

**Short-term Mission on
“Improve Veterinary Inspection Organisation - CSF”
- Animal Health -**

**within the Twinning Project BA05 IB AG 01
Sarajevo, 21st to 25th of April 2008**

1. Name and Function of the Experts

Dr. Matthias Kramer, FLI (Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute), Wusterhausen

Dr. Martina Mahnken, Animal Health and rendering of animal By-Products, LAVES (Lower Saxonian Federal State Office for Consumer Protection and Food Safety), Oldenburg

Dr. Sandra Blome, Community Reference Laboratory for CSF, Hannover

2. Objectives and Tasks of the Mission

The objective of the mission was to hold a workshop on CSF-related subjects including virology, epidemiology, disease characteristics, vaccination, and sampling schemes for Veterinary Inspectors from the Cantons and Entities. These Veterinary Inspectors were to be trained as future trainers (multipliers of general and disease specific knowledge). All presentations were supplemented and will be distributed to all participants. Purpose of these presentations is to function as educational material for future trainings.

3. List of Acronyms

BiH	= Bosnia and Herzegovina
CA´s	= Competent Authorities
DB	= District of Brčko
EVS	= Entity Veterinary Services
FBiH	= Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
RS	= Republic of Srpska
STE	= Short Term Expert
SVO	= State Veterinary Office

4. Meetings and Identification

- 21st April 2008: Preparatory meeting of all STEs at the Hotel Safir in Sarajevo
 - Persons attending:
 - Matthias Kramer
 - Martina Mahnken
 - Sandra Blome
 - Exchange of ideas for the ongoing workshop
 - Preparation of presentation backbones and discussion of workshop schedule
 - Discussion on the recommendations given after the last mission and the activities taken by the Ministry, the Entities, the Cantons, the Veterinary Inspections since last mission

- 22nd April 2008 (Kramer, Mahnken, Blome): Continued preparatory meeting at the SVO
- Persons visited:
 - Dr. Drago Nedic, SVO
 - DVM Darko Čobanov, Deputy SVO
 - DVM Sanin Tanković, Secretary
 - DVM Edin Lendo, Assistant to RTA
- Discussion of workshop scope and schedule

- 23rd April 2008 (Mahnken and Blome):
 - Training in the meeting room of the Chamber of Economics
 - Participants: Veterinary Inspectors from different Cantons and Entities of BiH (list of participants see annex)
 - Presentations about CSF (disease characteristics, sampling, and laboratory diagnosis)
 - Discussion and supplementation of presentations
 - Discussion on how to pass on knowledge

- 24th April 2008 (Mahnken and Blome):
 - Training in the meeting room of the Chamber of Economics
 - Participants: Veterinary Inspectors from different Cantons of BiH (list of participants see annex)
 - Presentations about CSF (epidemiology, and vaccination)
 - Discussion of local needs and constraints regarding animal disease notification and control
 - Discussion of CSF control in wild boar
 - Discussion of the IPA-Programme for CSF and Rabies Control in Western Balkan Countries (2009-2014),

- 25th April 2008 (Mahnken and Blome):
 - Final meeting and reporting
 - First results of the actual mission
 - Recommendations by the experts for the next steps
 - Discussion on the findings and recommendations

5. Description of activities during visit:

- to give information to the future multipliers in BiH on CSF and possible questions by the FVO inspection team during the upcoming mission
- provision of presentation examples that could be used for future education
- discussion of needs and constraints regarding efficient animal disease notification and control
- to provide basic information on the IPA programme issued for the West Balkan countries

