



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex III: Programme for the control and eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

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Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : OESTERREICH

Disease Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

This program is multi annual :

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

1. Contact data

Name Phone

Email within the CA :

Submission Date

01/12/2022 13:52:20

Submission Number

1669899140662-18977



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2. Description of the programme

Please give a short description of the programme (max. 32000 chars) :

TSE (BSE and scrapie): the programme for 2023 will be submitted according to the rules for the veterinary programmes under the new legal frame i.e. the Single Market Programme regulation (Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of the European Parliament and of the Council) and is also implemented in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and the Council. The programme starts on 1. January 2023.

BSE: Austria is allowed to implement a revised monitoring programme (Commission Decision 2009/719/EC as amended). Austria has the "negligible" BSE-risk status.

The expected number of bovines to be examined will be about 18,572 head:

a) 18,500 risk animals are foreseen; thereof 15,300 dead/killed bovines (48 months age limit and 24 for bovines from Member States which are not allowed to perform a revised programme) and 3,200 other risk animals (emergency slaughtered ones and animals with clinical signs at ante-mortem - 24 months age limit; remark to table 4.6.1. - only one possibility for the age specification can be given).

b) 60 healthy slaughtered bovines more than 30 months old, slaughtered in Austria but born in Member States which are not allowed to perform a revised monitoring programme, and

c) 12 clinical suspects. According to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 Annex X, Chapter C, 3.1. (a) (v) (ii) the combination of rapid tests is possible, if one of the two rapid tests is a Western blot; In Austria no Western blot according to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 Annex X, Chapter C, 4 (Rapid tests) is in use, so suspect animals are not tested with rapid tests (please refer to table 4.6.1).

Explanation for the different age limit regarding the risk animals: fallen stock does not enter the food chain; for other risk animals like emergency slaughtered ones or animals showing clinical signs there is a given possibility that they can enter the food chain according to the legal basis and the results of further investigations. Therefore it was decided that the age should be > 24 months for those categories.

Samples have to be tested according to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and the OIE requirements. The tests are carried out in the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES) GmbH, at the Institute of Veterinary Disease Control Mödling, where also the NRL is located. Sampling of slaughtered animals is done by official post mortem inspectors, in rendering plants samples are taken by official vets. All parts of the animal, including the skin, remain under official control until the result of the laboratory examination is known. SRM, as well as fallen stock, shall be destroyed in accordance with the relevant provisions (Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and Regulation (EC) No 999/2001).

For reasons of precaution one BSE-case per year is included in the programme.

Rules for the implementation of the monitoring program are laid down in the bovine health surveillance and monitoring regulation, Federal Legal Gazette (FLG.) II No 334/2013 and in the Austrian decree for TSE.

Scrapie: The implementation of the programme is based on Regulation (EC) 999/2001. Annex III of the regulation foresees the investigation of 1,500 sheep and 500 goats, which have died or been killed. The national programme for maintaining the status "negligible risk for classical Scrapie" follows Annex VIII of the Regulation (EC) No 999/2001; Rules for the implementation of the sampling programme are laid down in the sheep and goat health surveillance and monitoring regulation, FLG. II No 308/2015 and in the Austrian decree for TSE.

A total of 3,022 sheep and goats (2,277 fallen sheep, 601 fallen goats, 114 slaughtered sheep as well as 30 slaughtered goats) are examined. In this national programme the obligatory tests (Annex III, Regulation (EC) No 999/2001: 1,500 sheep and 500 goats) are included.

The tests are carried out in the AGES GmbH, at the Institute for Veterinary Disease Control in Mödling, where also the NRL is located. Samples have to be tested according to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and

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the OIE-requirements . All parts of the animal, including the skin, remain under official control until the result of the laboratory examination is known. SRM, as well as fallen stock, shall be destroyed in accordance with the relevant provisions. Samples of fallen stock are taken in the rendering plants. For reasons of precaution Scrapie cases are included in the programme.

The focus of the programme is also important: maintenance of a good surveillance system as basis for an early detection of TSE.

