



Annex I.b : Programme for the eradication of bovine Tuberculosis, bovine Brucellosis or sheep and goat Brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) submitted for obtaining EU cofinancing

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the European Union for national programmes of eradication, control and surveillance shall submit online this application completely filled out.

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- 7) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit **multi-annual programmes**.
- 8) As mentioned during the Plenary Task Force of 28/2/2014, you are invited to submit your programmes in **English**.

Submission Date

Friday, September 04, 2015 09:45:58

Submission Number

1441352763419-6663



Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

1. Identification of the programme

Member state: HRVATSKA

Disease: Sheep and goat brucellosis (B. melitensis)

Species: Sheep and goats

This program is multi annual: no

Request of Union co-financing
from beginning of:

2016

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1.1 Contact

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2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease

Provide a concise description of the following indicators :

- Number of serologically positive domestic pigs compared to previous year
- Number of virologically positive domestic pigs compared to previous year
- Number of serologically positive wild boar/feral pigs compared to previous year
- Number of virologically positive wild boar/feral pigs compared to previous year
- An assessment of the evolution of the indicators along the years is requested as well as obstacles and constraints identified that hamper the progress of eradication.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Measures to control, detect and eradicate ovine and caprine brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) have been systematically implemented in the Republic of Croatia for years.

Since 1991, the Republic of Croatia have been provided active surveillance programs. Brucellosis in ovine and caprine (*B. melitensis*) has been controlled in accordance with the annual order, issued by the Ministry of Agriculture. During whole period, all cases of abortion must be reported and tested for brucellosis (*B. melitensis*), Campylobacteriosis, leptospirosis, Q-fever and, in case in abortion of sheep, for *B. ovis*.

Testing for *B. melitensis* conducted in 2008:

- tests performed on newly acquired sheep and goats prior to their introduction into the herd;
- tests performed on rams and male goats used for the production of semen for artificial insemination or for natural mating (twice a year and before they are used for those purposes);
- tests performed on breeding rams 30 days prior to their being placed on the market.

Testing for *B. melitensis* conducted in 2009:

- tests performed on newly acquired sheep and goats prior to their introduction into the herd;
- tests performed on rams and male goats used for the production of semen for artificial insemination or for natural mating (twice a year and before they are used for those purposes);

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- tests performed on breeding rams 30 days prior to their being placed on the market;
- tests performed on all sheep and goats prior to their being put out to pasture, and no later than 31 March 2009, in the territory of the Karlovac and Split-Dalmatia Counties.

Testing for *B. melitensis* conducted in 2010:

- tests performed on newly acquired sheep and goats prior to their introduction into the herd;
- tests performed on rams and male goats used for the production of semen for artificial insemination or for natural mating (twice a year and before they are used for those purposes);
- tests performed on breeding rams 30 days prior to their being placed on the market;
- tests performed on newly acquired rams and male goats prior to their introduction into the herd;
- tests performed on breeding sheep and goats prior to their being placed on the market.
- tests performed on all sheep and goats in the territories of the Karlovac County (the municipalities of Vojnić, Krnjak and Cetingrad), the Split-Dalmatia County (except on islands) and the Šibenik-Knin County (the municipality of Cviljane).

Testing for *B. melitensis* conducted in 2011:

- tests performed on rams and male goats used for the production of semen for artificial insemination or for natural mating (once a year), no later than prior to their introduction into new breeding and/or the start of use for artificial insemination or natural mating
- tests performed on all sheep and goats over six months of age, once a year, and no later than before putting them out to pasture, in the territory of the Lika-Senj County (the municipality of Plitvička jezera) and the Split-Dalmatia County (the territory of the City of Sinj and the municipality of Hrvace and the territory of the municipality of Lovreć).

Testing for *B. melitensis* in 2012:

- tests performed on rams and male goats used for the production of semen for artificial insemination or for natural mating (once a year), no later than prior to their introduction into new breeding and/or the start of use for artificial insemination or natural mating
- in autumn 2012, as the first year of the official eradication programme, control measures fully in line with Directive 91/68/EEC have been conducted in all ovine and caprine herds from which milk and milk products are placed on the market for public consumption (about 12% of whole S&G population in the country). An individual blood test was performed.

All together (rams and male goats and dairy and mixed herds), total number of 85.703 blood samples have been tested.

Testing for *B. melitensis* in 2013:

- tests performed on rams and male goats used for the production of semen for artificial insemination or for natural mating (once a year), no later than prior to their introduction into new breeding and/or the start of use for artificial insemination or natural mating
- in spring 2013, another individual blood test in all mixed and dairy S&G herds has been performed
- all herds which met the conditions (tested twice in period 2012 - 2013) have grant officially-free status (total number of 634 herds, consisting of about 71.169 animals – about 12% of population)(<http://www.veterinarstvo.hr/default.aspx?id=1192>)
- there were no positive cases of *B. melitensis* in mixed and dairy herds

However, in October 2013 one positive herd has been detected in Lika - Senj County (in extensive, non-dairy production) and has been destroyed/eradicated. That was the first outbreak of *B. melitensis* in Croatia, after 2010.

