



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

E

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Hundred and Twenty-first Session

Rome, 27 - 31 March 2017

Progress report on the implementation of the Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Eradication Programme

Queries on the substantive content of the document may be addressed to:

Mr Berhe G. Tekola
Director, Animal Production and Health Division
Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department
Tel. +3906-570-53371

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page;
an FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



ms541

Executive Summary

- Sheep and goats play an important cultural role in the lives of many people around the world, both in their interpersonal dealings, as well as in their religious belief systems. They are a source of regular income, a means to capitalize savings and a safety net when facing hard times.
- Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) is a fast spreading viral disease that affects and kills small ruminants worldwide. The eradication of the disease will be a major contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.
- In April 2015 the International Conference for the Control and Eradication of PPR, organized by FAO and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), approved the PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy (PPR GCES). The 39th session of the FAO Conference, following the recommendations of the 24th session of COAG, endorsed the establishment and implementation by FAO and OIE of the PPR Global Eradication Programme (PPR-GEP), in line with the Strategy. With the same spirit, in May 2016, the 84th General Session of the OIE, adopted a Resolution on Global Control and Eradication of PPR. FAO and OIE established in March 2016 a Joint PPR Global Secretariat to design the PPR GEP and coordinate its implementation.
- The first five-year programme (2017-2021) of the PPR-GEP was launched by the two organizations in November 2016. In collaboration with partners, regional PPR roadmap meetings were organised in eight out of the nine regions. Assistance is being provided to countries to develop and implement their PPR National Strategic Plans. A PPR resource mobilization and marketing strategy has been developed.
- This progress report is presented to the Programme Committee in response to a request by the 25th session of COAG, endorsed by the 155th Council.

Suggested action by the Programme Committee

- The Committee is invited to take note of the progress report.

I. Introduction

1. The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes interconnected objectives related to agriculture and food. It sets poverty eradication as an overarching aim and has the integration of economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development at its core. The 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) and 169 global targets of the Agenda set out areas to advance sustainable development.

2. Currently, there are 805 million people in the world suffering from malnourishment. Demand for food in general is set to increase significantly towards 2050 because of population growth. Income growth in low-income countries and emerging economies will drive demand even higher.

3. The global demand for meat and milk cannot be met, and the related benefits for poor rural households cannot be covered if transboundary animal diseases such as Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) are not controlled or even eradicated globally. Today, PPR has spread to more than 70 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia – regions that are home to over 80% of the 2.1 billion world's sheep and goat population. PPR can kill over 90% of animals exposed to the disease, greatly affecting the lives of some 300 million of the world's poorest rural families, whose livelihoods depend on sheep and goats. PPR has spread at an alarming rate over the last 15 years, reaching regions previously not infected. If unchecked, it could spread even further, causing more devastating socio-economic losses and hardship for the millions of poor farmers, most of them women, who rely on sheep and goats for their livelihoods. This highly contagious viral plague affecting sheep and goats causes a staggering USD 1.45 billion to USD 2.1 billion in losses each year.

4. On 24 April 2016, the G7 Ministers for Agriculture adopted the Niigata Declaration with the statement, “We encourage OIE and FAO efforts to eradicate major diseases such as PPR.”¹ Furthermore, on 3 June 2016 in Xi'an (China), the G20 Agriculture Ministers adopted a declaration underlining that smallholder farmers' resilience and productivity are key for food security, nutrition, sustainable agricultural growth and rural development worldwide, in an innovative and inclusive world economy.²

II. PPR eradication and sustainable development goals

5. The control and eventual eradication of the disease will contribute significantly to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, as follows.

6. **SDG 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere, this is centred on three pillars: (1) poverty eradication; (2) social protection and increased resilience; and (3) policies and investments. The latter can ensure that livestock contribute to poverty eradication, reduced vulnerability and increased resilience through three major channels.

- a) The first channel is through “livestock asset building and protection”. Policies and investments should ensure that poor households build, protect and increase their livestock asset-base and get access to basic production inputs, such as water, pastures and animal health services. This is a first step toward climbing out of poverty, for example through the regular availability of protein, investment in education and remunerative enterprises, the capacity to cope with unexpected shocks and expenditures, or the use of animal manure and power for increased crop yields.
- b) The second is through “increasing the productivity of, and returns on livestock assets”. Policies and investments should ensure that livestock farmers adopt improved husbandry and production practices. This helps them exit poverty, when combined with market access measures that allow farmers to regularly sell live animals and surplus meat, milk and other products to the market.

