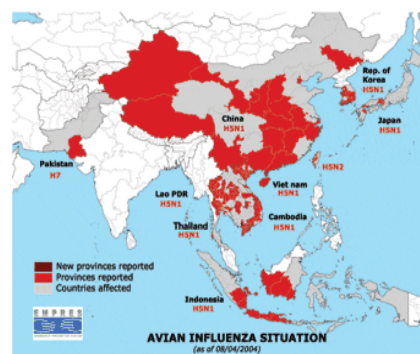


FAO AIDE news

Avian Influenza Disease Emergency

Update on the Avian Influenza situation (As of 8/04/2004) – Issue no. 11



The information summarized below is gathered from official and non official sources, which are quoted in the text. AIDE news is prepared by the FAO Technical Task force on Avian Influenza.

1. Summary of the situation

Since January 2004, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) - H5N1 has been reported in Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Indonesia and China. The number of countries remains the same since the previous issue.

Under investigation / rumours and suspicions / other information:

- **Canada:** Second human case (conjunctivitis) of H7 virus was confirmed in a Canadian Food Inspection Agency contract worker. A total 18 farms have thus far been found to be infected and the veterinary authorities have announced the depopulation of approximately 19 million birds in British Columbia. (5/03/04 - source: ProMED, FAO, government website)
- **Russia:** Several rooks (*Corvus frugilegus*) that migrated recently to Russia's Far East from Southeast Asia were found dead at a national park. (06/04/04 - source: yahoo news)
- **Mongolia:** Seventeen birds were found dead around Erdenetsagaan Soum (county), Suhbaatar Aymag (province). Further information has been requested. (11/03/04 - source: gphin)

2. Countries affected (as of 08/04/2004)

area	date declared to OIE	type	animals affected	human case	additional information	
					info.	source ¹⁾
Republic of Korea	17/12/03	H5N1	layer, duck; virus isolated: magpie	no		Government; web media
Viet Nam	8/01/04	H5N1	chicken, quail, duck, muscovik duck	yes		gphin ²⁾
Japan	12/01/04	H5N1	chicken, crow	no		gphin, government
Taiwan province of China	20/01/04	H5N2	chicken, duck, pheasant	no	low pathogenic	gphin; meeting report
Thailand	23/01/04	H5N1	virus isolation: chicken, duck, goose, quail, turkey, stork	yes		gphin, FAO; government ³⁾

Continued:

area	date declared to OIE	type	animals affected	human case	additional information	
					info.	source ¹⁾
Cambodia	24/01/04	H5N1	Chicken, duck, goose, turkey, guinea fowl, wild bird	no		FAO; government
Hong Kong SAR	26/01/04	H5N1	Peregrine falcon	no		gphin
Lao, PDR	27/01/04	H5N1	Chicken, duck and quail	no		FAO; government
Pakistan	28/01/04	H7N3 H9N2	layer	no	Only H7 is currently considered Highly Pathogenic; homologous vaccine is available	FAO; government
Indonesia	06/02/04	H5N1	Chicken, duck and quail	no	homologous vaccine is available	gphin, FAO; government
China	06/02/04	H5N1	virus isolation: chicken, duck, goose, quail, pigeon, pheasant, black swan	no	heterologous vaccine is used / exported	FAO; government
United States of America	11/02/04	H7N2	Chicken	no	Low pathogenic	Delaware Department of Agriculture Statement; FAO
		H2N2	Chicken	no	Low pathogenic	ProMED; Pennsylvania Department of agriculture website
	23/02/04	H5N2	Chicken	no	High pathogenic	Texas Animal Health Commission and USDA website; FAO
		H7N2	Chicken	no	conducting study	Maryland Department of Agriculture News Release; FAO
Canada	19/02/04	H7N3	Chicken		Low pathogenic	gphin
	09/03/04	H7N3	Chicken	yes	High pathogenic	gphin; government website
Netherlands		H7	Chicken	no	antibody against avian influenza found	FAO; gphin; ProMED
South Africa			commercial poultry	no	low pathogenic	ProMED

1) Official (OIE) and non official Information (ProMED, press agencies, FAO tracking systems...)