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Testing for *B. melitensis* in 2014

Total number of herds on December 31 2014 = 20176

Number of herds checked = 15 605

Total number of animals on December 31 2014 = 670 362

Number of animals to be tested: 612152

Number of animals tested = 462 891

Figure 3 - data on tested animals in 2014

CFT positive:

Number of positive herds = 25

Number of positive animals = 30 (29 sheep, 1 goat)

Number of infected herds = 0

testing coverage: 77,34 % herds; 75,62% animals

All CFT positive animals were culled and sampled for microbiological investigation. All samples were negative for *Brucella* sp.

Data on testing in positive herds and location of CFT positive herds are in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

Epidemiological data:

Several major epizootics and epidemics of brucellosis caused by *B. melitensis* are known to have occurred in the Republic of Croatia.

The first one was reported to occur after the World War II, in Istria in 1947 (enzootic in goats), when more than 300 persons were affected by brucellosis caused by *B. melitensis*. The last case of the disease in people was reported to occur in 1954, and in sheep and goats in 1961.

An epizootic of brucellosis caused by *B. melitensis* was again recorded in 1991, in Istria, and in the same year the Croatian Veterinary Institute in Zagreb detected positive reactions in 65 persons.

In 2004, an epizootic caused by *B. melitensis* was found in the Split-Dalmatia County. Brucellosis was clinically confirmed in a man from the environs of Split, who was engaged in production of livestock and purchasing of sheep and goats.

During the surveillance of herds in the period from June to November 2004, tests were carried out on blood samples from 21 891 ovine, caprine and bovine animals from 424 herds in Sinj, Vrlika, Dirmo, Otok, Trilj and Hrvace. Positive reactions were detected in 372 sheep and goats and 4 dogs in 5 herds. During the epizootic, clinical symptoms of brucellosis were detected in 4 persons.

A case of human brucellosis was later diagnosed in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County (Metković), and brucellosis was recorded in several ovine and caprine herds in 2005. Infected ovine and caprine herds and direct contact with infected animals were the sources of brucellosis.

Last two outbreaks of *B. melitensis* occurred in Split Dalmatia county in 2010, and Lika senj county in 2013. Herds were depopulated. There was no new outbreaks after 2013.

Figure 4 - Number of infected herds 2008-2009.

3. Description of the submitted programme

Provide a concise description of the programme with its main objective(s) (monitoring, control, eradication, qualification of herds and/or regions, reducing prevalence and incidence), the main measures (sampling and testing regimes, eradication measures to be applied, qualification of herds and animals, vaccination schemes), the target animal population, the area(s) of implementation and the definition of a positive case.

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(max. 32000 chars) :

Legal basis for the implementation of the Programme:

- 1) Veterinary Act (Official Gazette 82/13, 148/13);
- 2) Food Act (Official Gazette 81/13, 14/14);
- 3) Ordinance on measures for the control and eradication of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) (Official Gazette 114/14)
- 4) Ordinance on animal health conditions governing trade in ovine and caprine animals (Official Gazette 51/09) - aligned with the provisions of Council Directive 91/68/EEC;
- 5) Ordinance on the notification of animal diseases (Official Gazette 134/14);
- 6) Order on measures to protect animals from infectious and parasitic diseases and the financing thereof for implementing year;
- 7) Instructions on the manner of implementing the animal health controls measures prescribed by the Order on measures to protect animals from infectious and parasitic diseases and the financing thereof for implementing year;
- 8) Regulation 853/2004/EEC.
- 9) Ordinance on official controls of foodstuffs of animal origin (Official Gazette 99/07);
- 10) Council Regulation (EC) No 21/2004 and Commission Decision 2010/280/EU;
- 11) Ordinance on veterinary checks on live animals moving in domestic trade and on the certificate of animal health and origin (Official Gazette 87/08);
- 12) Ordinance on guidelines and procedures for the electronic identification of ovine and caprine animals (Official Gazette 36/12).

Eradication Programme for Ovine and Caprine Brucellosis (*B. melitensis*):

The Eradication Programme for Ovine and Caprine Brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) is based on the method of "test and destroy" strategy. All animals positive on CFT are destroyed. In case of confirmation of the infection, herd would be depopulated (decision by CVO).

Also, additional epidemiological investigation of contact herds (double-testing, at least at municipality level, with period of at least three months between two tests) would be conducted.

The objective of the Programme in 2016 is to maintain the status of OF herds which have gained the status in 2012 and 2013 (milk and mixed herds) and in all remaining herds which will be officially free after testing in 2015. Also, in 2016th remaining non officially free herds will be tested to fulfill the conditions for OF status.

The Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate, within the Ministry of Agriculture, is the competent authority for the implementation of the Programme.

The implementation of the Programme in 2012 and 2013 (sheep and goat farms from which milk and milk products are placed on the market for public consumption):

Since the Regulation 853/2004/EEC lays down the obligations of food business operators and the health requirements for raw milk and colostrum production and provides that milk and colostrum must come from sheep and goats belonging to a herd officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*), the Republic of Croatia has begun the implementation of the Programme in September 2012. The Programme in first phase covered all sheep and goat herds from which milk and milk products are placed on the market for public consumption, and all sheep and goats over six months of age originating in these herds have to be tested twice, at an interval of at least six months, with negative results.

