



U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

AVIAN AND PANDEMIC INFLUENZA
MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE UNIT

Situation Update #33

April 21, 2006

H5N1 AVIAN INFLUENZA THREAT: HUMAN CASES AT A GLANCE

Country	Human Cases 2003–2005	Human Cases 2006	TOTAL
Azerbaijan	0 cases, 0 deaths	8 cases, 5 deaths	8 cases, 5 deaths
Cambodia	4 cases, 4 deaths	2 cases, 2 deaths	6 cases, 6 deaths
China	8 cases, 5 deaths	9 cases, 7 deaths	17 cases, 12 deaths
Egypt	0 cases, 0 deaths	12 cases, 4 deaths	12 cases, 4 deaths
Indonesia	17 cases, 11 deaths	15 cases, 13 deaths	32 cases, 24 deaths
Iraq	0 cases, 0 deaths	2 cases, 2 deaths	2 cases, 2 deaths
Thailand	22 cases, 14 deaths	0 cases, 0 deaths	22 cases, 14 deaths
Turkey	0 cases, 0 deaths	12 cases, 4 deaths	12 cases, 4 deaths
Vietnam	93 cases, 42 deaths	0 cases, 0 deaths	93 cases, 42 deaths
TOTAL	144 cases, 76 deaths	60 cases, 37 deaths	204 cases, 113 deaths

Source: WHO laboratory-confirmed cases as of April 21, 2006

NEWS

- New human AI case in China: The Ministry of Health in China and the World Health Organization (WHO) have confirmed China's 17th human avian influenza (AI) infection, which occurred in a 21-year-old man who developed symptoms April 1; he died April 19 after being hospitalized.
- Human AI deaths confirmed in Egypt: Egypt has confirmed its fourth human death from AI – an 18-year-old girl who developed symptoms April 5 and died April 14. Additional cases announced earlier have been confirmed in national and international laboratories. The number of WHO-confirmed human cases has reached 12, four of which were fatal. Seven of the other patients have since recovered, while an additional patient remains hospitalized.
- New human H5N1 death in Indonesia: Indonesia's Ministry of Health and WHO have confirmed a new case of AI in a 24-year-old man who began to develop symptoms March 29. He died April 8 after being hospitalized. The cause of his infection is under investigation; this is the 32nd human AI case in Indonesia and the 24th death.
- First AI cases reported in birds in Sudan: The Ministry of Health in Sudan has announced the country's first suspected H5N1 cases in poultry; if confirmed, Sudan would become the sixth country in Africa with confirmed cases in animals. The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) has confirmed the H5 subtype. USAID is coordinating with other U.S. Government agencies to provide technical assistance and has deployed personal protective equipment (PPE) to assist Sudan in its response.
- West Bank/Gaza: According to the governor of Gaza, health workers have culled more than 360,000 birds in the Gaza Strip in response to H5N1 outbreaks in the area. Through CARE International, USAID deployed 2,000 PPE sets for the Palestinian Authority to help address outbreaks in West Bank/Gaza.
- H5N1 outbreaks widespread in birds in Egypt: Of Egypt's 26 governorates, 20 have reported H5N1 outbreaks since the country's first cases were recorded last month; more than 15 outbreaks in poultry farms have occurred in the past week. All of the birds at these sites were culled and test results of persons in contact with them were negative.

- Tamiflu stockpile sent to WHO: Tamiflu producer Roche has sent more than 3 million courses of Tamiflu, an antiviral drug that has proved effective in treating some human H5N1 cases, to WHO in an effort to boost global preparedness for a potential human pandemic. This donation is part of Roche's pledge of 5 million courses of the drug; it has also granted production sublicenses for Tamiflu in India and China.

NEW USAID ACTIONS

- Coordinated response in Burkina Faso: In collaboration with the Department of State, the World Bank, WHO, and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), USAID is providing support for human health and communications experts to join an assessment and planning team sent to respond to H5N1 in Burkina Faso. The country became the fifth in Africa to report H5N1 in animals when outbreaks were confirmed earlier this month; USAID has deployed 2,000 PPE sets for outbreak response in the country. The U.S. Embassy in Burkina Faso has identified a list of supplies needed to respond to H5N1 in birds, and USAID is working with other donors to respond to needs.
- Preparations in Africa: In order to extend preparedness and rapid response efforts, USAID is re-positioning PPE in affected and at-risk countries in Africa. The PPE sets are for use in collecting samples, investigating possible H5N1 cases, and responding to animal outbreaks if they occur. To date, USAID has deployed more than 36,000 PPE sets to countries in its Asia and Near East (ANE), Europe and Eurasia (E&E), and Africa regions. In addition, USAID is coordinating with other U.S. Government partners to enhance response capacity to outbreaks in Africa.

UPCOMING ACTIONS

- LAC regional meeting: USAID's Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Missions will meet May 3–5 in Peru to discuss the Agency's role in supporting AI preparedness and response. The meeting is the fourth in a series of regional workshops for USAID staff to coordinate with U.S. Government and international partners to discuss management principles and processes, share lessons learned, and build Missions' capacity to provide technical assistance for AI response. USAID has held similar meetings over the past month for Missions in its ANE, E&E, and Africa regions.
- Regional AI pandemic meeting in Vietnam: USAID is expected to participate in an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) ministerial meeting on avian and other influenza pandemics May 4–6 in Da Nang, Vietnam. The meeting aims to link government departments around the region and involve the private sector, intergovernmental organizations, community groups, and regional experts in public health and disaster management. The APEC ministers will coordinate preparedness planning for potential avian or other influenza pandemics and establish plans to include protocols covering communications, logistics, business operations, and government processes to help limit social and economic harm resulting from a pandemic.
- Regional preparedness in Central Asian Republic region: USAID is joining multiple donors to hold a roundtable on AI in Almaty, Kazakhstan, June 12–13, with representatives from the ministries of health, agriculture, and emergency services of the Central Asian Republics and neighboring countries. Key objectives are to learn lessons from past experiences with outbreak control management and preparedness planning and review countries' responses and potential gaps in their responses. Other donors involved include the European Commission, the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, and the United Nations.
- Coordination in West Africa: USAID is providing support for a regional AI meeting in West Africa in Abuja, Nigeria, May 9–12. The meeting is being organized by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and will focus on organizing an effective and coordinated framework to prevent and respond to AI in the region. Critical anticipated outcomes include the adoption of a regional action plan to supplement national plans; engagement of relevant ministers (including ministers of agriculture and health) in AI efforts; the establishment of a mechanism to coordinate and provide funds in emergency situations; and the definition of a communications strategy. Expected participants include regional ministers of agriculture, health, environment, and commerce, and representatives from USAID, the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources, OIE, WHO, FAO, the African Development Bank, UNICEF, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.