coordinate and harmonised the activities from there in the 5 countries.

3. Actions taken – follow-up

➤ The FAO Technical Cooperation Programme-Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza in parts of Asia ~How FAO provide assistance~

In response to the crisis of avian influenza in Asia, The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is implementing under its Technical

Cooperation Programme (TCP) a number of projects in countries affected or are at risk of infection with Highly Pathogenic Influenza Virus. Six country-specific projects valued at about US\$ 2.34 million are currently being implemented in Viet Nam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, China, Indonesia and Pakistan, in addition to 3 sub-regional projects (US\$ 1.2 million) covering clusters of countries in parts of Asia and one project (US\$ 0.4 million) to support post-influenza rehabilitation of poultry industry in infected countries. Additional TCP projects are under the process of approval for non-infected countries such as Bangladesh and Philippines.

The objective of these projects is to support these countries in their efforts to control/eradicate the disease. Technical assistance, training of national staff, design and implementation of epidemiological and surveillance studies, strengthening of government diagnostic laboratories, provision of specific inputs and strengthening regional networking for control and surveillance of the disease are all provided under these FAO/TCP projects.

In this context, a number of experts are fielded to beneficiary countries for short term missions (1 to 2 work months) to review and assess with national counterparts the situation of the disease and assist in strengthening the country capacity for disease control and surveillance both at central and provincial level. As for now 15 experts were or currently are fielded with 4 more experts planned to travel to these countries in the next 2 coming months. During the second phase of these TCP projects, another round of expert missions is expected to cover epidemiology, GIS mapping and laboratory diagnostics in addition to training in specific areas.

The implementation of TCP projects covers also provision of expendable and non-expendable equipment to support the control and surveillance of avian influenza outbreaks in infected countries. Over US\$ 1.4 million worth of inputs identified in collaboration with national counterparts in each country are currently being procured either locally or through international tenders according to the FAO rules and regulations. These goods concern mainly protective materials, laboratory equipment and supplies and communication tools.

Training and public awareness are important components in all these projects with more than US\$85,000 being allocated for implementation of in country and regional training workshops. Through professional training sessions and technical assistance, national staff will gain capacity for epidemiologically-based investigations, advanced GIS mapping and laboratory diagnosis of avian influenza and other poultry diseases. Education and awareness sessions on safe disposal and disinfection procedures are also planned in each country for farmers and government workers. Technology transfer for vaccine production and use of quality assured avian influenza vaccines is promoted in Indonesia and Pakistan through short term expert consultancies.

➤ **Recent Missions (April – May):**

[Regional]

- Dr. T. Damrongwatanapoki (Thailand) GIS Information Technologist. Mission to Cambodia, Viet Nam. 01-30/04/04

[Lao PDR]

- Dr. C. Benigno, FAO RAP (Bangkok) Animal Health Officer. 6 - 10/04/04

- Dr. R. Webb (Australia) FAO consultant (Epidemiology and programme management) Ongoing.

- Ms. E. Bautista FAO Consultant (Project finance & administration officer) Ongoing.

[Cambodia]

- Dr. Y. Froehlich (France) FAO consultant (Project Technical Adviser) Ongoing.

- Dr. M. Guittet (France) Avian diseases expert, Agence Française de sécurité sanitaire des Aliments (AFSSA). Laboratory support for the National Animal Health and Production Investigation Centre (NAHPIC), 24/03- 9/04/04

- Dr. T. Rawdon (New Zealand) FAO consultant (Veterinary epidemiologist) 15/04-01/05/04

[Indonesia]

- Dr. L. Allen (USA) FAO consultant (Veterinary epidemiologist) Ongoing.

