



Programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

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

Member States seeking an EU financial contribution for national programmes of eradication, control and surveillance shall submit online this document completely filled out by the 31 May of the year preceding its implementation (part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).

Due to the late adoption of the SMP regulation all programmes will be submitted to be approved technically for 2021 and 2022.

Therefore, this document shall also be filled out and submitted after selection of the options:

This programme is multiannual: "YES"

Request for Union cofinancing from beginning 2021 to end of 2022.

If encountering difficulties:

- concerning the information requested, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu.

- on the technical point of view, please contact SANTE-BI@ec.europa.eu, include in your message a printscreen of the complete window where the problem appears and the version of this pdf:

Instructions to complete the form:

- 1) You can attach documents (.doc, .xls, .pdf, etc) to complete your report using the button "Add attachments" on the last page of the form.
- 2) Before submitting this form, please use the button "Verify form"(bottom right of each page). If needed, complete your pdf document as indicated.
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- 4) Verify that your internet connection is active and then click on the "Submit notification" button and your pdf document will be sent to our server. A submission number will appear on your document. Save this completed document on your computer for your record.
- 5) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit multi-annual programmes.
- 6) You are invited to submit your programmes in English.

Doc version: 2021 2.1

Member state : LATVIJA

Disease Salmonella

Animal population Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : New multiannual programme or Modification of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing from beginning : 2021 To end of 2022

First year of implementation of the programme described in this document: 2021

1. Contact data

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Your job type within the CA : [Redacted]

Submission Date

18/10/2021 15:37:56

Submission Number

1634560676890-17685



Laying flocks of *Gallus gallus*

A. Technical information

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

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

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

1. Aim of the programme

It is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the prevalence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-) in adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* ('Union target') as follows:

An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 10% where the prevalence in the preceding year was less than 10%.

An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 20% where the prevalence in the preceding year was more than or equal to 10% and less than 20%.

A reduction of the maximum percentage equal to 2% or less of positive flocks of adult laying hens.

The Member States has less than 50 flocks of adult laying hens: the target is to have not more than one adult flock remaining positive.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

Comments(max. 32000 chars) :

Laying hens of Gallus gallus - according to requirements set in the Regulation No 517/2011/EC, target is achieved if the Member State with fewer than 50 adult laying hen flocks of Gallus gallus, not more than one adult laying hen flock may remain positive. During 2017 we detected 3 positive laying hen flocks of Gallus gallus. Taking into account this fact Latvia has not achieved target according Commission Regulation (EC) No 517/2011/EC in 2017. During 2017 we faced with new problem - uncompleted vaccination of pullets moved from another Member States. As part of our laying hen owners prefer to buy pullets in another Member States and move them to Latvia at age of 16-18 week, then these pullets had not completed vaccination against zoonotic salmonella (SE/ST), so - 2 out of 3 our newly detected positive laying hen flocks were without completed vaccination (was skipped third vaccination in the country of origin) moved from neighboring country as pullets. For vaccination of pullets of laying hens live attenuated vaccine is used usually, most of them need to use as 3 dose programme for immunity to 60 weeks. If third vaccination is skipped then immunity not remains for 60 weeks, but it is more shorter. Buyers of these pullets were not inform on not completed vaccination.

Regarding control of laying hens, in 2018 and 2019 no positive adult laying hen flocks were detected, target was achieved. In 2020 - we had 3 positive laying hen flocks: 2 flocks - Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) and 1 flock - Salmonella Typhimurium (ST). One SE positive layer flock was young layers without completed vaccination, layers were vaccinated against salmonella, but not fully - they were vaccinated only two times out of three. As part of our laying hen owners prefer to buy pullets in another Member States and move them to Latvia at age of 16-18 week, then these pullets had not completed vaccination against zoonotic salmonella (SE/ST). For vaccination of pullets of laying hens live attenuated vaccine is used usually, most of them need to use as 3 dose programme for immunity to 60 weeks. If third vaccination is skipped then immunity not remains for 60 weeks, but it is more shorter. Buyer of these pullets was not informed on not completed vaccination. In this case - confirmation sampling was made to be sure that detected Salmonella Enteritidis is wild strain not vaccine strain.