¹ http://www.maff.go.jp/e/pdf/g7_declaration.pdf

² <http://www.tarim.gov.tr/ABDGM/Belgeler/Uluslararası%20Kurulu%C5%9Flar/2016%20ch%C4%B1na%20G20%20Agriculture%20Ministers%20Meeting%20Communique.pdf>

- c) The third channel is through “on-farm and non-farm livestock related employment”. Policies and investments should ensure that the poor find jobs, either as an employee or as self-employed, in livestock farms (e.g. as wage employees on a layer farm) or along the livestock value chain (e.g. as small entrepreneurs trading milk). By so doing, they can exit poverty.
7. **SDG 2:** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
- a) Animal source food from sheep and goats is an essential part of the daily diet of many people living in fragile environments and contributes to helping overcome malnutrition. Sheep and goat milk and meat are of high nutritional value, particularly for children, as they provide high quality protein and essential micronutrients (these include *inter alia* vitamins A, B2, B12, D as well as folate, iron and calcium), critical for growth, cognitive development and physical strength.
- b) The recent (January 2017) PPR spilled over from domestic animals to wildlife, decimating more than 40% of the endangered saiga antelopes (*Saiga tatarica mongolica*) of the Mongolian plains, suggesting that, if left unchecked, PPR could spread even further, causing devastating socio-economic losses and serious damage to the income and food security of millions of small farmers and pastoralists.
8. **SDG 3:** Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.
- a) The products (milk, meat, wool, fibre and skins) and services from small ruminants are consumed or used at household level. These animal quality nutrients are essential for brain and cognitive development and maternal health. The sale of these animals allows for the purchase of food and therefore to diversify the diet.
9. **SDG 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. In most cultures, women are in control of small ruminant operations and the associated income stream. This favours gender balance and an equitable allocation of earnings and animal-source foods within the household.
10. **SDG 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. For nearly 75% of the hungry people in developing countries, livestock is the primary productive asset for generating a livelihood and a main vehicle for investing, saving, and accumulating wealth. However, the productivity level of this asset remains low contributing approximately to only 12 percent to their total income, partly due to animal diseases such as PPR.
11. **SDG 12:** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. Sheep and goat milk is particularly valuable for children, the malnourished, pregnant mothers and the elderly.
12. **SDG 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. Although the PPR-GEP is a global partnership between FAO and OIE, it also involves several other partners among which IAEA,³ ILRI,⁴ African Union, Regional Economic Communities, civil society organizations and the small ruminant producers themselves.
13. In order to meet the 2030 goal of both the PPR-GEP and SDGs, the implementation has already started at global, regional and national levels as illustrated below.

A. Global activities

Establishment of the Joint FAO-OIE PPR Global Secretariat

14. The FAO/OIE PPR Global Secretariat, established in early 2016, serves as the coordinating mechanism for PPR GEP implementation and monitoring. The Secretariat is working closely with countries, relevant regional organizations, international reference laboratories/centres, technical and research institutions and stakeholder organizations, to support the development and implementation of regional/national strategic plans and community engagement tailored to the disease situation.

³ International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

⁴ International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

Regional roadmap meetings

15. FAO/OIE PPR Global Secretariat, in collaboration with a continental technical organization (AU-IBAR)⁵ and regional economic communities (ECO, ECCAS, ECOWAS, GCC, IGAD, SAARC, SADC and AMU)⁶ organized eight regional roadmap meetings in Africa, the Middle East and Arabian Peninsula, Central and South Asia. As an outcome of each of the regional roadmap meetings, FAO assisted eight out of nine regions in formulating their regional PPR strategies. The remaining region, the East Asia roadmap meeting, including China, Mongolia and Timor Leste, is scheduled to be held in April 2017.

Formulation of the PPR Global Eradication Programme⁷

16. The first five-year programme (2017-2021) of the PPR-GEP has been developed through a consultative process involving key stakeholders. The programme aims to lay the foundations for, and commences the PPR control and elimination effort in infected countries by developing capacity; understanding the epidemiological situation and defining appropriate implementation strategies to reduce the prevalence of PPR and eventually eradicate the disease. For non-infected countries, the programme will assist in developing capacity to demonstrate the absence of the PPR virus and move towards OIE official PPR-free status recognition. The programme will also support countries to reduce the prevalence of other prioritized small ruminant diseases and strengthen veterinary systems through the OIE-Performance of Veterinary Services tool. An initial programme for 2017-2021 has been developed, with a cost estimate of USD 996 million.

Communication material

17. Video, press releases, leaflets, manuals and other awareness materials have been prepared by FAO and OIE, and distributed to infected and at risk countries, as well as other partners. Nine thousand copies of FAO/CIRAD⁸/OIE PPR diagnosis manuals have been sent to all infected and at risk countries.

