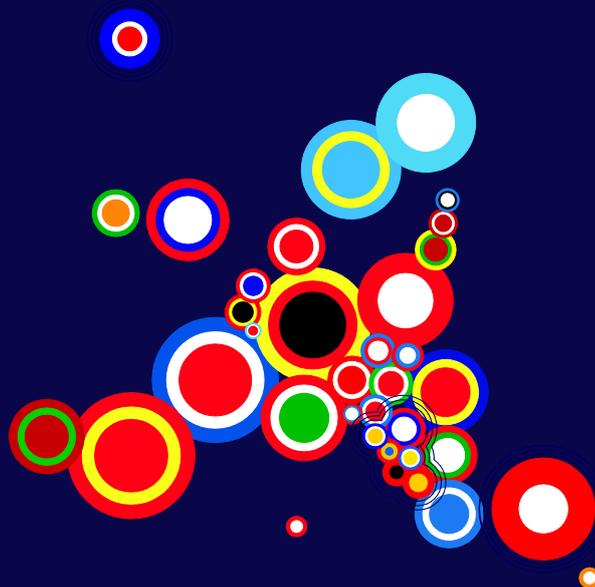




INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA II) 2014-2020

MONTENEGRO

Support to the veterinary sector



Action summary

The aim of the Action is to contribute to the further alignment and enhancement of the EU veterinary standards and eradication of certain animal diseases.

This will be achieved through the preparation and adoption of the relevant legislation and the strengthening of the capacities in the veterinary sector to implement new regulations.

Moreover, Rabies and Classical Swine Fever control and eradication programme will be rationally implemented; and finally system for control of udder health and quality of raw milk will be upgraded.

Action Identification	
Acton Programme Title	Annual Action Programme for Montenegro (2014)
Action Title	Support to the veterinary sector
Action Reference	IPA/2014/ 037-812.17/ME/veterinary
Sector Information	
IPA II Sector(s)	Agriculture and Rural Development
DAC Sector	31195
Budget	
Total cost	EUR 2.33 million
EU contribution	EUR 2.33 million
Management and Implementation	
Method of implementation	Direct Management
<i>Direct management:</i> EU Delegation in charge	EU Delegation to Montenegro
Implementation responsibilities	/
Location	
Zone benefiting from the action	Montenegro
Specific implementation area(s)	/
Timeline	
Deadline for conclusion of the Financing Agreement	At the latest by 31 December 2015
Contracting deadline	3 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement, with the exception of the cases listed under Article 189(2) Financial Regulation
End of operational implementation period	6 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement

1. RATIONALE

PROBLEM AND STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

A substantial and progressive liberalisation of Montenegrin market for agricultural products has been agreed under the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA), World Trade Organization (WTO) accession and the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA). In parallel, effective consumer protection is necessary in order to safeguard the public health. This will depend on the development of a modern administrative infrastructure ensuring the market surveillance and law enforcement.

According to the *Screening report Montenegro for Chapter 12 - Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary policy*, Montenegrin legislation is partially in line with the *acquis*. Therefore, significant efforts are needed to ensure adequate financial and human resources, as well as the capacity to undertake the necessary control and surveillance measures in accordance to the international standards.

Considering the comprehensive *acquis* in the veterinary area and in order to enforce the newly adopted legislation in the veterinary area, it will be necessary to continue with the strengthening and modernisation of appropriate infrastructure facilities, both on the administrative and technical level.

Further capacity building of all veterinary services is necessary, such as: Veterinary Administration, Administration for Inspection Affairs - veterinary inspection, Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory and veterinary practice, other stakeholders (farmers, traders, hunters, etc.) and general public when necessary, in the area of animal health and welfare, identification and registration of animals, control system in the internal market, trade in live animals semen, ova and embryos within Montenegro and zootechnics.