2. The programme will be implemented on the **whole territory** of the MS.

yes

no

If No, please explain :

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

3. Flocks subject to the programme

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

yes

no

If No, please explain :

	Total number of flocks of layers in the MS	Number of flocks covered by the programme	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	35		35	0
Adult flocks	62	62	62	40
Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens				20
Number of flocks in these holdings				62
<i>NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.</i>				

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

4. Notification of the detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

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

yes

no

if no, please explain :

5. Biosecurity measures

FBOs have to implement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks.

yes

no

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

According to requirements of Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 291 (9 June 2015) "Regulation on biosecurity measures in the holdings", animal owner/keeper is responsible for elaboration of biosecurity measures plan and its enforcement in the holding.

The following bio-security measures are recommended:

- 1) All in-all out;
- 2) Appropriate poultry keeping system to poultry species and category;
- 3) Control of staff, visitors and vehicles;
- 4) Vermin, feral animal and insect control;
- 5) Control of feed and water supply; litter supply and disposal as well as;
- 6) Appropriate cleaning and disinfection measures of equipment, buildings, vehicles adequate of poultry keeping technology;
- 7) Control of domestic animals on site (pets and other animals, including livestock, must be kept away from poultry houses and service buildings);
- 8) Control of hygiene of animal transporting.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

6. Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators (FBO):

Samples at the initiative of the FBOs will be taken and analysed to test for the target *Salmonella* serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements:

- a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- b. Adults laying flocks: every 15 weeks during the laying period

yes

no

if no, please explain - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples, and, if additional FBO sampling, going beyond the minimum sampling requirements, is performed, please describe what is done.

All poultry flocks included in the programme are subjected to monitoring by veterinarians. Monitoring of flocks also includes schemes for taking own samples by veterinarians.

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

yes

no

if no, please explain :

8. Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.D of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant. In particular:

- due to the presence or the suspicion of the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST I,4,[5],12:i:-) in the flock, eggs cannot be used for human consumption unless heat treated;
- eggs from these flocks shall be marked and considered as class B eggs.

yes

no

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

Whereas Regulation does not require compulsory slaughter of infected birds immediately, then is up to FBO decided, if the birds will be slaughtered or will be held. But if the FBO decide to hold infected birds until end of laying cycle, then it is not possible to claim for a refund. The compensation may be granted only in cases where the infected birds are slaughtered immediately.

According to Part D of Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 eggs from positive flocks:

1) shall be considered as Class B eggs as defined in Article 2(4) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 557/2007 laying down detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1028/2006 on marketing standards for eggs, and marked with the indication referred to in Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 557/2007 which clearly distinguishes them from Class A eggs and will be sent to heat treatment or

2) will be destroyed.

In case of Latvia in most cases eggs from positive flocks will be destroyed as in Latvia we have one egg processing plant only which take eggs from own holdings only and do not take eggs from not own holdings. This mean that all other holdings in positive case have no possibility to send eggs for heat treatment and accordingly – these eggs are sent for destroying.

The following restrictive measures are implemented on the positive flock:

1. To the affected laying hen flock, the State Veterinary Inspector shall:

- prohibit the movement of birds, except to a slaughterhouse.
- stipulates that eggs are sent for heat treatment to an egg processing plant using methods that guarantee the destruction of salmonella (in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene).
- perform official sampling (take feed samples, water samples etc.) for laboratory examination to identify possible routes and sources of infection.
- after assessment of the epidemiological situation on the holding, if necessary, the carcasses of dead birds shall be sent for bacteriological examination of salmonellosis.

2. The owner/keeper shall draw up a plan for the eradication of zoonotic salmonellosis in agreement with State Veterinary Inspector. The plan shall include the following detailed actions:

- control of the movement of persons within a flock and holding.
- placement of disinfection mats at the entrances of the flocks, as well as at entrances to other buildings.
- destruction of dead bird carcasses by methods that minimize the risk of the salmonella spreading.
- heat treatment of eggs in an egg processing plant using methods that guarantee the destruction of salmonella pathogens (in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene).
- in the case of slaughter, the birds are transported and slaughtered from the affected flock/holding separately from other poultry. The plan shall specify the time by which the infected birds will be slaughtered or destroyed. Products derived from these birds may be used for human consumption after heat treatment ensuring inactivation of the salmonella agent (in accordance with Community food hygiene legislation).
- the cleaning, washing and disinfection of the poultry house, its surroundings, vehicles, their equipment and other materials which may be contaminated with the pathogen are carried out under the supervision of the official veterinarian or a practicing veterinarian.
- Disinfection of bedding and other materials that may be contaminated with the pathogen are under the supervision of a practicing veterinarian or official veterinarian; disinfection of manure or subjecting to biothermal treatment.
- documentation of egg processing as well as slaughter of birds.
- measures to be taken to control pests and rodents.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