3. Description of the epidemiological situation of the disease

Last year's No of cases	Total No	No of classical cases	No of atypical cases	No of undetermined cases
BSE case	0	0	0	0
Scrapie case (ovine)	0	0	0	0
Scrapie case (caprine)	0	0	0	0
Last case of		date (classical case)	date (atypical case)	date (undetermined case)
BSE		05/06/2006	08/09/2010	0
Scrapie (ovine)		01/2000	11/05/2022	0
Scrapie (caprine)		0	11/08/2014	0

Comments (if any)

BSE: Since 1991, 2.6 million cattle have been examined in Austria. Overall, there have been eight cases of BSE. The first case of BSE was recorded in December 2001 (Lower Austria). Two cases were found in 2005 in older cattle (Vorarlberg and Salzburg), two cases in 2006 (Tyrol and Upper Austria), one case in January 2007 (Carinthia) and two cases in January and September 2010 (Upper Austria, Lower Austria, both were old cows: 13 and 15 years). Epidemiological surveys and eradications were performed. The last three cases were confirmed as "atypical" cases: case number six (January 2007, Carinthia, L-type), case number seven (January 2010, Upper Austria, L-type) and case number eight (September 2010, Lower Austria, H-type).

Scrapie: In May 1991, all brains of sheep and goats with preliminary "CNS disorders" were examined on scrapie. The post mortem inspectors have already been instructed to pay attention during the ante-mortem inspection to disturbances of the general health of animals and to initiate appropriate investigations in case of suspicion. Since 1991, more than 117,000 sheep and goats were examined for scrapie. The first and only classical scrapie case, an imported one, was found in a sheep in January 2000 and officially confirmed. In three contact holdings a total of three animals was diagnosed histologically positive. In total, there were 17 cases of "atypical" scrapie (four in 2011, three in 2012, two in 2013, three in 2014, one in: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and at last one in May 2022), all in sheep, except for 1 case in 2014, which was in a goat. The first eight cases were confirmed by the EURL, the last nine by the NRL of Austria.

Austria has got the "negligible risk status for classical Scrapie": Regulation (EC) of the Commission No 1148/2014.

4. Measures included in the programme

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4.1 *Designation of the central authority in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme*

(max. 32000 chars):

TSE (BSE and Scrapie): Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (BMSGPK), responsible departments: III/B/10, for SRM and III/B/12, for ABP.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

TSE (BSE and Scrapie): The programme includes all nine provinces (Burgenland, Carinthia, Lower Austria, Upper Austria, Salzburg, Styria, Tirol, Vorarlberg, and Vienna).

4.3 *System in place for the registration of holdings*

(max. 32000 chars):

Cattle: A central database contains all data regarding animal passport, animal movements and deaths (slaughter and fallen stock) as well as data of veterinary relevance, if these are necessary for the execution of legal tasks of the veterinary services in the course of disease control and for the protection of human health. The database has been recognized as unrestrictedly operational by Commission Decision 1999/571/EC of 28 July 1999 recognizing the fully operational character of the Austrian data base for bovine animals. Due to the well-functioning data base certain direct payments for cattle will be paid according to market organization legislation are being processed via this database, too. An interface with the "Verbraucherinformationssystem" (consumer information system, VIS; Database) forms the basis for information on holdings and animals which can also be accessed via the VIS.

Sheep and goats: In accordance with the Animal Identification and Registration Regulation 2009, FLG II No. 291/2009, as amended, the keepers of sheep and goats have to report the start of their operation to the operator of the central database (VIS, Verbrauchergesundheitsinformationssystem, Consumer health information system) within 7 days including data on the holding and on keeping operation. Entries into this database have to comprise the registration number, name and address of the establishment, geographical data of the location of the holding, data on the animal keeper, the species of animals, the type of use of the animals and the number of animals at the reference date for the annual survey. This data base is in compliance with the requirements provided for by the Regulation (EC) 2016/429, supplemented by the Delegated Regulation (EC) 2019/2035 and the Implementing Regulation (EC) 2021/520. The individual codes of the official identification are being allocated to the holdings by the VIS system for animals born after 9th of July 2005, information on the allocation can be accessed by official authorities.