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The first phase of the Programme has been finished in June 2013, when all twice tested milk and mixed dairy herds reached an officially B. melitensis free status.

Implementation of the Programme in 2014 and 2015:

A) The granting of the status of "herd officially free of ovine and caprine brucellosis (B. melitensis)"

In autumn of 2014, all ovine and caprine herds in the country were tested for the purpose of granting the officially free status, according to Directive 91/68/EEC (testing coverage in 2014 was 77,34 % herds, 69,05 % animals).

If all the animals in a herd have been tested twice with negative results and if:

- all animals susceptible to brucellosis (B. melitensis) have shown no clinical or other signs of brucellosis for at least 12 months;
- no sheep or goat has been vaccinated against brucellosis (B. melitensis);
- after the first test, the herd contains only sheep and goats born on the holding concerned or introduced from an officially brucellosis (B. melitensis) free herd, the herd shall qualify for "officially brucellosis (B. melitensis) - free herd status".

B) Maintaining the status of a „herd officially free from ovine and caprine brucellosis (B. melitensis)"

For a herd to maintain its status, it must satisfy the following requirements:

- a representative number of the ovine and caprine animals of the herd over six months old must be tested annually (with negative results); this representative number consists of:
 - all non-castrated male animals over six months old,
 - all animals brought onto the holding since the previous test,
 - 25 % of the females which have reached the age of reproduction or are in milk (in holdings where there are more than 50 females – at least 50 females per holding must be tested; in holdings where there are fewer than 50 females – all females must be tested); and
- only ovine and caprine animals coming from an officially brucellosis-free holding are introduced into the herd; or
- ovine and caprine animals are marked individually, and
- ovine and caprine animals on the holding have never been vaccinated against brucellosis, and
- ovine and caprine animals were isolated under official supervision on the holding of origin and, during such isolation underwent two tests separated by an interval of at least six weeks.

D) Provisional suspension of the herd status and withdrawal of provisional suspension of the herd status

D1) Herd located in a county which is not officially brucellosis (B. melitensis)-free

Where one or more ovine or caprine animals in the herd are suspected of having brucellosis (B. melitensis), and if the animal or animals are immediately safely removed or isolated, the competent authority shall provisionally suspend the herd's status pending official confirmation of the disease or an official quashing of the suspicion of that disease.

If all animals infected or all the animals of species susceptible to infection are slaughtered and two tests, separated by an interval of at least three months or more, and carried out on all the animals of the herd over six months old, give negative results, the competent authority may restore the provisionally suspended or withdrawn status.

E) Suspension or withdrawal of "officially brucellosis (B. melitensis) - free status" of a county

After having assessed the circumstances of the renewed outbreak of brucellosis (B. melitensis), the competent authority may adopt, if that assessment so justifies, a decision suspending or withdrawing

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the status of a county "officially free from brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)".

The conditions for the recovery of the status shall be determined in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure.

Definition of positive case:

Animals are tested with Rose Bengal Test (RBT). In case of positive RBT, such samples have to be sent to Central Laboratory of Croatian Veterinary Institute and tested with Complement Fixation Test (CFT). If CFT is positive, such animals are considered as positive (suspicion on *B. melitensis*) and are destroyed. Also, in case that >5% of tested animals within the herd shows positive RBT result, all tested animals must be retested by the CFT method.

Definition of confirmed case:

Isolation and identification of *B. melitensis*.

Premovement testing

Animals moving between two officially free herds don't have to be tested prior movement.

Animals from herd where all animals are tested 1X, moving to the herds of the same status, have to be tested prior movement (not later than 30 days before).

Animals from herds of unknown status can move only directly to slaughterhouse.

Abortions

It is mandatory to report abortions in sheep and goats. Animals that have aborted are tested (RBT), and also, if available, aborted material is microbiologically investigated. In the 2014 - 102 samples (aborted material) were bacteriologically tested for *B. melitensis*. All were negative.

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme: 2016

First year :

- Control
- Testing
- Slaughter and animals tested positive
- Killing of animals tested positive
- Vaccination
- Treatment
- Disposal of products

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Eradication, control or monitoring

4.1.1 Timeline for the eradication

Provide the timeline foreseen for the eradication with detailed justification (max. 32000 chars) :

It is foreseen that at the end of 2016th 99,98 % of holdings in Croatia will be official free for B. melitensis. The goal for 2016 is to test all the remaining herds which will not manage to achieve OF status during 2015 and to maintain the status in existing OF herds. During 2014, 77,34 % of herds and 75,62 % of animals was tested and B.melitenisis infection was not confirmed. Last outbreak was in 2013, involving sheep herd with 107 animals. Herd was depopulated. There was no new outbreaks since 2013.

4.1.2 Interim targets in relation to the timeline for eradication

based on herd prevalence and herd incidence at different periods in link with the timeline for eradication (max. 32000 chars) :

Target is to achieve 99,98 % of OF herds on December 31 2016.