Technology transfer and network

18. In agreement with research institutions, FAO and IAEA have developed, validated and disseminated veterinary diagnostic technologies. AU-PANVAC⁹ was assisted for the development/validation of a diagnostic kit (b-ELISA)¹⁰ which should make the diagnostic availability wider and more affordable to countries. Other diagnostic kits (such as pen side test) were developed and transferred to countries. The IAEA VETLAB (currently 42 countries in Africa and 17 countries in Asia) and FAO epidemiological/laboratory networks were extended and strengthened.

Partnerships and capacity building

19. Partnerships have been established with selected international/regional institutions (e.g. AU-IBAR, CEBEVIRHA)¹¹ and civil society organizations. National capacity development and awareness programmes among stakeholders have been promoted in partnership with NGOs (BAIF Foundation¹² in India).

⁵ African Union's Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

⁶ Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO); Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); Gulf Council Countries (GCC); Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD); South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC); Southern African Development Community (SADC); Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6316e.pdf>

⁸ International Cooperation Centre of Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD)

⁹ Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC)

¹⁰ Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)

¹¹ Economic Commission on Cattle, Meat and Fish Resources in the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEBEVIRHA)

¹² Bharatiya Agro-Industries Foundation (BAIF)

B. Regional activities

20. The FAO Supporting Horn of African Resilience (SHARE) programme is funded by the European Union and aims at promoting longer-term interventions and building resilience in three countries (Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya). Each of the country programmes has a specific component aiming to support the PPR activities including advocacy, laboratory, epidemiological understanding, field sample collection and testing, and analysis.

21. The animal health component of the World Bank-funded programme (PRAPS)¹³ implemented by the OIE, is supporting six countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal) to reinforce their veterinary services and control PPR and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia.

C. Country activities

22. National strategic plan: the 24th session of COAG recommended that FAO Representatives facilitate exchange with other offices to assist governments in the formulation and implementation of their PPR National Strategic Plans. In this regard, assistance has been provided to the following countries:

- a) Afghanistan: under a Japan-funded project, risk-based surveillance followed by preventive risk-based pilot vaccination against PPR and brucellosis has been implemented in the provinces of Kabul, Parwan and Logar targeting Kuchi pastoralists. The immune response to the vaccine was 96% of firstly vaccinated animals developing a detectable immune response. As a result, no clinical disease has been observed in these flocks. This pilot study will be scaled-up in over 26 provinces targeting more than 170,000 pastoralists.
- b) Pakistan: capacity building for laboratories, PPR epidemiology (2,638 veterinary field staff and 3,944 herders) and reagent procurement carried out under an USAID-funded project. AU-PANVAC assisted to improve the PPR vaccine quality control facility for locally produced PPR vaccines. In pilot areas of each of the targeted eight provinces/regions of the country, after risk-based surveillance and participatory rural appraisal, more than 2.3 million animals were vaccinated belonging to 92,198 households in 3,749 villages and 36 transhumant flocks. No outbreaks were reported in any of the vaccinated animals. Post vaccination sero-monitoring showed good levels of immunity and coverage.
- c) Somalia: mass vaccination was carried out and more than 20,000 sera collected pre- and post-vaccination using multi-donor funded projects. Sera tested at the AU-PANVAC showed adequate PPR antibody prevalence of 76.4% with increased national flock protection. Currently emergency PPR vaccine stocks are positioned in strategic locations. As a result clinical surveillance detected only a few PPR-like clinical cases reported and no major confirmed PPR outbreak was reported.
- d) Liberia: funded by the TCP, an assessment mission as the result of the first outbreak was carried out and led to TCP formulation/implementation: surveillance and targeted vaccination (100,000 sheep and goats in four counties), as well as cross-border meetings with neighbouring countries to discuss information sharing and common activities aiming at PPR control. In parallel, USAID undertook vaccination in an additional four counties that were affected by the outbreaks of 2015.
- e) Other support to countries: several donors and FAO support disease investigation, control and technical assistance for PPR control in Georgia, Mongolia, Syria, Sudan, and South Sudan.

¹³ Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project (PRAPS)

OIE Resolution and Country free of PPR

23. During the 84th General Session of the OIE, in May 2016, the list of countries recognized as PPR free or having a PPR free zone, according to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, was updated. Fifty-three countries and one zone are recognized as PPR free.

D. Resources mobilization and advocacy

24. A Joint FAO/OIE resource mobilization and marketing strategy has been developed. Visits to main donors are planned to present the PPR-GEP and its costs and benefits will be highlighted. A pledging conference is planned for the second semester of 2017.