[Viet Nam]

- Dr. G. Freeland (UK) FAO/World Bank consultant (Project analysis) 28/02 – 04/04/04
- Dr. H. Benard (New Zealand) FAO consultant (Epidemiology and emergency management) 28/03 – 17/05/04
- Dr. F. Dolberg (Denmark) FAO consultant (Poultry Production Expert) Ongoing.
- Dr. C. Benigno, FAO RAP (Bangkok) Animal Health Officer. Ongoing.
- Dr. A. McLeod, FAO AGAL (Rome) Senior Officer (Livestock Policy) 03–09/05/04

4. Resources available**Relevant articles/publications:**

- **FAO/OIE Emergency Regional Meeting on Avian Influenza Control in Animals in Asia (26-28 February).**
The full text of the final report is available on:
http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/HPAI_Bangkok.pdf
- China-ASEAN Special Meeting on HPAI Control. Beijing, 2 March 2004
The full text of the Joint Press Statement "China-ASEAN Special Meeting on HPAI Control" is available on AIDENews issue 8 pages 4 - 5:
<http://www.fao.org/docs/eims/upload/153869/AVIbull008.pdf>
- FAO/OIE/WHO Technical Consultation on the Control of Avian Influenza 3 - 4 February 2004
The full text of the Conclusions and recommendations is available on FAO website:
http://www.fao.org/newsroom/common/ecg/36647_en_experts.pdf
- **Manual on the preparation of national animal disease emergency preparedness plans**
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/004/x2096e/x2096e00.htm>
- The use of vaccination as an option for the control of Avian Influenza (I. Capua, S Marangon) – 71st OIE General Session (May 2003). Available at:
http://www.fao.org/docs/eims/upload/153564/A_71_SG_12_CS3E.pdf
- Information for shipping international diagnostic specimens to the International Reference Laboratories (see appendix 2 of AIDENews issue 5 or 6, available at:
<http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/index.asp>)
- FAO/EMPRES Manual on procedure for disease eradication by stamping out (Available at: <http://www.fao.org//DOCREP/004/Y0660E/Y0660E00.HTM>)
- FAO AIDE News (Vol. 1 - 13)
(Available at: http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/tadinfo/e_tadAVI.htm)
- FAO AIDE News maps
(Available at: http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/maps/e_maps.htm)

Relevant Web sites:

FAO Avian Influenza fact sheet:

<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/avian.html>

OIE Update on Avian Influenza in Animals in Asia web site:
http://www.oie.int/download/AVIAN%20INFLUENZA/A_AI-Asia.htm

OIE Technical Disease Cards:
http://www.oie.int/eng/maladies/fiches/a_A150.htm

WHO Avian influenza web site:
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/

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Annex 1: Countries affected (as of 13/05/2004)

