

ANNEX 9

to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the annual action plan in favour of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2021

Action Document for “EU4 Animal disease control”**1. SYNOPSIS****1.1. Action Summary Table**

Title	Action 09 - EU4 Animal disease control Annual Action Plan in favour of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2021			
CRIS number	043-667/9			
Basic Act	Financed under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)			
Team Europe Initiative	No			
Zone benefiting from the action	Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Programming document	IPA III Programming Framework			
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION				
Window and thematic priority	Window 4: Competitiveness and Inclusive Growth Thematic priority 3: Agriculture and Rural Development			
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Action contributes to achievement of following SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG 15: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss 			
DAC code(s)	311 Agriculture			
Main Delivery Channel¹	Bilateral			
Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality and Women's and Girl's Empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹ <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/annex2.htm>.

	Trade Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Disaster Risk Reduction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inclusion of persons with disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Biological diversity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internal markers	Policy objectives	Not targeted	Significant objective	Principal objective
	Digitalisation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	COVID-19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Social inclusion and human development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUDGET INFORMATION				
Amounts concerned	Budget Line: 15.020201.02 Total estimated cost: EUR 4 662 000 Total amount of EU budget contribution : EUR 4 000 000			
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION				
Type of financing and method(s) of implementation	Project Modality Direct management through Procurement			
Relevant priorities and flagships from Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans	N/A			
Final date for conclusion of Financing Agreement	At the latest by 31 December 2022			
Final date for concluding contribution / delegation	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of cases listed under Article 114(2) of the Financial Regulation			

agreements, procurement and grant contracts	
Indicative operational implementation period	6 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement
Final date for implementing the Financing Agreement (date by which this programme should be de-committed and closed)	12 years following the conclusion of the Financing Agreement

1.2. Summary of the Action

The Action supports the implementation of animal disease control measures, as an important part of preservation of livestock production. As such, the action aims to improve the animal health status through supporting preventive vaccination measures against rabies (in foxes) and brucellosis (in small ruminants). With regard to this, Action will support implementation of the Multiannual operational programmes to control and eradicate rabies and brucellosis. The procurement of necessary vaccinations will be at side of EU Delegation in Bosnia and Hercegovina while the State Veterinary Office in cooperation with the Entity authorities will have an important technical role and be responsible for carrying out all the tasks relating to the implementation of vaccination against rabies and brucellosis what will strengthen their institutional capacity and boost coordination among institutions involved in animal disease controls. The Action will influence the animal welfare, promotion of responsible production and consumer protection. Therefore, the action will impact the protection of animal health and public health.

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Context Analysis

Given the impact on animal and public health and on economy, implementation of **animal health protection measures**, including **vaccination** remain a high priority for the sector. Further efforts are needed concerning brucellosis in small ruminants and rabies in wild fox, for which detailed control and vaccination measures, as well as post-vaccination monitoring are laid down in the multi-annual control and eradication programmes. Both programmes will be revised with the support of the IPA 2018 twinning project in the field of veterinary.

The Action will support implementation of vaccination measures for rabies in wild fox and brucellosis of small ruminants. These measures are laid down in the Multi-annual Rabies Control and Eradication Programme for rabies 2017-2022 and Multi-annual Programme of Brucellosis Control and Eradication 2017-2021.

2.2. Problem analysis by areas of support

Short problem analysis: Oral vaccination of foxes against rabies in BiH was introduced in 2011 and continued in the next years. The last oral fox vaccination campaign was conducted in December 2020, within the IPA 2018 project. Since BiH has reported new case of rabies in June 2020, after almost 6 years without cases, continuation of vaccination is required for at least 4 more campaigns after implementation of IPA 2018 project. Vaccination of small ruminants against Brucellosis started in 2009 and continuous vaccination led to improvement of situation over the years. Due to delays in implementation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, national budgetary constraints and having IPA 2018 project under procurement, in 2020 only one third of eligible population was vaccinated. As such, vaccination of small ruminants against brucellosis is considered as priority for the next 2 years after implementation of IPA 2018 project.