Specific attention will be required in regard to the eradication of the Rabies and the Classical Swine Fever (CSF). The Rabies is suppressed by the annual vaccination of dogs and cats and oral rabies vaccination of foxes supported through the IPA. Having in mind the existence of the reported cases of Rabies of animals in some neighbouring countries, and the fact that oral rabies vaccination in Albania is at the beginning, it is very likely that the oral rabies vaccination in Montenegro will have to run for a longer period than the minimal 5 years (10 vaccination campaigns). It is of the utmost importance to provide the vaccination campaign of wild animals against Rabies on time. Thus the Action should provide support for the autumn 2015 campaign in order to prevent discontinuity of the vaccination which has started in 2011. Vaccination against the CSF is a legal obligation in Montenegro. Relevant regulation for sustainable control of the CSF in domestic pig population based on non-vaccination policy is harmonised and prepared for implementation. Strengthening the capacities for non-vaccination policy for the CSF on commercial farms and backyard holdings is necessary. For successful implementation of the above-mentioned standards, it would be necessary to develop relevant procedures, guidelines, instructions for the veterinary services staff and to improve the capacity of the stakeholders through the additional trainings.

Awareness campaigns and good cooperation and communication with all stakeholders will be crucial during the preparation and implementation of *acquis* in the mentioned areas.

The system for control of udder health is not established in Montenegro yet. Analysis of raw milk shows that udder health is for concern. Analyses of Somatic Cells Count (SCC) -per milliliters- of raw milk, for 2013, shows that more than 70% of analysed milk is not in line with the EU criteria, meaning that the udders of these cows are not healthy. Therefore, this veterinary area needs to be significantly improved in order to be harmonised with the EU standards.

RELEVANCE WITH THE IPA II INDICATIVE STRATEGY PAPER (OR MULTI-COUNTRY STRATEGY PAPER) AND OTHER KEY REFERENCES

The Indicative Strategy Paper for Montenegro (2014-2020) recognises the sector of Agriculture and Rural Development and includes veterinary area as a priority sub-sector.

In the veterinary policy, Montenegro faces several challenges given its small size and limited resources. According to the *Screening Report Montenegro for Chapter 12 – Food safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy*, further efforts are needed to strengthen the administrative, control and laboratory capacity in order for Montenegro to meet its accession requirements. Specific attention is required to develop and implement the comprehensive strategy for the alignment and implementation of the necessary *acquis*, especially in regard to closing the gaps on animal by-products and eradicating of the Rabies and the CSF.

The link between the Action and *Montenegro 2013 Progress Report for Chapter 12* has been addressed through the statement that some progress was made in the field of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy and further efforts are needed on all aspects of this policy area, in particular on further legislative alignment with the *acquis*. But in overall, preparations remain at an early stage.

Veterinary area is aiming to assure an effective control system. This Action will contribute to an increased level of food safety in the food chain (*from farm to table*). Through the measures included and adequate monitoring, this Action will ensure the effective functioning of the market in Montenegro, which will prepare it for the internal EU market in the future.

SECTOR APPROACH ASSESSMENT

Veterinary area is recognised as one of the priorities within the agriculture and rural development. Therefore, the sector policy objectives are coherent with the national development objectives defined in the *Montenegro Development Directions 2013-2016*:

- Investments in the primary agriculture and agricultural products processing;
- Improvement and development of the rural infrastructure and diversification of economic activities in rural areas;
- Implementation of agro-environmental measures.

A Country Sector Policy/Strategy does not exist but there are many national strategies in various fields that support this sector, such as *Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development* (in preparation), *Montenegro Development Directions 2013-2016*, *Strategy of Development for Development of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (2011-2015)*, *Regional Development Strategy (2014-2020)*, *Strategy for Enhancement of Competitiveness at the Micro Level (2011-2015)*, *National Program for Consumer Protection (2012-2015)*, etc.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is the lead institution in the sector which coordinates the work of the Sector Working Group and which will coordinate activities among partners and stakeholders and will define the time frame for the implementation of the activities. The Sector Working Group consists of representatives of the ministries, government bodies and institutions that cooperate closely and that are involved in dealing with the sector issues.

LESSONS LEARNED AND LINK TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Previous EU funded projects have identified a need for continuous capacity building within the beneficiary state bodies in order to strengthen its ability to enforce and implement (particularly recently adopted) the legislation. It was also identified that a wider group of stakeholders should be included in the educational and training programmes. One of the lessons learned is related to the necessity to have good coordination and cooperation among all relevant stakeholders. The successful coordination mechanism has been established through the previous IPA projects and the Action will continue to apply the same mechanism.

The list of the previous IPA projects is attached in Annex 2.

