Single Market Programme (SMP Food)

EU co-funded Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme for years 2025-2027

EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HADEA)
Department A Health and Food Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

SUBMISSION FORM: DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION
(Annex 1 – Description of the action (part B))

Zoonotic *Salmonella* Programme
Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in Breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus 2025-2027*

Countries seeking an EU financial contribution for the implementation of national programmes for eradication, control and/or surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit this Form (*Annex 1 - Description of the action (part B)*) **completely filled in**, **by the 31 May** of the year preceding its implementation (*Part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).*

Applicant shall provide information on each question contained in the Form. The information filled in the Form, shall be clear, concise, consistent and complete.

For questions on the information requested in this Form, please contact: HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu

For more information or questions on the eGRANTS Portal Submission System, please access the EU Funding & Tenders Portal or contact the IT Helpdesk

APPLICANT (Name of EU / non-EU country)	
Disease	**ZOONOTIC SALMONELLA**
Animal population/Species	**Breeding flocks *Gallus gallus***
Implementation Year	**2025-2027**

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Salmonella in Breeding flocks *Gallus gallus* Programme – 2025-2027

1.RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives (*in relation to the Call*)

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:
- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
- Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 200 words)

1.2 Needs and specific objectives

The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S. enteritidis* (SE), *S. typhimurium* (ST) (including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), *S. hadar* (SH), *S. infantis* (SI) and *S. virchow* (SV).

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 500 words)

For a MS with less than 100 adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* the target is to have no more than one such flock remaining positive for the relevant *Salmonella* serovars per year.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, please explain:

There are more than 100 adult breeding flocks in Portugal.

(maximum 500 words)

1.3 Complementarity with other actions — European added value

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field. Illustrate the European dimension of the activities: trans-national dimension of the project; impact/interest for a number of EU countries; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation among EU countries, EU and non-EU countries, etc. Which countries will benefit from the project (directly and indirectly)?
This programme contributes to the maintenance of a high level of food through early detection of Salmonella in poultry and the enforcement of subsequent control measures. The high frequency of testing and the excellent results obtained in the program in the years of implementation, allowed Portugal to be a safe exporting country of day-old chicks and hatching eggs. In fact, in addition to the intra-community transit of these two products (Belgium, Spain, Italy, Switzerland), there are also exports to third countries like Algeria, Azerbaijan, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda and Zambia. Our consistent negative results ensure therefore greater protection of Public Health not only in our country, but also in all trading partners. ***(maximum 500 words)***

1.4 Target population and Area of the implementation

This programme will be implemented on all breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*
Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, please explain on which flocks: ***(maximum 500 words)***
Fill in **Table 1**) **in the Annex** to this Form.
This programme will be implemented in the whole territory of the Member State
Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, please explain: The program will be implemented in the whole territory of Portugal: Continent and the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and Azores (maps attached). The Competent Authority (CA) is the official veterinary services - DGAV (General Directorate of Food and Veterinary). ***(maximum 500 words)***

1.5 Notification of detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.

Yes ☒ No ☐

The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services of DGAV.

Procedure manuals with illustrations, explain sampling times, frequency, type and quantity of samples to be collected as well as the correct way of packaging prior to sending to the laboratory, are available in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Manual-BR-2016.pdf
When sent to the laboratory, samples must be accompanied by uniform request sheets, specifically designed for this purpose.
(https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Anexo-2-_-folha-de-requisicao-AC.pdf)

All the authorized laboratories performing detection test, are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed according to their Annex to Accreditation Certificates.

The list of accredited laboratories can be found in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
• Check the completeness of the request form
• Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
• Enter the data information on spreadsheets tables
• Transmit information to regional services **immediately** in case of positive results for Salmonella, monthly in negative cases.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the laboratory immediately notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. Restrictive measures are imposed to the flock. The result of serotyping is sent by NRL to DESA-DSPA (central services) that informs the DSAVR (regional service).

The obligations of each participant in the program, as well as the sanctions to be applied for non-compliance, are described in Decree-Law No. 164/2015 of August 17)

(maximum 500 words)

1.6 Epidemiological situation background

Describe the epidemiological disease situation background i.e. describe key obstacles and constraints hampering the control of *Salmonella* cases.
The National Plan for Salmonella Surveillance in Portugal was first approved by the European Commission for the year 2006 (Commission Decision 2005/723/EC of 14 October). The results obtained by the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex A. It has been possible to maintain a low level of infection of breeding flocks, which are fundamental in the control of the disease in all production chain. During the program implementation period, it was possible to observe a decrease in the number of positive flocks to the target serovars, with some expected variations. In 15 years, we have always achieved the Union target.

2. QUALITY

2.1 Concept and methodology (Programme activities/measures)

The programme activities/measures shall be clear, suitable to address the needs and to achieve desired outcomes/ impact. They have to be adapted to the *Salmonella* in Breeding *Gallus gallus* situation/risk and feasible in terms of the capacities for their implementation.

As mentioned in section 1.1. the MS attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval. This includes: - that the appropriate measures are taken with regards to biosecurity, collection, transportation and storage of samples, and EU microbiological criteria in fresh poultry meat in birds from flocks infected with *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium.* - if birds from flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered, the necessary measures are implemented by the FBO and the CA to ensure that fresh poultry meat meet the relevant EU microbiological criteria (row 1.28 of Chapter 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005): absence of SE/ST in 5 samples of 25g. -laboratory accreditation, analytical methods used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars, antimicrobial controls and transportation of and storage of samples tasks are all performed according to the respective current EU legislation [accreditation requirement according to Art 37(4) of EU Regulation 2017/625].

Yes ☒ No ☐

Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (Decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17) FBO have to implement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks (see 2.3.1).

Laboratories in which samples (official and FBO samples) are analysed are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for *Salmonella* detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used.

Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010. Samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling. If time limits are exceeded new samples are collected.

Flocks infected with SE or ST can only be transported to the slaughterhouse with authorization of the DSAVR. The Official Veterinary (OV) of the slaughterhouse chosen is informed in advance by both, the regional services and the FBO responsible for the slaughterhouse.

The Food Chain Information (FCI) that acompasses the animals has to mention the result of the *Salmonella* testing.

The OV informs the FBO of the procedures that have to be adopted during the slaughter of the positive flock.

The FBO of the slaughterhouse has to comply with all the procedures imposed by the OV. This means that the infected flock has to be slaughtered after all the negative flocks to avoid cross contamination and that the speed line may have to be lowered to permit the careful evisceration and the careful *post mortem* Inspection (PMI) of the animals.

The carcasses and offal with pathology compatible with infection caused by Salmonella will be subject to total condemnation, according to the OV criteria.

The positive flocks shall have priority for the purpose of sampling for the hygiene criteria analysis and the OV confirms that the FBO gives priority to the positive flock when sampling for hygiene criteria.

The OV introduces all the relevant information regarding this slaughter in the national database system.

Slaughterhouse operators are required to comply with the sampling provided for in Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 of the Commission of 15 November 2005, for application of the relevant microbiological criteria. Failure to comply is punishable under Article 24 of Decree-Law 164/2005 of August 17 and Article 6, paragraph a) of Decree-Law 113/2006 of 12 June.

If the results of this sampling are positive for *Salmonella* SE or ST, the FBO has to:

- withdraw the product that is already at retail level;
- process the product in order to eliminate the danger - if the product is a stage prior to retail.

The OV supervises the corrective measures implemented by the FBO.

In the holding, after the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After disinfection, environmental samples are collected by FBO following the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR.

maximum 200 words)

2.1.1 Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators

Samples at the initiative of the FBO must be taken and analysed to test for the target *Salmonella* serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements:

a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, four-week-old birds, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
b. Adults breeding flocks: depending if the MS achieved the EU target for more than 2 years

☐ Every second week during the laying period (at the holding and at the hatchery)
☒ Every three weeks during the laying period at the holding. Sampling frequency remains at every 2nd week at the hatchery (derogation of point 2.1.1 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010)

Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

In the scope of SCP in Portugal the sampling takes place at the holding.

The EU target was archived for more than 2 years, so according with Commission Regulation (EU) 200/2010 (Annex 2.1.2.3) it was decided to decrease the sampling frequency.

The FBO has the responsibility of own-check sampling under the SCP.

However, he may delegate sampling in the veterinarian responsible or technicians who perform other tasks on the farm (farm staff).

The frequency and method of sampling by the FBO are explained in the procedures manual available on the DGAV website.

The CA, at random, performs supervision of the FBO sample collection.

Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2. of Annex to Regulation (EU) nº200/2010

2.1.2 Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant (i.e. due to the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), all birds of infected rearing or adult flocks are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and all eggs are destroyed or heat treated):

Please indicate also if birds are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and if eggs are destroyed or heat treated. Please specify the options applied.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain.