2) Gphin: Global Public Health Intelligence Network (Health Canada)

3) FAO; government: FAO representative in concurrence with Government sources

3. Actions taken – follow-up

➤ Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) projects:

FAO Technical Cooperation Projects (TCP) for Viet Nam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, China and Pakistan are operational as well as a regional TCP for Asia. A new regional TCP titled "Diagnostic laboratory and surveillance network coordination for control and prevention of avian influenza in Southeast Asia" was approved by countries concerned on 29/03/04 and will soon be operational. This sub-regional TCP provides assistance to improve capacity of their national animal disease diagnostic laboratories and epidemiology units for diagnosis and detection of avian influenza

including harmonization of laboratory methods and reporting, and to have better understanding of the disease risk factors. Similar regional TCPs on diagnostic laboratory and surveillance networking for East Asian and South Asian countries will receive approval once the selected country accepts its leadership role. Additionally, a regional TCP for rehabilitation to assist avian influenza infected countries in Southeast Asia has also been developed, which includes better biosecurity in poultry production systems.

➤ **Assistance from other countries**

Many institutions and governments have provided emergency assistance to help countries control HPAI outbreaks through financial, in kind, or technical support. A compilation of this assistance is regarded as important to better assurances that countries needs are being met, and critical gaps not addressed by international organisations, donors, and government institutions. FAO accepted provide an Annex with FAO AIDE news to include this information. We thank all donors and governments for their cooperation in providing additional and complementary information.

➤ **Recent Missions (March - April):**

[Regional]

- Dr. L. Gleeson (Australia), Australia Animal Health Laboratory, CSIRO, Epidemiology and emergency management. Special FAO consultant. Missions to Thailand, China, and Viet Nam. 07/02 – 03/04/04
- Dr. T. Damrongwatanapoki (Thailand) GIS Information Technologist. Mission to Cambodia, Viet Nam. Ongoing.

[Lao PDR]

- Dr. R. Webb (Australia), Epidemiology and programme management. 13/02 – 02/04/04
- Dr. C. Benigno, FAO RAP (Bangkok) Animal Health Officer. 8 – 13/03/04
- Dr. C. Benigno, FAO RAP (Bangkok) Animal Health Officer. Ongoing.

[China]

- Dr. L. Sims (Australia), Disease management and Avian Influenza. 29/02 - 20/03/04
- Dr. H. Wagner, FAO Regional Office (Bangkok) Senior Animal Production and Health Officer. 29/02 – 02/03/04
- Dr. J. Domenech, FAO (Rome) Chief, Animal Health Service. 01 – 02/03/04

[Cambodia]

- Dr. D. Geale (New Zealand), Programme Coordinator for Exotic Disease Response, MAF, Epidemiology and emergency management. 21/2 – 12/03/04
- Dr. Y. Froehlich (France) Project Technical Adviser. Ongoing.
- Dr. T. Rawdon (New Zealand) Veterinary epidemiologist. To commence in the week of 12/04/04

[Indonesia]

- Dr. H. Westbury (Australia), Epidemiologist. 16/02 – 10/03/04.
- Dr. L. Allen (USA) Veterinary epidemiologist. Ongoing.

[Viet Nam]

- Dr. T. Forman (Australia), Epidemiology and emergency management. 15/02 – 07/03/04
- Dr. P. Blanc (France), Project analysis. 17/02 – 04/03/04
- Dr. G. Freeland (UK), Project analysis. 28/02 – 04/04/04
- Dr. H. Benard (New Zealand), Epidemiology and emergency management. Ongoing.

[Pakistan]

- Dr. J. Lambers (Netherlands), Poultry diseases and epidemiology. 20/02 – 11/03/04

4. Related issues

➤ Viet Nam status of avian influenza

Of all the countries in the region, Vietnam has been the most affected by the Avian Influenza epidemic: not only was its poultry sector devastated, but 15 human lives also were tragically lost to the disease.

The earliest recorded cases in Vietnam occurred on 25 December 2003. These were subsequently confirmed as AI by laboratory diagnosis on 6 January 2004, and reported to OIE on 8 January. Two of these cases were in Long An Province and one in Tien Giang Province, both these Provinces are in the south of the country. Within the next two months, the disease spread rapidly, with over 1,700 outbreaks recorded in 57 of the country's 64 provinces. The rapidity and intensity of the outbreak's spread overwhelmed the capacity of the veterinary service and its disease surveillance systems to get ahead and contain the epidemic.

