



USAID | INDONESIA

AVIAN INFLUENZA CONTROL

DECEMBER 2007



Photo: Gavin MacGregor-Skinner

A surveillance officer works with farmers to gather information on recent poultry outbreaks

THE CHALLENGE

The H5N1 avian influenza virus has infected over 330 people in 12 countries since 2003, as well as poultry in 60 countries. Health experts believe it could mutate into a form that is transmissible between humans and trigger a global pandemic threatening the lives of millions of people.

Indonesia has the world's highest number of confirmed human infections with H5N1 (113 cases as of December 4, 2007, of which 91 resulted in death), and is uniquely vulnerable to the threat of ongoing outbreaks and the emergence of a pandemic strain due to high human population and poultry densities, and traditionally close contact between people and poultry.

THE GOAL

Reduce the likelihood that a human influenza pandemic will emerge by:

Preventing H5N1 transmission among poultry

Minimizing human exposure

OVERVIEW

The U.S. Government is the largest donor supporting Indonesia's control efforts for H5N1 avian influenza (AI) and USAID plays an important role as part of the overall U.S. response. USAID's comprehensive AI program supports the Government of Indonesia's *National Strategy for Avian Influenza Control and Preparedness for Human Pandemic Influenza 2006-2008*. The program includes integrated public and private sector AI surveillance and response for both animal and human outbreaks, and behavior change communications in every district of Java, Bali, North Sumatra and Lampung to minimize behaviors that facilitate the transmission of AI to both poultry and people. USAID has provided \$42.85 million in support of AI control and prevention in Indonesia since 2005.

PROGRAMS

Preparedness and Control

USAID has established the Community-Based Avian Influenza Control (CBAIC) program, which is undertaking a number of initiatives to improve preparedness and capacity for AI control at both the national and community level, including assistance to Indonesia's National Commission for AI Control and Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (KOMNAS FBPI) to facilitate coordination among all levels and sectors of the government. CBAIC is also training Village AI Coordinators to enhance local capacity to detect signs of an outbreak.

Animal Surveillance and Response

USAID is making a major contribution to the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) through the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, to build capacity and implement active animal surveillance and response. Through the Participatory Disease Surveillance and Response (PDSR) program, animal health teams are trained in surveillance, containment, and prevention skills, provided with the means to conduct field activities and report findings into the national and local systems. With USAID support, over 1,240 officers are active in over 160 districts. Supplementing the public sector activities and working to support the role of local governments, the CBAIC program takes AI prevention, surveillance, reporting, and containment to the village level, by partnering with local NGOs with strong volunteer networks, such as the Indonesian Red Cross and Muhammadiyah (a faith based organization). Trained volunteers are engaged in AI prevention in over 14,000 communities. Animal sector activities are integrated with human health through direct reporting of poultry outbreaks to local health officers and through program collaboration.

Human Influenza Surveillance

USAID is building capacity with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to integrate active human surveillance and response with animal surveillance through a program with WHO. This program works to reduce human infections and improve survival outcomes by initiating case detection within 24 hours of animal outbreak confirmation and getting suspect patients into appropriate care more quickly. CBAIC helps prevent human cases by training village

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Photo: Gavin MacGregor-Skinner

A surveillance officer conducts a rapid field test to determine if poultry deaths were caused by avian influenza

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volunteers to educate their communities and reduce risky behaviors. In 2005, USAID supported the US Naval Medical Research Unit 2 (NAMRU-2) to expand their laboratory-based surveillance network into areas at high risk for AI, positioning the Government of Indonesia and others to quickly obtain laboratory confirmation of suspect AI cases, cross confirm findings with the Ministry of Health, and contribute to vaccine development. The NAMRU-2 program is now self-sustaining.

Behavior Change Communications

USAID is supporting the National AI Commission (KOMNAS), through CBAIC and other programs, to develop key messages, mass media (e.g. radio public service announcements, television spots), and materials for direct communications (e.g. posters and brochures) for AI prevention and control. Over 14,000 CBAIC volunteers are using these communications tools to enhance public awareness and promote safe poultry rearing practices, thereby limiting the spread of AI among poultry and minimizing the risk of transmission to people.

Research

USAID is working with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) to conduct operational research to identify the most effective avian influenza control measures in poultry. ILRI is collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture and other partners utilizing the Participatory Disease Surveillance and Response Program to measure the epidemiological impact of various control strategies and the feasibility of replicating those control measures throughout Indonesia.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- As of December, 2007, over 160 high-risk districts covering Bali, Java, and parts of Sumatra, Sulawesi, and Kalimantan have active participatory disease surveillance and response teams, providing the first systematic reporting of AI outbreaks among informal and backyard poultry farmer, as well as intelligence about AI transmission and risk factors.
- From January 2006 to December 2007, PDSR has conducted 105,569 interviews and reported 4,078 outbreaks of avian influenza in participating districts.
- As of December 2007 14,548 Village AI Coordinators have been trained to educate communities on how to prevent avian influenza and how to recognize and report signs of a suspect outbreak in animals and humans.
- Hundreds of thousands of training booklets and other educational materials have been developed and distributed to support community mobilization activities through local partners such as Muhammadiyah and the Indonesian Red Cross and in coordination with WHO and FAO
- Over 200,000 personal protective suits and 1,000 decontamination kits have been provided to Government of Indonesia animal and human health officials to aid in AI surveillance and response efforts.