In the case of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis and/or Salmonella Typhimurium additional biosecurity measures are implemented, sanitary restriction of the flock and sanitary surveillance of the holding are imposed.

Destination of birds

In the presence of clinical signs, the slaughter of the flock will be carried out in an approved slaughterhouse and after the authorization of DSAVR, with elimination of birds as by-products in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October laying down the sanitary rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption.

In the absence of clinical signs, the slaughter of the flock will be carried out in an approved slaughterhouse and after the authorization of DSAVR.

As sanitary inspection criteria, the birds of the flock can be:
• Approved for human consumption: the approved products derived from such birds may be placed on the market for human consumption in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene;
• Disapproved and eliminated as by-products in accordance with Regulation (EC) no 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October.

Day-old-chicks must be killed and destroyed.

Destination of eggs

Hatching eggs will be eliminated as by-products.

Non-incubated eggs from positive flocks must be, at option of the FBO:
• eliminated as by-products or
• forwarded to egg product units to be heat treated.

2.2 Programme participants (stakeholders)

Cooperation and division of roles and responsibilities

Indicate participants (stakeholders such as competent authorities, testing laboratories, authorised private veterinarians, other stakeholders as relevant) involved in the planning and implementation of the programme; what are their roles and responsibilities; who reports to whom; what are the reporting arrangements.

Indicate who is overall responsible for the programme and how the overall responsible coordinates with other stakeholders; how effective communication will be ensured.

Structure and organization of the Competent Authorities (from the central CA to the local CAs). Please provide a short description and reference to a document presenting this description. Please insert the functioning url if applicable.
The role and responsibility of each participant in the program is described in the Decree-Law nº 164/2015, August 17 (Annex V). The sample collection is either made by CA and FBO. General Directorate of Food and Veterinary (DGAV), namely its Epidemiology and Animal Health Unit (DESA-DSPA), is the authority at central level that is responsible for the preparation, coordination and monitoring of the program. REGIONAL COORDINATION There are five Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorates (DSAVR) and two Autonomous Regions that are local veterinary authority, controlling the execution of the measures of the program in their region, and also executing some of the programme actions, such as the issue of movement restriction and the sampling for official control. The Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorate and two Autonomous Regions are identified by the following acronyms: DSAVRN: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Norte DSAVRC: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Centro DSAVRLVT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Lisboa e Vale do Tejo DSAVRALT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Alentejo DSAVRALG: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Algarve RAA: Autonomous Region of Açores RAM: Autonomous Region of Madeira The structure of veterinary service can be seen at: https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/DGAV-Organizational-Chart.pdf Detection tests of samples collected by the FBO are only valid if carried out in one of the laboratories authorized by the DGAV. All the laboratories are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates. All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used. The list of accredited laboratories is presented in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf All serotypifications, both for the own checks and for the official control, are carried out at the NRL. Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme. The information circuit is described in point 1.5.

2.3 Management; controls and verifications, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the activities planned to ensure that the implementation of the programme activities is of high quality and completed in time (according to the plan/timeline). Explain planned controls and verifications, and monitoring of achievement of targets (activity indicators) - please describe for different programme activities. Describe the evaluation of the progress indicators (quantitative and qualitative); the outreach of the expected results/outcome (include unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress (progress indicators) should be relevant, realistic, and measurable.

2.3.1. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery levels

a) Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.
Hygiene and biosecurity measures are regularly checked in the holdings under several official controls carried out, in particular for the attribution of the number of approval for intra-Community trade in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC, when there are positive results of the targeted serotypes in SCP, in case of positive results for Salmonella detected at slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005) and under animal welfare controls. The checklist for verifying hygiene and biosecurity measures is in Annex B Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17)- Anexo V) Biosecurity measures to be implemented are explained in the Procedures Manual for poultry on DGAV website in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Web_Manual-de-Biosseguranca_Avicultura.pdf To prevent the introduction of Salmonella in the holding the minimum biosecurity measures are (summary): • Fencing of farm perimeter to prevent the entry of domestic and wild animals, people and non-essential vehicles. • Reserved access only to the indispensable personnel and vehicles (transport of animals and food). These vehicles must be previously disinfected. • Contact with birds from other farms or other animals should be avoided by owners and handlers. • Full protective clothing, for exclusive use in the holding, should be wear. • Integrity of protection devices against wild animals (windows networks, fan grills, etc) should be in place and monitored regularly. • Supply of food and water in outdoor parks is prohibited.

- Food and bed materials should be stored in separate spaces, indoors and protected from wild birds and rodents.
- The collection of dead birds should be done twice a day with correct methods of transport and disposal
- Disinfection between production cycles of all places, equipment, utensils and transport vehicles should be carried out.
- Drinking water should be treated and in the case of this being carried out at the holding, periodic analysis of water and a register should be maintained.

The verification of biosecurity measures by the CA is done:
• as part of the registration process,
• for granting approval for intra-EU trade in accordance with COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2035 of 28 June 2019,
• when there are positive results of the targeted Salmonella serovars,
• in case of positive Salmonella test results detected in the slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2073/2005) and,
• under animal welfare controls.

In case of unsatisfactory outcome in Biosecurity measures the CA notifies the FBO to rectify the non-compliance detected.
Non compliances in biosecurity measures on farms are subjected to sanctions in accordance with Decree-Law nº 164/2015 August 17.

b) Routine official **sampling scheme when FBO sampling takes place at the hatchery**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. If the EU target is achieved for more than 2 years, the CA has decided to implement the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 and therefore the EU minimum requirement for official sampling is once a year at the hatchery and once a year on the holding during the laying phase.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, the EU minimum requirements for official sampling are implemented as follows:

- every 16 weeks at the hatchery
- twice during the laying phase at the holding (within four weeks at the beginning, within eight weeks before the end), and
- at the holding each time samples taken at the hatchery are positive for target serovar

Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, please explain. Indicate also: 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples

In the scope of SCP in Portugal the sampling takes place at the holding.

c) Routine official **sampling scheme when FBO sampling takes place at the holding**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e.: If the EU target is achieved for more than 2 years, the CA has decided to implement the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 and therefore the EU minimum requirement for official sampling is twice during the laying phase at the holding.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, the EU minimum requirements for official sampling are implemented as follows:
§ Three times during the laying phase at the holding (within four weeks at the beginning, within eight weeks before the end and a third one in between)

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please explain. Indicate also: 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, please describe, 2) who is taking the official samples

The FBO sampling is carried out at the holding (not at the hatchery) therefore, the official controls are always done in the holding during the laying phase, as foreseen in 2.1.1. of the Annex to Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 of 10 March 2010.

The official samples are always taken by DGAV Regional Services.

The EU target was archived for more than 2 years, so according with Regulation 200/2010 (Annex 2.1.2.3) it was decided to decrease the sampling frequency. Two official sampling visits are foreseen in the laying phase. Considering that the whole laying phase in some flocks does not occur in inside one calendar year, some of them will be official sampled once in a given year.

Additional official sampling is done in case of suspected positivity, positive results in slaughterhouse and when there are positive results in the holding.

d) EU conditions for confirmatory testing are complied with and confirmatory testing is not applied routinely

Yes ☒ No ☐

e) If confirmatory samples taken at the holding (after positive results at the hatchery, or suspicion of false positivity on FBO samples taken on the holding) are negative, please describe the measures taken:

☒ Testing for antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors (at least 5 birds per house) and if those substances are detected the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented (annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003):

☒ Other official samples are taken on the breeding flock; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted

☐ Other official samples are taken on the progeny; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted

☐ None of these measures

Describe also if any other measures are implemented

Under the SNCP confirmatory sampling it may be requested by the FBO (or initiated by the CA) within 72 hours of notification of an initial positive result.

After this initial positive result for Salmonella, the flock is submitted to sanitary restrictive measures and cannot commercialize any eggs or animals. The restrictive measures are only lifted if a final negative result from the confirmatory sampling is obtained.

For the purposes of acceptance of the confirmatory sampling, DSAVR must assess, on the holding:

• the history of compliance of the own-checks,

• the history of positivity and

• the biosecurity measures.

Through this evaluation confirmatory sampling will only be accepted in holdings which:

• Under the national control program fully comply with the sampling of own-checks in all flocks and;

• Have no positivity repetition on the same premises in the case of the same flock or the immediately preceding flock and,

• Have a positive assessment on the application of biosecurity measures.

• When the CA has reasons to suspect the occurrence of false positives.

The samples are always taken by de CA (DSAVR) and consists in five pairs of boot swabs and each pair is analysed individually, two samples of 250 ml powder containing at least 100 gr of powder and five birds for Salmonella detection in organs. Two of these birds are used for antimicrobial detection.

These analyses are carried out, in accordance with the decision of the FBO, in a laboratory authorised by the CA for this purpose.

The entire procedure is monitored in person by a representative of the CA. The laboratory carrying out the detection tests will simultaneously carry out a preliminary search for the presence of antimicrobials.

Detailed information on the procedures for contesting results can be found at https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/PNCS-Procedimentos_Contestacao_resultados.pdf

2.3.2 Vaccination

☒ Voluntary
☐ Compulsory
☐ Forbidden

The use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.
If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc).

Vaccination is optional under the programme during the rearing phase and before the beginning of the laying phase, requiring the use of authorized vaccines. The list of authorized vaccines is at DGAV web portal. The choice of vaccine and the vaccination scheme is under the responsibility of the assistant veterinarian and is verified by CA during official controls. Although not routinely compulsory most flocks are vaccinated. The cost of vaccination is supported by the FBO.
Almost 99% of the breeding flocks are vaccinated against Salmonella.

Under the programme, only the vaccination of restocking flocks is mandatory, after the slaughter of positive flocks to any of the serotypes included. However this vaccination is also supported by the FBO.

Information on vaccine used is compulsory in the laboratory tests request form both for own checks and for official controls. In the case of own checks, this information is therefore provided to the detection laboratories that in case of positive results informs tthe NRL.
The types of vaccine approved and in use are inactivated and live vaccines. In the case of live vaccines, those approved are the ones that allowed the differentiation of field and vaccination strains. This differentiation as well as serotyping is carried out only by INIAV (NRL).

2.3.3 Efficacy of disinfection

Please state who performs the testing (FBO/CA) and provide a short description of the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (number of samples, number of tests, samples taken, etc...).

After the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After clean, disinfection is carried out and followed by environmental samples collection by FBO under the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR.

After the depopulation of a positive flock and after cleaning and disinfection actions, the FBO is required to carry out environmental tests prior to repopulation

These tests must be carried out in accordance with the respective procedures manual available on the DGAV website https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Anexo-6-Procedimentos-colheita-amostras-ambientais-1.pdf

To assess the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection actions, at least 10

samples at various points in the poultry house must be taken.

It is recommended that samples be taken in the following locations:

• Floor, walls and ceiling,

• Doors,

• Windows/Fans (ventilation systems), • Lighting devices, • Cages, • Water supply pipes, • Food supply pipelines, • Egg transport belts, • Stool mats, • Disinfection antechamber of each pavilion, • Other places susceptible to dust accumulation. Repopulation must be authorized by local veterinary services and is only carried out upon presentation of negative results for the targeted serotypes.

2.3.4 Monitoring of the target Salmonella serovars (*Salmonella enteritidis, Salmonella typhimurium*)

Give a short summary (from last 5 years) of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain
The National Plan for Salmonella Control in Portugal was first approved by European Commission for the year 2006 (Commission Decision 2005/723 / EC of 14 October). The progress indicators are the number of infected flocks identified per year – the target is to achieve the accomplishment of objectives defined in Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 of 10 March 2010. The results obtained resulting from the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex VI.

2.3.5 System for **compensation to owners** for the value of their birds slaughtered or culled and the eggs destroyed or heat treated

Describe the system for compensation to owners. Indicate how improper implementation of biosecurity measures can affect the payment of compensation
There is no compensation following positive results to the target serotypes under this program.

2.3.6 System to monitor the implementation of the programme

Please describe

The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services.

For the circuit of information established and summarized in flowcharts, several models of documents and procedures were created:
• Uniform request forms for analyses
• Standard submission forms (Excel)
• List of authorized laboratories
• Conditions of acceptance of samples by laboratories
• Procedure manuals for the sample collection.

For the results to be valid within the PNCS, the FBO must:
• Perform the sampling according to the procedures stipulated
• Fill all fields of the requisition form for analysis and
• Deliver samples in authorized laboratories.

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
• Check fill request form
• Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
• Enter the data information on the spreadsheet tables
• Transmit information to regional services.

The request forms and the spreadsheets tables contain data on FBOs' own-check and official sampling, including identification of holdings and flocks, vaccination status of flocks, age of sampled birds and results of detection tests for *Salmonella*.

The data and results are supplied by the designated testing laboratories to the DSAVR. This information is transmitted, on a monthly basis by the DSAVRs to the central level DSPA, using the uniform spreadsheets.
These data are analysed centrally and discussed during meetings of a specialized working group for SNCP, held on average 1-2 times per year.

In these meetings are presented and discussed the data for:

- Existing flock's numbers
- Number of flocks sampled (own-checks and official control)
- Non-compliance detected
- Coverage and
- Percentage of positivity.

The implementation of FBOs' own-check sampling is verified by the CA during official controls which includes official sampling and by the information supplied by laboratories.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the detection laboratory **immediately** notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. The result of serotyping is send by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

2.4 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of the programme, and mitigation measures/strategy for addressing them. Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures. ***Note:*** *Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organizations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.*		
Risk No	Description	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
1	Deadlines for contracting laboratory services – public procurement	Timely launch of contractual procedures to start analytics
2	No control by FBO	Penalty for the producer
3	Non-compliance by the laboratory with the analysis times	New sample collection

2.5 Milestones

Indicate control points along the programme implementation that help to chart progress. Note: Deliverables (*e.g. intermediate or final report on the implementation of programme measures*) are not milestones.		
Name	Due date (in month)	Means of verification
Verification of sampling events	monthly	Collection and analysis of laboratory results

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Describe **expected impact** (benefit) of the programme (e.g. from the economical and animal health points of view) Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them? Define the short, medium and long-term effects of the project. ***Possible examples:*** *reduction to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of Gallus gallus remaining positive for the target Salmonella serovars: S. enteritidis (SE), S. typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), S. hadar (SH), S. infantis (SI) and S. virchow (SV).*
This program will make possible the accomplishment of the Union targets: - Reduction to less than 1% the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S*. Enteritidis (SE), *S.* Typhimurium (ST) (including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), *S.* Hadar (SH), *S*. Infantis (SI) and *S*. Virchow (SV). The evaluation of cost / benefit must take into account several factors including the cost of disease corresponding to direct losses to production (cost of morbidity and cost of decreased production) and indirect losses (eg barriers to free trade). The benefits resulting from the reduction of salmonellosis in poultry is also associated with a lower likelihood of infection of consumers via their products and with the associated socio-economic benefits.

3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding Describe the communication and information dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.
The results of the programs are disseminated in several meetings with the poultry production sector, in DGAV meetings and in forums related to poultry farming. Coordination meetings are held to present the programme to local veterinary services which are responsible for sampling as well as to discuss the progress of the implementation of the programme. Information about this programme is publicly available at DGAV web portal. There is a Salmonella dedicated page in this portal containing information about: a) Disease detection, diagnosis, and notification of suspicions, b) Epidemiological situation of avian Salmonellosis in Portugal, c) Information for poultry keepers regarding biosecurity and other relevant issues.

Regular awareness sessions about Salmonella for poultry industry stakeholders, including epidemiological situation, prevention and biosecurity as well as activities within the scope of the surveillance programme, are held either online or physically.

3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation Describe the how will the project impact be ensured and sustained long term? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained, and which resources will be necessary to continue? Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the results of the implementation of this project?
An efficient surveillance programme is essential for early detection and timely implementation of control measures. Prevention and control rely on appropriate biosecurity measures, surveillance, and rapid action. Surveillance is the key for controlling this zoonosis. Official controls have to be maintained to ensure correct implementation by the FBO namely to verify farm biosecurity measures

ANNEX

I. **Baseline population data**
II. **Targets for 2025-2027**
III. **Legal basis for the implementation of the programme**
IV. **Maps (as relevant)**

I. Baseline population data

Table 1 for year 2025: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling shall take place
Rearing flocks	**280**		280	0
Adult flocks	**515**	515	515	515
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the hatchery		0	0	0
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the holding		515	515	515
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to 03/2024; **Source of the data**: " Regional Services "

Table 1 for year 2026: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling shall take place
Rearing flocks	**280**		280	0
Adult flocks	**515**	515	515	515
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the hatchery		0	0	0
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the holding		515	515	515
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to 03/2024; Source of the data: " Regional Services "

Table 1 for year 2027: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling shall take place
Rearing flocks	**280**		280	0
Adult flocks	**515**	515	515	515
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the hatchery		0	0	0
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the holding		515	515	515
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to 03/2024; Source of the data: " Regional Services "

II. Targets for 2025-2027

Table 2 for year 2025: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	1548
Serotyping	50
Antimicrobial detection test	0
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	2

Table 2 for year 2026: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	1548
Serotyping	35
Antimicrobial detection test	0
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	2

Table 2 for year 2027: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**1548**
Serotyping	**30**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**2**

Table 3 for year 2025: Targets on official samples from breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	280	515
N of flocks in the programme	280	515
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	515
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	774
N of official samples taken	0	1548
Target serovars (d)	☒ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☒ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☐ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	0	2
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated	0	2
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled	0	15600
Total N of eggs to be destroyed	0	450000
Total N of eggs to be heat treated	0	0

