



## Project Highlights

# WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA

### “HPAI early warning, early response and preparedness strategy support in Western and Central Africa”

**Project code:** OSRO/RAF/717/USA

**Donor:** USAID

**Contribution:** USD 1 432 000

**Implementation:** 1/03/08 – 30/09/10

**Target areas:** Western and Central Africa

**Contact:** Daniele Donati  
Chief, Emergency Operations Service  
Email: [daniele.donati@fao.org](mailto:daniele.donati@fao.org)

**ECTAD** Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases  
Centre d'urgence pour les maladies animales transfrontalières



**Objective:** To assist countries in Western and Central Africa in enhancing their capacities to prevent the introduction of HPAI and to respond efficiently to HPAI outbreaks.

**Key partners:** USAID; OIE; AU-IBAR; the Ministries of Livestock and Animal Health in Western and Central Africa.

**Beneficiaries reached:** 23 Western and Central African ministries responsible for livestock and animal health; poultry owners, producers and traders; national veterinary services; general population.

**Activities implemented:**

- Capacity-building activities in the fields of enhanced biosecurity for poultry farms and live bird markets (LBMs).
- Creation of RESOLAB, RESEPI, RESECOP and RESOCOM networks.
- Passive and active surveillance in key countries such as Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Niger and Sierra Leone.
- Installation of TADinfo software in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau and Mali and training of staff in its proper use and maintenance.
- Introduction and testing of the regional zoo-sanitary certificates for poultry and poultry products within the ECOWAS area.
- Organization of the regional HPAI control simulation exercises.
- Provision of reference reagents for HPAI and material for laboratory diagnosis, organization of technical training workshops and external proficiency tests.
- Support of the region's main poultry associations and promotion of public-private partnerships at the national and regional levels.

**Impact:**

- Strengthened regional capacities of 23 countries on HPAI surveillance, prevention and control.
- Enhanced collaboration between national epidemicsurveillance systems and diagnostic laboratories both at country and regional levels.
- Reduced laboratory confirmation diagnosis to two days instead of an average of 30 days in 2006.
- Improved biosecurity in selected LBMs in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo as a result of well-designed and implemented interventions.
- Heightened awareness of the risks associated with animal diseases (particularly zoonotic diseases) and human-animal interface issues.