**Project code:** OSRO/AFG/104/RDF  
**Donor:** USA/CRDF  
**Contribution:** USD 200 000  
**Implementation:** 1/09/11-31/05/12  
**Target areas:** select 24 provinces  
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**Objective:**  
To improve the national capacity in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for safe and accurate diagnosis of brucellosis and Q fever, establish the epidemiological situation of abortive diseases in small ruminants and prepare a national progressive control plan for brucellosis and Q fever.

**Key partners:**  
The Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) and the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH).

**Beneficiaries reached:**  
Over 1 200 families/owners of 70 239 sheep and goats from 128 villages, where 65 000 doses of Brucella vaccine were applied, and farmers from over 100 districts in 24 provinces, where the prevalence of the diseases was established (representing over 15 million owners of sheep and goats).

**Activities implemented:**  
- Capacity of the Central Veterinary Diagnostic and Research Laboratory (CVDRL) and subregional laboratories for diagnosis of brucellosis and other infectious abortive diseases strengthened through tissue sample collection and processing, and procurement of additional laboratory reagents.
- Abortive outbreaks investigated and major causes determined and reported.
- Reliable disease data obtained for further planning of brucellosis control at national level.
- An appropriate strategy and action plan for the control of brucellosis developed and presented to the national authorities.
- Training of field veterinarians and paraveterinarians on disease recognition, vaccine preparation, as well as surveillance teams and laboratory staff on sample collection and surveillance and diagnosis of small ruminant abortion.

**Impact:**  
- Increased capacity of the CVDRL and Regional laboratory to perform diagnosis of brucellosis, Q fever and other infectious diseases, as well as manage more effectively suspect and confirmed brucellosis and Q fever patients.
- The Government now understands the benefit of targeted vaccination, and is committed to provide vaccination for 2012.
- Afghanistan has initiated implementation of the first animal disease control plan in the country, which can form the basis for national control plans for other diseases that limit production in Afghanistan and threaten human health.