OIE Laboratory Twinning

Training workshop on collection and shipping of samples
Nairobi, Kenya, 9 – 11 August 2011

With the support of the IDENTIFY Project, of the Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT) program, USAID.

Dr Walter MASIGA
As of June 2011:

- 225 OIE Ref. Labs
- 37 Countries
- 111 Diseases
- 166 Experts
World Distribution of the OIE-Collaborating Centres

As of June 2011:

- 40 Collaborating Centres
- 21 Countries
- 38 Topics
- 35 Experts
OIE is committed to:

— Expanding and strengthening its network of expertise.

— Creating synergies so as to continue to meet the emerging challenges in a globalising world.
OIE Laboratory Twinning Programme: what is it?

Each OIE Twinning Project is a link between an OIE Reference Laboratory or an OIE Collaborating Centre (‘Parent’) and a national laboratory wishing to improve capacity and expertise (‘Candidate’) for an OIE listed disease or sphere of competence.

- Concept launched in 2006.
- First project started in November 2007.
Aims and objectives

- To improve compliance with OIE standards.
- To improve access to high quality diagnostics for more OIE Members.
- Eventually for Candidates to apply for ‘reference’ status.
- To help countries to enter scientific debate on an equal footing with others.
Prerequisites

- Parent must be an OIE Reference Laboratory or Collaborating Centre.
- Candidate must have potential to provide support.
- Project needs full support of Veterinary Services.

⚠️ Delegates are directly involved in this project.
Scope of the OIE Twinning Project

- Realistic with achievable goals.
- Variability and flexibility (objectives, subjects, length of project (1-3 years) ...
Support from OIE

• To support the link, facilitating transfer of technical capacity and expertise.
• Encourage and assist in coordinating with other capacity building projects.
• Support from OIE covers:
  - Flights, workshops, exchanges of experts, per diems.
  - Meeting costs.
  - Laboratory consumables directly related to training (up to a limit).
  - Assessment of Candidate’s material needs.
Support from OIE (contd)

But:

- Equipment, infrastructure, and bench fees are not covered (Twinning does not cover the building of a laboratory or other infrastructure).
A range of projects

Twining can accommodate multiple diseases or topic:

• Specific diseases.

• Multiple diseases: (CSF/rabies; AI/ND; PPR/FMD/SGP)

• Topics: epidemiology, veterinary medicinal products, molecular diagnostics, food safety.
Ongoing updates to OIE Laboratory Twinning Programme Guide

• Possibility of involving more than one Parent or Candidate in a twinning project.
• Where possible, develop synergies between twinning and other capacity building projects.
• A limit on the number of twinning projects per laboratory (a maximum of two).
• Assistance with finding complementary funds from other donors and avoid duplication.
• Possibility of resource rich countries to fund their own OIE Twinning project.
The application process

• Expression of interest by candidate or Parent laboratory may initiate.
• Initial feedback from OIE.
• Draft proposal (template provided).
• Comments from one of the OIE Standards Commissions (Aquatic or Biological).
• OIE clears administrative aspects.
• Signed letters of support from OIE Delegate and Laboratory Directors.
• Contract signed and project starts.
Progress

• Situation in May 2011:
  – 3 projects completed.
  – 29 projects are underway.
  – 6 new projects have been approved.

• 32 countries involved.
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

Examples

UK > Botswana

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

Germany > Egypt
Brucellosis

Italy > Eritrea
Bluetongue and African Horse Sickness

UK > Morocco
Rabies

S. Africa > Nigeria
Improved diagnostic capacity

UK > Uganda
Trichinellosis
Switzerland > Namibia

Ovine chlamydiosis
France > Burkina Faso

African Animal Trypanosomosis
OIE Laboratory Twinning Projects  
(May 2011)

Completed projects or those that are underway by OIE region of Candidate Laboratory:

- Middle East (5)
- Americas (8)
- African region (18)
- Asia, Pacific (10)
- Europe (4)
OIE Laboratory Twinning Projects
(May 2011)

• Avian influenza and Newcastle disease are the most popular topics for OIE laboratory twinning (7/29).

• Brucellosis (4/29), rabies (3/29), ASF and CSF (3/29), FMD (1/29), BT (2/29), epidemiology (1/29), veterinary medicinal products (1/29), food safety (1/29), diagnostic capacity (1/29)...

• Aquatic animal diseases are currently under-represented in the OIE Twinning Programme.
  • Only one of the projects is for an aquatic animal disease.
Conclusions

- Countries in all 5 OIE regions are benefiting from OIE Laboratory Twinning Projects.
- Most beneficiary Candidate Laboratories are in regions with the lowest density of OIE Reference Laboratories.
- OIE Laboratory Twinning is addressing the current bias in the geographical distribution of OIE Reference Laboratories.
- Greatest contribution to OIE Laboratory Twinning is being made by OIE Reference Laboratories in the European region.
Conclusions

- Avian influenza and Newcastle disease are the most popular topics for OIE Laboratory Twinning. This trend is changing as other priority diseases are addressed.
- There are currently no OIE Twinning Projects underway for some priority diseases such as Rift Valley fever.
- Aquatic animal diseases are currently under-represented in the OIE Twinning Programme.
The way forward

• Once each project is over:
  ✓ Benefits need to be sustained.
  ✓ Candidate needs to actively engage with international scientific community.

• Audit of individual projects.

• Assessment of overall programme.

• Listen to feedback.
**Twinning Guide and Project template/Contract**

http://www.oie.int/

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Thank you for your attention

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