



Support Program to  
Integrated National  
Action Plans on Avian  
and Human Influenza

# SPINAP-AHI



AFRICAN UNION  
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU FOR  
ANIMAL RESOURCES**

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL RESOURCES FOR AFRICA

## Background

The African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialized technical office of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the African Union Commission (AUC). AU-IBAR's mandate is to support and coordinate the utilization of livestock, fisheries and wildlife as resources for both human wellbeing and economic development in the Member States of the African Union (AU). A major component of this mandate is the control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses.

## Rationale

Since the 2003 H5N1 outbreaks in China and later on, in Europe and Africa, AU-IBAR has been actively involved in efforts to support its prevention and control interventions in Africa through the Support Program for Integrated National Action Plans against Avian and Human Influenza (SPINAP-AHI). SPINAP-AHI is a three and half year programme executed by AU-IBAR with funding from the European Union. It was developed in response to the escalating global threat of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), especially its introduction into Africa in 2006.

With the leadership of AU-IBAR in collaboration with other technical organisations and key global actors, African countries have developed Integrated Action Plans (IAPs) against HPAI and mobilized resources for its prevention and control efforts. SPINAP-AHI is a major Pan African intervention against HPAI supporting



the implementation of IAPs/INAPs.

## Strategy

SPINAP-AHI's strategy is to facilitate the implementation of short term emergency preparedness components of IAPs/INAPs of participating countries. Support by the programme is based on individual country needs and priorities. AU-IBAR ensures technical support, coordination and quality assurance throughout the implementation process.

## Collaboration and synergies

Influenza programmes and activities at AU-IBAR are designed to dovetail with the global strategies for the prevention and control of Avian and Human Influenza. In the execution of the SPINAP-AHI and other AHI projects, AU-IBAR works closely with the ALive Platform, WHO, FAO, OIE, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and national authorities through their veterinary and public health departments. SPINAP-AHI implementation also collaborates closely with other EU, AfDB, USAID, GTZ and other donor-supported HPAI interventions in Africa.

“  
...Strengthening national capacities in avian and human influenza prevention and control in Africa...  
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## Key achievements to end of March 2010

### Important milestones achieved since SPINAP-AHI inception

- A total of 12,426,903.68 Euro transferred for activities in target countries to date.
- Disease surveillance capacity, laboratory systems, including acquisition of equipment and technology, training of human resources & strengthening of bio-security systems achieved in all countries.
- Collaboration between human and animal health sectors improved including establishment of joint rapid response teams.
- Awareness creation and communication strategies developed/ adopted by all participating countries.
- Acquisition of information and communication technology by all participating countries.
- Improvement and testing of emergency preparedness plans through simulation exercises.
- Management capacity enhanced among national staff involved in the coordination/implementation of the program.
- Enhanced visibility of AU-IBAR and EU in AU member states.

## Key lessons learned

- Most countries have not allocated budgets for the implementation of their IAPs and must do this to sustain gains realized through the SPINAP-AHI programme.
- Cross-border coordination of efforts for the prevention and control of diseases is weak and therefore constrains efforts against such diseases. Deriving lessons from this experience, the

programme is supporting the development of an Integrated Regional Coordination Mechanism within the RECs to institutionalize disease prevention and control efforts within the building blocks of Africa's integration.

- Collaboration between animal and human health sectors has been traditionally weak. Though gains have been realized through the SPINAP-AHI programme, resources should be set aside to sustain collaborative efforts and capacity building to further strengthen and advance inter-sectoral collaboration and synergy in African countries in line with the "One World, One Health" strategic framework.



**Goal** Reducing the socio-economic impact of avian and human influenza and the potential loss of human lives, including preparing for a possible human pandemic

**Objective** To strengthen national capacities to prevent and control avian and human influenza

## Main Expected Results

- Capacity for prevention and control of AHI strengthened at national level.
- Information and communication for the creation of awareness and behaviour change enhanced.
- Coordination of INAP implementation supported.

## 47 Africa ACP countries

Project geographic coverage.

**May 2007—December 2010**

Project implementation period.

## Beneficiaries

Animal and Human Health services of target countries in Africa.

## Stakeholders

Livestock/Poultry keepers, consumers and traders, wildlife authorities and the general population.

## 25.7 million euros

Amount in the Financing Agreement signed by AU-IBAR and the EU.

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Implementing partners:



Financial support:

