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The EU funded project "Support in the development and implementation of Food Safety and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Controls" started its activities in January 2017 and it will be implemented over a period of 24 months.

The project provides technical assistance to support the authorities in the organisation and implementation of food and feed safety controls, border inspection and implementation of a breeding program to enhance production and protect local breeds. Furthermore, the project supports Kosovo Association of Milk Producers in implementing milk recording and farm management system in the commercial farms.

Specific objectives of this project are related to three main areas of intervention as follows:

- *for the Food Safety component of the project:* to strengthen the legislative, institutional and administrative capacity related to food and feed safety, implement traceability of food and feed, and contribute to upgrading of establishments that process food of animal origin in Kosovo.
- *for the Animal Breeding component of the project:* to establish and/or upgrade Livestock Breeding policies and capacities to improve productivity and protect local breeds.
- *for the Milk Recording component of the project:* to support Association of Milk Producers in implementation of milk recording system with included animal health component and becoming financially self-sustainable.

Main project beneficiaries are the:

- Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency;
- Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Rural Development;
- Kosovo Association of Milk Producers;
- Food producers and processors.

Based on the specific objectives, the project is divided in three components as follows:

- **COMPONENT 1 - FOOD SAFETY:** under this component the project supports Kosovo Food and Veterinary Agency in drafting the legislation, designing the strategies and policies as well as field enforcement of legislation. Part of the activities are dedicated to the organization of trainings for field inspectors and other officers at central and local level including inspectors operating under the Municipalities. The project supports also the Food Business Operators by organizing workshops and trainings on specific topics related to the improvement of food safety management systems. Last but not least, specific guidelines addressing major food safety topics will be developed by international experts;
- **COMPONENT 2 - LIVESTOCK BREEDING:** livestock breeding production in Kosovo has an important role in contributing to food security, especially for small semi-subsistence household economies. The importance is not only economic as livestock breeding promotes the sustainable use of the available resources such as land and water, it contributes to biodiversity conservation, environment protection and maintenance of local communities and traditions. The project supports local livestock breeding production by establishing, when necessary, or upgrading Livestock Breeding policies and capacities to improve productivity and protect local breeds;
- **COMPONENT 3 - MILK RECORDING:** the project will assist Kosovo Association of Milk Producers as the only body currently working in the area of milk recording and improvement of milk quality. The core of the activities under this component is to support this association into becoming the main service provider of milk recording and modern farm management system.

## **CONTENT OF THE PAGE DEDICATED TO COMPONENT 1 - FOOD SAFETY**

*Following results are to be achieved by the project for the food safety component:*

1. Legal framework covering the area of food and feed safety completed;
2. Standard operating procedures for food and feed control at all stages (from production, import, export to retail sector) completed;
3. Intensive tailor made training programme for food and feed inspectors (municipal, regional and at the central level) implemented;
4. Intensive tailor made training programme for food and feed producers (municipal, regional and at the central level) implemented;
5. Integrated multiannual national control plan for food and feed prepared;
6. Annual Inspection Plan prepared and implementation carried out;
7. Food and feed business operators are registered in database specifically designed for this purpose; individual compliance assessment of food and feed producers in Kosovo is completed; list of establishments that fulfil or have the potential to fulfil the criteria for export to EU is prepared.
8. Traceability system is implemented in the establishments that are considered as fulfilling or potentially fulfilling the criteria for export;
9. Drug and residue monitoring programme is reviewed, updated and implemented;
10. Management Information System, including documented procedures, quality management and audits is developed and operational;
11. Guidelines for collection and storage of Animal by-products at the slaughterhouses prepared and implementation supervised;
12. On job training on project preparation, procurement and management for the KVFA staff implemented;
13. On job training on budget planning, financial management and human resource management for the KVFA administration implemented;
14. Legislation covering import, export and transit of food and feed as well as live animals and plants completed;
15. Standard Operating Procedures for import, export and transit of food and feed as well as live animals and plants completed;
16. Sampling plan for imported food, feed and as well as live animals and plants completed;
17. Training for border inspectors implemented.
18. Long term strategy for development of the KVFA is prepared and adopted.

## **CONTENT OF THE PAGE DEDICATED TO COMPONENT 2 - LIVESTOCK BREEDING**

*Following results are to be achieved by the contractor for the Livestock Breeding component:*

1. Legal framework governing the area of animal breeding is completed;
2. National strategy for livestock breeding and production prepared and adopted;
3. Rules for import and distribution of genetic materials reviewed and updated;
4. Assessment of Kosovo Centre for Livestock Breeding is completed and proposal for its revival presented and approved;
5. Roles and responsibilities of the livestock breeding department in the MAFRD are defined and work plan for the livestock breeding department prepared;
6. The KLBC resurrected in a new guise with a sustainable future as a National Livestock Breeding Centre and coordinator of Native genetic resources;
7. The semen market reorganised and a structure in place to provide better knowledge to inseminators and farmers;
8. National Herd Books created;
9. A conservation programme for Busa cattle established with animals identified by farm and region and a protection programme implemented;
10. A National Sheep Breeding Programme established with criteria for breed development for each of the main strains of sheep

## **CONTENT OF THE PAGE DEDICATED TO COMPONENT 3 - MILK RECORDING**

*Following results are to be achieved by the contractor for the Milk Recording component:*

1. Kosovo Association of Milk Producers (KAMP) is advanced to become national milk recording centre;
2. Range of services provided by KAMP has increased and it includes advisory services for animal health, breeding, husbandry and general farm management;
3. Software for milk recording with included animal health and husbandry/animal breeding component is developed/adopted to the needs and the situation in Kosovo;
4. Training in use of software is provided to KAMP staff;
5. Software is installed and training provided to at least 100 farmers;
6. Intensive training programme to the KAMP staff on animal breeding, animal production, animal health management and good hygiene practices is implemented;
7. Business model for sustainable development and financial sustainability of KAMP is developed.
8. Guidelines and manuals on farm management and good farming practices prepared.