2. INTERVENTION LOGIC

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

OVERALL OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVI)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	
To achieve a high level of human and animal health protection and safety of food of animal origin in Montenegro	Progress made towards meeting the accession criteria	EC Progress Report Government's reports	
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVI)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
To further align and enforce the EU veterinary standards and eradicate certain animal diseases	Number of laws/sub-laws/regulations developed, in line with EU legislation and implemented. Number of eradication campaigns conducted	EC Progress Report Official Gazette of Montenegro Veterinary Administration data Action Progress Reports	Ongoing commitment of the decision-makers Motivation of farmers, food processors and other stakeholders to implement the legislation IPA 11 Project implemented timely and efficiently
RESULTS	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (OVI)	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>R 1: Legislation prepared and adopted in accordance to the Veterinary area - Screening Chapter 12 (Control measures for animal diseases, Animal welfare, Trade in live animals semen, ova and embryos within the Union, Zootechnics)</p> <p>R 2: Capacities of the veterinary services strengthened in order to properly carry out their duties in accordance to procedures aligned with the EU <i>acquis</i></p> <p>R 3: Rabies and CSF control and eradication programme rationally implemented</p> <p>R 4: Upgraded system for control of udder health and quality of raw milk</p>	<p>Number of rulebooks adopted and implemented compared to the baseline defined in the Strategy for implementation and transposition of legislation for Chapter 12</p> <p>Number of publications, manuals, guidelines issued consequent to the number of rulebooks (stated above)</p> <p>Number of people trained in related areas: % to perform official controls and monitoring; % in diagnostic methods in the field of diagnosing animal diseases; minimum % in zootechnics and % as trainers</p> <p>Number of vaccine baits for wild animals distributed</p> <p>Number of persons trained in the management of rabies and CSF outbreaks</p> <p>Number of laboratory results</p> <p>Laboratory equipment procured and operational</p>	<p>Legislation Gap Analysis</p> <p>Official Gazette of Montenegro</p> <p>EC Progress Report</p> <p>Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD)</p> <p>Action Progress Reports;</p> <p>Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE))</p> <p>Annual diary reports</p>	<p>Veterinary Directorate, veterinary inspection and Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory (DVL) staff capable of retaining key staff</p> <p>Systems and procedures in place are accepted, evaluated and applicable</p>

ACTIVITIES	MEANS	OVERALL COST	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>R1 - A1: Review of existing legislation and preparation of necessary rulebooks, legislation manuals and instructions</p> <p>R1 - A2: Assessment of the current veterinary system and drafting action plan for necessary corrections</p> <p>R1 - A3: Review of the existing operational procedures and surveillance and monitoring programmes and institutional set-up and preparation of the Action plan</p> <p>R1 - A4: Develop new procedures and surveillance and monitoring programmes for effective implementation of the legislation</p> <p>R1 - A5: Prepare guidelines/manuals for official controls, sampling</p> <p>R1 - A6: Develop appropriate tools</p> <p>R2 - A1: Prepare Training needs assessment and a Training Plan</p> <p>R2 - A2: Implement training plan for relevant administrative, laboratory and inspection staff</p> <p>R3 - A1: Rabies control and eradication programme implementation</p> <p>R3 - A1.1: Procurement of the vaccines and additional services for the implementation of 6 (six) oral rabies vaccination campaigns for wildlife (foxes)</p> <p>R3 - A1.2: Organize and deliver training for professionals involved in the management of rabies outbreak rapid response</p> <p>R3 - A1.3: Support the preparation and implementation of a sustainable program for control of stray dogs</p> <p>R3 - A2: CSF control and eradication programme rationally implemented</p> <p>R3 - A2.1: Assess the capacity for non-vaccination policy for CSF on commercial farms and backyard holdings</p> <p>R3 - A2.2: Review and update the relevant legislation according to the non-vaccination policy for CSF</p> <p>R3 - A2.3: Organize and deliver training and simulation exercise for professionals involved in the management of CSF outbreaks once vaccination against CSF is banned</p> <p>R4 - A1: Assessment of state of affairs of udder health and raw milk production sector</p> <p>R4 - A2: Development of the action plan for improvement udder health, raw milk quality and hygienic requirements</p> <p>R4 - A3: Assessment of the existing capacity for control of raw milk</p> <p>R4 - A4: Training for the producers of raw milk, staff who is involved in sampling of raw milk, laboratory staff, veterinary and official controls staff including production of materials for wide dissemination</p> <p>R4 - A5: Needs assessment and preparation of the technical specifications for the purchase of equipment</p> <p>R4 - A6: Procurement of the necessary laboratory equipment based on the assessment</p>	<p>One service contract Two supply contracts</p>	<p>EUR 2 330 000</p>	<p>Good level of cooperation between the Action partners</p> <p>Availability of qualified staff retained</p> <p>Continuing support by the relevant Government institutions</p> <p>Commitment on behalf of veterinarians, laboratory staff, farmers, producers and traders to take part in the activities</p> <p>Wild carnivore (Fox) vaccination is successfully applied in the neighbouring countries</p> <p>Vaccines as well as methods and reagents used in the laboratory testing are in line with the EU standards and relevant diagnostic manuals (OIE)</p>