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4.2 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme

Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Describe the responsibilities of all involved.

(max. 32000 chars):

Obligations of keepers of animals:

- 1) To give immediate notification to a veterinarian in an authorised veterinary organisation in case of any suspicion of brucellosis (abortion in sheep and goats, clinical signs).
- 2) To restrict the movement of an animal suspected of being affected by disease and to prevent contact of other people and animals with the suspected animal or carcass until veterinary checks have been completed.
- 3) To implement the prescribed and ordered veterinary measures to control and eradicate the disease.

Obligations of authorised veterinary organisations:

- 1) To implement the measures determined by this Programme and the Ordinance on animal health conditions governing trade in ovine and caprine animals.
- 2) To take samples from the aborting sheep or goat and submit them to an official laboratory for testing for brucellosis.
- 3) To timely record all the data collected during the implementation of the measures ordered.
- 4) To timely report to the competent branch veterinary office any suspicion or confirmed case of ovine and caprine brucellosis.

Measures prescribed by this Programme should be performed by the total number of 916 authorised veterinarians, from 133 authorised veterinary organisations, contracted by the Competent Authority. All epidemiological regions has been covered.

Obligations of the Croatian Veterinary Institute:

- 1) To perform laboratory tests in accordance with the procedures being laid down in this Programme.
- 2) To inform the Veterinary Directorate, the competent branch veterinary offices and the sender of the sample about the results of diagnostic tests (immediately and without delay).
- 3) Croatian Veterinary Institute - Zagreb is National reference Laboratory for detecting of *B. melitensis*. In the case of positive RBT results, all positive samples should be sent to Central Laboratory in Zagreb, for further CFT test, as well as in case of any bacteriological examination.

Five laboratories of Croatian Veterinary Institute (Central Laboratory in Zagreb, regional Institutes in Osijek, Križevci, Split and Rijeka) cover whole territory of Croatia. All laboratories are well equipped, controlled and coordinated from the central level - Croatian Veterinary Institute Zagreb. Based on the experience of *B. abortus* overall testing according to Directive 64/432/EEC (2010 - 2014), and *B. melitensis* testing of dairy herds according to Directive 91/68/EEC (2012 - 2013), all laboratories are well staffed and educated and ready for the expected number of samples in spring 2015 (about 650.000 blood samples are expected to be taken).

Obligations of the Veterinary Directorate:

- 1) To coordinate and implement the programme for the eradication of ovine and caprine brucellosis in the Republic of Croatia.
- 2) To collect, analyse, and monitor the collected data.
- 3) To perform statistical analyses and evaluate the results of the implementation of the Programme.

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- 4) To grant official brucellosis - free status to ovine and caprine herds fulfilling the prescribed conditions.
- 5) To submit data required by the European Commission – to provide the relevant bodies of the European Union with information on the attainment of the objectives of the Programme.
- 6) To supervise the work of authorised veterinary organisations and authorised veterinarians in implementing the measures under this Programme.
- 7) To take the prescribed measures when irregularities are detected or when measures defined in this Programme are not implemented in a timely manner.
- 8) To carry out supervision to ensure that the prescribed conditions continue to be fulfilled on holdings granted the status of a "herd officially free of ovine and caprine brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)".
- 9) To assure financial resources for programme implementation and compensation for the owner.

4.3 Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented

Describe the name and denomination, the administrative boundaries, and the surface of the administrative and geographical areas in which the programme is to be applied. Illustrate with maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

This Programme will be implemented throughout the territory of the Republic of Croatia (Croatia consists of 21 regions - counties).

Total area of the territory of the Republic of Croatia is 56 542 km².

The official control and supervision of the implementation of the Programme will be carried out by the Veterinary Inspection Department of the Veterinary Directorate, which is divided into thirteen Sections – Veterinary Offices (Bjelovar, Osijek, Rijeka, Slavonski Brod, Split, Šibenik, Varaždin, Zagreb-east, Zagreb-west, Glina, Koprivnica, Dubrovnik and the City of Zagreb). Branch offices with individual officers (a total of 65 branch offices) have been set up to carry out the tasks falling within the remit of the Sections – Veterinary Offices.

4.4 Description of the measures of the programme

A comprehensive description needs to be provided of all measures and detailed reference must be made to Union legislation. The national legislation in which the measures are laid down is mentioned.

4.4.1 Notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Ordinance on the notification of animal diseases (Official Gazette 135/14) sets out the obligation to notify the occurrence (confirmed case) of ovine and caprine brucellosis and the obligation to notify any suspicion of ovine and caprine brucellosis and lays down the procedures to be followed by the keeper of the animal, the authorised veterinarian, the state veterinary inspector and official laboratories.

The keeper of the animal must immediately and without delay notify an authorised veterinary organisation suspicion on disease (clinical signs and dead animals).