Description of main stakeholders: Main stakeholders affected by the action are State, Entity and BD BiH institutions, involved in the animal health policy development and implementation, all having interest in protection of animal and human health. Other important stakeholders are veterinary organisations, which are responsible for implementation of vaccination measures on the ground, while animal holders are the final

beneficiaries of the Action. In the context of the Action, State Veterinary Office will ensure proper funds for implementation of vaccination against brucellosis, as well as for post vaccination monitoring.

Complementarity with national strategies: Two SPRD strategic sub-measures are particularly important for the wider context of the intervention: a) strengthening the capacities of competent institutions for implementation of animal health protection measures; and b) preparation and implementation of a program for animal health protection and animal welfare improvement. The Action contributes to implementation of Multi-annual Programme of Brucellosis Control and Eradication 2017-2021 (BCP) and Multi-annual Rabies Control and Eradication Programme 2017-2022 (RCP).

2.3. Relevance and complementarity with strategies supported by key national stakeholders

The Action will ensure continuity in implementation of animal health measures, namely vaccination against brucellosis in small ruminants and rabies in wild fox, accompanied by the post vaccination monitoring activities, intended to reduce number of disease outbreaks.

Strategic Plan for Rural Development of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2018-2021) (Framework document) notes that veterinary and phytosanitary policies play a significant role in each country, and that inadequate implementation of veterinary activities may result in an increased incidence of infectious animal. In terms of zoonoses and humans, food of animal origin is often a source of infection, thus losing the opportunity to participate in international trade in animals and products of animal origin. Due to the constant danger to human and animal health, the organisation and implementation of animal health protection and the implementation of veterinary measures for public health must be a priority in every country. A detailed, multi-year approach to the control of animal diseases and zoonoses, and a strategic approach to capacity building for animal welfare are necessary, in order to promote responsible production, reduce the need for medications, to ensure consumer protection and create conditions for the export of live animals and products of animal origin from BiH. Given the significant socio-economic impact of communicable diseases that are controlled in accordance with current legislation, ensuring the implementation of programs to control these diseases is necessary to strengthen the agricultural sector in the livestock sector and maintain competitiveness of producers in BiH. In addition, the emergence of exotic diseases with cross-border effects in the region over the past few years needs to be taken into account, which has further complicated the efforts of veterinary services to maintain favourable animal health status and ensure conditions for unhindered international trade in live animals and products.

Multi-annual programme of Brucellosis control and eradication for the next period 2017 – 2021 was developed and it's being implemented. Similar Multi-annual program was developed for rabies. In 2020 oral vaccination of foxes will be continued through IPA 2018, while implementation of vaccination against brucellosis is envisaged to start at the 1st quarter of 2021 due to delays in project implementation. IPA 2018 project "EU Support to Agriculture and Rural Development and, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary standards in Bosnia and Herzegovina" will also support development of reviewed operational programs for both diseases. Since Bosnia and Herzegovina has reported new case of rabies in June 2020, after almost 6 years without cases, continuation of vaccination is required for at least 4 more campaigns after implementation of IPA 2018. Vaccination of small ruminants against brucellosis is also priority for the next 2 years after implementation of IPA 2018 since delays in implementation in 2020 may cause serious consequences to animal and public health

2.4. Relevance and complementarity with EU policy and EU and other donors' assistance

The Action follows in full priorities in Chapter 12 according to which BiH should ensure effective implementation of the *Multiannual operational programmes to control and eradicate rabies and brucellosis until 2022*, as well as to maintain the vaccination until rabies is considered eradicated.

The 2019 Analytical Report² asks for effective implementation of the Multiannual operational programmes to control and eradicate rabies and brucellosis until 2022 and calls BiH authorities to step up its efforts to ensure sustainable resources for animal disease controls measures in the long run. As a short-term priority, Analytical report obliged BiH to maintain the vaccination until rabies is considered eradicated.