Lacking the necessary field monitoring systems, diagnostic capability, and other resources necessary to deal with the outbreak by early selective strategic containment, the Government was obliged to adopt wide culling practices, including noninfected (but at risk) flocks through large areas surrounding identified foci of infection. All poultry movement was halted, and all poultry markets were closed. Stringent disinfection and other biosecurity measures were introduced.

These measures, once enforced, were quickly successful; and no new outbreaks have been reported in poultry since 26 February, 2004. No human cases have occurred since 15 March. The toll upon the poultry sector, however, has been heavy: over 38 million birds were destroyed – equivalent to 15% of the domestic poultry population – with serious consequence to the livelihoods of many farmers and villagers. Over and above this, with the nationwide closure of the poultry markets, business and income has also been lost and a wider hardship experienced throughout the country as a whole. Furthermore, the disappearance of poultry products from the markets raised the demand, and in consequence the cost of other meat, including fish. The price of these already more expensive animal protein sources rose by a further 20 – 30%, placing them well beyond the reach of many of the poorer consumers.

Since early March, the control measures have been gradually relaxed, on a province-by-province basis. Provinces are to be declared free from HPAI after a lapse of 30 days since the last outbreak. Markets are re-opening and the poultry trade is beginning to return to normal with the normalisation of prices for other commodities as well. However, despite the apparent disappearance of the disease, it is still too early to say that the virus has been totally eliminated from all regions of the country. It is in this period of renewed activity, and particularly when restocking of infected areas is allowed to start, that the veterinary and other supporting forces of government must be on continuous alert to any re-emergence of the infection and its timely reporting. Recognizing this, the Government is proposing a stringent programme of testing for all breeding farms before they may once more begin to supply chicks to the sector. It is also exercising a three month delay before allowing depopulated farms to restock, and even then will impose strict conditions, regular inspection, and monitoring of these farms for at least three weeks after their restocking takes place.

5. Resources available

Relevant articles/publications:

- **China-ASEAN Special Meeting on HPAI Control. Beijing, 2 March 2004**
The full text of the Joint Press Statement “China-ASEAN Special Meeting on HPAI Control” is available on AIDENews issue 8 pages 4 - 5:
<http://www.fao.org/docs/eims/upload/153869/AVIbull008.pdf>
- **FAO/OIE Emergency Regional Meeting on Avian Influenza Control in Animals in Asia (26-28 February).**
The full text of the recommendations made by the participants is available on:
http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/avian_recomm.html
- **FAO/OIE/WHO Technical Consultation on the Control of Avian Influenza**
3 - 4 February 2004
The full text of the Conclusions and recommendations is available on FAO website:
http://www.fao.org/newsroom/common/ecg/36647_en_experts.pdf
- The use of vaccination as an option for the control of Avian Influenza (I. Capua, S Marangon) – 71st OIE General Session (May 2003). Available at:
http://www.fao.org/docs/eims/upload/153564/A_71_SG_12_CS3E.pdf
- Information for shipping international diagnostic specimens to the International Reference Laboratories (see appendix 2 of AIDENews issue 5 or 6, available at:
<http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/index.asp>)
- FAO/EMPRES Manual on procedure for disease eradication by stamping out
(Available at: <http://www.fao.org//DOCREP/004/Y0660E/Y0660E00.HTM>)
- FAO AIDE News (Vol. 1 - 9)
(Available at: http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/tadinfo/e_tadAVI.htm)
- FAO AIDE News maps
(Available at: http://www.fao.org/ag/AGA/AGAH/EMPRES/maps/e_maps.htm)

Relevant Web sites:

FAO Avian Influenza fact sheet:

<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/avian.html>

OIE Update on Avian Influenza in Animals in Asia web site:

http://www.oie.int/download/AVIAN%20INFLUENZA/A_AI-Asia.htm

OIE Technical Disease Cards:

http://www.oie.int/eng/maladies/fiches/a_A150.htm

WHO Avian influenza web site:

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/

EU Public Health web site:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/Influenza/influenza_en.htm

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Annex**- Donor Assistance -**

Many institutions and governments have committed emergency assistance funds to help control HPAI outbreaks. FAO AIDE news is collecting information on donor assistance (financial, in kind or technical assistance) through FAO representations in Asian countries. FAO recognises that the tables below may be incomplete. Nevertheless, we wish to thank all donors and governments for their cooperation in providing additional anticipated and complementary information.