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2026: Targets on official samples from breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	280	515
N of flocks in the programme	280	515
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	515
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	774
N of official samples taken	0	1548
Target serovars (d)	☒ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☒ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☐ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	0	1
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated	0	1
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled	0	7800
Total N of eggs to be destroyed	0	225000
Total N of eggs to be heat treated	0	0

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2027: Targets on official samples from breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	280	515
N of flocks in the programme	280	515
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	515
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	774
N of official samples taken	0	1548
Target serovars (d)	☒ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☒ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☐ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	0	0
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated	0	0
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled	0	0
Total N of eggs to be destroyed	0	0
Total N of eggs to be heat treated	0	0

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 4 for year 2025: Targets on vaccination for breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	280
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	280
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	36400000
Number of doses expected to be administered	10920000

Table 4 for year 2026: Targets on vaccination for breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	280
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	280
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	36400000
Number of doses expected to be administered	10920000

Table 4 for year 2027: Targets on vaccination for breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	**280**
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	**280**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**3640000**
Number of doses expected to be administered	**10920000**

III. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme)

(TRACEABILITY, DISEASE NOTIFICATION AND MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THE DISEASE)

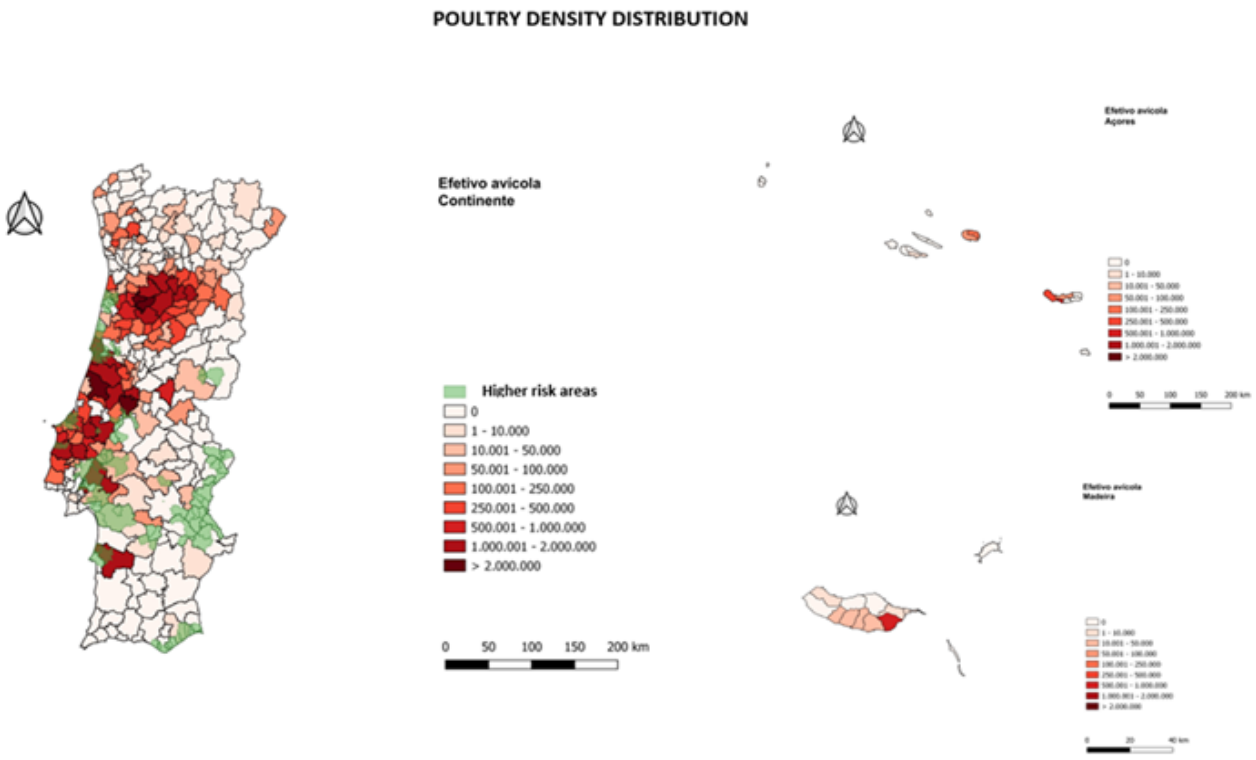
EU countries

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003R2160-20210421&qid=1652941252241
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 of 10 March 2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of Salmonella serotypes in adult breeding flocks of Gallus gallus https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02010R0200-20190310&qid=1652941483997
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32006R1177&qid=1652941414224

- Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0099-20130701&qid=1652941345135

- Decree-Law nº164/2015 of 15 August 2015 for implementation of SCP in Poultry

IV. Maps (as relevant)



Single Market Programme (SMP Food)

EU co-funded Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme for years 2025-2027

EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HADEA)
Department A Health and Food Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

SUBMISSION FORM: DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION
(Annex 1 – Description of the action (part B))

Zoonotic *Salmonella* Programme
Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in Laying flocks of *Gallus gallus 2025-2027*

Countries seeking an EU financial contribution for the implementation of national programmes for eradication, control and/or surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit this Form (*Annex 1 - Description of the action (part B)*) **completely filled in**, **by the 31 May** of the year preceding its implementation (*Part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).*

Applicant shall provide information on each question contained in the Form. The information filled in the Form, shall be clear, concise, consistent and complete.

For questions on the information requested in this Form, please contact: HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu

For more information or questions on the eGRANTS Portal Submission System, please access the EU Funding & Tenders Portal or contact the IT Helpdesk

APPLICANT (Name of EU / non-EU country)	
Disease	**ZOONOTIC SALMONELLA**
Animal population/Species	**Laying flocks *Gallus gallus***
Implementation Year	**2025-2027**

CONTACT PERSON on Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme:

Name	Ana Caria Nunes
e-mail	ana.nunes@dgav.pt
Job type within the CA	Head of Animal Health Division

Salmonella in Laying flocks *Gallus gallus*
Programme – 2025-2027

1.RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives (*in relation to the Call*)

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:
- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
- Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in laying hens of *Gallus gallus*
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 200 words)

1.2 Needs and specific objectives

The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the prevalence of *Salmonella enteritidis* (SE) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (ST) (including the serotypes
with the antigenic formula l,4,[5],12:i:-) in adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* ('Union target') as follows:

☐ An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 10% where the prevalence in the preceding year was less than 10%

☐ An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 20% where the prevalence in the preceding year was more than or equal to 10% and less than 20%

☒ A reduction of the maximum percentage equal to 2% or less of positive flocks of adult laying hens

☐ The Member States has less than 50 flocks of adult laying hens: the target is to have not more than one adult flock remaining positive.

The Union target shall be achieved every year based on the monitoring of the previous year.

There are more than 50 flocks of adult laying hens in Portugal.

1.3 Complementarity with other actions — European added value

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field. *Illustrate the European dimension of the activities: trans-national dimension of the project; impact/interest for a number of EU countries; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation among EU countries, EU and non-EU countries, etc.* *Which countries will benefit from the project (directly and indirectly)?*
This programme contributes to the maintenance of a high level of food through early detection of Salmonella in poultry and the enforcement of subsequent control measures. The high frequency of testing and the excellent results obtained in the program in the years of implementation, allowed Portugal to be a safe exporting country. Our consistent negative results ensure therefore greater protection of Public Health not only in our country, but also in all trading partners. ***(maximum 500 words)***

1.4 Target population and Area of the implementation

The programme covers all flocks of adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* but does not apply to flocks for private domestic use or leading to the direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities of table eggs to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the eggs to the final consumer. For the latter case (direct supply), national rules are adopted ensuring *Salmonella* control in these flocks. The programme covers also all rearing flocks of future laying hens.
Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, please explain on which flocks: ***(maximum 500 words)***
Fill in **Table 1**) **in the Annex** to this Form.
This programme will be implemented on the whole territory of the Member State
Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, please explain:

The program will be implemented on the whole territory of Portugal: Continent and the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and Azores (maps attached). The Competent Authority (CA) is the official veterinary services - DGAV (General Directorate of Food and Veterinary).

(maximum 500 words)

1.5 Notification of detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.

Yes ☒ No ☐

The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services of DGAV.

Procedure manuals with illustrations, explain sampling times, frequency, type and quantity of samples to be collected as well as the correct way of packaging prior to sending to the laboratory, are available in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Manual-GP-2016-portal.pdf
When sent to the laboratory, samples must be accompanied by uniform request sheets, specifically designed for this purpose.
https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Requisicao-GP-AC-PNCS-.pdf

All the authorized laboratories performing detection test, are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates.