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4.4 System in place for the identification of animals

(max. 32000 chars):

Cattle: The respective EU-legislation was implemented in accordance with EU rules: identification and registration of cattle in accordance with "Rinderkennzeichnungs-Verordnung 2021, BGBl. II Nr. 174/2021" (Bovine Identification Ordinance 2021, BGBl II No 174/2021). The system of identification and registration is based on individual animal identification by ear tag, electronic data bases, animal/cattle passports (cattle passports are only used for intra-Community trade) and individual registers in each holding. All animals in a holding are being identified by applying ear tags, approved by the competent authority, to both ears. The ear tags are furnished with a standardised identification code allowing for identification of the individual animal and the holding of birth.: "AT" followed by a numerical code and a bar code containing at least the numerical code. Starting in April 2020 Austria has introduced an electronic system with a "common conventional" eartag and one electronic eartag. The animal owner is obliged to keep a herd register for all animals kept on his holding in accordance with the model issued by AMA. The register has to comprise the following details: identification of the individual animals; date of birth, sex and breed; in case of entries and dispatches the identification of the animals concerned under specification of the respective date and person from whose holding or to whose holding the respective animals were transferred; in case of a re-identification (animals from third countries) the correlation of the new ear tag to the third-country ear tag; notes on the residence of animals on pastures where animals are put to pasture; if need be the date of death on the holding; references to checks. The herd register has to be kept for four years. Queries on ear tags via VIS are possible at any time.

Sheep and goats: According to the Animal Identification and Registration Regulation 2009 (Tierkennzeichnungsverordnung 2009) sheep and goats have to be permanently identified by the owner at his own expenses within 6 months from the date of birth, in any case, however, upon first leaving the holding or upon official instruction by the authorities by either 1. two ear tags or 2. an ear tag and a pastern band or 3. an ear tag and an official electronic identifier or 4. an official electronic identifier (bolus) and a pastern band or 5. an official electronic identifier (electronic ear tag) and a pastern band. Older ear tags have to contain the following information: "AT" for Austria, followed by a numeric code pertaining to the federal province (e.g. 1 for Burgenland) and a code of at most 11 digits by which at least the holding of origin can be determined. For animals born after 9th of July 2005 the identification marks comprise at least the following code: AT and an individual code comprising of 11 (the digits were extended from 9 to 11 digits because the numbers were running out). The tender for the new EU-compliant ear tags in accordance with the Regulation (EC) 2021/520 is in progress. In case of replacement identification specific rules are in place. The owners of sheep and goats have to report the start of the keeping operation including the relevant data immediately to the VIS, or within 7 days at the latest. Animal owners are obliged to keep a holding register and all entries have to be kept on record for at least 7 years respectively (e.g.: number of all sheep and goats present in the holding on 1 April of each year, broken down with regard to species; number of female sheep and goats older than 12 months of age or having given birth; all entries or dispatches of animals moved; date of entry or dispatch; identification of means of transport). The relevant EU legislation regarding identification and traceability applicable since April 21, 2021 was implemented by the Amendment of the Animal Disease Act (FLG I No. 258/2021, which will apply until the national animal identification regulation will be adapted accordingly.

4.5 Measures in place as regards the notification of the disease

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(max. 32000 chars) :

BSE is a notifiable disease according to §16 of the Animal Disease Act (ADA, RGBI. No. 177/1909, as amended) since 1991 and according to Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001.

If there is a suspicion of TSE, the consulted veterinarian, the farmer, any other person in charge of the care or any other person who recognizes the signs of TSE has to report it immediately to the local mayor, or if not possible, at the nearest police station. Vets also have to report it to the local competent authority. The reports must also be accepted verbally or by telephone. The mayor has to announce the orders immediately to the district administrative authority. Police stations have to forward the reports to the mayor as well as to the district administrative authority. If TSE is officially suspected, all other bovines in the holding shall be placed under an official movement restriction until the result is known.

In Austria Scrapie became a notifiable disease in 1995 (ADA, FLG No 177/1909, as amended). Notification is also based on Regulation (EC) No. 999/2001. A permanent reporting system is in place. In case of sheep and goats showing clinical symptoms, the procedures according to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and according to the ADA apply; furthermore, there is a movement restriction on the holding.

Regulations, which refer to the obligation to investigate, can also be found in the current version of the "Food Safety and Consumer Protection Act" FLG. I No. 13/2006 and the "Meat Inspection Regulation" FLG. II No. 109/2006.

In case of an outbreak of classical Scrapie, the total eradication would be the best way. It is clear that such an outbreak has to be solved as quickly as possible. But it would also depend on the situation which of the given options will be taken.

4.6 Testing

4.6.1 Rapid tests in bovine animals

Targets for year

2023

	Age (in months) above which animals are tested	Estimated number of animals to be tested	Estimated number of rapid tests, including rapid tests used for confirmation
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals born in Ms listed in Annex to CD2009/719/EC	0	0	0
Risk animals born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	24	18 495	18 495
Healthy slaughtered bovine animals NOT born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	30	60	60
Risk animals NOT born in MS listed in Annex to CD 2009/719/EC	24	5	5
Suspect animals (as referred to in Art 12.2 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001)		0	0

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4.6.2 Rapid tests on small ruminants

The sampling rules applicable for the monitoring of ovine and caprine animals slaughtered or not for human consumption (described below as healthy slaughtered/dead animals) are in compliance with provisions of Annex III, II, 4 of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, in particular:

- Animals are over 18 months of age or have more than two permanent incisors,
- No over-representation of any group (origin, age, breed, production type, etc),
- Sampling representative of each region and season,
- Multiple sampling in the same flock avoided whenever possible,
- A system is in place to ensure that in successive sampling years, all officially registered holdings with more than 100 animals where TSE cases have never been detected are subject to TSE testing,
- A system is in place to check that animals are not being diverted from sampling (except derogation communicated to the Commission):

yes

no

If no please explain.

4.6.2.1 Rapid tests on ovine animals

Estimated population of adult ewes and ewe lambs put to the ram.

240 000

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number of animals to be tested
Healthy slaughtered ovine animals (a)	0
Dead ovine animals (b)	1 500
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Ovine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	20
Ovine animals from holdins affected by atypical scrapie	0
Ovine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals (c)	0

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Total number of tests	1 520
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- (a) Annex III, A, II, 2 of the TSE regulation
- (b) Annex III, A, II, 3 of the TSE regulation
- (c) Art 12 of the TSE regulation

4.6.2.2 Rapid tests on caprine animals

Estimated population of female goats and female kids mated .

63 800

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number of animals to be tested
Healthy slaughtered caprine animals (a)	0
Dead caprine animals (b)	500
In the context of measures of control/eradication on holdings affected by TSE as described in Annexes III and VII of the TSE regulation	
Caprine animals from holdings affected by classical scrapie	0
Caprine animals from holdings affected by atypical scrapie	0
Caprine animals from holdings affected by BSE	0
Suspect animals (c)	0
Total number of tests	500

- (a) Annex III, A, II, 2 of the TSE regulation
- (b) Annex III, A, II, 3 of the TSE regulation
- (c) Art 12 of the TSE regulation

4.6.3 Confirmatory tests **other than rapid tests** as referred to in Annex X Chapter C of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number of tests
Confirmatory tests in Bovine animals	15
Confirmatory tests in Ovine and Caprine animals	5

4.6.4 Discriminatory tests (Annex X.C point 3.1 (c) and 3.2 (c)(i) of Regulation (EC) No 999(2001)

Targets for year

2023

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	Estimated number of tests
Primary molecular testing on bovine animals	0
Primary molecular testing on ovine and caprine animals	0
Total	0

4.6.5 Genotyping of positive and randomly selected animals

Adult sheep population

More than 750,000 animals

Less than or equal to 750,000 animals

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Genotyping of TSE cases	3
Random genotyping	0

4.7 Eradication

4.7.1 Measures following confirmation of a TSE case in bovine animals

4.7.1.1 Description

(max. 32000 chars):

The procedure is in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, e.g. epidemiological surveys and killing are performed according to Article 13 and Annex VII and in accordance with the Austrian ADA, RGBI. No 177/1909; A compensation will be paid to the owner. The cooperation between the authorities concerned and the laboratory is of great importance. The disposal of carcasses is also carried out in accordance with relevant regulations (Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009). There is a contingency plan for TSE in place. Positive samples are forwarded to another laboratory, which has participated successfully in the latest proficiency testing organised by the EURL. The monthly reports and any positive case are entered in the EFSA-TSE-database. Also the Commission will be informed about any positive case.

4.7.1.2 Summary table

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Bovine animals culled and destroyed	20

4.7.2 Measures following confirmation of a TSE case in ovine and caprine animals

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4.7.2.1 Description

(max. 32000 chars) :

The procedure is in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 and is also in accordance with the ADA, RGBI. No 177/1909. Atypical cases are confirmed in the NRL by a second confirmatory test (immunohistochemistry). If atypical scrapie can be excluded samples of positive animals are forwarded to another laboratory, which has participated successfully in the latest proficiency testing organised by the EURL for confirmation and further examination after consultation of the NRL with the other laboratory. Epidemiological surveys are carried out. Depending on the case it must be decided which of the possible options according to Annex VII of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 are applied. There is a contingency plan for TSE in place. According to EU guidelines, animals over 18 months are tested, and genotypings are carried out. To maintain the status, the target is to eradicate any scrapie outbreaks as quickly as possible. Compensation will be paid to the owner if it is necessary to kill animals. The cooperation between the authorities concerned and the laboratory is of great importance. The monthly reports and any positive cases are entered in the EFSA-TSE-database. Also the Commission will be informed about any positive case.

4.7.2.2 Summary table

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Ovine and caprine animals culled and destroyed (due to classical scrapie)	20
Ovine and caprine animals compulsory slaughter (due to classical scrapie)	0
Genotyping tests - monitoring and eradication measures	50

4.7.3 Breeding programme for resistance to TSEs in sheep

4.7.3.1 General description

Description of the programme according to the minimum requirements set out in Annex VII, Chapter B of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001

(max. 32000 chars) :

In Austria, no breeding programme for resistance to classical scrapie has been implemented.

4.7.3.2 Summary table

Targets for year

2023

	Estimated number
Ewes to be genotyped under the framework of a breeding programme referred to in Article 6a of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001	0

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Rams to be genotyped under the framework of a breeding programme referred to in Article 6a of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001	0
Total	0

5. Costs

5.1 Detailed analysis of the costs

(max. 32000 chars):

The detailed cost breakdown is a representation of the estimated eligible costs according to Regulation (EU) No 2021/690 Annex I, 2.2.1. (b) based on the current cost situation. For 2023 a new tender of the rapid tests (for both - BSE and Scrapie - the same test system) is provided, price increases and therefore costs increases are expected. Only approved tests are used in accordance with Annex X of Regulation (EC) No 999/2001.

Part load, repetitions and validations are also taken into account in the calculation of the current test costs.

Rapid test (currently used for bovines, sheep and goats: IDEXXHerdCheck BSE-Scrapie Antigen Test Kit, EIA):

Currently: detail costs per sample (test kit, additional materials, staff): € - for bovines

Currently: detail costs per sample (test kit, additional materials, staff): € - for sheep and goats

Confirmatory test (TeSeE TM Western Blot, Biorad):

Currently: detail costs per sample (testkit, additional materials and reagents, staff): €

Confirmatory tests are used to confirm suspect cases; suspect cases include clinical suspect cases and possible laboratory suspect cases due to the results of the rapid test (possible number of performed W-Blots).

Genotyping:

Currently: PCR detail costs per sample: €

Atypical Scrapie case: for confirmation the NRL is using IHC additionally.

Other positive cases: would be sent for discriminatory testing to another laboratory, which has participated successfully in the latest proficiency testing organised by the EURL.

5.2 Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

5.3. 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 performs 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):

Official veterinarians take samples in the rendering plants (state budget).
Authorised vets perform sampling in the slaughterhouses (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)

(max. 32000 chars):

Testing is performed by the AGES in Mödling. Costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the AGES (basic funding, state budget).

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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):

Compensation is paid by the federal government (central level). National legal basis: §§ 49, 50 and 51 of Animal Disease Act (ADA, RGL. No 177/1909, as amended) and "TSG-Werttarif-Verordnung", FLG. II No. 322/2018.

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination (if applicable)** : 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):

Not applicable.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

Equipment service is provided by the AGES (state budget).

Transport of samples: private company, paid by the federal government.

Samples of fallen stock taken in rendering plants: done by official veterinarians (refer to point 5.3.1 (a))

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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

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:

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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.
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	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	288 kb
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