Measures implemented by the FBO (farm level)

We have no slaughterhouses for laying hens in Latvia. All laying hens at the end of production cycle are sent to slaughterhouses located in another Member States . In cases when we have positive cases (SE and/or ST) in laying hen flocks, two infection eradication measures strategies are in place:

1) slaughtering of positive laying hens. In this case laying hens are sent to slaughterhouses located in another Member State,

or

2) if there no possibility to send positive laying hens to slaughterhouse, then laying hens are killed and destroyed.

Operators wishing to send more than 20 live birds to another EU member state (or certain third countries) must comply with requirements of legislation and ensure that the consignment is accompanied by a completed and signed Intra-trade Animal Health Certificate (ITAHC) for intra-union trade or appropriate animal health certificate for export.

Salmonella test is a part of the food chain information for laying hen flocks dispatched to the slaughterhouse. Information on Salmonella test is included in the food chain information document according to section III of Annex II of Regulation 853/2004.

In the ITAHC results of the last test for Salmonella is included as required in Commission Regulation (EC) 2160/2003 Article 9.1 prior to any dispatching of the live animals from the food business of origin. The date and the result of testing are included in the relevant health certificates provided in the Commission Decision 2011/214/EU. This certificate must be signed by the FVS State veterinary inspector as well as the operator confirms compliance with the relevant requirements.

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

Birds from flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered. Poultry are transferred and slaughtered away from other poultry and products from these birds may be used following heat treatment that ensures the inactivation of salmonellosis agents. Following - additional cleaning and disinfection will be implemented.

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

Regarding measures by the CA at farm, please see measures under point 8.

Regarding measures by the CA at slaughterhouse, it will be in according with requirements of Regulation 2073/2003.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

yes

no

If no, please explain :

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

Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme.

yes

no

If no please explain.

Official detection method – EN ISO 6579-1.

For samples taken on behalf of the FBO alternative methods if validated in accordance with the most recent version of EN/ISO16140 may be used.

yes

no

If no please explain.

According to requirements of the Cabinet of Ministers No 90 "Procedures for supervising and exchange of information on infectious diseases that affect both animals and people" (31 January 2012)

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

requirements, FVS approve FBO laboratories for zoonotic salmonella control programme if they meet the following criteria:

- 1) they are accredited by a national accreditation system LATAK in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 standard,
- 2) they use official control method – EN/ISO 6579-1 and it is accredited,
- 3) they participate in collaborative testing organised or coordinated by the national reference laboratory Official samples for testing are sent to national reference laboratory “BIOR” only.

12. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011. In particular, samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 4 days after sampling.

yes

no

If no, please explain :

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

1. Concern to official feed control: feed control system for microbiological criteria is part of annual „Animal Feed Surveillance Program. Sampling Plan for specific year“

2. Feed sampling for Salmonella spp. tests is divided in 2 parts:

- 1) Surveillance in farms (primary production),
- 2) Surveillance of feed operators (feed chain – HACCP principles - including biological hazards- implemented).

3. Annual Animal Feed Surveillance program included (prepared by FVS):

- Legislation
- Guidelines for sampling (risk based)
- Frequency of taking feed samples and sending samples to laboratory („BIOR“) in each Territorial unit;
- Guidelines for inspectors for reacting on Salmonella spp. positive samples concerning feed operators;
- Guidelines for inspectors for evaluating test results, writing test reports and sending test reports to Feed operators.

4. There is national legislation in force for evaluation Salmonella spp. in animal feed:

- Regulation of Cabinet of Minister (Nr.1111 (29.09.2009.) about undesirable substances in feed, and Salmonella spp. is prohibited in all types of feed (point 1, Annex);

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- Regulation of Cabinet of Minister (Nr.1591 (22.12.2009.) about sampling animal feed for microbiological testing (n=5; n=100g).