A veterinarian who suspects the disease or detects a primary or secondary outbreak of the disease must notify the Veterinary Directorate and the state veterinary inspector at a competent branch of the veterinary office thereof by telephone and telefax or electronic means, without delay and no later than

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within 24 hours. The authorised veterinarian must submit information about the suspicion or confirmed case of ovine and caprine brucellosis using the forms set out in Annex III to the Ordinance on the notification of animal diseases.

4.4.2 Target animals and animal population

(max. 32000 chars):

The Programme covers all ovine and caprine animals over six months of age in the territory of the Republic of Croatia. In 2016 testing will be conducted mainly in OBmF flocks and it is anticipated that around 450 000 animals will be tested.

All S&G flocks in the country should be included in the programme, in years 2015 and 2016, in order to grant the OBmF status until the end of 2016.

4.4.3 Identification of animals and registration of holdings including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars):

The Central Register of Ovine and Caprine Animals (CROCA) is the main database that contains information on ovine and caprine animals in the Republic of Croatia and in which all ovine and caprine animals are registered and monitored from birth to death.

Ovine and caprine animals are identified by an eartag applied to the right ear and a bolus electronic transponder. Pure-bred breeding animals are additionally identified by a number tattooed on their left ear, and this identification is conducted by the Croatian Agricultural Agency.

Ovine and caprine animals must be identified within six months following the date of their birth and in any case before the animal leaves the holding on which it was born. Exceptionally, if an animal under six months of age is moved from the holding of birth directly to a slaughterhouse it can be identified solely by an eartag. An unidentified ovine or caprine animal may not be moved from the holding.

Ovine animals identified by a yellow rectangular eartag and caprine animals identified by a white rectangular eartag containing the unique life number of the ovine/caprine animal, which consists of the two-letter code of the country of origin and the nine-digit code, need not be re-identified by a new eartag. These ovine/caprine animals are registered in the CROCA only when they arrive to the holding of destination. Before these animals are moved from the holding, the keeper must fill in a movement document by entering the information about his holding and the holding of destination or the slaughterhouse and the life numbers of all the animals moved. The keeper of the holding of destination shall give a copy of the movement document to his authorised veterinary organisation, which shall enter the data from the document into the CROCA.

Ovine and caprine animals identified in any other way not in accordance with the Ordinance on the implementation of obligatory identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals or with the identification method described in the preceding paragraph must be re-identified by a prescribed mark and registered in the CROCA no later than before they are placed on the market.

The eartag for ovine animals is white and for caprine animals red. It consists of two parts, the male part (the front) and the female part (the reverse), which are joined for use.

Bolus electronic transponders contain the numeric identifier of the Republic of Croatia and the nine-digit unique life number of the animal, identical to the unique life number indicated on the ear tag.

Bolus electronic transponders are used for animals born in the Republic of Croatia after 1 January 2010.

Animals imported from EU Member States and properly identified need not be re-identified.

Keepers of ovine/caprine animals, except transporters, must keep a register of ovine/caprine animals on

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the holding, containing up-to-date chronological information on all changes, entered no later than three days after the change occurred.

Once a year, all keepers of ovine / caprine animals must submit data on the number of ovine and caprine animals on the holding.

The data on the number of the animals on the holding are to be entered in the form "Annual notification of the number of bovine and caprine animals on the holding", which forms an integral part of the Register of Ovine/Caprine Animals on the Holding.

4.4.4 Qualifications of animals and herds including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

The procedures for granting the status of an ovine and caprine herd "officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)", maintaining the status of an ovine and caprine herd "officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)", granting the status of region (county) "officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)" and granting the status of a country "officially free of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)" are fully aligned with the provisions of Directive 91/68/EEC.

4.4.5 Rules of the movement of animals including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

Each time ovine and caprine animals are moved, they must be accompanied by a movement document (movements of ovine and caprine animals include: movement from the holding and movement onto the new holding; movement to a slaughterhouse; slaughter at the holding; death; export; theft or loss; movement to an exhibition, fair or assembly centre; movement to pasture).

All movements of animals must be carried out under veterinary supervision.

Animals coming from a herd in which brucellosis has been confirmed may only be moved to a slaughter or rendering facility, by the decision of state veterinary inspector.

Only ovine and caprine animals coming from a herd whose officially brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)-free status is in the process of being confirmed may be introduced into an ovine or caprine herd whose officially brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)-free status is also in the process of being confirmed, provided that during the 30 days prior to introduction into the herd these animals underwent testing.

4.4.6 Tests used and sampling and testing schemes including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease (including herd frequency, animal coverage in each herd, interpretation of the test,...)

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Laboratory for Bacterial Zoonoses and Molecular Diagnostics of Bacterial Diseases of the Croatian Veterinary Institute in Zagreb is the official and national reference laboratory for the diagnosis of ovine and caprine brucellosis.

Since 2008, the Laboratory has implemented a quality system in line with HRN EN ISO/IEC 17025.

In accordance with Annex C to the Ordinance on animal health conditions governing trade in ovine and caprine animals (Official Gazette 51/09) and Annex A to the Ordinance on measures for the control and eradication of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) (Official Gazette 56/09), the tests for ovine and caprine

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brucellosis are:

- a) the Rose Bengal test (RBT) used as a screening test;
- b) the complement fixation test (CFT) used as a confirmation test.