6. Results

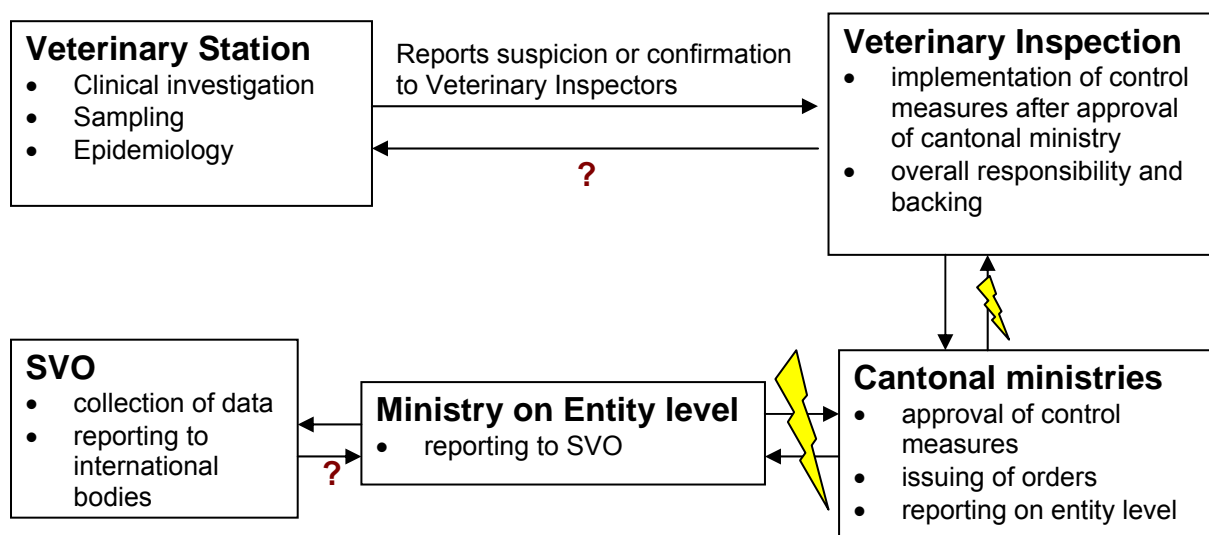
CSF training strategy and communication to concerned groups and to the public

It became clear that like in other sectors of the veterinary service, there is no clear chain of responsibilities regarding training and communication.

During initial discussion it was doubted that veterinary inspectors would be the target audience of this training.

As with training and communication, there is a serious lack of transparency in the information and data flow. Seemingly, information and data often remain with cantonal ministries.

The following flow chart describes the information flow as communicated by the participants.



7. Next steps (to-do-list for the veterinary authorities in BiH as a preparation for further STE-visits)

Please provide details of any follow-up actions:

ACTIVITY NO.	DESCRIPTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE
3.3.	Establishment of a CSF task force dedicated to the implementation of the upcoming IPA programme	SVO	Immediately
3.3.	Training of veterinary inspectors	Multipliers trained by the experts	June/July 2008

8. Conclusions

Most of the recommendations given by the STEs during the Short-term Mission on „Outbreak procedures – CSF“ in February 2007, are still not realized or implemented. These recommendations concerned the update and harmonization of national CSF regulations, harmonized and transparent control measures, reporting channels, process instructions and flowcharts, chain of command and data reporting channels, information exchange, registration of pig holdings, education of veterinarians and farmers related to CSF, and extension of laboratory capacities.

To comply with the requirements for the implementation of the upcoming IPA program, the aforementioned recommendations should be considered.

In addition, the short-term experts recommend the following:

1. It is strongly suggested to establish a national IPA Task-Force. That Task-Force should comprise representatives from the Veterinary Inspectorates, the Federal authorities, scientists from the respective laboratories as well as hunting organisations. The task force should represent a link between all parties involved and counsel the SVO.
2. For CSF control, the objectives of this Task-Force include:
 - (i) Development of an oral CSF vaccination strategy for wild boar populations in BiH
 - (ii) Discussion of options for domestic pigs
 - (iii) Planning and organisation of oral vaccination campaigns in BiH and assistance in the nationwide implementation, coordination of measures in CSF surveillance and control
 - (iv) Assessment of the success of vaccination campaigns and counselling the SVO
 - (v) Organisation of countrywide training programmes,
 - (vi) Increasing of public awareness and education on CSF throughout BiH,
 - (vii) Enhancement of contacts and exchange of information on CSF data between veterinary and public health services at different administrative levels
3. As stated by the Rabies experts, adequate funding of the Task-Force for rabies and CSF trainings needs to be guaranteed by the government to allow proper education programmes (e. g. funding of travel costs for the multipliers, technical equipment, availability of training rooms etc.).
4. Veterinary Inspectors should use any available and widespread media (like Farmers magazines, local newspapers, local radio stations, placing info-folders at municipality bureaus etc.) to inform the affected professional groups (farmers, hunters, etc.) about CSF facts and control.

9. Date and Signature of Expert

Date: 16th May 2008

Dr. Martina Mahnken

Dr. Sandra Blome

Dr. Matthias Kramer