



USAID | STOP AI

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WEST AFRICA WORK PLAN

PILLAR ACTIVITIES – (1) ANIMAL SURVEILLANCE AND (2) ANIMAL RESPONSE – COMBINED ANIMAL ACTIVITY LINE ITEMS

Based on communications with the USAID/West Africa regional coordinator, the STOP AI Project proposes the following activities to prepare West African nations for responding to the threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). These activities would be implemented over a 24-month period (FY 2008 and FY 2009).

ACTIVITY I: REGIONAL SURVEILLANCE AND OUTBREAK RESPONSE TRAINING

This classroom course will be held in four regional settings during FY 2008. It would be conducted in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization, US Department of Agriculture, Centers for Disease Control and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and will cover:

Principles of avian influenza	Epidemiological/outbreak techniques
Response procedures	Commodities (PPE's, decontamination kits)
Biosecurity for responders	

STOP AI Regional Coordinators will communicate with these collaborating institutions to align efforts and explore possibilities for sharing training responsibilities and costs.

Participants (Five people per country)	Sessions/Duration
National Lab Director NL Disease Investigator) Chief veterinary epidemiologist Ministry of Health epidemiologist 2 regional veterinary officers from poultry producing regions	3 classes conducted in French and 1 in English. Each class would be 10 days in duration.

The four 10-day trainings will include up to 25 participants in each training for a total of up to 100 persons trained from up to 16 countries in the West Africa Region. STOP-AI will collaborate with USAID, USDA, and other partners in the field to assure that there is not overlap in the proposed training topics and what has been done in the past.

ACTIVITY 2: DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL LABORATORY NETWORK

In close coordination with and at the invitation of the West Africa Regional Animal Health Center, this activity will deliver technical assistance and training to a minimum of three regional laboratories in West Africa. This assistance will be delivered in coordination with FAO RAHC efforts to strengthen the West African regional laboratory network, and to support USDA activities programmed to up-grade laboratory equipment and analytical capabilities. It will also assist the regional laboratories to cascade newly acquired skills and knowledge to other levels and laboratories in the region, in developing a region-specific network of laboratories.

This series of trainings will begin with bringing 2-4 staff members of three regional laboratories in West Africa together for a 7-day training on reviewing and strengthening bio-security in laboratories, laboratory operations and procedures, assays for AI, laboratory management, and quality assurance principles, biomaintenance procedures, the proper use of bio-safety cabinets, and containment procedures. The participants will receive instruction and coaching on how to transfer the knowledge and skills learned back to their labs. As a follow up to this training there will be three on-site trainings of general laboratory staff on the above skills as well as on IATA regulations leading to Certification. The STOP AI laboratorian will work with selected alumni from the 7-day training to conduct the laboratory procedures course in each of the three reference laboratories. The three labs will then be set to offer lab trainings to national lab employees in the West Africa region.

ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING IN BIOSECURITY FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS AND LIVE BIRD MARKETS

STOP AI will conduct a series of 5-day bio-security training sessions aimed at farm enterprises and live bird markets. This training will include instruction on how to train others in biosecurity principles and practices. Target participants will be veterinarians, agricultural extension agents, poultry associations, and private veterinary associations, as appropriate. Biosecurity training will be appropriate for farming sectors 2 and 3, and the marketing modules adapted to local market conditions. Training would be

provided in 4 selected countries and include up to 25 participants in each training for a total of up to 100 persons trained.

ACTIVITY 4: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS PLAN AND SOP DEVELOPMENT

In coordination with other regional partners and SPINAP efforts, technical assistance will be provided on demand to help specific countries review and revise their national preparedness plans, and to develop standard operational procedures and manuals for plan implementation. The plans are anticipated to incorporate surveillance strategies. It is envisioned that this activity will focus on those countries identified as at-risk and but presently under-funded for AI activities. A consultant may spend up to 14 days reviewing and revising a given national preparedness plan, with an additional 10 days developing SOP's with relevant in-country stakeholders in up to 7 countries.

ACTIVITY 5: ON-DEMAND/COUNTRY REQUESTED WORK

Specific activities utilizing these funds will be defined as the situation in West Africa evolves.