In accordance with Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 1111 from September 29, 2009 "Provisions on prohibited substances in feed and feed materials and feed safety requirements" a person involved in the feed business shall inform the Food and Veterinary Service of any case where it is suspected that feed contamination:

1. exceeds the maximum permissible levels of pollution specified in Annex I to Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and in the Annex to this Regulation (according to point 1 of Annex of above mentioned Regulation Salmonella spp. is not allowed in 25 grams of feed).
2. may pose a serious risk to human or animal health or the environment.

If the results of the tests confirm the contamination of feed and it poses a danger to human or animal health or the environment:

1. the Food and Veterinary Service shall determine the type of processing or destruction of contaminated feed.
2. a person involved in the circulation of feed, without causing damage to animal or human health or the environment, shall clean, process or destroy the contaminated feed.

14. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery level

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

There is a unified procedure (KR.10.P.186 "Methodological guidelines on the inspections of animals and holdings") covering all checks on all species of productive animals (including poultry) at farm level. The hygiene provisions are included in several check lists: "Requirements on animal health and primary production of products of animal origin", "Requirements on primary production of feed and animal feeding", "Requirements on circulation of veterinary medicinal products ". The hygiene checks are usually combined with the health and welfare checks of the animals.

According to requirements of Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 291 (9 June 2015) "Regulation on biosecurity measures in the holdings", animal owner/keeper is responsible for elaboration of biosecurity measures plan and its enforcement in the holding. According to Article 7 of this Regulation: "If the owner or holder of the porcine species or poultry does not ensure any of the biosecurity measures laid down in Annex 1 or 2 to this Regulation, the inspector of the Food and Veterinary Service is entitled to take a decision to ban the transfer of animals and their products".

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

b. Routine official **sampling scheme**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:

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

yes

no

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

Official samples are taken by FVS veterinary inspectors only.

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

After positive official samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

After positive FBO samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

When official confirmatory sampling is performed, additional samples are taken for checking the presence of antimicrobials:

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

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

Official confirmatory (repeated) sampling will carry out according to Annex 1, 4 (b)(i) of Commission Regulation No 1237/2007 amending Regulation EC No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Decision 2006/696/EC as regards the placing on the market of eggs from Salmonella infected flocks of laying hens. The confirmation method will be based on the technical specifications referred to in Article 5 of Commission Decision 2004/665/EC (seven samples); however, a sub-sample of 25 grams must be collected of each faecal material and dust sample for analysis in laboratory; all samples must be analyzed separately. Additionally taking of samples for the checking of antimicrobials will be performed.

Criteria for official confirmatory sampling are following:

- 1) wild strain of SE is detected in the vaccinated laying hen flock;
- 2) problem with the quality of the samples (it could be more actual during the summer time, when the conditions of storage or transportation of samples are not take into account), or problem with traceability of the samples etc.
- 3) young layers with incomplete vaccination - in this case confirmatory sampling will be done to be sure that detected strain is wild strain,
- 4) the epidemiological situation of the holding regarding Salmonella like the presence of Salmonella in the holding in the previous years, -to the level of biosecurity in the holding,
- 5) to the compliance of the FBO with the EU requirements,
- 6) to the results of an epidemiological investigation of food-borne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC etc.

According to national salmonella control programme, in case when confirmatory sampling is made state veterinary inspector impose temporary restrictions on the movement of animals and their products until official sampling results will be received. If samples for detection of antibiotic residues will be taken, then restrictions will be lifted if no antibiotic residues are detected and results of the bacteriological testing are negative.

1

2

3

4

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

¹ Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.1 of the Annex

² Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.2 of the Annex

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

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

In 2020 - we had 3 positive laying hen flocks: 2 flocks - Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) and 1 flock - Salmonella Typhimurium (ST).

One SE positive layer flock was young layers without completed vaccination, layers were vaccinated against salmonella, but not fully - they were vaccinated only two times out of three. As part of our laying hen owners prefer to buy pullets in another Member States and move them to Latvia at age of 16-18 week, then these pullets had not completed vaccination against zoonotic salmonella (SE/ST). For vaccination of pullets of laying hens live attenuated vaccine is used usually, most of them need to use as 3 dose programme for immunity to 60 weeks. If third vaccination is skipped then immunity not remains for 60 weeks, but it is more shorter. Buyer of these pullets was not informed on not completed vaccination. In this case - confirmation sampling was made to be sure that detected Salmonella Enteritidis is wild strain not vaccine strain.