The article 95 of the **Stabilisation and Association Agreement** stipulates that cooperation between the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina in field of agriculture and agro-industrial sector shall focus on priority areas related to the EU *acquis* in the field of agriculture and veterinary and phytosanitary domains. Cooperation shall notably

² SWD(2019) 222

aim at modernising and restructuring the agriculture and agro-industrial sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular to reach veterinary and phytosanitary Community requirements and at supporting the progressive approximation of the legislation and practices of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Community rules and standards.

The Commission 2021 BiH Report³ points out that in order to improve control of animal diseases, Bosnia and Herzegovina has to build up and maintain a reliable and sustainable system of animal registration and vaccination, including its sustainable financing in the long run. Monitoring and surveillance in animal disease control should be intensified. As a short-term priority, the Commission's Report calls for maintaining the vaccination against rabies and brucellosis. The Commission also encourages the country to strengthen and upgrade its institutional and administrative capacities, including inspections services and laboratories.

The **Economic Reform Programme** confirms that the animal diseases especially those that are new to sector, pose an additional risk not only for the development of the sector, but also for human health, which calls for prompt actions of competent authorities.

European Green Deal⁴ and Farm to Fork Strategy⁵ proves that animal health among others, reduces the need for medication and can help preserve biodiversity.

In this aim, Action will support implementation of the Multiannual operational programmes to control and eradicate rabies and brucellosis. In this sense, it will provide necessary vaccinations at same time improving capacities for monitoring of the effectiveness of the vaccination campaign. Therefore, Action will procure vaccines and provide for additional services for the implementation of vaccination campaigns for wildlife (foxes) and brucellosis.

2.5. Lessons learned and links with previous financial assistance

Regarding implementation of animal health measures, during previous projects financed by the EU and bilateral donors, veterinary authorities noticed a low level of public awareness and knowledge of farmers on importance of regular vaccination of animals and timely reporting of animal diseases. Furthermore, delays in implementation of vaccination measures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and budgetary constraints while having IPA 2018 project under procurement, put attention on a need for ensuring sustainable financing of animal disease controls measures in the long-run. Thus, this Action is designed to address aforementioned challenges.

The Action is continuation of the IPA 2018 project "EU Support to Agriculture and Rural Development and, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary standards in Bosnia and Herzegovina", and as such it contributes to introduction of sector approach. Action improves coordination among institutions involved in animal disease controls and it is continuation of the European Commission strategic support to animal disease control and eradication in the areas of zoonosis, particularly rabies since 2011 and brucellosis since 2014.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

3.1. Planned results and intervention logic (describing causal links between impact, outcome(s) and output(s) and including assumptions)

If vaccination against rabies and brucellosis is timely completed (**Output**), and the assumptions regarding the stakeholders' commitment to implement programmes hold true, then animal disease control and eradication in BiH will be supported (**Outcome**). If animal disease control and eradication in Bosnia and Herzegovina is supported and assumptions regarding sustainable financing of implementation of the animal health policy measures hold true, then the animal and public health will be protected (**Impact**).

3.2. Indicative type of activities

OUTPUT : VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES AND BRUCELLOSIS COMPLETED

Intervention aims at improvement of animal health status trough supporting preventive vaccination measures against rabies in foxes and brucellosis in small ruminants.

³ SWD(2021) 291 final /2

⁴ COM(2019) 640

⁵ COM(2020) 381

Activities under this Output include: Procurement and distribution of vaccine baits against rabies in foxes and procurement of diagnostic kits needed for post vaccination monitoring. Implementation of post vaccination diagnostic will be funded through national / regional co – funding; Continuation of mandatory vaccination of the adults not vaccinated small ruminants against brucellosis, including obligatory identification of vaccinated animals. This will also include procurement of diagnostic kits needed for post vaccination diagnostic. Implementation of the program will be funded through national / regional co – funding.