The list of authorized laboratories can be found in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
- Check fill request form
- Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
- Enter the data information on spreadsheets tables
- Transmit information to regional services **immediately** in case of positive results for Salmonella, monthly in negative cases.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the laboratory immediately notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. Restrictive measures are imposed to the flock. The result of serotyping is sent by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

The obligations of each participant in the program, as well as the sanctions to be applied for non-compliance are described in Decree-Law No. 164/2015 of August 17(Links) . *(maximum 500 words)*
Describe the epidemiological disease situation background i.e. describe key obstacles and constraints hampering the control of Salmonella cases. The NSCP in laying hens flocks was approved, for the first time, for 2008 (Commission decision n° 2007/782/EC of 30November). The results obtained by the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex A. It has been possible to maintain a low level of infection in laying hens flocks which are fundamental in the control of the disease. During the program implementation period, it was possible to observe a decrease in the number of positive flocks to the target serovars, with some expected variations. Since 2017 we have always achieved the Union target.
Fill in **Table 4** (as appropriate) **in the Annex** to this Form.

1.6. Epidemiological situation background

Describe the epidemiological disease situation background i.e. describe key obstacles and constraints hampering the control of *Salmonella* cases.
The results obtained by the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex IV. It has been possible to maintain a low level of infection in laying hens flocks which are fundamental in the control of the disease.

2. QUALITY

2.1 Concept and methodology (Programme activities/measures)

The programme activities/measures shall be clear, suitable to address the needs and to achieve desired outcomes/ impact. They have to be adapted to the *Salmonella* in Breeding *Gallus gallus* situation/risk and feasible in terms of the capacities for their implementation.

As mentioned in section 1.1. the MS attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval. This includes:

- that the appropriate measures are taken with regards to biosecurity, collection, transportation and storage of samples, and EU microbiological criteria in fresh poultry meat in birds from flocks infected with *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium.*

- if birds from flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered, the necessary measures are implemented by the FBO and the CA to ensure that fresh poultry meat meet the relevant EU microbiological criteria (row 1.28 of Chapter 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005): absence of SE/ST in 5 samples of 25g.

-laboratory accreditation, analytical methods used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars, antimicrobial controls and transportation of and storage of samples tasks are all performed according to the respective current EU legislation [accreditation requirement according to Art 37(4) of EU Regulation 2017/625].

Yes ☒ No ☐

Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17) FBO have to implement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks (see 2.3.1).

Laboratories in which samples (official and FBO samples) collected within this programme are analysed are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for *Salmonella* detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used.

Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010. Samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling. If time limits are exceeded a new collection sample is made.

Flocks infected with SE or ST can only be transported to the slaughterhouse with authorization of the DSAVR . The Official Veterinary (OV) of the slaughterhouse chosen is informed in advance by both, the regional services and the FBO responsible for the slaughterhouse.

The Food Chain Information (FCI) that acompasses the animals has to mention the result of the Salmonella testing.

The OV informs the FBO of the procedures that have to be adopted during the slaughter of the positive flock.

The FBO of the slaughterhouse has to comply with all the procedures imposed by the OV. This means that the infected flock has to be slaughtered after all the negative flocks to avoid cross contamination and that the speed line may have to be lowered to permit the careful evisceration and the watchful Post Mortem Inspection (PMI) of the animals.

The carcasses and offals with pathology compatible with infection caused by Salmonella will be subject to total condemnation, according to the OV criteria.

The positive flocks shall have priority for the purpose of sampling for the hygiene criteria analysis and the OV confirms that the FBO gives priority to the positive flock when sampling for hygiene criteria.

The OV introduces all the relevant information regarding this slaughter in the national database system.

Slaughterhouse operators are required to comply with the sampling provided for in Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 of the Commission of 15 November 2005, for application of the relevant microbiological criteria. Failure to comply is punishable under Article 24 of Decree-Law 164/2015 of August 17 and Article 6, paragraph a) of Decree-Law 113/2006 of 12 June.

If the results of this sampling are positive for Salmonella SE or ST, the FBO has to:

- withdraw the product that is already at retail level;
- process the product in order to eliminate the danger - if the product is a stage prior to retail.

The OV supervises the corrective measures implemented by the FBO.

In the holding, after the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After disinfection, environmental samples are collected by FBO following the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR.

(maximum 200 words)

2.1.1 Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators (FBO)

Samples at the initiative of the FBO must be taken and analysed to test for the target *Salmonella* serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements:

a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, four-week-old birds, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
b. Adults breeding flocks: every 15 weeks during the laying period

Yes ☒ No ☐

if no, please explain - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples, and, if additional FBO sampling, going beyond the minimum sampling requirements, is performed, please describe what is done

The FBO has the responsibility of own-check sampling under the SCP.

However, he may delegate sampling in the veterinarian responsible or technicians who perform other tasks on the farm (farm staff). The FBO has the responsibility of own-check sampling under the SCP.

The frequency and method of sampling by the FBO are explained in the procedures manual available on the DGAV website https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Manual-GP-2016-portal.pdf

2.1.2 Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.D of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant.

In particular:

- due to the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-) in the flock, eggs cannot be used for human consumption unless heat treated;

- eggs from these flocks shall be marked and considered as class B eggs

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain. *Indicate also if prompt depopulation of the infected flocks is compulsory*

As soon as there is a positive detection result, measures are immediately implemented in order to restrict the movements of birds and eggs of the flock. If the flock is positive to any of the targeted serotypes in the program, the FBO may choose to keep the birds and send the eggs to egg products or to carry out the depopulation of the flock.

In the case of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis and/or Salmonella Typhimurium additional biosecurity measures are implemented, sanitary restriction of the flock and sanitary surveillance of the holding are imposed.

Destination of birds

In the presence of clinical signs, the slaughter of the flock will be carried out in an approved slaughterhouse and after the authorization of DSAVR, with elimination of birds as by-products in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October laying down the sanitary rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption.

In the absence of clinical signs, the slaughter of the flock will be carried out in an approved slaughterhouse and after the authorization of DSAVR.

As sanitary inspection criteria, the birds of the flock can be:
• Approved for human consumption: the approved products derived from such birds may be placed on the market for human consumption in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene.
• Disapproval and elimination as by-products in accordance with Regulation (EC) no 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October.

Destination of eggs

All the eggs from positive flocks must be, at option of the FBO:
• eliminated as by-products or
• forwarded to egg product units to be heat treated

2.2 Programme participants (stakeholders)

Cooperation and division of roles and responsibilities

Indicate participants (stakeholders such as competent authorities, testing laboratories, authorised private veterinarians, other stakeholders as relevant) involved in the planning and implementation of the programme; what are their roles and responsibilities; who reports to whom; what are the reporting arrangements.

Indicate who is overall responsible for the programme and how the overall responsible coordinates with other stakeholders; how effective communication will be ensured.

Structure and organization of the Competent Authorities (from the central CA to the local CAs)

Please provide a short description and reference to a document presenting this description- Anexar DL 164
The role and responsibility of each participant in the program is described in the Decree-Law nº 164/2015, August 17 (https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/decreto-lei/164-2015-70025056) The sample colletion is either made by CA and FBO. General Directorate of Food and Veterinary (DGAV), namely its Epidemiology and Animal Health Unit, is the authority at central level that is responsible for the preparation, coordination and monitoring of the program. REGIONAL COORDINATION There are five Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorates (DSAVR) and two Autonomous Regions that are local veterinary authority, control the execution of the measures of the program in their region, and also execute some of the programme actions, such as the issue of movement restriction and the sampling. The Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorate and two Autonomous Regions are identified by the following acronyms: DSAVRN: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Norte DSAVRC: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Centro DSAVRLVT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Lisboa e Vale do Tejo DSAVRALT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Alentejo DSAVRALG: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Algarve RAA: Autonomous Region of Açores RAM: Autonomous Region of Madeira The structure of veterinary service can be seen at: https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/DGAV-Organizational-Chart.pdf Detection tests of samples collected by the FBO are only valid if carried out in one of the laboratories authorized by the DGAV. All the laboratories are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates. All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used. The list of accredited laboratories is presented in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf All serotypifications, both for the own checks and for the official control, are carried out at the NRL. Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme. The information circuit is described in point 1.5.

2.3 Management; controls and verifications, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the activities planned to ensure that the implementation of the programme activities is of high quality and completed in time (according to the plan/timeline). Explain planned controls and verifications, and monitoring of achievement of targets (activity indicators) - please describe for different programme activities. Describe the evaluation of the progress indicators (quantitative and qualitative); the outreach of the expected results/outcome (include unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress (progress indicators) should be relevant, realistic, and measurable.