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION

This Action will be the continuation of the strengthening of the capacities after the finalization of the IPA 2011 Project *Strengthening Veterinary Service*, which started in March 2014 and will last for 18 months. The results will consist of the adoption of legislation and of the enforcement of the EU *acquis* in the area of animal health and welfare, identification and registration (I&R) of animals and registration of their movements, import requirements for live animals and animal products and use of the veterinary medicines. It is expected that the IPA 2011 Project identifies the priority fields in the area of animal health in regard to diseases important for Montenegro as well as supports the creation of the adequate animal health conditions for export. For comprehensive areas in this action, such as animal health and welfare, deep review of the existing legislation and its implementation, including the results from IPA 2011 project and its implementation, shall be conducted in order to avoid overlapping.

The expected results of the Action are the further alignment and enforcement of the Montenegrin legislation with the EU veterinary standards in the area of animal health, welfare, trade in live animals semen, ova and embryos within the Union and zootechnics, eradication certain animal diseases in Montenegro, in particular those diseases that also continue to be a threat to EU Member States such as Rabies and CSF. This will be achieved by a revision of the existing legislations, manuals and operative procedures and by the drafting and adoption of new legislation. Moreover an assessment of the current veterinary system will be conducted and an action plan will be drafted in order to bring the necessary corrections and to have the control system in full conformity with the *acquis*. Subsequent review of the existing operational procedures and surveillance and monitoring programmes and institutional set-up will be initiated (organizational structure) and the relevant Action plan will be drafted as well. It will serve as a basis for development of the appropriate procedures and surveillance and monitoring programmes for effective implementation of the relevant legislation. Finally, appropriate guidelines/manuals with templates/checklists for official controls and sampling as well as appropriate tools (e.g. diagnosis, identification and detection methods) will be developed within this result.

Consecutively the veterinary services' capacities will be strengthened to properly carry out related duties in accordance to developed procedures aligned with *acquis*. In order to achieve this result, a training needs assessment and a training plan will be prepared. In accordance to the plan, trainings for the relevant administrative, laboratory and inspection staff will be implemented.

The Action will support monitoring of animal health, or suppression and eradication of some disease which can be a threat not only for Montenegro, but also for the neighbouring countries and EU (such as Rabies and CSF). It will also be necessary to prepare the monitoring plans, or to continue with the vaccination (such as vaccination of foxes against Rabies) and monitor the effectiveness of the vaccination campaign (effectiveness of the oral vaccination of foxes). Therefore, one of the activities of the action will be procurement of the vaccine and additional services for the implementation of six oral rabies vaccination campaigns for wildlife (foxes).

The importance of animal health standard related to the upgrading control of udder health and quality of raw milk will be achieved through the implementation of the following activities: assessment of the state of the affairs of udder health and raw milk production sector; development of the action plan for improvement udder health; raw milk quality and hygienic requirements; assessment of the existing capacity for control of raw milk; trainings for the producers of raw milk, staff involved in sampling of raw milk, laboratory staff, veterinary and official control staff including production of materials for wide dissemination.

Good cooperation and timely and effective awareness of all stakeholders on the introduced standards in the respective areas are needed in order to achieve the expected results and implement the relevant activities. Therefore, the informative campaigns for farmers, producers and other stakeholders and preparation of the informative materials will be necessary.

The main preconditions that might be needed before or during the Action implementation are: political support, commitment at central governmental and parliamentary level, required financial, human and material resources for the smooth implementation of the action, good level of cooperation between the action partners, commitment of the veterinary services and stakeholders to take part in the activities.

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Veterinary Administration - is the main institutional stakeholder and has the key role for achieving the overall objective, in coordination with Administration for Inspections Affairs – veterinary inspection. In the implementation of the activities the following institutions will be included: Diagnostic veterinary laboratory, Veterinary chamber and private veterinary sector, Hunters Association, Farmers Association, Laboratory for milk control and other stakeholders (farmers, food producers, traders, etc).