3.3. Risks and assumptions

Risks	Risk level (H/M/L)	Mitigating measures
Unfavourable weather conditions	M	The project team will use weather forecasts as required by the vaccination methodology and design the flights plans, adapting it to the optimal conditions, ensuring safety and other requirements, and at the same time, pertaining it within specified seasonal periods for vaccination (in case of rabies; not applicable for brucellosis).
Delays in distribution plans	M	Beneficiary institution to ensure well in advance all parameters relevant for distribution plans (in case of brucellosis); in case of rabies, air distribution is defined as per standardised methodology prescribing required parameters which the project will comply to, design their plans which the beneficiary will check and confirm, as required by the standard technical specifications.
Assumptions (to be reflected in the Logical Framework Matrix above) – grouped by outputs and outcomes		
Output: Vaccination against rabies and brucellosis completed		
All stakeholders committed to implement programs and co-financing funds ensured timely.		
Outcome: Animal disease control and eradication in BiH supported		
Sustainable financing of implementation of the animal health policy measures		

3.4. Mainstreaming

<p>How does this Action contribute to Gender Equality and Women’s and Girls’ Empowerment (in line with the EU gender equality strategy 2020-2025)?</p> <p>The Action’s visibility channels will be used to raise awareness of society about importance of women in the preservation of life in rural areas. Also, participation of women in project management structures, such as expert working groups will be particularly encouraged.</p> <p>How does this Action address Environment and Climate change?</p> <p>This action does not address environment and climate change</p> <p>How does this Action address the Rights Based Approach?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>How does this Action promote the systematic engagement with Civil Society?</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Others (such as Resilience and Conflict Sensitivity, Roma, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups)</p> <p>Since the intervention is very specific and straightforward, procurement of vaccines, the Action as such does not particularly address the Rights Based Approach as neither engagement with Civil Society nor Resilience and Conflict Sensitivity, Roma, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups</p>

3.5. Conditions for implementation

Country financial contribution should be timely ensured, including adequate number of veterinary staff engaged in implementation of the vaccination measures and post-vaccination monitoring. State Veterinary Office has already taken steps to ensure necessary financial contribution through midterm budget planning process. However, failure to

comply with the requirements set out above may lead to a recovery of funds under this programme and/or the re-allocation of future funding.

3.6. Logical Framework

Results	Results chain: Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (2020)	Targets (2024)	Sources of data (1 per indicator)	Assumptions
Impact	To protect public and animal health in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Stage of preparation for achieving official disease-free status recognised by the OIE	Some level of preparation	Moderate level of preparation	Commission BiH Reports DG SANTE Country profiles OIE, FAO reports Statistics and sectoral reports in BiH	<i>Not applicable</i>
Outcome 1	Animal disease control and eradication in BiH supported	1.1. No of registered outbreaks of Rabies	1	0	Annual Veterinary authority report	Sustainable financing of implementation of the animal health policy measures
		1.2. No of registered outbreaks of brucellosis in small ruminants	52	<3%	Annual Veterinary authority report	
Output 1	Vaccination against rabies and brucellosis completed	1.1 No of vaccination campaigns for rabies conducted	0	4	SVO reports	All stakeholders committed to implement programs
		1.2 No of vaccines against brucellosis supplied, tested and distributed	453.000	<15%	SVO reports	

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Financing agreement

In order to implement this Action, it is foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the Bosnia and Herzegovina.

4.2. Implementation modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures⁶.

4.2.1. Direct Management (Procurement)

Procurement such as purchase and implementation of vaccination against rabies and brucellosis (output) will directly influence the support of animal disease control and eradication in BiH (outcome). The output will be delivered by means of one supply contract under direct management of the Delegation of EU in BiH.

Subject	Indicative type (works, supplies, services)	Indicative trimester of launch of the procedure
Output: Purchase and implementation of vaccination against rabies and brucellosis	Supply Contract	Q4 2022

4.3. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply, subject to the following provisions.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

4.4. Indicative budget

OUTCOME/OUTPUT	EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Indicative third party contribution, in EUR
Output 1: Vaccination against rabies and brucellosis completed , composed of	4 000 000	662 000
Direct management (procurement), cf. section 4.2.1.	N.A.	N.A.
Procurement – total envelope under section 4.2.1	4 000 000	662 000
Evaluation, (cf. section 5.3)	will be covered by another decision	N.A
Audit/Expenditure verification(cf. section 6)	will be covered by another decision	N.A

⁶ www.sanctionsmap.eu Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website, it is the OJ version that prevails.