2.3.1 Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery levels

a) Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.
Hygiene and biosecurity measures are regularly checked in the holdings under several official controls carried out, in particular for the attribution of the number of approval for intra-Community trade in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC, when there are positive results of the targeted serotypes in SCP, in case of positive results for Salmonella detected at slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005) and under animal welfare controls. The checklist for verifying hygiene and biosecurity measures is in Annex VII. Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17)- Anexo V) Biosecurity measures to be implemented are explained in the Procedures Manual for poultry on DGAV website in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Web_Manual-de-Biosseguranca_Avicultura.pdf To prevent the introduction of Salmonella in the holding the minimum biosecurity measures are (summary): • Fencing of farm perimeter to prevent the entry of domestic and wild animals, people and non-essential vehicles. • Reserved access only to the indispensable personnel and vehicles (transport of animals and food). These vehicles must be previously disinfected. • Contact with birds from other farms or other animals should be avoided by owners and handlers. • Full protective clothing, for exclusive use in the holding, should be wear.

- Integrity of protection devices against wild animals (windows networks, fan grills, etc) should be in place and monitored regularly.
- Supply of food and water in outdoor parks is prohibited.
- Food and bed materials should be stored in separate spaces, indoors and protected from wild birds and rodents.
- The collection of dead birds should be done twice a day with correct methods of transport and disposal
- Disinfection between production cycles of all places, equipment, utensils and transport vehicles should be carried out.
- Drinking water should be treated and in the case of this being carried out at the holding, periodic analysis of water and a register should be maintained.

The verification of biosecurity measures by the CA is done:
• as part of the registration process,
• for granting approval for intra-EU trade in accordance with COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2035 of 28 June 2019,
• when there are positive results of the target Salmonella serovars,
• in case of positive Salmonella test results detected in the slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2073/2005) and,
• under animal welfare controls.

In case of unsatisfactory outcome in Biosecurity measures the CA notifies the FBO to rectify the non-compliance detected.
Non compliances in biosecurity measures on farms are subjected to sanctions in accordance with Decree-Law nº 164/2015 August 17.

b) Routine official **sampling scheme:** EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:

■ in one flock per year per holding comprising at least 1,000 birds;
■ at the age of 24 +/- 2 weeks in laying flocks housed in buildings where the relevant *Salmonella* was detected in the preceding flock;
■ in any case of suspicion of *Salmonella* infection when investigating foodborne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC or any cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate, using the sampling protocol laid down in point 4(b) of Part D to Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;
■ in all other laying flocks on the holding in case Salmonella Enteritidis or *Salmonella* t*yphimurium* is detected in one laying flock on the holding;
■ in cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain. Indicate also: 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples

Following positive results for one of the targeted serotypes, official controls are carried out on all flocks on the farm in accordance with what is described in point 2.1.d of annex to Reg. (EC) No 517/2011)
Additional official sampling is done in case of suspected positivity, positive results in slaughterhouse and when there are positive results in the holding.

c) EU conditions for confirmatory testing are complied with and confirmatory testing is not applied routinely

Yes ☒ No ☐

For the purposes of acceptance of the confirmatory sampling, DSAVR must acess, on the holding:
• the history of compliance of the own-checks,
• the history of positivity and
• the biosecurity measures.

Through this evaluation confirmatory sampling will only be accepted when the flock of layers is not at the origin of noticed infection for humans by the consumption of eggs or egg products and in holdings which:
• Under the national control program fully comply with the sampling of own-checks in all flocks and;
• Have no positivity repetition on the same premises in the case of the same flock or the immediately preceding flock and,
• Have a positive assessment on the application of biosecurity measures or
* When the CA has reasons to suspect the occurrence of false positives.

These analyses are carried out, in accordance with the decision of the FBO, in a laboratory authorised by the CA for this purpose.
The entire procedure is monitored in person by a representative of the CA. The laboratory carrying out the detection tests will simultaneously carry out a preliminary search for the presence of antimicrobials.

Under the SNCP confirmatory sampling it may be requested by the FBO (or initiated by the CA) within 72 hours of notification of an initial positive result.

After this initial positive result for Salmonella, the flock is submitted to sanitary restrictive measures and cannot commercialize any eggs or animals. The restrictive measures are only lifted if a final negative result from the confirmatory sampling is obtained.

For the purposes of acceptance of the confirmatory sampling, DSAVR must assess, on the holding:
• the history of compliance of the own-checks,
• the history of positivity and
• the biosecurity measures.

Through this evaluation confirmatory sampling will only be accepted in holdings which:
• Under the national control program fully comply with the sampling of own-checks in all flocks and;

• Have no positivity repetition on the same premises in the case of the same flock or the immediately preceding flock and,
• Have a positive assessment on the application of biosecurity measures.
• When the CA has reasons to suspect the occurrence of false positives.

All the analyses carried out in confirmatory tests are always performed according to Protocol defined in annex II.D of Regulation 2160/2003. Samples are always taken by CA (DSAVR) and analyzed separately.
The samples and consists in:

- five pairs of boot swabs or 5 faeces samples, two samples of 250 ml powder containing at least 100 gr of powder and at least 2 birds for antimicrobial detection or
- 300 birds or
- 4000 eggs.

These analyses are carried out, in accordance with the decision of the FBO, in a laboratory authorised by the CA for this purpose.
The entire procedure is monitored in person by a representative of the CA. The laboratory carrying out the detection tests will simultaneously carry out a preliminary search for the presence of antimicrobials.

All restrictive measures are prolonged until the results of the confirmatory sampling become available.

d) Number of official confirmatory samples

1	2	3	4
For routine samples taken at the holding	N of flocks positive to SE/ST	Out of the flock in column 2, N of cases where official confirmatory samples[3] were taken	Out of the N of cases in column 3, N of cases where confirmatory samples were negative
FBO samples[1]	2	2	1
Official samples[2]	10	7	4

(1) Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.1 of the Annex
(2) Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.2 of the Annex
(3) Reg 2160/2003, point II.D.4 of the Annex

What happened to the flocks counted under 4 (re checked for the presence of Salmonella? Checked for the presence of antimicrobials?

As part of contesting process, all flocks are tested for the presence of antimicrobials. If confirmatory samples are negative the flock will be rechecked for the presence of Salmonella as stated in the programme

2.3.2 Vaccination

☒ Voluntary
☐ Compulsory
☐ Forbidden

The use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please explain. If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc).

Vaccination is optional under the programme during the rearing phase and before the beginning of the laying phase, requiring the use of authorized vaccines. The list of authorized vaccines is at DGAV web portal. The choice of vaccine and the vaccination scheme is under the responsibility of the assistant veterinarian and is verified by CA during official controls. Although not routinely compulsory most flocks are vaccinated. The cost of vaccination is supported by the FBO.
Almost 99% of the flocks are vaccinated against Salmonella.

Under the programme, only the vaccination of restocking flocks is mandatory, after the slaughter of positive flocks to any of the serotypes included. However this vaccination is also supported by the producer.

Information on vaccine used is compulsory in the laboratory tests request form both for own checks and for official controls. In the case of own checks, this information is therefore provided to the detection laboratories that in case of positive results informs tthe NRL.
The types of vaccine approved and in use are inactivated and live vaccines. In the case of live vaccines, those approved are the ones that allowed the differentiation of field and vaccination strains. This differentiation as well as serotyping is carried out only by INIAV (NRL).

2.3.3 Efficacy of disinfection

Please describe the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (number of samples, number of tests, samples taken, etc...)

After the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After clean, disinfection is carried out and followed by environmental samples collection by FBO under the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR.

After the depopulation of a positive flock and after cleaning and disinfection actions, the FBO is required to carry out environmental tests prior to repopulation

These tests must be carried out in accordance with the respective procedures manual available on the DGAV website https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Anexo-6-Procedimentos-colheita-amostras-ambientais-1.pdf

To assess the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection actions, at least 10

samples at various points in the poultry house must be taken.

It is recommended that samples be taken in the following locations:

• Floor, walls and ceiling,

• Doors,

• Windows/Fans (ventilation systems),

• Lighting devices,

• Cages,

• Water supply pipes,

• Food supply pipelines,

• Egg transport belts,

• Stool mats,

• Disinfection antechamber of each pavilion,

• Other places susceptible to dust accumulation.

Repopulation must be authorized by local veterinary services and is only carried out upon presentation of negative results for the targeted serotypes.

2.3.4 Monitoring of the target Salmonella serovars (*Salmonella enteritidis, Salmonella typhimurium*)

Give a short summary of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain)
In the baseline study conducted in 2004-2005 under paragraph 1 of article 1 of Decision 2004/665/EC the level of prevalence of Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis in the national holdings of laying hens sampled was 47,7%. The NSCP in laying hens flocks was approved, for the first time, for 2008 (Commission decision n° 2007/782/EC of 30November). The results obtained from 2008 to 2023, resulting from the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex A.

2.3.5 System for **compensation to owners** for the value of their birds slaughtered or culled and the eggs destroyed or heat treated

Describe the system for compensation to owners. Indicate how improper implementation of biosecurity measures can affect the payment of compensation
There is no compensation following positive results to the target serotypes under this program.