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

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

Use of antimicrobials is verified in following way:

1) documentary checks on use of antimicrobials, checking of "animal medical treatment log" register,
2) in any case if here will be any suspicion on abuse use of antimicrobials then according to requirements of legislation and according to FVS procedure KR.10.P.083 "Methodological guidelines for taking of samples for zoonotic salmonella and/or typhus avium and pullorum disease bacteriological detection in poultry holdings" 5 live birds will be chosen from particular flock and will be sent to laboratory for antimicrobials detection tests.

If antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors are detected, the Salmonella infection shall be considered as confirmed and restriction measures shall be taken according to Annex II part D of Regulation (EC) No

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

2160/2003 on the control of Salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents.

High performance liquid chromatography with tandem quadrupole mass spectrometry (HPLC-QqQ-MS/MS, Thermo TSQ Quantiva) is applied for both screening and confirmation of antibiotics residues. Different groups of antimicrobial substances such as tetracyclines, sulfanilamides, penicillines, macrolides, quinolones and cephalosporines are covered by the current procedure. The analytical method involves sample homogenization, compound extraction with acetonitrile, the clean – up with phospholipid removal columns, extract evaporation under nitrogen stream and analyte quantification by HPLC-QqQ-MS/MS.

Once a year, the holding is inspected for evaluating of salmonella self-control program, which includes a requirement to check if it complies with the requirement of Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006. Also, the use of veterinary medicinal products in the holding is checked separately, whether it complies with the requirements of regulatory enactments regarding the circulation of veterinary medicinal products, as well as eggs are taken for residue control within the framework of the Residue Surveillance program.

15. Salmonella vaccination



Voluntary



Compulsory



Forbidden

Use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

yes

no

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

Vaccines used in Latvia are in accordance with Point 1 of Article 3 of Regulation 1177/2006. Other vaccines have never been registered and used in Latvia. Differentiation performed by National Reference Laboratory only. Following restrictive measures are implemented on the suspect flock pending the results of the test for the differentiation of the wild-type strain from the vaccine one - a ban on the movement of poultry and a ban on the sale of products.

Vaccination programme with live marked vaccine for rearing laying hens against *S. Enteritidis* was started in 2011.

Vaccination of rearing laying hen flocks carried out against *Salmonella Enteritidis* with live marked vaccine – “AviPro SALMONELLA VAC E”, producer - Lohmann Animal Health GmbH, number of registration in Latvia is V/MRP/09/0010

According to vaccination scheme - a single dose from one day of age followed by a second vaccination at 6 to 8 weeks of age and a third vaccination at 16-18 weeks at least 3 weeks before point of lay.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

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

Compensation in case of disease eradication measures is funded from state budget.

In Latvia administration of compensation system for losses of the outbreaks of infectious disease is competence of state administration institution - Rural Support Service. Decision on payment of compensations to animal owner is usually taken within 10 days after introduction of request by animal owner. Since the positive decision is taken by the Rural Support Service, process of payment is initiated and animal owner receives money after application dossier has been agreed by the Ministry of Finances and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers. Compensations are paid according to requirements of Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 199 (1 April 2021) "Rules for compensation of losses occurred during an outbreak of an animal infectious disease under State surveillance or epizootics".

In accordance with Cabinet Regulation No. 199 of 1 April 2021 "Regulations for Compensation for Losses Caused by an Infectious Disease or Epizootic Outbreak of an Animal Under State Supervision", the Food and Veterinary Service shall indicate if requirements of the normative acts have been violated. We have separate normative act on biosafety, so if the requirements of this act are violated, then this must be indicated in the request for compensation. And accordingly, it can affect the cost of compensation or the amount of the compensation payment.

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to requirements of Zoonotic salmonella control programme restrictions are lifted by a FVS State veterinary inspector after the disease eradication measures have been taken and following receipt of a negative laboratory test results, by inspecting samples of surface swabs (Enterococcus spp., E. coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Salmonella spp.) from the house following final disinfection.

Surface swabs are taken by FVS State veterinary inspector according to FVS procedure KR.10.P.083 "Methodological guidelines for taking of samples for zoonotic salmonella and/or typhus avium and pullorum disease bacteriological detection in poultry holdings".