Accreditation for the rapid plate agglutination method (RBT) was obtained in 2008.

The Rose Bengal test is performed in the Croatian Veterinary Institute in Zagreb and in its branch institutes of Rijeka, Split, Križevci and Vinkovci.

Serological tests (CFT, cELISA), bacteriological isolation of *Brucella* and molecular identification and typing (PCR) are performed in the Croatian Veterinary Institute in Zagreb.

The techniques and media used, their standardisation and the interpretation of the results conform to the recommendations given in the applicable OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines, Chapter "Ovine and caprine brucellosis (excluding *B. ovis*)".

4.4.7 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars):

In the Republic of Croatia, ovine and caprine animals are not vaccinated against brucellosis (*B. melitensis*).

4.4.8 Information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the holdings involved.

(max. 32000 chars):

In all cases when brucellosis has been confirmed, a detailed epidemiological investigation must be conducted, which also includes the implementation of bio-security measures in the herd and on the holding. Bio-security measures are listed in chapter 4.4.9.

4.4.9 Measures in case of a positive result including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

A description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals and detailed reference to the Union legislation provisions (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, the therapeutic or preventive treatment chosen, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter and the creation of a surveillance zone around infected holding). A definition of a suspicion and of a confirmation should be provided, with detailed measures implemented in both situation and how the herd is requalified as free after a positive result.

(max. 32000 chars):

Measures taken when the disease is officially confirmed

If the disease is officially confirmed on a holding, the competent veterinary inspector shall order that the following measures be implemented:

- (a) all movement out of or into the infected herd, except when animals from the infected herd are sent for urgent slaughter, must be prohibited;
- (b) animals in which the presence of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) has been officially confirmed must be marked and their eartag numbers listed, and they must be separated and isolated until they are killed or sent for killing; all positive animals must be destroyed as soon as possible, but not later than 30 days after the owner has been informed about the positive results
- (c) the remaining animal species which are susceptible to brucellosis must without delay be isolated and

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subjected to a test for brucellosis (*B. melitensis*);

(d) infected animals must be killed and safely disposed of;

In case of confirmed infection and isolation of *B. melitensis* all sheep and goats in the herd would be killed and safely disposed and also any other animals from the holding, depending on its serology results;

(e) milk from infected animals on the holding must be kept at a special place, isolated from the milk of uninfected animals;

(f) milk from infected animals may only be used on the holding of origin after undergoing suitable heat treatment, exclusively for producing cheese or for the purpose of being used as a feedingstuff;

(g) milk from uninfected animals on an infected holding may be placed on the market only after undergoing suitable heat treatment;

(h) aborted fetuses, lochia, placentae and dead animals must be safely disposed of as soon as possible;

(i) the infected building and yard, as well as objects which have come into contact with the infected animal, must be disinfected, before being used again;

(j) bedding, straw, litter and upper layers of soil used by the infected animal must be disinfected and safely disposed of (buried);

(k) manure from quarters used by the infected animals must be stored in a place inaccessible to farm animals, treated with a suitable and approved disinfectant and stored for at least three weeks. Use of disinfectant is not required if the manure is completely covered. Liquid manure (slurry) must be disinfected. The manure must not be used on garden produce intended for the market;

(l) an epidemiological investigation must be conducted to collect at least the following information: the number of animals in the herd, animal movements from/to the holding in the last six months, the time of appearance of the first signs of the disease; likely sources of infection on the infected holding; a list of other holdings containing animals that may have been infected from the same source(s);

(m) two tests separated by an interval of at least three months must be carried out on all animals over six months old and kept on the holding/holdings that are epidemiologically linked to the infected holding. Should brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) be diagnosed in ovine or caprine animals after they have returned from seasonal pasture which they shared with ovine or caprine animals from other holdings, all ovine and/or caprine animals that have been in contact with those from an infected holding shall be regarded as infected and officially tested in order to rule out the presence of brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) in the herd.

Measures after disposal of infected animals

1) After the killing and safe disposal of animals and prior to introducing new animals into the herd, sheds and other quarters where the animals were kept, as well as the milking equipment, tools for cleaning sheds and yards, containers and other equipment used in animal management must be washed and disinfected under official supervision and in accordance with the recommendations given by the official veterinarian.

2) Pastures grazed by infected animals may not be re-used for 60 days after the last infected animal left such pastures.

3) Means of transport used for transporting the infected animals must be washed and disinfected under official supervision and in accordance with the recommendations given by the official veterinarian.

4) After the killing and safe disposal of animals and prior to introducing new animals into the herd, no animals may enter or leave the infected holding, except for the purpose of urgent slaughter approved by the official veterinarian.

5) Newly acquired breeding animals may be introduced into the infected yard at least 60 days after all prescribed measures have been implemented and all infected animals have been disposed.