Communication and visibility (cf. section 7)	N.A	N.A
Contingencies	N.A.	N.A
Total	4 000 000	662 000

4.5. Organisational set-up and responsibilities

The Action will be implemented under the direct management, chosen to maximise the Action's impact to the highest possible extent. The national stakeholders will closely cooperate with the Contracting Authority in relation to co-financing and strategic coordination of the Action's component implementation. EU Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is responsible for the procurement while the State Veterinary Office in cooperation with the Entity authorities will have an important technical role and be responsible for carrying out all the tasks relating to the implementation of vaccination against rabies and brucellosis.

5. PERFORMANCE/RESULTS MONITORING AND REPORTING

5.1. Internal monitoring

Close cooperation of the Contracting Authority and the key beneficiaries' institutions competent for animal health has been envisaged.

5.2. Roles & responsibilities for data collection, analysis & reporting

The action will ensure reporting and coordination chain across the Action component. Internal monitoring will be implemented through EU Delegation implementation reviews, on-the-spot checks, meetings with beneficiaries and consultant companies/contractors. Management structures will monitor the progress of the Action implementation referring to logframe matrix, facilitate access to information, ensure timely and sufficient inputs from relevant institutions when required, provide advice, etc. Progress will be measured and monitored through indicators identified in the logframe and confirmed by the key beneficiaries, aiming to assess the success of measures undertaken and resources invested. Further, management structures will monitor the extent to which the expected results have been achieved. There will be also proper reporting and evaluation mechanisms applied. The Action might be subject to external monitoring in line with the European Commission rules and procedures set in the Financing Agreement.

5.3. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a mid-term and/or final evaluation will not be carried out for this action or its components.

In case an evaluation is not foreseen for some action's components, the Commission may, during implementation, decide to undertake such an evaluation for duly justified reasons either on its own decision or on the initiative of the partner.

Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a financing Decision

6. AUDIT

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

It is foreseen that audit services may be contracted under a framework contract.

7. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Visibility of EU funding and communication about objectives and impact of Actions are a legal obligation for all Actions funded by the EU, as set out in the EU communication and visibility requirements in force.

In particular, the recipients of EU funding shall acknowledge the origin of the EU funding and ensure its proper visibility by:

- providing a statement highlighting the support received from the EU in a visible manner on all documents and communication material relating to the implementation of the funds, including on an official website and social media accounts, where these exist; and
- promoting the actions and their results by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media.

Visibility and communication measures shall be implemented, as relevant, by the national administrations (for instance, concerning the reforms linked to EU budget support), entrusted entities, contractors and grant beneficiaries. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included, respectively, in financing agreements, delegation agreements, and procurement contracts.

The measures shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan, established and implemented in line with the EU communication and visibility requirements in force. The plan shall include, inter alia, a communication narrative and master messages for the Action, customised for the various target audiences (stakeholders, civil society, general public, etc.)

Visibility and communication measures specific to this Action shall be complementary to the broader communication activities implemented directly by the European Commission services and/or the EU Delegation. The European Commission and the EU Delegation should be fully informed of the planning and implementation of the specific visibility and communication activities, notably with respect to the communication narrative and master messages.

Raising awareness of farmers on the importance of vaccination as necessary prevention for the health of small ruminants will complement this Action (supplies), through ongoing IPA 2018 assistance. Public awareness messages will contribute to increase the knowledge of farmers on importance of regular vaccination of animals and timely reporting of animal diseases. All implementing partners and stakeholders of this Action shall ensure the visibility of EU financial assistance provided through IPA III.

8. SUSTAINABILITY

The aim of the Action is to support implementation of animal health control measures, in particular vaccination against rabies and brucellosis. During preparation of this action, the involvement of the-main actors was ensured with purpose to enhance the ownership and boost partnership among those who will be involved in the implementation of the Action and take over the results of the Action to be used and further developed and maintained after the Action ends. It is envisaged that the country as of 2024 will ensure the implementation of animal health control measures, in particular vaccination against rabies and brucellosis on its own.