In accordance with the procedure of the Food and Veterinary Service (FVS) KR.10.P.083, sampling of surface swabs carry out in following:

Surface swabs shall be used for the control of disinfection efficiency at the poultry house/holding.

Surface swabs shall be taken after final disinfection at the poultry house/holding.

Swabs containing 5 ml of saline-peptone solution, are used to sample surface of the poultry house/holding. At least 25 swabs per house shall be taken (the FVS veterinary inspector may decide to increase the number of swabs), grouped as follows:

- floor swabs - not less than 5 swabs
- swabs from walls, windowsills - not less than 5 swabs

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- swabs from manure belts - not less than 5 swabs
- swabs from waterers, feeders, etc. - not less than 5 swabs
- swabs from cages, nests - not less than 5 swabs

When labelling swabs, there must be a clear indication of where the swabs was taken so that, in the case of positive laboratory results, problem areas can be identified for increased attention during re-disinfection.

The 5 swabs in the laboratory are pooled into one pooled sample.

B. General information

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

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

1. The structure of the Food and Veterinary service (hereinafter referred to as the FVS) is one of the main components of the mechanism that ensures the operational objectives and functions of the service.

- The FVS central office directs and coordinates the implementation of State functions delegated to the service.
- Territorial units (regional offices and one city office) are FVS administrative units that ensure monitoring within the territory of their region.
- The Sanitary Border Inspection (SBI) controls the import, transit and export of freight on the border in accordance with procedures laid down by the Cabinet of Ministers and requirements currently in force.

2. Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment „BIOR” (hereinafter referred to as the “BIOR”) performs laboratory testing relating to the circulation of food, the diagnosis of infectious human diseases, the diagnosis of infectious animal diseases and ensures testing relating to the environment and environmental sanitary hygiene, as well as the circulation of veterinary medicines, pharmaceutical products, feedingstuffs and feed ingredients; performs the tasks of the national reference laboratory on the basis of authorization and organizes inter-laboratory comparative testing.

3. Disease Prevention and Control center of Latvia is responsible for the surveillance of zoonoses in humans in Latvia. Infectious diseases are notifiable according to the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 7 of 5 January 1999 “Procedure of Notification of Infectious Diseases”.

2. **Legal basis** for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

1) Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents;

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- 2) Commission Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 of 25 May 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain Salmonella serotypes in laying hens of Gallus gallus and amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2010;
- 3) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 on requirements for the use of specific control methods;
- 4) Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/268 of 15 February 2019 amending Regulations (EU) No 200/2010, (EU) No 517/2011, (EU) No 200/2012 and (EU) No 1190/2012 as regards certain methods for Salmonella testing and sampling in poultry;
- 5) Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 199 (1 April 2021) "Rules for compensation of losses occurred during an outbreak of an animal infectious disease under State surveillance or epizootics".
- 6) Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No. 90 of 31 January 2012 "Procedures for the supervision and exchange of information on infectious diseases that affect both animals and people"

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

(max. 32000 chars):

Regarding laying hens - more or less every year we detected one or more laying hen flocks positive to SE/ST, especially those flocks/holdings which are suppliers of small quantities to final consumer as we have national requirements for such kind of flocks/holdings. The salmonellosis morbidity among humans continues to persist as a problem also in Latvia. Annually, 20 – 40 cases per 100 000 inhabitants get registered on the average. A sharp increase of salmonellosis incidence was registered from 2008 to 2011. Several hundreds of cases still are registered each year. The most widespread serotypes in humans causing disease in Latvia are S.Enteritidis and S.Typhimurium. The number of cases caused by S. Enteritidis largely prevails.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

According to the Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 134, 26 March 2019 "Order of registration of agriculture and aquaculture animals, herds and holdings, and identification of agriculture animals" Agricultural Data Centre (ADC) develops register of animals, herds and holdings. ADC gives number for the holding and this number is not changed during holding is active.

Each holding has its own internal flock numbering, in the Latvia flock number is the same as the house (barn) number, where the flock is kept.