4.4.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

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(max. 32000 chars) :

Pursuant to Article 33, 34 and 35 of the Veterinary Act (Official Gazette 82/13, 148/13), for an animal which has been killed or slaughtered or has died due to the implementation of the ordered measures, as well as for an object damaged or destroyed due the implementation of the ordered measures, the keeper of the animal or the owner of the object are entitled to a compensation corresponding to the market value on the day of the implementation of the measure.

Measures of killing or in certain cases emergency slaughter of infected animals or of those suspected of infection, and in the cases of animal welfare protection, disposal of the contaminated objects shall be ordered when the infectious disease can not be successfully and without the risk of spread thereof, be suppressed with the implementation of other measures stipulated by the Veterinary Act ("Official Gazette" 82/13, 148/13) or when there is no economic justification for the implementation of other measures for the suppression of the disease.

For animals killed, slaughtered or for animals which have died due to the implementation of the ordered measures, as well as for the objects that were damaged or destroyed in the course of the implementation of the ordered measures referred to in Article 33, the animal holder or the owner of the object are entitled to the compensation in the amount of the market value on the day of the implementation of the measure.

The assessment of the value of the animals and objects is carried out by the commission appointed by the CVO, the composition of which must include the competent veterinary inspector. The decision on the entitlement to the damage compensation and on the amount of damage compensation is passed by the CVO upon the proposal of the commission within 60 days, while payment must ensue not later than 90 days from the day of implementation of the measures.

The animal holder or owner of the object is not entitled to damage compensation referred:

if he failed to immediately report the appearance of the infectious disease and did not treat the animal in the manner stipulated by the of the implementing legislation.

if he failed to undertake the stipulated or ordered measures for the prevention and control of infectious or parasitic diseases,

if he transfers the animal from an uninfected to an infected or endangered area or from the infected or endangered area to the uninfected area,

if he conducts trade of animal contrary to the provisions of Veterinary Act,

if the animal disease appeared during import or within the duration of quarantine of the imported animal.

4.4.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

The authorised veterinary organisation shall verify whether the prescribed conditions are fulfilled and on behalf of the Veterinary Directorate shall grant officially brucellosis (*B. melitensis*)-free herd status. Any further changes to the status of the holding (maintenance, suspension/withdrawal, re-gaining the suspended/withdrawn status) are recorded by a veterinary inspector.

The Veterinary Directorate submits the data to the European Commission in accordance with the provisions of Commission Decision 2008/940/EEC of 21 October 2008. laying down standard reporting requirements for national programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain animal diseases and zoonoses co financed by the Community.

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5. Benefits of the programme

A description is provided of the benefits of the programme on the economical and animal and public health points of view.

Describe

- progress expected compared to the situation of the disease in the previous years, in line with the objectives and expected results
- cost efficiency of the programme including management costs

(max. 32000 chars) :

1. Eradication of sheep and goat brucellosis (*B. melitensis*) in ovine and caprine herds in the Republic of Croatia.
2. Confirming officially brucellosis-free status of ovine and caprine herds with the aim of improving the health status of the ovine and caprine population in the country and protecting human health.
3. Creating the possibility of placing ovine and caprine animals on the market, without restrictions, throughout the territory of the European Union, thus ensuring the free movement of goods, enhancing market competitiveness and strengthening livestock production.
4. In long terms, declaring the country as officially free of ovine and caprine brucellosis, as a final step of the Programme.
5. Strengthening the implementation of bio-security and other preventive measures to reduce the risk of introducing the causative agents of dangerous infectious animal diseases (dangerous zoonoses or diseases causing significant economic damage), which, as a rule, occur more frequently in herds of unknown health status.

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7. Targets

The blocks 7.1.1, 7.1.2.1, 7.1.2.2, 7.2, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

7.1 Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1 Targets on diagnostic tests for year : **2016**

Region	Type of the test	Target population	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
CROATIA - TOTAL	RBT	Sheep and goat	blood	qualification	450 000	X
CROATIA - TOTAL	CFT	Sheep and goat	blood	qualification	5 000	X
CROATIA - TOTAL	Bacteriological	Sheep and goat	organs, tissues	confirmation of suspected cases	300	X
Total					455 300	
				Add a new row		

7.1.2 Targets on testing herds and animals

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7.1.2.1 Targets on testing herds

7.1.2.1 Targets on the testing of herds for year : **2016**

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds	Total number of herds under the programme	Number of herds expected to be checked	Number of expected positive herds	Number of expected new positive herds	Number of herds expected to be depopulated	% positive herds expected to be depopulated	Target indicators			
									Expected % herd coverage	% positive herds Expected period herd prevalence	% new positive herds Expected herd incidence	
CROATIA - TOTAL	Sheep and Goats	20 176	20 176	20 176	20	20	1	5	100	0,1	0,1	X
Total		20 176	20 176	20 176	20	20	1	5	100	0,1	0,1	
									Add a new row			