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD(S) AND TYPE(S) OF FINANCING

The Action will be implemented through direct management. The activities will be achieved through procurement of one service and two supply contracts. Overall value of the Action is EUR 2.330.000.

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING (AND EVALUATION)

Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of this Action will be conducted in accordance to the rules of direct management and respecting the requirements and provisions of IPA II regulations and those that will be laid down in the Framework Agreement and in the respective Financing Agreement. Achievement of the Action results will be regularly monitored by the EU Delegation to Montenegro and National IPA Coordinator.

Implementation of this Action will be subject to the special attention of the Sectoral Monitoring Committee and IPA Monitoring Committee which shall measure the progress in relation to achieving the objectives of the actions and their expected outputs, results and impact by means of indicators related to a baseline situation, as well as progress with regard to financial execution. The Sectoral Monitoring Committee will report to the IPA Monitoring Committee and will make proposals on any corrective action to ensure the achievement of the objectives of the action and enhance its efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability.

Moreover, in accordance with Article 8 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 447/2014, NIPAC shall take measures to ensure that the objectives set out in the Action are appropriately addressed during the implementation of EU assistance. Procedures for implementing monitoring activities will be set out in the revised Manuals of Procedures aligned with new IPA regulations. Best practices from the monitoring of implementation of previous actions and recommendations given by external monitoring in this sector will be also taken into consideration.

This action shall be subject to evaluations, in accordance with Article 30(4) of Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No. 966/2012 and with Article 22 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 447/2014. The results of evaluations shall be taken into account by the IPA Monitoring Committee and the Sectoral Monitoring Committee.

INDICATOR MEASUREMENT

INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	BASELINE (2010)	LAST (2013)	MILESTONE 2017	TARGET 2020	SOURCE OF INFORMATION
<p>ISP INDICATOR(S):</p> <p>Progress made towards meeting the accession criteria regarding food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy (chapter 12)</p>	<p>EU Progress Report assessment of the level of alignment of Montenegro in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy (chapter 12).</p>	<p>Montenegro has started the process of aligning its legislation with EU requirements. Overall, however, it will have to make considerable and sustained efforts to fully align with the acquis and in particular to implement it effectively in the medium term. The administrative capacity of all authorities active in the sector but mainly of the veterinary and the phytosanitary administration within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management will need to be strengthened to be able to cope with EU requirements. This is in particular valid for all activities related to inspection and control measures.</p>	<p>Further efforts are needed on all aspects of this policy area, in particular on further legislative alignment with the acquis. Overall, preparations remain at an early stage.</p>	<p>Montenegro has reached overall a good level of preparation in the area of regarding food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy.</p>	<p>Montenegro is well advanced in the area of regarding food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy.</p>	<p>EC Progress Report</p> <p>Government's reports</p>
<p>ACTION OUTCOME INDICATOR 2:</p> <p>Number of eradication campaigns conducted</p>	<p>This indicator measures number eradication campaigns conducted with the support of this Action</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>EC Progress Report</p> <p>Official Gazette of Montenegro</p> <p>Veterinary Administration data</p> <p>Action Progress Reports</p>
<p>ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 1:</p> <p>Number of rulebooks adopted and implemented compared to the baseline defined in the Strategy for implementation and transposition of legislation for Chapter 12</p>	<p>This indicator measures number of rulebooks adopted and implemented with the support of this Action.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>Legislation Gap Analysis</p> <p>Official Gazette of Montenegro</p> <p>EC Progress Report</p> <p>Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD)</p> <p>Action Progress Reports;</p> <p>Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE))</p> <p>Annual diary reports</p>

INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	BASELINE (2010)	LAST (2013)	MILESTONE 2017	TARGET 2020	SOURCE OF INFORMATION
ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 1: Number of publications, manuals, guidelines issued consequent to the number of rulebooks (stated above)	This indicator measures number of publications, manuals, guidelines published with the support of this Action	0	0	10	10	Legislation Gap Analysis Official Gazette of Montenegro EC Progress Report Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD) Action Progress Reports; Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)) Annual diary reports
ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 3: Number of people trained in related areas: % to perform official controls and monitoring; % in diagnostic methods in the field of diagnosing animal diseases; minimum % in zootechnics and % as trainers	This indicator measures number of persons trained within responsible institutions under this Action	0	0	44	60	Legislation Gap Analysis Official Gazette of Montenegro EC Progress Report Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD) Action Progress Reports; Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)) Annual diary reports
ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 4: Number of vaccine baits for wild animals distributed	This indicator measures number of vaccine baits for wild animals distributed with the support of this Action.	1 375 000	550 000	2 200 000	3 850 000	Legislation Gap Analysis Official Gazette of Montenegro EC Progress Report Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD) Action Progress Reports; Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)) Annual diary reports

INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	BASELINE (2010)	LAST (2013)	MILESTONE 2017	TARGET 2020	SOURCE OF INFORMATION
ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 5: Number of persons trained in the management of rabies and CSF outbreaks	This indicator measures number of persons trained within responsible institutions under this Action.	0	0	10	10	Legislation Gap Analysis Official Gazette of Montenegro EC Progress Report Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD) Action Progress Reports; Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)) Annual diary reports
ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 6: Number of laboratory results	This number measures number (%) of laboratory results aligned to the prescribed EU criteria	0%	5% of total processed raw milk samples in line with EU criteria	30% of total processed raw milk samples in line with the EU criteria	70% of total processed raw milk samples in line with the EU criteria	Legislation Gap Analysis Official Gazette of Montenegro EC Progress Report Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD) Action Progress Reports; Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)) Annual diary reports
ACTION OUTPUT INDICATOR 7: Laboratory equipment procured and operational	/	Outdated equipment	Outdated equipment	New equipment installed	Equipment functional	Legislation Gap Analysis Official Gazette of Montenegro EC Progress Report Reports of Veterinary Directorate (VD) Action Progress Reports; Animal Diseases Reports (Veterinary Directorate, Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)) Annual diary reports

5. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (AND IF RELEVANT DISASTER RESILIENCE)

Development of the livestock sector and improvement of veterinary health shall also include measures of adjustment to higher standards of environmental sustainability (e.g., animal waste) as part of the development of agriculture which, in turn, fits Montenegro's aspiration of becoming an ecological state.

The Action will have minor direct impact on the environment but mainly indirect ones:

- The database could identify too high concentrations of animals which would lead to pollution through extraordinary emission of effluents into the soil and release of methane into the atmosphere, but in the absence of large farms such as beef feedlots and large dairy cow units this is unlikely to occur;
- The I&R system, in particular the database, will play a stronger indirect role in contributing to safer food: tracing the sources of food borne diseases through tracing back the animals to the sources of contamination and providing the basic information for remedial action.

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (AND IF RELEVANT OTHER NON-STATE STAKEHOLDERS)

Through this Action the civil society sector will be involved in a series of training events/exercises and awareness campaigns in order to increase their capacities and knowledge on new adopted regulations and procedures in the veterinary activities.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Equal opportunity needs will be considered as an integral part of the Action with regular monitoring to ensure relevant issues are given due prominence. In particular the Continuous Development Programme for training will concentrate on ensuring that equal opportunity issues are given fair treatment by the programme. Equal opportunity will be taken into account during training needs analysis.

In supporting legislative harmonisation, gender needs will be taken into consideration and provisions that enhance equal opportunities will be introduced. All activities will respect the principles of equal treatment and opportunities for both, man and woman. Institutions benefiting from the Action are equal opportunity employers.

MINORITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

The Action will assist beneficiaries in implementing mechanisms to ensure that in the legislative process, the internal policies, structure or operating procedures of the beneficiary institutions the principle of equitable representation of ethnic minorities and the protection of minority right is taken into consideration. Also, though the Action equal access and status will be assured to the members of the vulnerable groups too.

6. SUSTAINABILITY

The Action will have an impact on the national system for animal disease control, animal welfare and through it on food safety control, including imports from other countries. It will help to ensure the same level of control to food products sold within Montenegro and those exported. The expected direct impact of the action will be the reduction of the incidence of animal diseases, improvement of animal welfare and zootechnical standards in line with EU standards in that area. The proposed Action is also expected to have a major impact on the health of consumers in Montenegro, while being a factor in assisting Montenegro to adopt the *acquis* as part of the EU accession process.

Its catalytic effect will contribute to the economy, trade, public and animal health. It will increase competitiveness of the Montenegrin agricultural products of animal origin in the internal market.

