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PROJECT INFORMATION FACTSHEET

General Information	
Title of the action	Support to the State Veterinary Control Service (SVCS) in Strengthening the Epidemiological Surveillance (of animal diseases) System in Azerbaijan
Priority sector	Regional and Rural Development
Contracting party	Contracting Party: Ministry of Agriculture and Food of France with Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary ; Implementing partners: Government of Azerbaijan - State Veterinary Control Service (SVCS)
Beneficiary	State Veterinary Control Service (SVCS)
Duration	24 months 05.2016-05.2018
EU budget (EUR)	EUR 1 020 000 Funded under European Neighbourhood Instrument (Annual Action Programme 2012)
Summary of the Action	
Short description of the action and its main objectives	The overall objective of this Twinning project was to strengthen the State Veterinary Control Service (SVCS) of Azerbaijan in order to better protect animal and human health and so contribute to the economic growth of the agricultural sector and improvement of the food safety situation in Azerbaijan. The Twinning Project purpose was to strengthen the capacity of the State Veterinary Control Service in respect of epidemiology, disease surveillance, prevention and control of animal diseases and zoonoses in line with the International Organization for Animal Health (OIE) principles
Location	Barda, Beylagan, Goygol, Guba, Lankaran, Sheki and Baku city.
Expected results / Results achieved	<p>Expected results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligning legal and regulatory framework with EU/OIE standards and best practise Improving Veterinary organisational and institutional framework Stakeholders management and co-ordination Capacity building & data analysis <p>Results achieved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments proposed to Veterinary Law focusing amongst others on compensation policy and animal welfare. New regulations were drafted on control of Rabies, Brucellosis, Anthrax, Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and Newcastle Disease (ND). The Contingency Plan (CP) for HPAI was updated and new CPs on ND, LSD and PPR were drafted with respective Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) attached. A National Strategic Plan for Rabies Control in the Republic of Azerbaijan (AR) and a Pluri-Annual Action Plan for its Eradication (PAAPFERIA) was submitted to the Council of Ministers. A crisis simulation exercise (PPR outbreak), involving the staff of the 6 Regional Veterinary Departments, was implemented in Lankaran and registered by the International Organization for Animal Health. Gap analysis of the current epidemiological surveillance network of animal diseases carried out. An epidemiological surveillance system for PPR was set up, in order for Azerbaijan to further gain the «free of PPR» status delivered by the International Organization for Animal Health. Proposals were made for the installation of an efficient sero-surveillance system of main animal diseases. More than one hundred public veterinarians, at central and local levels, were trained on risk analysis in animal health, qualitative risk assessment, epidemiological investigation in cattle production as well as organization and



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animation of the epidemiological surveillance network. Internships for Azerbaijani veterinarians and study tours France and Hungary. A new electronic documentary data base for veterinary laws, regulations, SOPs established with web based access.