| area | first declaration to OIE | type | animals affected | human case | additional information | | source ¹⁾ |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | last reported case | new information | |
| Republic of Korea | 17/12/03 | H5N1 | layer, duck; virus isolated: magpie | no | 24/03/04 | | Government; web media |
| Viet Nam | 8/01/04 | H5N1 | chicken, quail, duck, muscovy duck | yes | 06/05/04 | Serologically detected in Dong Thap | gphin ²⁾ |
| Japan | 12/01/04 | H5N1 | chicken, crow | no | 05/03/04 (crow) | | gphin, government |
| Taiwan province of China | 20/01/04 | H5N2 | chicken, duck, pheasant | no | 09/03/04 | | gphin; meeting report |
| Thailand | 23/01/04 | H5N1 | virus isolation: chicken, duck, goose, quail, turkey, stork | yes | 19/04/04 | | gphin, FAO; government ³⁾ |
| Cambodia | 24/01/04 | H5N1 | Chicken, duck, goose, turkey, guinea fowl, wild bird | no | 09/05/04 | Four sick birds found in Takeo | FAO; government |
| Hong Kong SAR | 26/01/04 | H5N1 | Peregrine falcon | no | 28/01/04 (Falcon) | | gphin |
| Lao, PDR | 27/01/04 | H5N1 | Chicken, duck and quail | no | 02/03/04 | | FAO; government |
| Pakistan | 28/01/04 | H7N3 H9N2(LP) | layer | no | End of January | | FAO; government |
| Indonesia | 06/02/04 | H5N1 | Chicken, duck and quail | no | 16/04/04 | | gphin, FAO; government |
| China | 06/02/04 | H5N1 | virus isolation: chicken, duck, goose, quail, pigeon, pheasant, black swan | no | 20/02/04 | | FAO; government |
| United States of America | 11/02/04 | H7N2 (LP) | Chicken | no | 11/02/04 (Delaware) | | Delaware Department of Agriculture Statement; FAO |
| | | H2N2 (LP) | Chicken | no | 03/02/04 (Pennsylvania) | | ProMED; Pennsylvania Department of agriculture website |
| | 23/02/04 | H5N2 | Chicken | no | Late February (Texas) | | Texas Animal Health Commission and USDA website; FAO |
| | | H7N2 (LP) | Chicken | no | 09/03/04 (Maryland) | | Maryland Department of Agriculture News Release; FAO |
| Canada | 19/02/04 | H7N3 (LP) | Chicken | yes (conjunctivitis) | 29/04/04 (British Columbia) | Total 40 commercial and 10 backyard farms were infected | gphin; government website gphin; government website |
| | 09/03/04 | H7N3 | | | | | |
| Netherlands | | H7 (LP) | Chicken | no | 22/03/04 | | FAO; gphin; ProMED |
| South Africa | | | commercial poultry | no | 25/03/04 | | ProMED |

1) Official (OIE) and non official Information (ProMED, press agencies, FAO tracking systems...)

2) Gphin: Global Public Health Intelligence Network (Health Canada)

3) FAO; government: FAO representative in concurrence with Government sources

4) LP: low pathogenic strain

Annex 2**- Donor Assistance –**

Many institutions and governments have committed emergency assistance funds to help control HPAI outbreaks. FAO AIDE news is collecting information on donor assistance (financial, in kind or technical assistance) through FAO representations in Asian countries. FAO recognises that the tables below may be incomplete. Nevertheless, we wish to thank all donors and governments for their cooperation in providing additional complementary information.

Recipient countries:**Cambodia**

| Donors | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|------------------------|---------------|--|
| FAO TCP | \$390,000 | TCP/CMB/3002 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza |
| Asian Development Bank | \$91,940 | Non-Trust Fund, under general coordination of FAO (for training, equipment and public awareness activities) |
| Australia | \$50,000 | AusAID through FAO Trust Fund (OSRO/CMB/402/AUL) |
| China | \$50,000 | Direct contribution to government (no details given) |
| France | \$57,600 | French Cooperation through FAO Trust Fund (OSRO/CMB/403/FRA "Protocole d` accord entre la République française, la FAO et le gouvernement royal du Cambodge, pour la création d` un fonds fiduciaire d` assistance à la lutte contre la grippe aviaire") |
| Germany | \$50,000 | GTZ through FAO Trust Fund (OSRO/CMB/401/GER) |
| Japan | \$56,000 | Non-Trust Fund, grant assistance for grass-roots human security project for antiviral medicines & equipment |
| | \$402,176 | Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083) |
| WHO | \$3,000 | In the form of PPE supplies and PPE and lab training for DAHPs investigating teams and Human Flu Vaccine purchase. Combined PPE training by WHO human health and lab consultants and Ministry of Health officials. |

(As of 03/04/04. source: FAO representation in Cambodia)

China

| Donor | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|---------|---------------|--|
| FAO TCP | \$390,000 | TCP/CPR/3004 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza |

(As of 14/04/04. source: FAO Emergency Operations Service)

Indonesia

| Donors | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|-----------|---------------|--|
| FAO TCP | \$390,000 | TCP/INS/3001 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza |
| Australia | \$250,000 | Human health protection through WHO |
| | | Provide training (epidemiologist and virologist) in Australia |
| China | \$100,000 | Vaccines and training |

Indonesia (continued)

| Donors | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|-------------|---------------|---|
| Germany | \$61,000 | OSRO/INS/402/GER through FAO Trust Fund: Antigen and antisera from CVL Weybridge for 3,000 samples; Four trainings on clinical & gross pathology diagnosis of AI for field veterinarians (total 222 vets) |
| Japan | \$78,906 | From Grass Roots Aid Fund for protective gear through the Ministry of Agriculture |
| | \$113,000 | Public awareness campaign activities |
| | \$10,000 | From JICA/Indonesia for training for diagnostic laboratory in RIVS, Bogor, 17-20 May 2004 (DIC and B type laboratory – 24 veterinarians) |
| | \$402,117 | Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083) |
| Netherlands | | May provide veterinary experts in support of FAO operations. |
| USA | | Support through the provision of laboratory analysis available in Atlanta |

(As of 20/04/04. source: FAO representation in Indonesia)

Lao PDR

| Donors | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|------------------------|---------------|---|
| FAO TCP | \$390,000 | TCP/LAO/3001 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza |
| Asian Development Bank | \$50,000 | Direct procurement of Personnel, Protective clothing and equipment |
| Australia | | Through AusAID to invite two government veterinarian to a training course on planning, surveillance strategies, Diagnosis, Movement control, Emergency response related to the HPAI outbreak in Asia, Singapore, 10-12 May 2004 |
| China | \$50,000 | Re-establishing poultry breeding farms |
| France | \$53,745 | For surveillance activities (OSRO/LAO/401/FRA) |
| Japan | \$404,040 | Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083) |
| | \$50,000 | Through JICA |
| USA | \$250,000 | Direct contribution to WHO Regional Office (Manila) |
| WHO | | Support for one veterinarian for a 2 month mission |

(As of 14/04/04. source: FAO Emergency Operations Service, JICA)

Pakistan

| Donors | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|---------|---------------|--|
| FAO TCP | \$390,000 | TCP/PAK/3002 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza |
| China | \$50,000 | For strengthening the diagnostic/samples analysis capacities of the national labs. |

(As of 28/04/04. source: FAO representation in Pakistan)

Thailand

| Donor | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|-------|---------------|---|
| FAO | | Technical advice of experts |
| Japan | | Sent two experts from National Institute of Animal Health to assist AI typing/sub-typing. Also provided standard antigen and antibodies for typing. |

(As of 08/03/04. source: FAO representation in Thailand)

Viet Nam

| Donors | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|------------------------|---------------|---|
| FAO TCP | \$390,000 | TCP/VIE/3003 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza |
| Asian Development Bank | \$ 50,000 | Protective gear |
| EC | \$ 968,000 | Protective clothing, lab equipment |
| Germany | \$ 15,000 | Protective gear |
| Japan | \$200,000 | Tamiflu (anti-viral drug) |
| | \$401,750 | Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083) |
| WHO | | unspecified |
| World Bank | \$170,000 | Formulation mission for Avian Influenza Emergency Recovery Project |

(As of 16/04/04. source: FAO representation in Viet Nam, TCEO)

Regional

| Donor | Amount (US\$) | Description |
|---------|---------------|--|
| FAO TCP | \$400,000 | TCP/RAS/3004 Emergency regional coordination assistance for control of avian influenza in southeast Asia |
| FAO TCP | \$400,000 | TCP/RAS/3006 Diagnostic Laboratory and Surveillance Network Coordination for Control and Prevention of Avian Influenza in Southeast Asia |
| FAO TCP | \$400,000 | TCP/RAS/3007 Diagnostic laboratory and surveillance network coordination for control and prevention of avian influenza in East Asia |
| FAO TCP | \$400,000 | TCP/RAS/3010 Emergency regional support for post-avian influenza rehabilitation |

(As of 22/04/04. source: FAO Emergency Operations Service)