2.3.6 System to monitor the implementation of the programme

Please describe
The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services. For the circuit of information established and summarized in flowcharts, several models of documents and procedures were created: • Uniform request forms for analyses • Standard submission forms (Excel) • List of authorized laboratories • Conditions of acceptance of samples by laboratories • Procedure manuals for the sample collection For the results to be valid within the PNCS, the FBO must: • Perform the sampling according to the procedures stipulated • Fill all fields of the requisition form for analysis and • Deliver samples in authorized laboratories Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories: • Check fill request form • Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance • Enter the data information on the spreadsheets tables • Transmit information to regional services The request forms and the spreadsheets tables contain data on FBOs' own-check and official sampling, including identification of holdings and flocks, vaccination status of flocks, age of sampled birds and results of detection tests for Salmonella. The data and results are supplied by the designated testing laboratories to the DSAVR. This information is transmitted, on a monthly basis by the DSAVRs to the central level DSPA, using the uniform spreadsheets. These data are analysed centrally and discussed during meetings of a specialized working group for SNCP, held on average 1-2 times per year. In these meetings are presented and discussed the data for: * Existing flocks numbers * Number of flocks sampled (own-checks and official control) * Non-compliance detected

* Implementation percentages and
* Percentage of positivity.

The implementation of FBOs' own-check sampling and the information about the controls made to the rearing flock is verified by the CA during official controls which includes official sampling. A specific form is used to document these controls.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the laboratory immediately notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. The result of serotyping is send by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

2.4 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy

Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of the programme, and mitigation measures/strategy for addressing them.

Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures.

Note: *Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organizations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.*

Risk No	Description	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
1	Deadlines for contracting laboratory services – public procurement	Timely launch of contractual procedures to start analytics
2	No control by FBO	Penalty for the producer
3	Non-compliance by the laboratory with the analysis times	New sample collection

2.5 Milestones

Indicate control points along the programme implementation that help to chart progress.

Note: Deliverables (*e.g. intermediate or final report on the implementation of programme measures*) are not milestones.

Name	Due date (in month)	Means of verification

Verification of sampling events	monthly	Collection and analysis of laboratory results

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Describe **expected impact** (benefit) of the programme (e.g. from the economical and animal health points of view) Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them? Define the short, medium and long-term effects of the project. ***Possible examples:*** *reduction to 1% or less the maximum percentage of laying flocks of Gallus gallus remaining positive for the target Salmonella serovars: S. enteritidis (SE), S. typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), S. hadar (SH), S. infantis (SI) and S. virchow (SV).*
This program will make possible the accomplishment of the Union targets: - Reduction to 2% or less than the maximum percentage of adult laying hens flocks of Gallus gallus remaining positive for the target Salmonella serovars: S. enteritidis (SE), S. typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-). The evaluation of cost / benefit must take into account several factors including the cost of disease corresponding to direct losses to production (cost of morbidity and cost of decreased production) and indirect losses (eg barriers to free trade). The benefits resulting from the reduction of salmonellosis in poultry is also associated with a lower likelihood of infection of consumers via their products and with the associated socio-economic benefits.

3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding Describe the communication and information dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.
The results of the programs are disseminated in several meetings with the poultry production sector, in DGAV meetings and in forums related to poultry farming.

Coordination meetings are held to present the programme to local veterinary services which are responsible for sampling as well as to discuss the progress of the implementation of the programme.

Information about this programme is publicly available at DGAV web portal. There is a *Salmonella* dedicated page in this portal containing information about:

a) Disease detection, diagnosis, and notification of suspicions.
b) Epidemiological situation of avian Salmonelosis in Portugal,
c) Information for poultry keepers regarding biosecurity and other relevant issues (compensations, movement restrictions and derogations).

Regular awareness sessions about Salmonella for poultry industry stakeholders, including epidemiological situation, prevention, and biosecurity as well as activities within the scope of the surveillance programme, are held either online or physically.

3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation Describe the how will the project impact be ensured and sustained long term? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained, and which resources will be necessary to continue? Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the results of the implementation of this project?
An efficient surveillance programme is essential for early detection and timely implementation of control measures. Prevention and control rely on appropriate biosecurity measures, surveillance, and rapid action. Surveillance is the key for controlling this zoonosis. Official controls have to be maintained to ensure correct implementation by the FBO namely to verify farm biosecurity measures

ANNEX

V. Baseline population data
VI. Targets for 2025-2027
VII. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme
VIII. Maps (as relevant)

V. Baseline population data

Table 1 for year 2025: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of layers in the MS	Number of flocks covered by the programme	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	**235**		235	0
Adult flocks	**510**	510	510	150
Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens				150
Number of flocks in these holdings				495
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

Table 1 for year 2026: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of layers in the MS	Number of flocks covered by the programme	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	**235**		235	0
Adult flocks	**510**	510	510	150

Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens	150
Number of flocks in these holdings	495
Comments:	

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

Table 1 for year 2027: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of layers in the MS	Number of flocks covered by the programme	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	**235**		235	0
Adult flocks	**510**	510	510	150
Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens				150
Number of flocks in these holdings				495
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

VI. Targets for 2025-2027

Table 2 for year 2025: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**465**

Serotyping	**70**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**8**

Table 2 for year 2026: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**465**
Serotyping	**65**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**7**

Table 2 for year 2027: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**465**

Serotyping	**60**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**6**

Table 3 for year 2025: Targets on official samples from laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	235	510
N of flocks in the programme	235	510
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	150
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	155
N of official samples taken	0	465
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	0	8
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated	0	8
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled	0	130000
Total N of eggs to be destroyed	0	2000
Total N of eggs to be heat treated	0	9000000

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2026: Targets on official samples from laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	235	510
N of flocks in the programme	235	510
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	155

No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**155**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**465**
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**7**
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated	**0**	**7**
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled	**0**	**114000**
Total N of eggs to be destroyed	**0**	**1500**
Total N of eggs to be heat treated	**0**	**7900000**

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2027: Targets on official samples from laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	**Rearing flocks**	**Adult flocks**
Total N of flocks (a)	**235**	**510**
N of flocks in the programme	**235**	**510**
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	**0**	**155**
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**155**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**465**
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:

Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**6**
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated	**0**	**6**
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled	**0**	**98000**
Total N of eggs to be destroyed	**0**	**1000**
Total N of eggs to be heat treated	**0**	**6800000**

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 4 for year 2025: Targets on vaccination for laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	**235**
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	**235**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**8 000 000**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**24 000 000**

Table 4 for year 2026: Targets on vaccination for laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	**235**
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	**235**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**8 000 000**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**24 000 000**

Table 4 for year 2027: Targets on vaccination for laying hens flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	**235**
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	**235**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**8 000 000**
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	**24 000 000**

VII. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme)

(TRACEABILITY, DISEASE NOTIFICATION AND MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THE DISEASE)