The trainings which are an integral part of this Action will improve knowledge and skills of veterinary administration staff, veterinary inspection staff and laboratory staff, field veterinarians and other

stakeholders, in animal health, animal welfare, zootechnics, trade in live animals semen, ova and embryos. This capacity building component will contribute to sustainability of the achieved results. In the future, the I&R of other animal species, animal disease and animal welfare control, will be added to the programme. Because of the very small holdings, the limited education and frequently, the advanced age of the keepers, the veterinary ambulances have to act as agents for the VA and as intermediaries between the keepers and the VD, in order to give the system a chance to succeed. Effective monitoring of the keeper activities and of the operations of the veterinary ambulances is essential to spot weaknesses. Also, for the sake of technical sustainability, it is important to make immediate corrections of the mismanagement.

The proposed Action will have a cross-border impact both in terms of the trade in live animals and food of animal origin. It will also involve close regional trans-boundary cooperation between veterinary authorities and individual officers. The control and eradication of these diseases also had wider cross border benefits for the EU.

7. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility will be given high importance during the implementation of the Action.

All necessary measures will be taken to publicise the fact that the Action has received funding from the EU in line with the Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions.

The use of *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions* is compulsory. The contractor shall use the appropriate stationery in letterheads or fax headers sheets and report presentation format, but should add the phrase “*This Action/programme is funded by the European Union*” as well as the EU flag when relevant. Elements of the communication strategy may include: press release, press conferences, leaflets and/or brochures, newsletters, web pages, vehicle panels, promotional items, reports, audio-visual productions. Any supplies or equipment delivered under an EU-funded Action must be clearly identified and must visibly carry the EU logo and the mention “*Provided by the support of the EU*” in the operational language of the EU programme and in the local language.

Visibility and communication actions shall demonstrate how the intervention contributes to the agreed programme objectives and the accession process. Actions shall be aimed at strengthening general public awareness and support of interventions financed and the objectives pursued. The actions shall aim at highlighting to the relevant target audiences the added value and impact of the EU's interventions. Visibility actions should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

It is the responsibility of the beneficiary to keep the EU Delegation fully informed regarding the planning and implementation of the specific visibility and communication activities.

The beneficiary shall report on its visibility and communication actions in the report submitted to the IPA Monitoring Committee and the Sectoral Monitoring Committees.

LIST OF ANNEXES

- 1. List of previous IPA projects.**

ANNEX 1

List of previous IPA projects

Various actions took place to strengthen veterinary sector in Montenegro. Namely, CARDS 2003 programme *Strengthening of the Veterinary and Phytosanitary Services of Montenegro* provided support to capacity building of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the veterinary service by introducing modern veterinary epidemiology and providing training in diagnostic techniques. Through this project the construction of the Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory building in Podgorica was also supported.

CARDS 2005 project *Development and Implementation of an Animal Identification and Registration System* provided support for the identification of cattle.

Further actions to extend animal identification to small ruminants and develop a veterinary information system were provided through IPA 2007 project *Animal Identification and Registration - Phase II*. The project targeted the improvement of standards for safety of food of animal origin, strengthening and expanding the concept for integrated I&R system and the Veterinary Information System (VIS) in accordance with the EU standards for cattle, sheep and goats.

IPA 2008 project *Support for the Control and Eradication of Rabies and Classical Swine Fever in Montenegro* objectives were putting in place the EU standards in control and eradication of rabies and classical swine fever as well as implementing oral rabies vaccination in red foxes.

The ongoing IPA 2011 Project *Straightening Veterinary Services* will strengthen the capacity of veterinary services in adopting legislation and enforcing *acquis* in the area of animal health and welfare, identification and registration of animals and registration of their movements (I&R), import requirements for live animals and animal products and use of the veterinary medicines.

MIDAS project (World Bank credit and GEF grant) that is currently under implementation, through one of its subcomponents - Setting up of a modern food safety - aims at: i) upgrading the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Podgorica; ii) upgrading of the Institute for Marine Biology in Kotor; iii) strengthening of veterinary and phytosanitary border inspection posts - Port of Bar; iv) supporting the safe disposal of by-products of animal origin; and v) upgrading of food processing establishments.

Ongoing IPA CBC 2007 / 2013 project *Strengthening of Centres for Agriculture Production and Safety Surveillance in Adriatic Cross-border Countries* (CAPS 2).