



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex IV: Programme for the surveillance of Avian Influenza in poultry and wild birds

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- 6) You are invited to submit your programmes in English.

Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : HRVATSKA

Disease Avian Influenza

This program is multi annual :

Request of Union co-financing from beginning : To end of

Request year for multiannual programme :

1. Contact data

Name Phone

Email Your job type within the CA :

Submission Date

14/06/2022 12:25:36

Submission Number

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ANNEX 4 : Standard requirements for the submission of surveillance programmes for avian influenza in poultry and wild birds

2. Description and implementation of the surveillance programme in poultry

2.1.1 Designation of the authorities in charge of supervising coordinating and implementing the programme. Please describe in details who designs, who implements, and who monitors the programme in poultry. (Roles of central authority, local authorities, vets, farmers, labs, hunting associations, etc.)

(max. 32000 chars) :

Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate General (VFSDG) of the Ministry of Agriculture is the national competent authority responsible for designing and developing the Avian Influenza (AI) surveillance Programme in the coordination with the AI diagnostic laboratory of the Croatian Veterinary Institute (CVI). VFSDG is also responsible for monitoring the dynamic of implementation of AI programme. The Programme will be implemented by authorised veterinarians who are responsible for sampling and submission of samples for testing to the AI diagnostic laboratory. Supervision of coordination and implementation of the Programme on the field will carry out by veterinary inspectors from State Inspectorate. Poultry Centre of the Croatian Veterinary Institute, Heinzelova 55, Zagreb, which is the National reference laboratory for AI, will carry out the laboratory testing of samples. The national reference laboratory shall:

- report all positive and negative results to the VFSDG, sender (authorized veterinary organization) and veterinary inspector as soon as possible;
- report all negative results to the VFSDG.

2.1.2 Description of System in place for the registration of holdings

(max. 32000 chars) :

In 2023, all provisions laid down in Article 84 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035 regarding registration of establishments keeping terrestrial animals will be implemented.

2.1.3 Design (risk based surveillance, or surveillance based on representative sampling taking into account criteria in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

Provide justification for the choice of the design. Please refer also explicitly to the objectives of the surveillance programme as mentioned in section 2 of Annex II Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

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(max. 32000 chars):

Objectives of surveillance of AI programme in poultry are in accordance with Section 2 of Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689, as follows:

- to early detect of HPAIV in poultry (specially in species which generally do not show significant clinical signs),
- to detect the circulation of LPAIV (as LPAIV may easily spread between poultry flocks specially in areas with high density of poultry establishments),
- to collect the data about circulation of virus,
- to increase knowledge on HPAIV and LPAIV as they can pose a potential zoonotic risk.

There are three components of AI surveillance programme in Croatia in poultry:

1. Early detection of HPAI in all poultry holdings and poultry species within the country (passive surveillance)- Component 1

In order to early detect the disease, all poultry:

- in which clinical signs on HPAI are observed,
 - from the holdings with detection of increased mortality or
 - with observed changes of normal production and health parameters
- will be sampled and laboratory tested.

In addition, pursuant to the annual Order on measures to protect animal health from infectious and parasitic diseases and the financing thereof (Order in force is published in Official Gazette 145/21) and Ordinance on the notification of animal disease (Official Gazette 65/20), in case of increased mortality of birds or occurrence of clinical signs indicating AI in poultry (including any change in normal production and health parameters such as mortality rate, food and water intake and egg production) at all holdings located in the Republic of Croatia, it is necessary to promptly and without delay notify the authorized veterinary organization for sampling to exclude or confirm AI.

2. Risk- based complementary surveillance for HPAI in poultry species which generally do not show significant clinical signs- Component 2

This component of surveillance programme will be implemented on the territory of whole country on the following poultry species and categories:

- holdings with breeding ducks (geographical distribution)- holdings with more than 50 animals per holding
- holdings with fattening ducks (geographical distribution)- holdings with more than 100 animals per holding
- holdings with breeding geese (geographical distribution)- holdings with more than 30 animals per holding
- holdings with fattening geese (geographical distribution)- holdings with more than 30 animals per holding.

3. Risk- based surveillance in order to identify clusters of establishments infected with LPAI and with continuous spread of LPAIV- Component 3

This component of surveillance programme will be implemented on the territory of whole country on the following poultry species and categories:

- holdings with laying hens in cages (geographical distribution, randomly selected)- 42 holdings will be selected for sampling and testing
- holdings with laying hens- free range, organic production and barn (geographical distribution, randomly selected)- 79 holdings will be selected for sampling and testing
- holdings with chicken breeders (geographical distribution, randomly selected)- holdings with more than 250 animals per holding

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- d) holdings with fattening turkey (geographical distribution, randomly selected)- holdings with more than 200 animals per holding
- e) holdings with breeding turkey (geographical distribution, randomly selected)- holdings with more than 30 animals per holding
- f) mixed extensively held flocks of poultry in settlements in high-risk locations in relation to the risk of virus occurrence and intake.