FVS requires the submission of salmonella self-control plans, which must include the identification number of the holding and flock, the date of entry (dd/mm/yyyy) of flock and the age of the birds, the weeks of sampling and the expected date of movement and/or slaughter of the birds (dd/mm/yyyy)

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

(max. 32000 chars):

There are 11 territorial structural units of Food and veterinary service (FVS) - regional offices cover all administrative areas. The regional offices carry out the official surveillance in accordance with the state surveillance and control programmes in the administrative areas concerned. All poultry holdings obligate to harmonize their self-control schemes with FVS regional offices. These self-control schemes contain information on own check sampling frequencies – dates or weeks (official sampling time is included in this scheme if the holding keep several flocks). FVS state veterinary inspector check these self-control schemes (frequencies etc.) in practice during routine official inspection on the spot at least once per year. Additional official inspection on the spot or documentary check can be done at any time if necessary.

Reports on previous month by territorial structural units of FVS to the FVS CA must be submitted once a month by the 8th of the following month.

Supervision takes place in accordance with the procedure of the FVS KR.02.P.004 "Procedure for Supervision of the Professional Activities of State Veterinary Inspectors and State Senior Veterinary Inspectors of Territorial Structural Units".

Supervision must be carried out according to a scheduled plan.

According to procedure KR.02.P.004 if non-compliance is found during practical and/or documentary supervision, then following corrective actions need to be taken - explanation of non - clear things, explanation of requirements of legislation etc.

According to Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No. 127 of 21 February 2012 "Regulation on notifiable, registrable and state control animal diseases infectious and procedures for the provision of information about these diseases to Food and Veterinary Service":

1. If the infectious disease referred to in Part II of Annex 1 (here is included salmonella also) to this Regulation in animals has been confirmed or the presence of the causative agent of this disease in the environment, animal feed or food has been confirmed, the veterinarian at the slaughterhouse or practicing veterinarian shall notify the relevant territorial unit within one working day.
2. The accredited laboratory and the reference laboratory shall report to the FVS central authority and the relevant territorial structural unit of FVS electronically within one working day regarding the detection of the infectious disease agents referred to in Points 1, 5, 13, 23, 24 (Salmonella is under point 24), 34, 45, 46 and 56 of Part II of Annex 1 to this Regulation.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2021

Type of the test (description)	Target population	Number of planned tests
Bacteriological detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	120
Serotyping	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	10
Antimicrobial detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	10
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	30

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2022

Type of the test (description)	Target population	Number of planned tests
Bacteriological detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	120
Serotyping	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	10
Antimicrobial detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	10
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	30

1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

2021

Type of the test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total No of flocks (a)	35	62
No of flocks in the programme	35	62
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	40

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	40
No of official samples taken	0	120
Target serovars (d)	SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	0	1
Possible No of flocks to be depopulated	0	1
Total No of birds to be slaughtered/culled	0	30 000
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	210 000
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	0

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks

(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.

(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.

(d) Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST

Salmonella Enteritidis, Typhimurium, Hadar, Infantis, Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

2022

Type of the test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total No of flocks (a)	35	62
No of flocks in the programme	35	62
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	40
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	40
No of official samples taken	0	120
Target serovars (d)	SE + ST	SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	0	1
Possible No of flocks to be depopulated	0	1
Total No of birds to be slaughtered/culled	0	30 000
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	210 000
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	0

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

2.1 *Targets on vaccination for year :* **2021**

Type of the test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the Salmonella programme	25
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	25
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	2 016 000
Number of doses expected to be administered	6 050 000

2.1 *Targets on vaccination for year :* **2022**

Type of the test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the Salmonella programme	26
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	26
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	2 233 333
Number of doses expected to be administered	6 700 000

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

D.1. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

Costs of the planned activities for year :

2021

1. Testing of official samples								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of tests	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Testing	Layers: Bacteriological detection test	120	20.16	2419.2	yes	75	1 814,4	X
Testing	Layers: Serotyping	10	47.01	470.1	yes	75	352,57	X
Testing	Layers: Antimicrobial detection test	10	20.23	202.3	yes	75	151,72	X
Testing	Layers: Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	30	40.44	1213.2	yes	75	909,9	X
2. Vaccination (if you ask cofinancing for purchase of vaccins, you should also fill in A.15 and E.1.d)								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Vaccination	Layers: Purchase of vaccine doses	6 050 000	0.04	242,000	yes	75	181 500	X
3. Slaughter and destruction (without any salaries)								
Cost related to	<u>Compensation of</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Compensation	Layers: Table eggs destroyed	210 000	0.06	12600	yes	75	9 450	X
Compensation	Layers: Animals culled or slaughtered	30 000	2.67	80100	yes	75	60 075	X
4. Cleaning and disinfection								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Cleaning and disinfection	In case of full flock depopulation	500	4.27	2135	yes	75	1 601,25	X
5. Other essential costs								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
				Add a new row				
6. Cost of official sampling								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Sampling	Layers: Official sampling visit	40	7.81	312.4	yes	75	234,3	X
Total with Union funding request (€):				341,452.2	including		256,089.14	
Total without Union funding request (€):				0	= requested EU contribution in €			

Costs of the planned activities for year :

2022

1. Testing of official samples								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of tests	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Testing	Layers: Bacteriological detection test	120	20.16	2419.2	yes	75	1 814,4	X
Testing	Layers: Serotyping	10	47.01	470.1	yes	75	352,57	X
Testing	Layers: Antimicrobial detection test	10	20.23	202.3	yes	75	151,72	X
Testing	Layers: Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	30	40.44	1213.2	yes	75	909,9	X
2. Vaccination (if you ask cofinancing for purchase of vaccins, you should also fill in A.15 and E.1.d)								

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Vaccination	Layers: Purchase of vaccine doses	6 700 000	0.04	268,000	yes	75	201 000	X	
3. Slaughter and destruction (without any salaries)									
Cost related to	<u>Compensation of</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Compensation	Layers: Table eggs destroyed	210 000	0.06	12600	yes	75	9 450	X	
Compensation	Layers: Animals culled or slaughtered	30 000	2.67	80100	yes	75	60 075	X	
4. Cleaning and disinfection									
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Cleaning and disinfection	In case of full flock depopulation	500	4.27	2135	yes	75	1 601,25	X	
5. Other essential costs									
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
				Add a new row					
6. Cost of official sampling									
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Sampling	Layers: Official sampling visit	40	7.81	312.4	yes	75	234,3	X	
Total with Union funding request (€):				367,452.2	including		275,589.14		

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Total without Union funding request (€):

0

= requested EU contribution in €

E. Financial information

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

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the 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))

Official sampling perform FVS State veterinary inspectors only, veterinarians are not involved in the official sampling. Equipment for official sampling is provided by Food and veterinary service (from State budget). All activities related to official sampling are paid from state budget only.

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)

Official samples are tested in the national reference laboratory "BIOR" only, other laboratories are not involved in the testing of official samples.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Expenditure of testing of official samples is funded from 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)

Compensation in case of disease eradication measures is funded from state budget.

In Latvia administration of compensation system for losses of the outbreaks of infectious disease is competence of state administration institution - Rural Support Service. Decision on payment of compensations to animal owner is usually taken within 10 days after introduction of request by animal owner. Since the positive decision is taken by the Rural Support Service, process of payment is initiated and animal owner receives money after application dossier has been agreed by the Ministry of Finances and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers. Compensations are paid according to requirements of Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 199 (1 April 2021) "Rules for compensation of losses occurred during an outbreak of an animal infectious disease under State surveillance or epizootics".

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)

Food and veterinary service (FVS) is responsible for organization of purchasing and distribution of vaccine against zoonotic salmonellosis. Tender is organized by FVS in accordance with requirements of legislation. Financial and technical documentation (reports etc.) are collected by FVS CA. Purchase of vaccine is funded from state budget.

Expenditure of vaccination (organization of vaccination, veterinarian service cost) is paid by farmers, these actions are not funded from state and are not sent for co-financing respectively.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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

Expenditure of official actions, purchase of vaccine, compensation of slaughtered birds and destroyed table eggs, expenditure of cleaning and disinfection in case of disease eradication measures is funded from state budget.

2 Co-financing rate (see provisions of applicable Work Programme)

The maximum co-financing rate is in general fixed at 50%. However based on provisions of Article 5.2 and 5.3 of the Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, we request that the co-financing rate for the reimbursement of the eligible costs would be increased:

Up to 75% for the measures detailed below

Up to 100% for the measures detailed below

Please explain for which measures and why co-financing rate should be increased to 75%

Latvian gross national income per inhabitant based on the latest Eurostat data is less than 90 % of the Union average.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

3. 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

4. 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:

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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 :	