Recipient countries:**Cambodia**

Donors	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$390,000	TCP/CMB/3002 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza
Asian Development Bank	\$91,940	Non-Trust Fund, under general coordination of FAO (for training, equipment and public awareness activities)
Australia	\$50,000	AusAID through FAO Trust Fund
China	\$50,000	Direct contribution to government (no details given)
France	\$57,600	French Cooperation through FAO Trust Fund
Germany	\$50,000	GTZ through FAO Trust Fund
Japan	\$56,000	Non-Trust Fund, grant assistance for grass-roots human security project for antiviral medicines & equipment
	\$402,176	Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083)
WHO	\$3,000	In the form of PPE supplies and PPE and lab training for DAHPs investigating teams and Human Flu Vaccine purchase. Combined PPE training by WHO human health and lab consultants and Ministry of Health officials.

(As of 03/04/04. source: FAO representation in Cambodia)

China

Donor	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$390,000	TCP/CPR/3004 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza

(As of 04/03/04. source: FAO Emergency Operations Service)

Indonesia

Donors	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$390,000	TCP/INS/3001 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza
Australia	\$250,000	Human health protection through WHO
China	\$100,000	Vaccines and training
Germany	\$61,000	OSRO/INS/402/GER through FAO Trust Fund for purchase of anti sera and training

Indonesia (continued)

Donors	Amount (US\$)	Description
Japan	\$78,906	From Grass Roots Aid Fund for protective gear through the Ministry of Agriculture
	\$113,000	Public awareness campaign activities
	\$10,000	From JICA/Indonesia for training workshops
	\$402,117	Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083)
Netherlands	N/A	May provide veterinary experts in support of FAO operations.
USA	N/A	Support through the provision of laboratory analysis available in Atlanta

(As of 31/03/04. source: FAO representation in Indonesia)

Lao PDR

Donors	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$390,000	TCP/LAO/3001 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza
Asian Development Bank	\$50,000	Direct procurement of Personnel, Protective clothing and equipment
China	\$50,000	Re-establishing poultry breeding farms
France	\$53,745	for surveillance activities
Japan	\$404,040	Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083)
USA	\$50,000	Through JICA
WHO	\$250,000	Direct contribution to WHO Regional Office (Manila)

(As of 31/03/04. source: FAO Emergency Operations Service)

Pakistan

Donors	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$390,000	TCP/PAK/3002 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza
China	\$50,000	(No details given)

(As of 11/03/04. source: FAO representation in Pakistan)

Thailand

Donor	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO		technical advices of experts
Japan		sent two experts for National Institute of Animal Health to assist AI typing/sub-typing also provided standard Antigen and Antibodies for typing.

Viet Nam

Donors	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$390,000	TCP/VIE/3003 Emergency assistance for the control of avian influenza
Asian Development Bank	\$ 50,000	Protective gear
EU	\$ 968,000	Protective clothing, lab equipment
Germany	\$ 15,000	Protective gear
Japan	\$200,000	Tamiflu (anti-viral drug)
	\$401,750	Through OSRO/RAS/401/JPN "The Japan/FAO Joint Emergency Programme for the Control of Avian Influenza in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam" (total \$1,610,083)
WHO		unspecified
World Bank	\$170,000	Formulation mission for Avian Influenza Emergency Recovery Project

(As of 08/03/04. source: FAO representation in Viet Nam)

Regional

Donor	Amount (US\$)	Description
FAO TCP	\$400,000	TCP/RAS/3004 Emergency regional coordination assistance for control of avian influenza in southeast Asia
FAO TCP	\$400,000	TCP/RAS/3006 (E) Diagnostic Laboratory and Surveillance Network Coordination for Control and Prevention of Avian Influenza in Southeast Asia

(As of 1/04/04. source: FAO Emergency Operations Service)