

Project Profile

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| Sector | Agriculture |
| Sub Sector | Livestock |
| Code: | 0090 |
| Title: | Livestock Disease Control |
| Implementing agency: | MAAIF |
| Location: | Country wide |
| Total Plan Exp | US \$ 12.7 million |
| Funds Secured | US \$ 12.7 million |
| Funding gap | Nil |
| Start Date: | 2001 |
| End Date: | Continuos |

Background

The Livestock Disease Control is an integrated program consisting of three core projects namely: The Pan African Control of Epizootics (PACE), Epidoimiology Services and East Coast Fever.

The Pan African Control of Epizootics (PACE) Component

The Pan African Control of Epizootics (PACE) programme was conceived by the African Union, Inter-African Bureau of Animal resources and the European Union Commission by strengthening national and regional capacities for sustainable surveillance and strategic control of major animal diseases. PACE is being implemented in thirty countries across Africa.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the programme is to reinforce animal disease control capacity and animal health care delivery with private sector participation, safeguarding more efficiently animal health against major epizootics.

Expected outputs

Enhanced National Capacities for disease surveillance.
Improved Delivery of Veterinary Services and Animal Health Care.
Eradication of Rinderpest and
Control of CBPP and other Epizootics

Performance Indicators

Quantities and types of vaccines procured and distributed to districts
No. of livestock by types vaccinated
No. of farmers trained
Blood samples taken and tested
Percentage prevalence of the diseases by types
No. of private practitioners accessing the services of the project
Amount of credit extended to the private practitioners
No. of staff and farmers trained

Achievements

A total of 563,890 cattle were vaccinated against CBPP.
245,000 doses of vaccine for FMD procured
27 outbreaks of CBPP were investigated and 2353 samples collected.
7983 serum samples were collected for Rinderpest surveillance and tested at, Central Diagnostic Laboratory
12 FMD outbreaks were investigated. 110 samples were collected and confirmed as FMD

Plan of Operations

Carry out investigations of epidemic outbreaks
 Vaccinations against CBPP and other major Epidemics
 Surveillance for Rinderpest, CBPP and other major Epidemics in the whole country
 Training staff in Epidemiology, diagnosis, communication and computer skills
 Participation in national and regional animal health meetings
 Sensitisation of stakeholders on the importance of surveillance and control of Epizootics
 Procurement of transport equipment, computers, cold chain facilities

Epidemiology Services Component

Background:

This project started in 1990 with funding from GOU. GTZ funded the follow on phase. The purpose of the component was to provide Veterinary Epidemiology services to the Ministry to address issues of data collection, disease reporting, prevalence determination, monitoring and surveillance of diseases in the country. By 2000, a national Epidemiologist Unit was established and equipped; two laboratories of Masaka and Mbarara were fully rehabilitated, and are now functioning; a computerized Monthly National Disease reporting system was established and currently all districts have a common reporting format.

To ensure sustainability and continuity, these achievements had to be consolidated through regular financing. To this end, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries agreed to continue allocating funds from its ceiling to the programme.

Objectives:

To create appropriate programme for the control of animal diseases, provide referral laboratory diagnostic services for notifiable diseases and develop vaccine Quality control capacity.

Expected Outputs

Data on disease types compiled and analyzed
 Livestock diseases investigated and confirmed
 Vaccine production Unit maintained
 Improved disease surveillance

Performance Indicators

No. of surveillance reports formats returned from the districts
 No. of studies on general information on disease conducted
 No. of investigations carried out
 No. of surveys conducted

Achievements

Raw data was received at the Epidemiology unit, analysed and standardised
 CBPP investigation in Kibaale African Swine Fever investigation in Apac, Masindi and Nakasongola

Foot and mouth Disease investigation in Kiboga and Mbale.
 CBPP investigation in Kibaale African Swine Fever investigation in Apac, Masindi and Nakasongola
 Foot and mouth Disease investigation in Kiboga and Mbale.

Epidemiology and diagnostic staff tested and confirmed 1760 laboratory samples collected from the field.