2.1.3.1 *Short description of predominant poultry population and types of poultry production.*

Please provide also a table with the number of poultry holdings and birds existing for each poultry type, and map with the geographic distribution and density of poultry holdings.(If not available, please explain)

(max. 32000 chars) :

There are approximately 122 325 registered holdings with poultry in Croatia. Most poultry production refers to small-scale economies with extensive production. Only a few major manufacturers deal with intensive poultry production. Majority of them are backyard flocks with more than one species of poultry. Regarding commercial poultry, the predominant poultry population in Croatia is Gallus gallus. Holdings where the flocks with broilers (Gallus gallus) and laying hens (Gallus gallus) represent the main type of poultry production in Croatia. Ducks and geese are mainly represented as extensive production intended for local market supply.

Data on poultry production are taken from the Register of Farms.

Currently there are 261 registered laying hens holdings (all registered holdings with laying hens with more than 350 hens/holding according to production type which place eggs on the market).

Maps with distribution of Gallus gallus breeding flocks, Gallus gallus laying hens flocks, breeding turkey flocks and fattening turkey flocks are attached to this document.

2.1.3.2 *Criteria and risk factors for risk based surveillance (1) Please describe the risk factors as regard the criteria set in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.*

(max. 32000 chars) :

In order to achieve targets of risk-based surveillance as indicates Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689, following risk factors will be taken into account:

- Sampling for serological and virological testing for AI will be organized through the whole territory of Croatia (so will be representative for the whole country)
- Density of poultry holdings will be taken into consideration; holdings in counties with higher density of certain poultry species will be covered in a higher percentage
- Presence of several different poultry species specially on the smaller extensive holdings (with backyard poultry) in particular the presence of domestic ducks and geese together with other poultry species (holdings typically with lower biosecurity level) will be also selected for sampling
- All long-lived poultry species will be covered by the Programme
- Multi-age poultry flocks will be covered with samplings and testing's of backyard flocks which will be covered by Programme

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- Identification of the areas where HPAI was detected during the period between end of 2016 and 2022 (7 villages are identified: Križnica: Virovitica- Podravina County; Sop Bukevski: Zagreb County; Mlaka Antinska: Vukovar- Srijem County; Špičkovina: Krapina- Zagorje County, Delovi: Koprivnica- Križevci County; Staro Pračno: Sisak- Moslavina County and Branjin Vrh: Osijek- Baranja County).

"High risk areas" will cover holdings situated in total in 13 counties: Bjelovar- Bilogora, Krapina- Zagorje, Međimurje, Osijek- Baranja, Sisak- Moslavina, Varaždin, Virovitica- Podravina, Vukovar- Srijem, Zagreb, Brod- Posavina, Međimurje, Požega- Slavonija and Karlovac. In total 80 villages and 191 backyard flocks will be tested. Extensive holdings with at least 20 animals, situated in "high risk areas" and consist of more than one poultry species in the same poultry holding in particular with the presence of domestic ducks and geese together with other poultry species (hens or turkeys), will be randomly selected for sampling.

(1) Including maps showing target sampling sites identified as being particularly at risk for the introduction of avian influenza virus, taking into account criteria set out in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

2.2 Target populations

Please explain:

- 1) The strategy of selection of the holdings to be sampled. (Random, risk based, geographic distribution)*
- 2) The number of holdings sampled, with regard to the minimum requirements set in Annex II section 9 to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.*
- 3) The number of samples taken in each holding with regard to the minimum requirements set in Annex II section 9 to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.*

(max. 32000 chars):

1) The strategy of selection of the holdings to be sampled is explained under Points 2.1.3 and 2.1.3.2.

2) Estimated number of holdings sampled and 3) number of samples taken:

1. Early detection of HPAI in all poultry holdings and poultry species within the country (passive surveillance)- Component 1

Taking into account current epidemiological situation related to HPAI in Croatia and in EU MSs we foresee that approximately 15 holdings in 2023 will be tested on HPAI in the framework of passive surveillance.

Number of samples per holding: at least 5 samples from dead animals and at least 10 oropharyngeal/tracheal and 10 cloacal swabs from alive birds for laboratory testing with virological methods.

2. Risk- based complementary surveillance for HPAI in poultry species which generally do not show significant clinical signs - Component 2

a) holdings with breeding ducks- 3 holdings

b) holdings with fattening ducks- 1 holding

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- c) holdings with breeding geese- 2 holdings
- d) holdings with fattening geese- 1 holding.

Number of samples per holding: 20 oropharyngeal/tracheal and 20 cloacal swabs; holdings with more than one shed: 10 oropharyngeal/tracheal and 10 cloacal swabs per shed.

3. Risk- based surveillance in order to identify clusters of establishments infected with LPAI and with continuous spread of LPAIV- Component 3

This component of surveillance programme will be implemented on the territory of whole country on the following poultry species and categories:

- a) holdings with laying hens in cages- 42 holdings
- b) holdings with laying hens- 79 holdings
- c) holdings with chicken breeders- 17 holdings
- d) holdings with fattening turkey- 30 holdings
- e) holdings with breeding turkey- 1 holding
- f) mixed extensively held flocks of poultry- 191 holdings.

Number of samples per holding: 10 blood samples; holdings with more than one shed: 5 blood samples per shed.

In the column "Number of samples per holding" an average is calculated.

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2.2.1 POULTRY HOLDINGS ^(a) (except ducks, geese and farmed game birds (waterfowl e.g. mallards) to be sampled

Serological investigation according to Annex I to Commission Decision 2010/367/EU

Targets for year **2023**

Category : laying hens

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	42	42	13	546	546	HI-test (H5)	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	546	HI-test (H7)	X
Total					1 092		
Add a new row							

(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.

(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested

(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

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Category : free range laying hens

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	79	79	12	948	948	HI-test (H5)	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	948	HI-test (H7)	X
Total					1 896		
Add a new row							
<p>(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.</p> <p>(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested</p> <p>(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.</p>							

Category : chicken breeders

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	17	17	26	442	442	HI-test (H5)	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	442	HI-test (H7)	X
Total					884		

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Add a new row

- (a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
 (b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
 (c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Category : fattening turkeys

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	30	30	17	510	510	HI-test (H5)	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	510	HI-test (H7)	X
Total					1 020		

Add a new row

- (a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
 (b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
 (c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Category : turkey breeders

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

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NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	1	1	10	10	10	HI-test (H5)	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	10	HI-test (H7)	X
Total					20		
						Add a new row	
<p>(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.</p> <p>(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested</p> <p>(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.</p>							

Category : backyard flocks

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	191	191	9	1 719	1 719	HI-test (H5)	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	1 719	HI-test (H7)	X
Total					3 438		
						Add a new row	
<p>(a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.</p> <p>(b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested</p> <p>(c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.</p>							

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Category : Early detection and sero-positive findings

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of holdings(c)	Total number of holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	15	15	10	150	150	PCR test	X
Croatia	0	0	0	0	10	Virus isolation test	X
Total					160		

Add a new row

- (a) Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.
- (b) Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member States is requested
- (c) Total number of holdings of one category of poultry in concerned NUTS 2 region.

Add a category

Totals	Total number of tests	Total number of samples
Total poultry 2023	8 510	4 325

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2.2.2 *DUCKS ,GEESE AND FARMED GAME BIRDS (WATERFOWL e.g. MALLARD) HOLDINGS (a) to be sampled.*

Serological investigation according to Annex I to Commission Decision 2010/367/EU

Targets for year **2023**

Category : duck breeders

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	3	3	40	120	24	PCR test	X
Total					24		
						Add a new row	

(a) *Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.*

(b) *Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (2) code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested*

Category : fattening ducks

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI –H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

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NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	1	1	40	40	8	PCR test	X
Total					8		
						Add a new row	
<p>(a) <i>Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (2) code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested</i></p>							

Category : geese breeders

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
Croatia	2	2	40	80	16	PCR test	X
Total					16		
						Add a new row	
<p>(a) <i>Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (2) code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested</i></p>							

Category : fattening geese

delete this category

In the column "Total number of samples", please put 0 if the same samples have already been counted for another laboratory analysis (example : for HI-H5 and HI -H7 test, only 1 sample should be counted)

NUTS (2) (b)	Total number of duck and geese holdings	Total number of duck and geese holdings to be sampled	Number of samples per holding	Total number of samples	Total number of tests	Method of laboratory analysis	
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Croatia	1	1	40	40	8	PCR test	X
Total					8		
Add a new row							
<p>(a) <i>Holdings or herds or flocks or establishments as appropriate.</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Refers to the location of the holding of origin. In case NUTS (2) code can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested</i></p>							

Add a category

Totals	Total number of tests	Total number of samples
Total ducks and geese and farmed game birds 2023	56	280

TOTALS for Poultry (2.2.1) + Ducks and Geese (2.2.2) and farmed game birds for year :

2023

Poultry + Ducks/Geese /farmed game birds	Total number of tests
Grand Total	8 566
Grand Total ELISA	0
Grand Total agar	0
Grand Total HI tests (H5)	4 175
Grand Total HI tests (H7)	4 175
Grand Total Virus Isolation test	10

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Grand Total PCR test	206
Grand Total Samplings	4 605

2.3 Sampling procedures, sampling periods and frequency of testing taking into account criteria set out in Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

For each poultry category please detail the place of sampling (holding or slaughterhouse), the period and frequency of the testing, and who is in charge of the sampling.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Authorised veterinarians are responsible for sampling of all poultry species and categories and submission of samples for testing to the AI diagnostic laboratory.

As samples, for component 1 and 2 of the AI surveillance programme, oropharyngeal/tracheal and cloacal swabs will be taken.

As samples, for component 3 of the AI surveillance programme, blood samples will be taken.

All poultry will be sampled only on the holdings. Sampling of slaughtered animals will not be performed during 2023.

Poultry within component 1 and 3 of the AI surveillance programme will be tested continuously during the year (component 3, once in a year).

Poultry within component 2 of the AI surveillance programme will be tested once in the year, in the period between October and December 2023 (period of heightened risk).

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2.4. Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used.

Please describe the tests to be used and their purpose (screening test or confirmatory test or follow-up investigations) for each category of poultry.

Please explain the number of tests calculation for each poultry category, and if it is in line with Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689.

Description of the used serological tests : (max 32000 chars)

Laboratory diagnostic

Laboratory diagnostic will be performed in accordance with Section 9, Annex II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689. Therefore, for componen 3 of AI surveillance programme laboratory testing by serological methods will be used; for components 1 and 2 of AI surveillance programme laboratory testing by virological methods will be used. In addition, virological methods will be used for follow-up of sero-positive findings.

The laboratory testing of samples will be carried out by Poultry Centre of the Croatian Veterinary Institute, Heinzelova 55, Zagreb, which is the National reference laboratory for AI.

Estimated No of serological tests (HI H5 and HI H7) is calculated based on number of holdings to be tested and average number of samples per holding (one blood sample per animal). Detailed description is given in the document attached.

Example: holdings with laying hens: 42 holdings x 13 samples (average)/holding = 546 HI H5 tests and 546 HI H7 tests

Estimated No of virological tests (PCR) is calculated based on number of holdings to be tested and average number of samples per holding (2 swabs per animal). Samples for virological methods will be pooled (5 swabs=1 test). Detailed description is given in the document attached.

Example: holdings with duck breeders: 3 holdings x 40 samples (average; 2 sample per animal)/holding = 120 samples = $120:5 = 24$ tests (samples will be pooled).

SEROLOGICAL TESTS

Standard haemagglutination-inhibition test for detection of AI antibodies of H5 and H7 subtypes will be used for the purpose of this Programme.

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The standard primary and secondary antigens for H5 and H7 subtypes supplied from the AI EURL are used for this purpose.

Primary antigens are used for initial screening for H5 and H7 antibodies and secondary antigens are used for exclusion of cross reactivity with N antibodies.

If standard antigens are not supplied by the AI EURL, following antigen will be used instead:

- for H5 primary antigen is Av-R5371/Croatia/2007 (H5N1) and secondary antigen is Mallard/Croatia/1/2006 (H5N3),
- for H7 primary antigen is Av-R7152/Croatia/2007 (H7N2) and secondary antigen is Turkey/Italy/3560/1999 (H7N1).

DIRECT PROOF OF AI VIRUS

For the investigation of a holding suspected of being infected with the AI virus the standard set of samples for virological testing, must be taken and submitted directly for virological laboratory tests in accordance with EURL guidance and recommendations.

a) Evidence of the viral RNA

AI virus RNA detection is performed using real-time RT-PCR to detect the M gene, followed by real time RT-PCR of positive findings for the presence of the H5 and H7 genes.

- In the case of a positive finding of the H5 or H7 gene, the classical RT-PCR method followed by nucleotide sequencing and analysis of the deduced amino acid sequence at the cleavage site of these genes are performed to determine whether it is HPAI or LPAI. Further, if the H5 or H7 gene is confirmed, further tests should be performed to determine N type.

b) Isolation of AI virus in chicken embryos

- Virus isolation is performed after a positive AI RNA virus test. It is based on the incubation of the tested sample with addition of antibiotics in 9-11 day old chicken embryos, which are from a flock free of AI antibodies. If viable virus is present in the sample, it will multiply in the allantoic fluid of the inoculated chicken embryo. The presence of the virus can cause the death of the embryo. Inoculated eggs are incubated for at least 6 days. Allantoic fluid is then removed and tested for the presence of haemagglutination activity, which confirms the presence of the virus. In case of a negative result, another passage of the virus is made.

All avian influenza isolates are sent to the AI EURL (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Legnaro, Italy) for further typing and identification.

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3. Description and implementation of the surveillance programme in wild birds

3.1.1 Designation of the authorities in charge of supervising, coordinating, and implementing the programme and relevant collaborating partners (e.g. epidemiologists, ornithologists, nature bird observation and hunter organisations).

Please describe in detail who designs, who implements, and who monitors the programme in wild birds.

Please detail the system in place to detect the dead wild birds; please explain who delivers the wild birds to the laboratory.

(max. 32000 chars):

VFSDG of the Ministry of Agriculture is the national competent authority responsible for designing and developing the surveillance programme in wild birds in the coordination with the AI diagnostic laboratory of the Croatian Veterinary Institute (CVI).

Supervision of coordination and implementation of the Programme on the field will be carry out by veterinary inspectors from State Inspectorate.

In the implementation of Programme, bodies and organizations responsible for monitoring of wild birds (ornithologists, environmental authorities, hunting authorities) and other relevant organizations and services are obliged to notify the Croatian Veterinary Institute, Poultry Center (NRL) by phone and / or e-mail, without delay, of any deviation from normal behavioral and health changes in wild birds (especially in wild waterfowl).

In addition, immediately upon receipt of the notification, the ornithologist of the Croatian Veterinary Institute, Poultry Center must contact authorized veterinary organization for collection of appropriate bird samples. Each submitted sample must be accompanied by a completed Form prescribed by the Programme.

Pursuant to the annual Order on measures to protect animal health from infectious and parasitic diseases and the financing thereof and Ordinance on the notification of animal disease, in case of increased death of birds or occurrence of clinical signs indicating AI in wild birds at all locations in the Republic of Croatia, it is necessary to promptly and without delay notify the authorized veterinary organization for sampling to exclude or confirm AI. Samples must be submitted by the authorized veterinary organization to the laboratory for testing. Along with the sample, it is necessary to send the Form for submission of the sample for laboratory examination and the completed Form prescribed by the Programme.

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3.1.2 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be applied

(max. 32000 chars) :

Active searching of dead or moribund wild birds will be organized in 13 administrative areas/counties (out of in total 21 counties). The whole territory of Croatia will be covered by surveillance programme in wild birds meaning that throughout whole country in case of:

- wild birds found dead
- wild birds found injured or sick and/or
- wild birds hunted with clinical signs

sampling and testing by authorized veterinary organizations will be performed.

3.1.3 Estimation of the local and/or migratory wildlife population

Please provide main species, number of birds, migratory routes, geographic distribution or risk areas.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The main species in Croatia are mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), common teal (*Anas crecca*), eurasian wigeon (*Anas penelope*), garganey (*Anas querquedula*), northern pintail (*Anas acuta*), mute swan (*Cygnus olor*), ferruginous duck (*Aythya nyroca*), common pochard (*Aythya ferina*), tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula*), red-crested pochard (*Netta rufina*), coot (*Fulica atra*), black-headed gull, (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*), yellow-legged gull (*Larus michahellis*), greylag goose (*Anser anser*), great cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) and grey heron (*Ardea cinerea*). Each of the species is abundant in Croatia but the exact numbers are not known. The migratory routes are presented in the map attached to this document (as red dots represent finding places of birds ringed in Croatia, and blue ringing localities of birds found in Croatia).

The risk areas are those near lakes and other large water surfaces where large amount of migratory wild birds of risk species gather in large numbers. The areas are shown in the map (in attachment) in blue colour.

Estimation of wild bird population in Croatia is given in document in attachment.

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3.2 Design, criteria, risk factors and target population(3)

(max. 32000 chars):

Objectives for surveillance in wild birds is to early detect of HPAIV providing for:

- an early warning for possible HPAI introduction into poultry, in particular when viruses enter the Union through migratory movements of wild birds,
- information for the assessment of risks for virus spread following findings of HPAI in wild birds.

The AI surveillance programme in wild birds in 2023 will include laboratory testing of sick, injured or dead wild birds in order to monitor the possible presence and timely detection of HPAI subtypes H5 and H7. Timely detection of the HPAI virus in the wild bird population enables the necessary biosecurity measures that will be taken in the breeding of poultry and thus the prevention of the spread of the HPAI virus to poultry.

Identified locations are areas in the country where abundance and diversity of birds, particularly water birds is significantly higher than on other areas in the country. Also on these locations a large number of different species of migratory birds (i.e. the sites are an important crossing of migration routes or a mixing sites of passage migrants from various areas) are present. It is expected that on such sites expected mortality or morbidity of wild birds is higher.

Active searching and monitoring of dead or sick wild birds in particular those of target species on such locations will allow for timely detection of HPAI of subtypes H5 and H7. Active search and monitoring of dead or sick wild birds of targeted species will be especially carried out in locations such as wetlands, riverside areas, lakes or landfills, where it is easier to detect unusual morbidity or death of wild birds.

According to the epidemiological situation in 2016, 2017, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (previous positive findings of H5N5 and H5N8 in poultry and wild birds) locations on which the positive animals were found are added on the existing list.

The following locations will be of the main interest for active searching of dead or sick wild birds during 2023:

Fishponds

1. «Draganić», Jastrebarsko
2. «Fish pond», Oriovac/Jelas Polje, Slavonski Brod
3. «Fish pond», Donji Miholjac
4. «Fish pond» Končanica, Daruvar
5. «Fish pond Grudnjak», Grudnjak
6. «Fish pond 1905» Našička Breznica, Našice
7. «Fish pond Poljana», Poljana / «Riba Garešnica», Garešnica
8. «Fish pond Česmi» (Narta, Siščani, Vukšinec, Blatnica) Dubrava, Kostanj bb / Narta
9. «Fish pond» Lipovljani, Novska*

Artificial water reservoirs

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10. Varaždin - Drava
11. Donja Dubrava - Drava
12. Šoderica – Koprivnica*
- Major wetland areas (nature parks)
13. Lonjsko Polje Nature Park
14. Kopački Rit Nature Park*
15. Vransko Lake
16. Delta of the Neretva river
- Waste disposal area
17. Prudinec (Jakuševac, Zagreb)
18. Waste disposal area Kosambra, Porec
- Artificial lake
19. Jarun (Zagreb)*
20. Bundek (Zagreb)*
21. Jezero Rakitje (Zagreb)
- Public swimming place
22. Public swimming place Karlovac*

*locations where confirmed cases of HPAI in wild birds were detected

At least 5 wild birds will be sampled on each location (22 locations x 5 wild birds - 110 samples in 2023).

(3) Areas at risk (wetlands in particular where links with high density poultry populations), previous positive findings as referred to in Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 should be taken into account and if possible complemented by a map.

3.2.1 WILD BIRDS focussed on target species

Investigations according to the surveillance programme set out in conformity with Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689

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Targets for year

2023

NUTS (2) code/region (a)	Total number of wild birds to be sampled	Estimated total number of wild birds to be samples for passive surveillance	Type of test	Number of tests	
Croatia- passive surveillance	110	110	PCR test	110	X
Croatia- RT PCR and sequencing, wild birds tested positive	0	0	PCR test	150	X
Croatia- wild birds tested positive	0	0	Virus isolation test	15	X
Total	110	110		275	
Add a new row					
<p>(a) Refers to the place of collection of birds/samples. In case NUTS 2 (Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics) can not be used, region as defined in the programme by the Member State is requested. Please fill-in these values directly in the field.</p>					

	Total number of tests
Total number of tests	275
Total Virus isolation tests	15
Total PCR tests	260
Total Other tests	0
Total number of wild birds to be sampled for passive surveillance	110

3.3 Sampling procedures and sampling periods

Please also explain which samples are taken from wild birds

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max 32000 chars :

When performing sampling, samples from at least 5 sick or dead wild birds (or all sick or dead, if less than 5) must be taken at each location included in the Programme for the purpose of virological examination by RT-PCR virus detection method, followed by virus isolation in case of a positive finding.

From wild birds found dead or sick, whenever possible, brain should be taken. Other samples include cloacal and pharyngeal swabs and / or other organs (heart, lungs, trachea, kidney and intestines). A trace of feces must remain visible on a properly taken cloacal swab.

Immediately after sampling, the following must be done:

- refrigerate on ice or in frozen gel transport containers, whether delivered in a transport medium or not;
- if it is possible to place the swab in antibiotic medium or another virus-specific medium, in which the swab must be completely immersed; if transport medium is not available, the swab must be placed in a protective tube and delivered to the laboratory dry.

Samples must not be frozen! Exceptionally, if rapid transport (within 24 hours, in a transport medium at 4 ° C) to the laboratory cannot be ensured, then the sample must be frozen immediately and then delivered to the laboratory on dry ice or in a portable refrigerator with frozen cartridges.

In case of impossibility to take appropriate samples, whole sick or dead wild birds must be delivered to the laboratory. If the whole carcass is sent to the laboratory, it must be delivered in an airtight, well-sealed plastic bag (preferably in two bags).

When sampling, the ornithologist or authorized veterinarian must determine the GPS coordinates of the longitude and latitude of the location where the bird was found and the type of wild bird and, if possible, the age category and sex.

Sampling of wild birds will be carried out continuously throughout the year. Per each wild bird one sample will be taken.

It is expected that most samples of dead or sick wild birds will be collected during spring and autumn migrations when the birds are grouped, but also during the winter. During this period of the year, the ornithologist must visit the locations involved in the implementation of this Programme more frequently.

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3.4 Laboratory testing: description of the laboratory tests used .

Please explain also which laboratory do the tests for the wild birds, and which, and how many tests are planned for each wild bird

max 32000 chars :

As foreseen in article 6 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689, the the collection of samples, the techniques, validation and interpretation of the diagnostic methods comply with the specific legislation adopted in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/429. This means that the National reference laboratory for AI uses guidance, diagnostic methods and protocols available on the websites of the AI EURL.

The first test is performed using the real time RT-PCR method to detect the M gene, and in case of a positive result this is followed by the real time RT-PCR for detection of H5 and H7 genes within 2 weeks.

In the case of a positive finding of the H5 or H7 gene, the classical RT-PCR method followed by, nucleotide sequencing and analysis of the deduced amino acid sequence at the cleavage site of these genes are performed to determine whether it is HPAI or LPAI. Further, if the H5 or H7 gene is confirmed, further tests should be performed urgently to determine N type.

In the case of a positive AI RNA test, virus isolation is performed in chicken embryos.

All AI virus isolates in wild birds must be submitted to the EU Reference Laboratory (EURL) for avian influenza.

One RT-PCR test will be done per one wild bird.

It is expected that approximately 110 wild birds will be tested during 2023 (22 locations x 5 birds/location). Depending on epidemiological situation in and number of dead, injured, sick or wild birds hunted with clinical signs throught whole territory of Croatia, this number can be increased.

4. Short description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in poultry during the last five years

max 32000 chars :

In period between December 2016 and April 2017 four primary outbreaks of HPAI were confirmed (in total on 11 holdings in following counties: City of

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Zagreb, Koprivnica- Križevci, Virovitica- Podravina and Krapina- Zagorje). Subtypes H5N5 and H5N8 were identified. In total approx. 3500 poultry were culled and destroyed.

On 21 November 2020, one HPAI (H5N8) primary outbreak was detected at a commercial turkey fattening establishment in Koprivnica-Križevci region in Croatia (settlement: Delovi, municipality: Novigrad Podravski). The suspicion was raised due to increased mortality in the flock; clinical signs were also present. The birds did not have outdoor access. The most likely source of infection is unknown. Out of, in total 67 068 susceptible animals, 6 881 animals died and 60 187 animals were culled. All disease control measures according to the Directive 2005/94/EC were implemented.

During 2021, one outbreak of HPAI subtype H1N1 was confirmed in Sisak- Moslavina County. Mortality was observed on small holding with backyard poultry on November 18, 2021. Samples were taken and preliminary laboratory results confirmed IP subtype H5N1. On November 26, 2021, HPAI subtype H5N1 is confirmed. All susceptible animals from the affected holding were killed and safely disposed. Other measures in accordance with Delegated Regulation 2020/687 were applied.

In 2022, HPAI subtype H5N1 was confirmed on small holding with backyard poultry in Osijek- Baranja County. All measures in accordance with Delegated Regulation 2020/687 were applied.

5. *Short description of the epidemiological situation of the disease in wild birds during the last five years*

(max. 32000 chars) :

During 2016 and 2017 (till April 30, 2017) HPAI- H5N5 and H5N8 were isolated in 41 wild birds (in 2 wild birds-subtype H5N5 was confirmed, in 39 wild birds subtype H5N8 was confirmed). All positive birds were found dead. Locations where positive birds were found were situated in seven counties (Vukovar- Srijem, Sisak- Moslavina, City of Zagreb, Koprivnica- Križevci, Virovitica- Podravina, Osijek- Baranja, Karlovac).

During 2021, 19 positive cases of HPAI in wild birds were confirmed. In March 2021, 3 mute swans were positive on HPAI subtype H5N8 in Vukovar- Srijem county, in November 2021: 7 mute swans were positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Sisak- Moslavina county, one mute swan was positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Međimurje county and one gadwall was positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Split- Dalmacija county. In December 2021: 3 grey herons were positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Osijek- Baranja county, one mute swan was positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Zagreb county, one mute swan was positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Istra county and two mute swans were positive on HPAI subtype H5N1 in Vukovar- Srijem county.

6. *Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease*

Please explain also briefly the measures implemented in case of suspicion or confirmation of the disease

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(max. 32000 chars):

The central competent authority for animal diseases notification is the Animal Health Protection Sector within the VFSDG of Ministry of Agriculture. The Sector is responsible to collect and analyse the data on animal diseases in Croatia as well as for the notification of the listed diseases to the OIE, EFSA and EC.

According to the Veterinary Act and Ordinance on the notification of animal disease, every person (holder) responsible for any animal has the obligation to immediately and without delay, notify all clinical signs or dead animal to the veterinarian. Veterinarian has the obligation that after clinical (pathological) examination of the sick (dead) animal, notify suspicion on the disease to the veterinary inspector and to the VFSDG using the official form for the animal disease suspicion notification. During the examination veterinarian must take samples for laboratory testing to confirm or exclude the disease.

Specific provisions are laid down in Ordinance on the notification of animal disease:

- if signs of disease or deaths occurs, the animal keeper shall immediately and without delay notify it to the veterinarian in the veterinary organization)
- upon each notification received from an animal keeper, the veterinarian shall make a site visit and carry out a veterinary check of the animal to determine whether there are grounds to suspect on infectious or parasitic disease
- in the event of suspicion, the veterinarian shall notify the VFSDG and veterinary inspector without delay and at the latest within 24 hours, by electronic means
- the veterinarian must notify the VFSDG and a veterinary inspector without delay and at the latest within 24 hours electronically about each confirmed case of AI
- the final report shall be submitted by veterinary inspector not later than 48 hours after notification of the end of the outbreak.

In case of failing to notify the suspicion on animal disease (dead or sick animals) penalties are laid down in the Veterinary Act. Veterinarians are regularly educated on their obligations related to disease notification procedures.

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/429 operators are obliged to immediately notify the suspicion on HPAI (Category A disease) to the competent authority. Notification and reporting is applied in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002.

Suspicion of the disease

Preliminary disease control measures in the event of suspicion of HPAI in kept animals will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 1, article 5 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687:

- (a) to isolate all animals suspected of being infected with HPAI;
- (b) to keep the manure, including litter and used bedding, and any product, material or substance likely to be contaminated with and to transmit HPAI isolated and protected from insects and rodents, kept animals of non-listed species and wild animals to the extent technically and practically feasible;
- (c) to implement the appropriate additional biosecurity measures to avoid any risk of spread of HPAI;
- (d) to cease all movements of kept animals of listed species from or to the establishment;

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- (e) to prevent non-essential movements of animals of non-listed species, products, materials, substances, persons and means of transport from or to the establishment;
- (f) to ensure that production, health and traceability records of the establishment are updated;
- (g) to provide the competent authority, on its request, with any relevant information regarding HPAI.

Investigation by the competent authority in the event of suspicion of HPAI in an establishment will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 1, article 6 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

Preliminary restriction and biosecurity measures in the event of suspicion of HPAI in kept animals in an establishment will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 1, article 7 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687:

In the event of suspicion of HPAI in an establishment, the competent authority shall place the establishment under official surveillance and immediately impose the following preliminary restriction and biosecurity measures, in order to prevent the spread of the disease from the affected animals and the establishment to other unaffected animals or to humans:

- (a) prohibition of movements of kept animals of listed species into and from the establishment;
- (b) prohibition of movements of kept animals of non-listed species into and from the establishment;
- (c) prohibition of movements of any product, material or substance likely to be contaminated with or likely to transmit HPAI from the establishment;
- (d) isolation of kept animals of listed species and protection from wild animals, animals of non-listed species and, when necessary, from insects and rodents;
- (e) prohibition of killing of animals of listed species, unless authorised by the competent authority; and
- (f) prohibition of non-essential movements of products, materials, substances, persons and means of transport into the establishments.

Temporary restricted zones in the event of suspicion of HPAI in kept terrestrial animals in an establishment will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 1, article 9 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

Measures to be applied in the event of suspicion of a category A disease in food and feed businesses, border control posts, animal by-products establishments or any other location of relevance, including means of transport will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 1, article 10 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

Confirmation of the disease

Disease control measures in the event of the official confirmation of HPAI in kept animals will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 2 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

Official confirmation of HPAI in kept terrestrial animals will be done in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 2 article 11 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

Disease control measures in the event of official confirmation of an outbreak of HPAI in kept animals in an establishment will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter I, Section 2 article 12 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

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Following the official confirmation of an outbreak of HPAI in an establishment in accordance with Article 11, the competent authority will order that, in addition to measures provided for in Article 7, the following disease control measures will be immediately applied under the supervision of official veterinarians:

- (a) all animals of listed species kept in the affected establishment shall be killed as soon as possible on the spot, within the establishment, in such a way as to avoid any risk of spreading HPAI agent during and after killing;
- (b) all appropriate and necessary biosecurity measures shall be taken to avoid any possible spread of HPAI to unaffected kept or wild animals or to humans;
- (c) bodies or parts of kept animals of listed species which have died or which have been killed pursuant to point (a) of this paragraph shall be disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009;
- (d) all potentially contaminated products, materials or substances present in the establishment shall be isolated until:
 - (i) they are disposed of or processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009, in the case of animal by-products (including those resulting from the killing and products of animal origin and germinal products);
 - (ii) cleaning and disinfection measures are completed in accordance with the Article 15, in the case of other materials and substances fit for cleaning and disinfection;
 - (iii) disposal is completed under the supervision of official veterinarians, in the case of feeding stuff and other materials unfit for cleaning and disinfection.

The competent authority will collect samples for laboratory examination from kept animals of listed species, before or when they are killed or dead, for the purposes of the epidemiological enquiry referred to in Article 57 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.

(b)

Additionally, following measures will be implemented:

- for additional disease control measures in the event of an outbreak of HPAI in kept terrestrial animals in an establishment (in accordance with article 14)
- preliminary cleaning and disinfection and control of insects and rodents in the affected establishment (in accordance with article 15)
- identification of epidemiologically linked establishments and other locations of relevance, including means of transport (in accordance with article 17)
- measures to be applied in the epidemiologically linked establishments and other locations of relevance, including means of transport (in accordance with article 18)
- measures to be applied to the products identified by the tracing (in accordance with article 19)
- measures to be applied in the event of official confirmation of an outbreak of HPAI in food and feed businesses, border control posts, animal by-products establishments and any other location of relevance, including means of transport (in accordance with article 20).

Disease control measures in the restricted zones will be implemented in accordance with Part II, Chapter II of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

Measures in the event of suspicion of HPAI in wild birds will be implemented in accordance with article 63 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

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In the event of an official confirmation of an outbreak of HPAI in wild animals the competent authority may determine an infected zone in order to prevent the further spread of the disease in accordance with article 63 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687.

7. Costs

7.1 Detailed analysis of the costs

7.1.1 Poultry including ducks, geese and farmed game birds

Please also check the consistency between the numbers mentioned in tables 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 7.2.1, and the information provided in box 2.3 and 2.4. Please comment also the cost-efficiency aspects of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

Domestic animals sampled: 4 605 (for both serological and virological testing).

Serological test: HI test for H5 and H7 (for Component 1 and 3 of the Programme)

- in total 4 175 tests for H5 and

- in total 4 175 tests for H7 will be performed.

Virological tests (for early- detection, sero-positive findings and Component 2 of the Programme)

- in total 206 PCR tests will be performed and

- in total 10 virus isolations will be performed.

7.1.2 Wild birds

Please also check the consistency between the numbers mentions in tables 3.2.1, 7.2.2 and the information provided in box 3.3 and 3.4.

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(max. 32000 chars):

Search for dead or moribund wild birds of target species will be carried out on 22 locations (5 birds/location).

It is assumed that on each location at least 5 dead or moribund wild birds will be found and submitted for laboratory investigation. This will result around with 110 wild birds to be sampled and 110 samples (cloacal, tracheal or organ sample) will be virological tested using RT-PCR.

All positive samples will be additionally tested using three QRT-PCR tests (for H5, H7 and N8); it is foreseen that 150 PCR tests (including gene-sequencing) will be performed.

In addition 15 virus isolation tests are included in the costs.

In total, during 2023, 260 PCR tests and 15 virus isolations will be performed.

7.2 Summary of the annual costs :

7.2.1 Poultry surveillance including ducks, geese and farmed game birds : Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme - poultry

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7.2.2 *Wild bird surveillance : Detail analysis of the cost of the programme - wild birds*

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C. 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 reimbursement/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))

(max. 32000 chars):

Sampling of poultry will be performed by an authorised veterinarian. Sampling and sampling delivering will be paid by Ministry of Agriculture, VFSDG (state budget). All sampling equipment will be paid by state budget.

Delivering of wild birds will be performed by an authorised veterinarians and by ornithologists from Croatian Veterinary Institute and covered by the state budget.

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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)

(max. 32000 chars):

All samples are tested in the official laboratories as well as NRL appointed by competent authority. Laboratory testing is fully financed from 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)

(max. 32000 chars):

Activities regarding compensation are implemented and paid by the central level of the state veterinary services. Compensation is paid by the central level (Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate; Ministry of Agriculture). For animals killed, slaughtered or for animals which have died due to the implementation of the ordered measures, as well as for the objects that were damaged or destroyed in the course of the implementation of the ordered measures the animal holder or the owner of the object are entitled to the compensation in the amount of the market value on the day of the implementation of the measure. The assessment of the value of the animals and objects is carried out by the commission appointed by the Director, the composition of which must include the competent veterinary inspector. The decision on the entitlement to the damage compensation and on the amount of damage compensation is passed by the Director upon the proposal of the commission, within 60 days, while payment must ensue not later than 90 days from the day of implementation of the measures.

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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)

(max. 32000 chars):

n/a

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

(max. 32000 chars):

n/a

2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

yes

no

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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 cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:

n/a

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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
			Total size of attachments :	