

Overview on FAO's PPR regional project : Technical assistance for prevention and control of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in North Africa TCP/RAB/3302

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Beneficiary countries:
Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania
and Tunisia
EOD: January 2011
NTE: December 2012
Budget: US\$ 364,000

Situation and evolution of PPR in North African countries

- Algeria: seropositive cases but no clinical signs in 2011. 3 outbreaks in late 2011, confirmed cases.
 - No vaccination
- Libya: endemic
 - No vaccination
- Mauritania: endemic (vaccination in some areas)
- Morocco:
 - First declaration in July 2008, No cases reported since November 2008.
 - General vaccination in 2008, 2009 and 2010 and East and Southern border areas in 2011.
- Tunisia: seropositive cases in 2010, clinical cases and confirmation by PCR in 2011. suspicions in 2012
 - No vaccination

Project Expected outputs

- Strengthening the epidemiological surveillance in North African countries
- Capacity building on detection and diagnosis of PPR
- Evaluation of the socio-economic impact of PPR in North African countries and the Mediterranean region (negative effects on rural economy and food security)
- Enhance coordination and harmonization of regional strategies for prevention and control of PPR

Project activities and progress

- **Strengthen capacities in epidemiology**

- Letter of Agreement between FAO and CIRAD :
- training workshop on the epidemiological surveillance of PPR held from 12 to 14 September 2011 in Tunisia.
- Laptops were provided
- National training on the epidemiological surveillance of PPR were held between November and March 2012 in different areas (40- 80 vets/country)
- Epi-Info : 2012

Project activities and progress

- **Strengthen Laboratory capacities**

- Letter of Agreement between FAO and Biopharma: training workshop on « Laboratory analyzes of PPR», held from 19 to 23 September 2011 in Morocco;
- Laboratory equipment was provided to the countries (ELISA & PCR Kits and sampling material...),
- Inter-laboratory essay on PPR in collaboration with CIRAD.

Project activities and progress

- **Study on the socio-economic impact of PPR:**
 - Questionnaire elaborated in 2011
 - National surveys have been initiated in 2012
 - A simulation model will be developed based on the national surveys.

Project activities and progress

- **Elaboration of regional strategy for the control of PPR:**
 - This strategy will be presented and discussed during the closure workshop to be held in Algiers 3-6 December 2012

Future research

- **Camel susceptibility : controversial**
 - CIRAD has confirmed this in Horn of Africa (Sudan).
 - Two trials in Morocco and UAE with experimental infection using vaccine strains and local strains : No seroconversion nor virus isolation and no clinical signs.
 - Samples from camels in infected areas were negative in Morocco and Mauritania
 - Need for more research in this domain
- **There is a need for developing serological tests to differentiate vaccinated and infected animals.**

Thank you