Technical back up and support supervision provided to the districts of Kabarole, Bundibugyo, Kyenjojo, Mbarara, Bushenyi and Ntungamo

Recruited 3 data entrants, one office clerk and an office messenger

Plan of Operations

Epidemiological intelligence through passive surveillance
 Prompt investigation of epidemic animal diseases nationwide
 Disease surveillance & monitoring in the districts
 Provide necessary equipment and supplies to the Epidemiology & Diagnostic Unit
 Training and technical back up
 Vaccine quality testing
 Project management

Immunization against East Coast Fever Component.

Background

East Coast Fever (ECF), a protozoan disease caused by *Theileria parva*, and transmitted by the three host brown ear tick, *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus*, is the most important and prevalent tick-borne disease of cattle throughout Uganda. It is endemic in most parts of Uganda and is associated with profound debility, mortality and production losses. More than half of the cattle population is at risk. The disease affects all cattle but most severely the highly productive taurine (*Bos taurus*) breeds, their crosses and indigenous Zebu (*Bos indicus*) cattle moved from areas free of ECF into endemic areas. One of the main economic losses due to this disease comes from the inability of farmers to cross-breed their indigenous cattle with genetically improved cattle for fear of losing the off-springs to ECF.

For many years and until recently, the conventional methods of controlling ticks and ECF have relied mainly on restriction of cattle movement (to avoid contact with ticks) and use of acaricides, (to kill ticks). Because the former method is difficult to implement successfully, while the latter is both expensive and has environmental implications, immunisation has been recommended for ECF control.

Infection and treatment method (ITM) is currently the only method available for immunisation of cattle against ECF. ITM involves inoculation of live, potentially lethal parasites into healthy cattle, accompanied by an injection of a long-acting antibiotic. The adoption of ITM as one of the strategies in the control of ECF in improved cattle has in recent years been promoted by the GoU with assistance from DANIDA under Agricultural Sector Programme Support (ASPS). The project started October 1998 and DANIDA support ended October 2001. Nevertheless, the project activities have continued under GoU funds albeit at a much diminished level due to insufficient funds. Discussions are underway at regional level to find ways of commercializing delivery of ITM.

Objective of the ECF Immunisation Project:

Establish food security and income at farm level through the improvement of livestock production by control of tick-borne diseases (TBDs) with specific reference to ECF.

Specific Objectives:

- Train field staff and sensitise farmers in field delivery of immunisation packages against ECF.
- Support Government to revise policy on control of ticks and TBDs.
- Collect data to support registration of ECF vaccine in Uganda.
- Promote field delivery of ECF vaccine at cost recovery.
- Demonstrate the technology to the vet staff and farmers in the field.
- Protect the environment by encouraging farmers to reduce use of acaricides.

Technical Description

ECF vaccine is a live vaccine comprising of 3 different strains. It involves inoculation of the vaccine around the prescapular or parotid lymph nodes and simultaneous intramuscular injection of long acting oxytetracycline to control the infection. The animals are monitored for fever and clinical disease for 28 days to avoid severe reactions or disease.

Expected outputs

- Knowledgeable farmers in tick and ECF control
- Cattle immunized
- Trained Field Veterinary staff in ECF control methods and techniques

Performance Indicators

- No of farmers trained in tick and ECF control
- Quantities of vaccines procured
- No of cattle immunized
- No of Field Veterinary Staff trained

Achievements

350 farmers sensitised in the districts of Kibaale, Mbarara, Hoima, Mayuge and Moyo and Kapchorwa

40 field veterinary extension staff were trained in the districts of Kibaale, Mbarara, Hoima, Mayuge and Moyo and Kapchorwa.

3,884 heads of cattle immunised against East Coast Fever in Mubende, Kiboga, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Hoima, Nakasongola, Rakai, Jinja, Masindi, Moyo and on NAGRC farms of Njeru, Rubona, Nshara and Kasolwe.

1,500 blood samples collected

Plan of Operations

Continue to sensitize farmers in ticks and tick borne disease control and ECF immunization by the infection and treatment method (ITM)

Train 60 field veterinary extension workers in ticks and tick-borne disease control and delivery of ECF immunization package.

Immunize 500,000 cattle against East Coast Fever using ITM

Carry out sero-surveillance to determine prevalence of tick-borne diseases

Financing

The project is financed by GOU and EU. The funding for GoU amounts to US \$ 1.60 million FY 2005/06.