

Inception workshop of the project “Strengthening the regional preparedness, prevention and response against lumpy skin disease in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine” (TCP/RER/3605)

Venue & Dates: Alfavito Hotel, Predslavynska St, 35Д, Kiyv, Ukraine, 29-30 May (2 full days)

Organisers: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Language: English

Objectives:

- To present the project objectives, outputs and activities
- To discuss and fine-tune the project activities and timeline, in synergy with ongoing activities at country level

Participants:

The workshop will bring together veterinary specialists (from state veterinary services) from the three recipient countries (i.e. National Project Coordinators), plus nationally recruited consultants (one per country), international FAO experts, national institutions (that will help to coordinate activities at country level during the duration of the project), and international agencies.

Background:

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a newly emerged transboundary animal disease spreading throughout the Middle East, Turkey, the Balkans, the Caucasus and Eastern Europe. Introduction of LSD virus into naïve population causes considerable economic losses due to death of cattle, decrease of their productivity, the cost of vaccination campaigns, and most importantly, its effects on trade. The risk of an imminent incursion into neighbouring still unaffected countries is very high, particularly for those sharing borders and (both formal and informal) trade routes. This is the case of Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

The current spread of LSD is having dramatic effects to rural livelihoods, which are strongly dependent on cattle, can lead to significant loss of income to affected farmers. The effect at national level is also devastating, since the presence of the disease comes with strict trade restrictions. These negative effects will increase as the disease continues to spread not just within affected countries, but also to neighbouring states.

It is very important to limit further incursions of the LSD virus, particularly to countries which are currently free from this disease, and are therefore not familiar with it. To this end, the project objective is to reduce the risk of this happening by:

- Enhancing legal, regulatory preparedness and coordination for LSD at national level;
- Enhancing capacities of national veterinary services for LSD detection, prevention and control;
- Strengthening risk analysis capacities for LSD;
- Conducting awareness campaigns for veterinary services, field veterinarians, farmers and farmer associations, and academia;
- Strengthening the regional coordination.

Through implementing its activities, the project will contribute to reducing threats of LSD spread in Eastern Europe and further to the European Union.

Agenda

29 May 2018 – Day 1 of Inception Workshop

Moderator: Andriy Rozstalnyy

08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome remarks & Opening speech
09:15 - 09:30	Introduction of the workshop agenda and participants
09:30 - 10:00	Andriy Rozstalnyy (FAO): FAO activities on LSD in the region
10:00 - 10:30	Daniela Mangione (FAO): Introduction to Technical Cooperation Projects (TCP) and how they work
10:30 - 11:00	Daniel Beltran-Alcrudo (FAO): Key components of the project (budget, duration, activities, reporting, etc.)
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>

Current preparedness against LSD and relevant activities related to vector-borne diseases

(Based on a template that will be provided by FAO)

11:30 – 12:00	Belarus NCP
12:00 – 12.30	Moldova NCP
12:30-13:00	Ukraine NCP
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>

Moderator: Daniel Beltran-Alcrudo

Output 1 Enhanced legal, regulatory preparedness framework for LSD developed at national level

14:00-14:30	Nadav Galon & Tsviatko Alexandrov: Key elements for LSD preparedness: contingency plans, surveillance & early detection, vaccination strategies and how to assess them through simulation exercises
14:30-15:15	Discussion session on Output 1
15:15-15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>

Output 3. Veterinary service personnel trained on risk management and communication for eventual outbreaks

15:45-16:15	Jordi Casal: Introduction to risk assessment
16:15-16:45	Nadav Galon: Risk communication before, during and after an outbreak
16:45-17:30	Discussion session on Output 2
19:00	Dinner (offered by FAO)

30 May 2018 - Day 2 of Inception Workshop

Moderator: Daniela Mangione

Outputs 2 & 4. National veterinary service personnel trained in LSD detection, prevention and control / LSD awareness among all stakeholder levels created

09:00-09:30	Tsviatko Alexandrov: The importance of awareness and trainings for field veterinarians and farmers
09:30-10:15	Discussion session on Outputs 2 & 3. For each country to design a strategy and timeline for field awareness and training on LSD
10:15 – 10:30	Belarus National Consultant: Proposed strategy and timeline for field awareness and training on LSD
10:30 – 10:45	Belarus National Consultant: Proposed strategy and timeline for field awareness and training on LSD
10:45-11:00	Belarus National Consultant: Proposed strategy and timeline for field awareness and training on LSD
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>

Final session:

11:30-12:00	Daniel Beltran-Alcrudo: Presentation of the agreed plan for Activities: timeline, roles, reporting
12:00-12:30	Discussion session
13:00	Closure of the Workshop
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>

Half-day training on cost-benefit for LSD. Only for NPC and National consultants

14:00-14:20	The cost-benefit analysis framework
14:20-14:50	Items to be included in the calculation of the cost
14:50-15:30	The LSD Cost spreadsheet
15:30-17:30	Discussion about how to implement in the three countries

31 May – 1 June 2018 - Train-of-trainer program for field veterinarians on LSD.

Train-of-trainer program for field veterinarians on LSD. This first tier (2-day training) will reach 10 core trainers from at-risk regions/Oblasts in Ukraine (who will be in charge of replicating the training in their own regions), plus national veterinary consultants and National Project Coordinators (NCP) from the three recipient countries. There is a separate agenda for this training.