7.1.2.2 Targets on testing animals

7.1.2.2 Targets on the testing of animals for year :

							Slaughtering	Target indicators	
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Region	Species	Total number of animals	Number of animals under the programme	Number of animals expected to be tested	Number of animals to be tested individually	Number of expected positive animals	Number of animals with positive result expected to be slaughtered or culled	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered	Expected % coverage at animal level	% positive animals (Expected animal prevalence)		
CROATIA - TOTAL	Sheep and Goats	670 362	670 362	450 000	450 000	50	50	100	67,13	0,01	X	
Total		670 362	670 362	450 000	450 000	50	50	100	67,13	0,01		
								Add a new row				

7.2 *Targets on qualification of herds and animals*

Targets on qualification of herds and animals

7.2 *Targets on qualification of herds and animals for year :* **2016**

		Targets on the status of herds and animals under the programme																
		Total number of herds and animals under the programme		Expected unknown		Expected not free or not free from disease		Last check positive		Last check negative		Expected free or officially free from disease status suspended		Expected free from disease		Expected officially free from disease		
Region	Animal species	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	Herds	Animals	

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CROATIA	Sheep and Goat:	20 176	670 362	20	500	0	0	30	1 000	0	0	0	0	20 176	670 362	X
Total		20 176	670 362	20	500	0	0	30	1 000	0	0	0	0	20 176	670 362	
												Add a new row				

7.3 *Targets on vaccination or treatment*

7.3.1 *Targets on vaccination or treatment*

7.3.1 *Targets on vaccination or treatment for year :* **2016**

Region	Animal species	Total number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Total number of animals in vaccination or treatment programme	Targets on vaccination or treatment programme								
				Number of herds in vaccination or treatment programme	Number of herds expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated or treated	Number of doses of vaccine or treatment expected to be administered	Number of adults expected to be vaccinated	Number of young animals expected to be vaccinated			
n/a	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
										Add a new row		

7.3.2 *Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife*

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7.3.2 *Targets on vaccination or treatment of wildlife for year :* **2016**

		Targets on vaccination or treatment programme			
Region	Square km	Number of doses of vaccine or treatments expected to be administered in the campaign	Expected number of campaigns	Total number of doses of vaccine or treatment expected to be administered	
n/a	0	0	0	0	X
Total		0		0	
			Add a new row		

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and monitoring

8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

8.1 Costs of the planned activities for year :

2016

The blocks are repeated multiple times in case of first year submission of multiple program.

To facilitate the handling of your cost data, you are kindly requested to:

1. Fill-in the text fields IN ENGLISH
2. Limit as much as possible the entries to the pre-loaded options where available.
3. If you need to further specify a pre-loaded option, please keep the pre-loaded text and add your clarification to it in the same box.

1. Testing							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Cost of sampling	Domestic animals	Individual animal sample/test	450 000	3	1 350 000	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Rose bengal test	Individual animal sample/test	450 000	2	900 000	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Complement fixation test	Individual animal sample/test	5 000	8	40000	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Bacterial culture	Individual animal sample/test	300	10	3000	yes	X
Cost of analysis	PCR	Individual animal sample/test	300	30	9000	no	X
					Add a new row		
2. Vaccines							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	

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						Add a new row	
3. Compensation paid to owners							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Compensation of animals	Killing and disposal of animals	Animal culled	100	100	10000	yes	X
						Add a new row	
4. Cleaning and disinfection							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested	
						Add a new row	
5. Slaughtering/culling costs							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
6. Other costs							
Cost related to	Specification	Unit	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
						Add a new row	
		Total			2 312 000,00 €		

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8.2. Financial informaton

1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who perform the official sampling? Who pays?
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

(max. 32000 chars):

Sampling is performed by authorised veterinarians. Sampling is payed from the state budget by the Ministry of agriculture, Veterinary and food safety directorate - central level.

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

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(max. 32000 chars):

Testing is performed by the Croatian veterinary institute, branches in Zagreb, Split, Križevci, Vinkovci i Rijeka. CFT tests and bacteriology is performed in NRL in Zagreb. Testing is payed from the state budget by Ministry of agriculture.

c) Implementing entities - **compensation**: who performs the compensation? Who pays?
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

(max. 32000 chars):

Compensation is paid from the state budget by the central level, Ministry of agriculture.

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination**: who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination? Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?
(e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

(max. 32000 chars):

n/a

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e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implement this measure? Who provide the equipment/service? Who pays?

(max. 32000 chars):

n/A

2 Co-financing rate (see provisions of applicable Work Programme)

The maximum co-financing rate is in general fixed at 50%. However based on provisions of Article 5.2 and 5.3 of the Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, we request that the co-financing rate for the reimbursement of the eligible costs would be increased:

Up to 75% for the measures detailed below

Up to 100% for the measures detailed below

Please explain for which measures and why co-financing rate should be increased to 75% (max 32000 characters)

Croatia gross national income per inhabitant based on the latest Eurostat data is less than 90 % of the Union average.

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3. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

yes

no

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Attachments

IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

List of all attachments

	Attachment name	File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and -_):	File size
	6663_4171.pdf	6663_4171.pdf	76 kb
	6663_4172.pdf	6663_4172.pdf	143 kb
	6663_4173.jpg	6663_4173.jpg	35 kb
	6663_4174.jpg	6663_4174.jpg	946 kb
		Total size of attachments :	1201 kb