

EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HaDEA)

Department A Health and Food Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

Food Programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses

submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex II: Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes in certain poultry populations

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Member state: ROMANIA	
Disease Salmonella	
Animal population Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	
This program is multi annual :	
Request of Union co-financing from beginning :	2023
1. Contact data	
Name	Phone
Email	Your job type within the CA:

Submission Date

Submission Number

12/12/2022 11:39:34

1670841577148-19275

A. Technical information

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents,
- Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of Salmonella serotypes in laying hens of Gallus gallus,
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry.

As a consequence, the following measures will be implemented during the whole period of the programme:

1. Aim of the programme

It is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the prevalence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (including the serotypes with the antigenic formula I,4,[5],12:i:-) in adult <u>laying</u> hens of *Gallus gallus* ('Union target') as follows:

An annual <u>minim</u> um percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 10% where the prevalence in the preceding year was less than 10%.
An annual <u>minimum</u> percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 20% where the prevalence in the preceding year was more than or equal to 10% and less than 20%.
A reduction of the ma <u>xim</u> um percentage equal to 2% or less of positive flocks of adult laying hens.
The Member States has less than 50 flocks of adult laying hens: the target is to have not more than one adult flock remaining positive.

was0,09%, which is low and below the Community target.

The Union target shall be achieved every year based on the monitoring of the previous year.

Comments(max. 32000 chars):

The programme for the control of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in laying hens flocks of Gallus gallus has been in operation in Romania since 2008. As a result, the number of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium infected flocks of Gallus gallus in Romania is currently very low under 2%. During 2015, a totally of 683 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella and there were only 10 flocks positive for Salmonella Enteritidis. The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2015 was 1,46%, which is low and below the Community target. In 2016 a totally of 617 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella and there were only 7 flocks positive for Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis. The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2016 was 1,1%, which is low and below the Community target. In 2017, totally no. of 1056 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and was 1 positive flocks for Salmonella Enteritidis. The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2016

In 2018, totally no. of 1095 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and there were 8positive flocks for Salmonella Enteritidis.

In 2019, totally no. of 876 adult laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and was 9 positivef locks for Salmonella Enteritidis (6) and Typhimurium (3). The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2019 was 1.03% which is low and below the Community target.

In 2020, totally no. of 870 adults laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and there were 16 positive flocks for Salmonella (10 SE and 6 ST). The prevalence for the target serotypes in adults laying hens flocks in 2020 was 1,84%, which is below the Community target.

In 2021, 873 flocks were raised and tested and from these, 6 flocks were found positive for SE.

2. The programn	ne will be implemer	nted on the whole territory of the MS.	
⊠yes	□no		
If No, please explain:			
Romania is divided into hen flocks throughout F		nties. SNCP in laying hens will be implemented i	n laying

3. Flocks subject to the programme

The programme covers all flocks of adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* but does not apply to flocks for private domestic use or leading to the direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities of table eggs to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the eggs to the final consumer. For the latter case (direct supply), national rules are adopted ensuring *Salmonella* control in these flocks.

The programme covers also all rearing flocks of future laying hens.

$\boxtimes yes$	\square no		
If No, please explain:			

	Total number of flocks of layers in the MS	Number of flocks covered by the programme	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place				
Rearing flocks	250		250	5				
Adult flocks	900							
Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens								
Number of flocks in these holdings 900								
NB : All cells shall be fi	NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.							

Comments (max. 32000 chars):

Estimation based on 2021 situation in Romania.

Taking into account the large number of positive flocks in LAY that we have in 2020 (near to the higher limit of Union target -2%) and taking into account the number of laying hens flocks raised in RO, we took the decision to test once per year the all-adult flocks of LAY raised. This decision was done considering that these holdings may sell eggs to "mass caterers" (such as restaurants, canteens, schools, hospitals and catering enterprises, and we consider that such official is sampling appropriate to ensure adequate official control and public health protection.

4. Notification of the detection of target Salmonella serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.

⊠yes	□no
if no, please explain:	
5. Biosecurity r	easures
FBOs have to	nplement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks.
⊠vos.	\Box no
$\boxtimes yes$	

if no, please explain. If yes, please describe the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) (max. 32000 chars):

Biosecurity measures to be implemented in poultry farms are foreseen in our national legislation namely NSVFSA Order no. 21/2018.

To prevent the introduction of disease in the holding the minimum biosecurity measures are (summary) describes below:

- -Farm perimeter of farm should be seal in order to prevent the entry of domestic and wild animals, people and non-essential vehicles.
- -Feed should be stored in separate spaces, indoors and protected from wild birds and rodents.
- -Access should be permitted only to the indispensable personnel and vehicles (transport of animals, feed). These vehicles must be previously disinfected.
- -Contact with birds from other farms or other animals should be avoided by owners and handlers.
- -Full protective clothing, for exclusive use in the holding, should be wear.
- -The collection of dead birds should be done daily with correct methods of transport and disposal
- -Disinfection between production cycles of all places, equipment, utensils and transport vehicles should be carried out.
- -Drinking water should be treated and in the case of this being carried out at the holding, periodic analysis of water and a register should be maintained.

The verification of biosecurity measures by the CA is done:

 accordingly with the risk analyses: quarterly, twice per year or once per year; -as part of the registration process; - when they apply for approval for intra-EU trade; -when there are positive results of the targeted Salmonella serovars; -in case of positive Salmonella test results detected in the slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2073/2005). 6. Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators (FBO): Samples at the initiative of the FBOs will be taken and analysed to test for the target Salmonella serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements: a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit b. Adults laying flocks: every 15 weeks during the laying period \square no \boxtimes yes if no, please explain - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples, and, if additional FBO sampling, going beyond the minimum sampling requirements, is performed, please describe what is done. The FBO has the responsibility of own-check sampling under the SNCP. The FBO may delegate sampling to the veterinarian who have contract with the farm or farm staff. All the persons who perform the sampling within SNCP must be trained in this scope.

7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011

 \Box no \boxtimes yes

if no, please explain:

Samples (official and FBO samples) are taken in accordance with the provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 517/2011.

Samples must be taken using properly sterilized materials; they must be wrapped in appropriate safe packaging to which a label should be attached indicating the type of sample and sample code, and sent to the competent laboratory, accompanied by the appropriate forms.

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect are it should be accounted for as an infected laying flock for the purpose of the Community target and the appropriate measures should be implemented.

- **8. Specific requirements** laid down in Annex II.D of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant. In particular:
 - due to the presence or the suspicion of the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST I,4,[5],12:i:-) in the flock, eggs cannot be used for human consumption unless heat treated;
 - eggs from these flocks shall be marked and considered as class B eggs.

⊠ <i>yes</i>	\square no
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accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

if no, please explain - Indicate also if prompt depopulation of the infected flocks is compulsory.

In case of a positive flock for the targeted serovars, the flock is depopulated according with the provision laid down in Annex II point D of Regulation 2160/2003. When birds from infected flocks are slaughtered or destroyed, steps are taken in order to reduce the risk of spreading zoonoses as far as possible. Slaughtering is carried out in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene. Products derived from such birds (eggs) may be placed on the market for human consumption in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene, namely they are marked and considered as class B eggs. If the eggs are not destined for human consumption, such products are disposed in

The eggs from the infected flocks are classified as by-products not intended for human consumption and destroyed in accordance with Regulation (EC) no. 1069/2009 or are heat-treated.

Also, specific requirements laid down in Annex II.D of Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003, point 2 are applied. Moreover, restricted measures on eggs are implemented starting with the date of Salmonella spp. result, pending the result of serotyping.

9.If birds from flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered, please describe the measures that shall be implemented by the FBO and the CA to ensure that fresh poultry meat meet the relevant **EU microbiological criteria** (row 1.28 of Chapter 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005): absence of SE/ST in 5 samples of 25q:

Measures implemented by the FBO (farm level)

When birds from infected flocks with SE or ST are slaughtered, measures are taken both by FBO and CA, as follows:

FBO is responsible for ensuring food safety, and the CA performs official controls in order to verify that FBO complies the requirements.

NSVFSA adopted and applies efficient national measures for zoonotic Salmonella for the whole food chain, starting with the farms.

In the Food Chain Information form for poultry, that must accompany the birds to the slaughterhouse, all the relevant information regarding sampling in the frame of Salmonella National Control Programme Salmonella enteritidis (SE) and typhimurium (ST).

In addition all flocks going to the slaughterhouse must be accompanied by the FCI. In case of positive for SE/ST flocks logistical slaughter of the infected flock takes place and appropriate cleaning and disinfection of the slaughterhouse follows the slaughter of the infected flock.

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

When SE or ST was detected in a certain flock, measures are taken together by FBO and CA: it will be decided the time and date when birds will be slaughtered in a separate party, and all the meat will be ceased and stored in a designated cold store by the CA. Also, FBO has to take all the necessary measures to control the hazard and minimize any risk of cross-contamination to slaughter and processing equipment and carcasses from negative flocks.

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

Official control in the slaughterhouse is performed according to the hygiene package and Reg 2073/2005 as last amended. Official Samples must be taken for SE and ST tests from the ceased meat. When SE or ST is confirmed in meat (Food safety criteria)- unsatisfactory results according to Reg 2073/2005, measures will be applied on the product according to the Reg 2073/2005 and National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority Order No. 35/2016 establishing methodological rules for applying of National Surveillance Program which includes actions of surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases, those transmitted from animals to humans, animals and environmental protection, identification and registration of cattle, pigs, sheep and goats, and the rules for the application of surveillance and control program on food safety.

In case the results of sampling for the food safety criteria are not favourable and the poultry meat does not fulfil the requirements of row 1.28 of Chapter I of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005: absence of SE and ST in 5 samples of 25g of fresh poultry meat, the meat will not be intended for human consumption and will be destroyed.

10. Laboratories in which samples (official and FBO samples) collected within this programme are analysed are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for *Salmonella* detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

$\boxtimes yes$	□no		
If no, please explain :			

11	. The analytical methods used for the detection of the target Salmonella
	serovars is the one defined in Part 3.2 of the Annex of Regulation (EU) No
	200/2010 i.e. Amendment 1 of EN/ISO 6579-2002/Amd1:2007. `Microbiology
	of food and animal feeding stuffs - Horizontal method for the detection of
	Salmonella spp Amendment 1: Annex D: Detection of Salmonella spp. in
	animal faeces and in environmental samples from the primary production
	stage'.

S	erotyping is perfo	rmed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme.
	⊠yes	□no
If no plea	se explain.	
The labo Laborato national (CSVFSL) Program found at laborato All Labor At the Na Animals Salmone	ratory examinations bry for Salmonellosis level and at the cour . Till now there is no me. A list of the CSVF the following adress r/ ratories have to use the ational Reference Lak Heath– Bucharest is p	or Salmonellosis in animals are performed by the National Reference in animals at the Institute for Diagnosis and Animals Heath—Bucharest at the level at the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory perivate laboratory performing test within Salmonella National Control SL who are approved by the CCA to perform Salmonella testing can be http://www.ansvsa.ro/industrie-si-afaceri/laboratoare-si-analize-de-ne methods of the diagnostic presented at the point 11 oratory for Salmonella in animals from the Institute for Diagnosis and performing the serotype according to the Kaufmann-White scheme from all permania. If Salmonella spp. is found in any sample (official or self-control) and .
		on behalf of the FBO alternative methods if validated in e most recent version of EN/ISO16140 may be used.
	□yes	⊠no
If no plea	se explain.	
For FBO	samples , not alterna	ive methods are use for detection of Salmonella, other than analytical

methods defined in Part 3.2. of Annex of Regulation no. 200/2010, namely Amendment 1 of EN/ISO 6579-1: 2017 / A1: 2020.

12	. Samples	are	transpo	rted	and	stoi	red	in	accord	lance	with	point	3.1	of	the A	nnex
	to Regula	tion	(EU) No	517	7/20	11.	Inβ	oar	ticular	, san	nples	exam	inati	on	shall	start
	in the lab	orate	ory withi	in 4 c	days	afte	er s	am	pling.							

\boxtimes yes	□no
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If no, please explain:

In case the time limit lay down under point 3.1. of annex to Reg (EC) No. 517/2011 is not respected, the samples are rejected from the reception desk of the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory following a specific procedure of rejection of non-compliant samples and re-sampling is done.

13. Please describe the official controls at feed level (including sampling).

Comments (max. 32000 chars):

NSVFSA is the Central Competent Authority for Romania Feed Official Control Plan (CAA) under Reg. (EU) 2017/625. According to this plan, planned, monitored and evaluated by NSVFSA, samples are annually collected and inspection actions are conducted at the level of all chain feed operators, including primary producers, feed materials producers, compound feed manufacturers, feed intermediaries, and feed imports from third countries. A voluntary guide have been produced by the NSVFSA in respect of control of Salmonella in feed. This guide can be found at the following link:

- http://www.ansvsa.ro/download/ghiduri_-_toate/nutritie/Ghid-recoltare-furaje-Salmonella-2010-RO.pdf

The official controls at feed level for Salmonella is achieve at following units and raw materials:

- 1. Production units of mixed feed
- -The raw materials: whole seeds of oleaginous (soy bean thermic threated) and derivates (groats: soy, sun flower, canola, flax, cotton seeds)
- -The raw materials: Milk products and derivatives, substitutes for milk powder
- Mixed feed for birds, pigs
- 2. The stores and supply units
- -The raw materials: Feed materials obtained by processing fish or marine fishery (fish meal, fish protein hydrolysates)
- 3. Mixed feed producing units, conveyor, cooling unit (granulation)
- -Samples from the primary production stage (dust).

All non-compliant results obtained for Salmonella spp. are subjected to serotyping for adoption of subsequent measures, which means rendering of the positive feed.

Besides sanctioning measures provided by the legislation in force, additional official controls in the feed establishments of origin will be performed in order to prevent and correct, including traceability of products for, whenever applicable, withdrawal from the market with a view to their destruction, as well as knowledge of livestock holdings of destination for adequate surveillance of those destined to poultry production.

14. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery level

a. Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.

(max. 32000 chars):

Biosecurity is a combination of practices, which are intended to prevent the spread of disease-causing organisms within the poultry farm. Where these are performed in parallel with the sanitation and disinfection procedures, bio-security measures could eradicate or, at least, reduce the level of pathogens to values, at which no hazard of infection would be likely. The bio-security measures in commercial poultry farms are in accordance to the NSVFSA President Order 21/2018 regarding the bio-security measures in commercial poultry farms and the movements of live poultry, products and poultry by-products.

Bio-security measures on holdings:

- Health status of poultry
- On entering to all houses on the farm must be located disinfection barrier
- Control of movement of people
- Transport hygiene
- Feed hygiene
- Water hygiene
- Rodent, insect and bird control
- Cleaning and disinfecting of buildings
- Recording of all events and operations

Hygiene measures on poultry farms are also assessed during visits for the collection of official samples and during general visits to premises for other purpose.

- At least one inspection visit per year by the official veterinarian;
- Additional checks to verify the compliance of the establishment with the operation of the establishments.

Each poultry holding receives a distinct approval number, number that can be the same with the one given in compliance with the Council Regulation no. 1308/2013/EC establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007.

Some of the relevant guides for good animal husbandry practices on Salmonella are presented at the below link:

- -http://www.ansvsa.ro/blog/wpfb-file/community_guide_broilers_ro-pdf
- -http://www.ansvsa.ro/blog/wpfb-file/ghid-sall-ferma-broiler-ro-pdf
- http://www.ansvsa.ro/blog/wpfb-file/ghid-rozatoare-salmonella_ro-pdf
- -http://www.ansvsa.ro/download/ghiduri toate/

community_guide_layers_hygiene_practice_pullet_egg_RO_2.pdf

All farm registered must have their individual plan for good farmer practices, which are subject to approval by the official veterinarian responsible for the control of the holding concerned In case of detection of non-compliances during the inspection of biosecurity, the measures are in accordance with the degree of non-compliance. The measures can go from establishing a corrective

measures plan (with specific dead-lines and follow-ups and/or penalties) to extreme measures by issuing official ordinance of interdiction of activity.

- b. Routine official **sampling scheme:** EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:
 - in one flock per year per holding comprising at least 1,000 birds;
 - at the age of 24 +/- 2 weeks in laying flocks housed in buildings where the relevant Salmonella was detected in the preceding flock;
 - in any case of suspicion of Salmonella infection when investigating foodborne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC or any cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate, using the sampling protocol laid down in point 4(b) of Part D to Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;
 - in all other laying flocks on the holding in case Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium is detected in one laying flock on the holding;
 - in cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate.

≥yes	no
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If no, please explain. - Indicate also 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed give a description of what is done 2) who is taking the official samples

The official samples are taken by the official veterinarians from the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorates.

Taking into account the large number of positive flocks in LAY that we have in 2020 (near to the higher limit of Union target -2%) and taking into account the number of laying hens flocks raised in RO, we took the decision to test once per year the all-adult flocks of LAY raised. This decision was done considering that these holdings may sell eggs to "mass caterers" (such as restaurants, canteens, schools, hospitals and catering enterprises, and we consider that such

official is sampling appropriate to ensure adequate official control and public health protection.

c. Official confirmatory sampling (in addition to the confirmatory samples at the holding which are systematically performed if FBO or official samples are positive at the hatchery):

After positive official camples at the	Always
After positive official samples at the holding	Sometimes (criteria apply)
	Never
After positive EBO samples at the	Always
After positive FBO samples at the holding	Sometimes (criteria apply)
	Never
When official confirmatory sample taken for checking the presence	ling is performed, additional samples are e of antimicrobials:
Always Sometin	nes Never

Please insert any comments. Describe the criteria used to determine if confirmatory sampling is performed. Indicate also which samples (if any) are taken to check the presence of antimicrobials.

After this initial positive result for Salmonella, the flock is placed under sanitary restrictive measures and cannot commercialize any eggs or birds. The restrictive measures are only lifted if a final negative result from the confirmatory sampling is obtained.

Criteria used to determine if confirmatory sampling is performed are based on:

- The Epidemiological Investigation carried out by official vet;
- The implementation and enforcement of security measures check;
- The self-check sampling, packing and sending samples check;
- Compliance and enforcement procedures for good hygiene practices on the farm;
- EU legislations;

The criteria used to determine when official confirmatory sampling is performed as follow:

- Epidemiological inquiry made by the official vet revealed deficiency in sampling made by FBO, e.g. cross-contamination of the first samples taken by FBO, especially when there are more then one holdings sampled by the same person, lack of biosecurity procedures in sampling (using the same equipment and the same containers), lack of disinfection, samples taken by sick persons, non-compliant sampling materials etc;
- Non- compliance in the procedures of sampling and transport of the samples to the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory authorized to receive them;
- Non- compliance of the legislation in force regarding the number and the type of samples, specify to the category of production;

The exceptional cases has defined in the procedure for the breeding flocks (PS-14-DSA), can be found at the following link:

http://www.ansvsa.ro/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/PS-13-DSA-Control-salmoneloze-gaini-ouatoare.pdf Regarding the samples for detection of antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors, this will be

represented by birds taken at random from within each poultry house of birds on the holding, normally up to five birds per house, unless it necessary to sample a higher number of birds.

In case of negative bacteriological test but positive antimicrobial test, the flock is considered positive as regards the EU incidence calculation.

In case of SE/ST detection, depopulation measures and eggs destruction/channeling to heat treatment it is apply to the concerned flock.

In order to exclude false positive initial result, where S. Enteritidis and/or S. Typhimurium was detected, official veterinarian shall carry out official sampling using the sampling protocol defined in point 4 (b) (i, ii or iii) of part D, Annex II to Regulation (EC) 2160/2003. During official sampling also samples for the detection of the presence of antimicrobials are taken (5 birds/flock).

In case the bacteo testing is negative, but antimicrobials will be detected, the laying hen flock shall be reported as positive for the verification of the Union target.

1	2	3	4
For routine samples taken at the holding	positive to SE / ST	where official confirmatory samples ³	Out of the cases in column 3, No of cases where confirmatory samples were negative
FBO samples ¹	0	0	0
Official samples ²	0	0	0

¹Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.1 of the Annex

What happened to the flocks counted under 4 (re checked for the presence of Salmonella? Checked for the presence of antimicrobials?) (max. 32000 chars):

In case the bacteo testing is negative, but antimicrobials will be detected, the laying hen flock shall be reported as positive for the verification of the Union target.

d. Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 (antimicrobials shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in poultry): please describe the official controls implemented (documentary checks, sampletaking) to check the correct implementation of this provision. For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

² Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.2 of the Annex

³ Reg 2160/2003, point II.D.4 of the Annex

Comments - Describe also if any other measures are implemented(max. 32000 chars):

The use of antimicrobials (as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006) it is checked when the official sample is taken. If the flock is under antimicrobial medication for animal health or animal welfare reasons, the flock will be sampled again after the period of withdrawal considered suitable by the Competent Authority and taking into account the product Marketing Authorisation.

Flock owners are required to keep records of antimicrobial use and these records are available for checking when it is made an official sampling.

Also, the records of samples taken by the operator will be made available for inspection to the Competent Authority or its agent and will provide details of the identity of the flock sampled, date of sample, slaughter date, type of sample, laboratory carrying out the examination, and the result, the number of flocks on the holding and the number of birds.

When it is a suspicion of antimicrobial use, once with the bacteriological sampling for determine the Salmonella according with veterinary legislation in force under NCPS, it is sampled maximum 5 birds/cheked flock for the testing of the presence of the antibiotics or bacterial growth inhibitors.

Tested for screening of antimicrobials (CHARM II test) from muscular tissue will be performed. If the screening test is positive confirmatory tests will be performed (HPLC) at the NRL for residues (Veterinary Hygiene and Public Heath Institute)

If antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors are detected, the Salmonella infection is considered as confirmed and breeding flock is considered positive for the purpose of ascertaining the achievement of the Union target. All birds are killed, according to all the welfare rules on these issues. All the corpses and the eggs from these flocks are classified as by-products not intended for human consumption and destroyed in accordance with Regulation (EC) no. 1069/2009 laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002.

15. 5	Salmonella vaccir	nation					
	Voluntary						
	Compulsory						
	Forbidden						
	Use of <i>Salmonel</i> Regulation (EC) N		n compliance	with prov	isions of	Article	3 of
	⊠yes	□no					

If no, please explain. - *If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc) (max. 32000 chars):*

Take into account that vaccination against Salmonlla in laying hens flocks is voluntary, this is achieved at the farm level by trained persons or veterinary doctor who have contact with the farm. The vaccination schedule as recommended by the manufacturer of the vaccine / vaccines are used and the mandatory

compliance with the provisions with Regulation no. 1177/2006 of implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry. The vaccines used to vaccinate against Salmonella must be approved by the competent authority. The vaccine and vaccination scheme used are determined by the veterinarian of the holding, however no more than 3 vaccine doses per birds are administrated.

Approved live or inactivated vaccine can be used.

Usually rearing flocks are vaccinated against Salmonella.

Documents accompanying the samples sent to the veterinary laboratories must indicate if samples come from a vaccinated flock or not and the type of vaccine used.

The test for the differentiation of the wild-type strain from the vaccine one is performed only at the Salmonella NRL.

16. System for **compensation to owners** for the value of their birds slaughtered or culled and the eggs destroyed or heat treated.

Describe the system for compensation to owners. Indicate also how improper implementation of biosecurity measures can affect the payment of compensation (max. 32000 chars):

In laying hens flocks of Gallus gallus financial assistance is provided in the context of the Salmonella control programme for compensation of the owners for the value of thier birds and eggs. This is set up by the Government Decision no. 1214/2009 regarding the metodology for for determining and paying compensation to be paid to owners of slaughtered animals, killed or otherwise affected by the rapid liquidation of outbreaks of animal diseases.

In this national legislation is foreseen that any improper implementation of the animal health legislation (biosecurity for example) affect the payment of compensation.

Payment of compensation to the owners of animals killed or otherwise affected and the eggs destroyed or heat-treated is carried out according to veterinary legislation in force, respectively Government Decision no. 1214/2009, within 90 days of slaughter, killing or otherwise disturbing the animals. All measures described in Annex II.C.3 to 4 of Reg 2160/2003 are implemented as soon as it can be possible after the detection by target Salmonella serovars and this measures are compulsory. The CA makes the measures plan, establishing with the FBO the fastest way for eliminate the affected flock and eggs provide from the affected flock and these measures are compulsory to be done as soon as possible.

17. Please describe the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (No of samples, No of tests, samples taken, etc).

(max. 32000 chars):

After depopulation of a confirmed positive flock for relevant Salmonella, it is mandatory to collect official samples in order to verify the effectiveness of disinfection. If these official tests to verify the efficiency of the disinfection are not adequate, the decontamination actions shall be repeated, after which official tests to verify the efficiency of the decontamination shall be taken once more. The cost of laboratory tests for samples to verify the efficiency of decontamination taken a second time, as well as for any

subsequent samples, shall be borne by the economic operator. Repopulation of a house where a positive flock for relevant Salmonella serotypes has previously been detected will only be performed only after official disinfection tests have had adequate results.

Sampling of samples for the the verification of the efficacy of the disinfection is done by wiping the test surface with the swab, in zigzag, in 2 planes, transversely and longitudinally, in order to cover an area of 10 cm x 10 cm, using a template; if the template cannot be used for the collection of sanitation samples, this fact will be mentioned in the table of individualization of the samples. The sampling area must be at least 1 / 10,000 of the total area to be decontaminated. 30% of the areas chosen for sampling must be in the most inaccessible places for cleaning operations and 70% must be in areas with which poultry come into direct contact, bed, drinkers, feeders, walls and boxes.

The sampling for verification the efficacy of the disinfection is performed from a minimum of 5 points, for houses smaller than 1,000 sqm (minimum 5 samples) and from a minimum of 10 points, for targets larger than 1,000 sqm (minimum 10 samples) and shall be performed after the expiration time of the decontaminants on the target areas, and immediately after unsealing the decontaminated house. These samples are transported at $4 \circ C$ and are examined as soon as possible, but not later than 24 hours after harvesting.

The house will be repopulated only when the results of the testes will be properly.

B. General information

1. Structure and organisation of the **Competent Authorities** (from the central CA to the local CAs)

Short description and/or reference to a document presenting this description (max. 32000 chars):

Veterinary services are organised and function as unique veterinary system:

- state veterinary network;
- private veterinary network;

State veterinary network are organised in a unitary conception with a pyramidal system of the command chain based on a territorial principle, as distinct and autonomous sector.

The official veterinarian is the veterinarian that activates within the structure of National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (NSVSFA), of veterinary institutes and Counties Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorares (CSVFSD).

The free practice veterinarian can be approved by the Authority to carry out certain public veterinary activities on a contract basis.

The Competent Authorities from Romania (see attachment):

- National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safethy Authority is National Coordinator
 is organized and functions in accordance with the provisions of the Government Ordinance no 42/2004
 is subordinated to the government and operates under the direct coordination of the minister of agriculture and rural developments.
- is responsible for technical and administrative coordination of all activities carried out by the sanitary-

veterinary services, organize and control the achievement of sanitary-veterinary and food safety public activities.

- develops and implements strategies on the veterinary field, defines the competence and duties of the veterinary services, establishes, manages, performs public veterinary activities.
- technical directorates within NSVFSA manage and coordinate the activity of corresponding structures within subordinated units.
- 42 County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorates are the regional Coordinators:
- are responsible for the organization of all veterinary activities, legislation implementation in animal health, public health, animal origin and non-animal food safety, animal welfare and environmental protection, to the county level.
- decentralized veterinary public services are technical and administrative subordinate to the central veterinary authority.
- the services within CSVFSD have the authority and responsibility for the implementation of government strategies on the veterinary field onto the whole county, and the responsibility for management, implementing and control of veterinary public activities on this level, and other competence delegated by the central authority, as well.
- Sanitary Veterinary Zonal Circumscriptions is the local coordinators:
- are technical and administrative subordinated to CSVFSD, without legal personality.
- are responsible for sanitary veterinary surveillance, the prevention and control of animal diseases in order to prevent the introduction and dissemination of animal diseases and diseases transmitted from animals to humans, as well and the welfare and protection of animals in designated territory.
- within Sanitary Veterinary Zonal Circumscriptions operates an official veterinarian which coordinates and monitors the fulfillment of the national programs of disease surveillance.
- official veterinarians from these circumscriptions submit relevant information to the county level (CSVFSD).
- National Veterinary Institute + 41 CSVFSLs for laboratory surveillance
 National Veterinary Institutes
- are the national reference authorities, for its competence areas
- are subordinated to NSVFSA
- Institute of Diagnosis and Animal Health is the reference institute on the field of animal health
- The Institute of Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health is the reference institute on the field of laboratory control of animal food products, non-animal food and feed
- -Institute for Biological Control of veterinary medicines is the reference national authority with competence in the field of authorization and laboratory control of veterinary medicinal products, biocides, reagents and diagnostic kits and other veterinary products.

The Central Competent Authority for the National Control Programme in respect of EC Regulation 2160/2003 for the control of Salmonella in poultry population is NSVFSA.

The departments at the central level responsible for implementing the Salmonella NCP are:

- for implementing at national level of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 provisions regarding animal health status is Animal health and Welfare General Directorate;
- in respect of Regulation (EC) No 625/2017 provisions concerning official controls performed in view to ensure the verification of compliance with animal health, feed and food law the main body at central level is Official Control General Directorate
- Concerning the slaughter, the Food Safety General Directorate is responsible for public health protection, through proportionate enforcement of legislation in meat processing plants and sanitary

veterinary authorization.

- In respect of EC Regulation No 183/2005 on feed hygiene at the central level is Animal health and Welfare General Directorate.
- at county level for implementing the Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003,882/2004 and 183/2005 there are
 42 county Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorates (S.V.F.S.D) and 41 County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratories
- I.D.A.H. (Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Heath) is the national reference laboratory concerning animal health and in its structure is the NRL for Salmonella in live animals:
- H.I.P.V.H. (Hygiene Institute and Veterinary Public Health) is the national reference laboratory concerning the expertise of food and feed and in its structure is the NRL for Salmonella in food and feed.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars):

National legislation and EU legislation.

NSVFSA Order No. 35/2016 establishing methodological rules for applying of National Surveillance Program which includes actions of surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases, those transmitted from animals to humans, animals and environmental protection, identification and registration of cattle, pigs, sheep and goats, and the rules for the application of surveillance and control program on food safety;

Guverment Decision no. 1214/2009 regarding the metodology for for determining and paying compensation to be paid to owners of slaughtered animals, killed or otherwise affected by the rapid liquidation of outbreaks of animal diseases;

NSVFSA President Order 21/2018 regarding the bio-security measures in commercial poultry farms and the movements of live poultry, products and poultry by-products;

Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and Council Directive on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents has been implemented by NSVFSA President Order no. 34/2007 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents. Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and its amendments are directly applicable and do not require transposition into Romanian legislation.

The provisions of national control programs of zoonotic salmonella in breeding hens are in accordance with current European legislation

Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of Salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents;

- COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 517/2011 of 25 May 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain Salmonella serotypes in laying hens of Gallus gallus;
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of Salmonella in poultry;
- Regulation (EU) 2019/268 amending Regulations (EU) No 200/2010, (EU) No 517/2011, (EU) No 200/2012 and (EU) No 1190/2012 as regards certain methods for Salmonella testing and sampling in poultry.

3. Give a short summary of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target Salmonella serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain).

(max. 32000 chars):

The programme for the control of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in laying hens flocks has been in operation in Romania since 2008. As a result, the number of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium infected flocks of Gallus gallus in Romania is currently very low under 2%. During 2015, a totally of 683 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella and there were only 10 flocks positive for Salmonella Enteritidis. The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2015 was 1,46%, which is low and below the Community target.

In 2016 a totally of 617 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella and there were only 7 flocks positive for Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis. The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2016 was 1,1%, which is low and below the Community target.

In 2017, totally no. of 1056 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and was 1 positive flocks for Salmonella Enteritidis. The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2016 was 0,09%, which is low and below the Community target.

In 2018, totally no. of 1095 laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and 8 positive flocks were found positive for Salmonella Enteritidis.

In 2019, totally no. of 876 adult laying hens flocks were tested for Salmonella infection and 9 were positive for Salmonella Enteritidis (6) and Typhimurium (3). The prevalence for the target serotypes in laying hens flock in 2019 was 1.03% which is low and below the Community target.

In 2020, from a totally of 870 adults laying hens flocks tested for Salmonella infection,16 positive flocks for Salmonella (10 SE and 6 ST) were found. The prevalence for the target serotypes in adults laying hens flocks in 2020 was 1,84%, which is below the Community target.

In 2021, 873 flocks were raised and tested and from these, 6 flocks were found positive for SE.

4. System for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks

(max. 32000 chars):

The registration of commercial poultry holdings is carried out in accordance with the national legislation (NSVFSA Order no. 16/2010 for the approval of the Veterinary Sanitary Norm regarding the sanitary-veterinary registration / authorization procedure of the units / collection centers / holdings of origin and of the means of transport in the field of animal health and welfare, as well as of the units involved in the storage and neutralization of by-products of animal origin not intended for human consumption and processed product) and the EU legislation (Council Directive 1999/74/EC laying down minimum standards for the protection of laying hens and Commission Directive 2002/4/EC on the registration of establishments keeping laying hens, covered by Council Directive 1999/74/EC).

The Central Veterinary Sanitary Authority of Romania has implemented a system that assigns a unique number to each holding that registers / authorizes veterinary sanitary, composed of the Romanian code (RO) and an identification number generated by the National System for Identification and Registration of Animals.

The identification of flocks is carried out in accordance with the NSVFSA Order No. 35/2016 establishing methodological rules for applying of National Surveillance Program which includes actions of surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of animal diseases, those transmitted from animals to humans, animals and environmental protection, identification and registration of cattle, pigs, sheep and goats, and the rules for the application of surveillance and control program on food safety Each laying hen flock will be assigned an identification code of the herd consisting of the following elements: the identification code of the holding / identification number of the shelter where the birds are housed / the date of population of the poultry house.

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars):

The County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate (CSVFSD) must have up-to-date information, in order to examine and evaluate the implementation of the programme, in accordance with the provisions of art. 5 of Regulation (EC) no. 2160/2003.

The implementation of the programme is transmitted monthly by the CSVFSD to the NSVFSA through excel reporting tables regarding the implementation of the National Control Programs of zoonotic salmonellosis in the populations of breeding flocks of Gallus gallus.

This monthly report including information regarding each flock under the SNCPs such holding registration number, flock identification number, house number, number of birds existing in the flock, date of population and depopulation of the house.

Other specific information on sampling activities should also be provided as part of the monthly report covering data such as the purpose of sampling (if official or owncheck), date of sampling, the age of birds on stocking and when sample was taken, type of sample, sample units, date of result of analysis, relevant laboratory.

A standardised template is used for this purpose. Also information related to sampling activities is available electronic through LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System) which is accessible to the CA.

C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year:

2023

Type of the test (description)	Target population	Number of planned tests
Bacteriological detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	2 700
Serotyping	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	50
Antimicrobial detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	40
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	70

1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year: 2023

Type of the test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks	
Total No of flocks (a)	250	930	
No of flocks in the programme	250	930	
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	5	900	
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	5	900	
No of official samples taken	15	2 700	
Target serovars (d)	SE+ST	SE + ST	
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	1	5	
Possible No of flocks to be depopulated	1	5	
Total No of birds to be slaughtered/culled	20 000	150 000	
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	1 000 000	
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	100 000	

- (a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks
- (b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited serveral times.
- (c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
- (d) Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST Salmonella Enteritidis, Typhimurium, Hadar, Infantis, Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

2.1 Targets on vaccination for year: **2023**

Type of the test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the Salmonella programme	0
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	0
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	0
Number of doses expected to be administered	0

E. Financial information

1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursment/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who perform the official sampling? Who pays? (e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

The official sampling is performed by the official veterinarians. The sampling equipments for the official sampling are provided by the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate and they are paid from the state budget.

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays? (e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory and NRL for Salmonella perform the official samples testing and this testing are entirely paid by the state budget.

c) Implementing entities - compensation : who performs the compensation? Who pays?
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

The compensations are paid by the County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorates from the state budget.

- d) Implementing entities **vaccination**: who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination? Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?
- (e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

Not applied. Vaccination for salmonella is voluntary and it is paid by the farmers

e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implement this measure? Who provide the equipment/ service? Who pays?

Not applied.

2. Source of funding of eligible measures	
All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursment will be claimed are financed by public funds	•
⊠yes	
□no	
3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases	
In the "Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified	d
cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.	
you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also ustification of their cost:	

Attachments

IMPORTANT:

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here: jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

List of all attachments

Attachment name	File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and):	File size
PS 13 DSA Salmonella GOC.pdf	PS 13 DSA Salmonella GOC.pdf PS13DSASalmonellaGOC.pdf	
SNCP cerere de analiza.pdf SNCPcereredeanaliza.pdf		375 kb
The National Veterinary Network.pdf	TheNationalVeterinaryNetwork.pdf	141 kb
ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	
importFile.txt	importFile.txt	896 kb
	Total size of attachments :	2273 kb