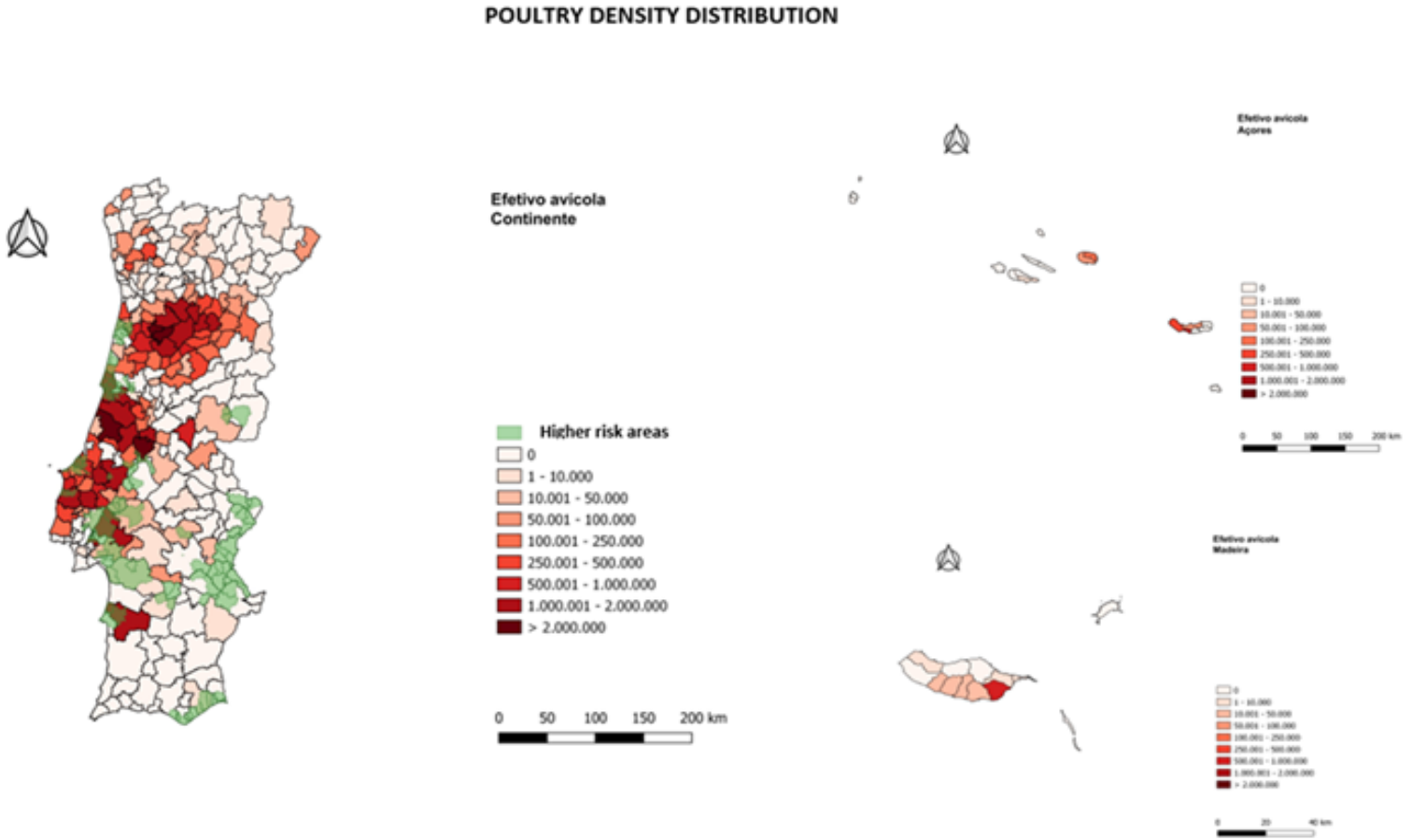
EU countries

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003R2160-20210421&qid=1652941252241
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 of 25 May 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain Salmonella serotypes in laying hens of Gallus gallus and amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02011R0517-20190310&qid=1652941558459
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32006R1177&qid=1652941414224

- Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0099-20130701&qid=1652941345135

- Decree-Law nº164/2015 of 15 August 2015 for implementation of SCP in Poultry

VIII. Maps (as relevant)



Single Market Programme (SMP Food)

EU co-funded Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme for years 2025-2027

EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HADEA)
Department A Health and Food Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

SUBMISSION FORM: DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION
(Annex 1 – Description of the action (part B))

Zoonotic *Salmonella* Programme
Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in Broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus 2025-2027*

Countries seeking an EU financial contribution for the implementation of national programmes for eradication, control and/or surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit this Form (*Annex 1 - Description of the action (part B)*) **completely filled in**, **by the 31 May** of the year preceding its implementation (*Part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).*

Applicant shall provide information on each question contained in the Form. The information filled in the Form, shall be clear, concise, consistent and complete.

For questions on the information requested in this Form, please contact: HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu

For more information or questions on the eGRANTS Portal Submission System, please access the EU Funding & Tenders Portal or contact the IT Helpdesk

APPLICANT (Name of EU / non-EU country)	
Disease	**ZOONOTIC SALMONELLA**
Animal population/Species	**Broiler flocks *Gallus gallus***
Implementation Year	**2025-2027**

CONTACT PERSON on Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme:

Name	Ana Caria Nunes
e-mail	ana.nunes@dgav.pt
Job type within the CA	Head of Animal Health Division

Salmonella in Broiler flocks *Gallus gallus*
Programme for years– 2025-2027

1.RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives (*in relation to the Call*)

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:
- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
- Regulation (EU) No 200/2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* in flocks of broilers
broilers- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 200 words)

1.2 Needs and specific objectives

The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the maximum annual percentage of flocks of *broilers* remaining positive to *Salmonella enteritidis* (SE) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (ST) (including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-)('Union target') to 1% or less.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 500 words)

1.3 Complementarity with other actions — European added value

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field.

Illustrate the European dimension of the activities: trans-national dimension of the project; impact/interest for a number of EU countries; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation among EU countries, EU and non-EU countries, etc.

Which countries will benefit from the project (directly and indirectly)?

This programme contributes to the maintenance of a high level of health and safety of humans through early detection of Salmonella in birds and enforcing subsequent control measures.

The high frequency of testing and the excellent results obtained in the program in the years of implementation, allow Portugal to be a safe exporting country.

Our consistent negative results ensure greater safety and therefore greater protection of Public Health not only in our country, which is a very popular tourist destination, but also in all destination countries.

(maximum 500 words)

1.4 Target population and Area of the implementation

This programme will be implemented on all broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain on which flocks:

(maximum 500 words)

Fill in **Table 1**) **in the Annex** to this Form.

This programme will be implemented on the whole territory of the Member State

Yes ☒ No ☐

The program will be implemented in the whole territory of Portugal: Continent and the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and Azores (maps attached). The Competent Authority (CA) is the official veterinary services - DGAV (General Directorate of Food and Veterinary).

(maximum 500 words)

1.5 Notification of detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority (CA) by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.

Yes ☒ No ☐

The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services of DGAV.

Procedure manuals with illustrations, explain sampling times, frequency, type and quantity of samples to be collected as well as the correct way of packaging prior to sending to the laboratory, are available in
https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/PNCS_frangos.pdf

When sent to the laboratory, samples must be accompanied by uniform request sheets, specifically designed for this purpose. https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/FR-PNCS-Fr-_2016.pdf

All the authorized laboratories performing detection test, are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates.

The list of accredited laboratories can be found in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
• Check fill request form
• Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
• Enter the data information on spreadsheets tables
• Transmit information to regional services **immediately** in case of positive results for Salmonella, monthly in negative cases.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the laboratory immediately notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. Restrictive measures are imposed to the flock. The result of serotyping is sent by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

The obligations of each participant in the program, as well as the sanctions to be applied for non-compliance are described in Decree-Law No. 164/2015 of August 17.

(maximum 500 words)

1.6 Epidemiological situation background

Describe the epidemiological disease situation background i.e. describe key obstacles and constraints hampering the control of *Salmonella* cases.
In the baseline study conducted under paragraph 1 of article 1 of Decision 2005/636/EC it was observed that the level of prevalence of Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis in the national holdings of broilers sampled was 39,3%. The NSCP in broiler flocks was approved, for the first time, for 2009 (Commission decision n° 2008/897/EC of 28 November). The results obtained from 2009 to 2023 resulting from the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex A During the program implementation period, it was possible to observe a decrease in the number of positive flocks to the target serovars, with some expected variations. In 14 years, we have always achieved the Union target.

2. QUALITY

2.1 Concept and methodology (Programme activities/measures)

The programme activities/measures shall be clear, suitable to address the needs and to achieve desired outcomes/ impact. They have to be adapted to the *Salmonella* in Breeding *Gallus gallus* situation/risk and feasible in terms of the capacities for their implementation.

As mentioned in section 1.1. the MS attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval. This includes: - that the appropriate measures are taken with regards to biosecurity, collection, transportation and storage of samples, and EU microbiological criteria in fresh poultry meat in birds from flocks infected with *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium.* -laboratory accreditation, analytical methods used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars, antimicrobial controls and transportation of and storage of samples tasks are all performed according to the respective current EU legislation [accreditation requirement according to Art 37(4) of EU Regulation 2017/625].

Yes ☒ No ☐

Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17) FBO have to implement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks (see 2.3.1).

Laboratories in which samples (official and FBO samples) collected within this programme are analysed are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for *Salmonella* detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used.

Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010. Samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling. If time limits are exceeded a new collection sample is made.

Flocks infected with SE or ST can only be transported to the slaughterhouse with authorization of the DSAVR . The Official Veterinary (OV) of the slaughterhouse chosen is informed in advance by both, the regional services and the FBO responsible for the slaughterhouse.

The Food Chain Information (FCI) that acompasses the animals has to mention the result of the Salmonella testing.

The OV informs the FBO of the procedures that have to be adopted during the slaughter of the positive flock.

The FBO of the slaughterhouse has to comply with all the procedures imposed by the OV. This means that the infected flock has to be slaughtered after all the negative flocks to avoid cross contamination and that the speed line may have to be lowered to permit the careful evisceration and the watchful Post Mortem Inspection (PMI) of the animals.

The carcasses and offals with pathology compatible with infection caused by Salmonella will be subject to total condemnation, according to the OV criteria.

The positive flocks shall have priority for the purpose of sampling for the hygiene criteria analysis and the OV confirms that the FBO gives priority to the positive flock when sampling for hygiene criteria.

The OV introduces all the relevant information regarding this slaughter in the national database system.

Slaughterhouse operators are required to comply with the sampling provided for in Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 of the Commission of 15 November 2005, for application of the relevant microbiological criteria. Failure to comply is punishable under Article 24 of Decree-Law 164/2015 of August 17 and Article 6, paragraph a) of Decree-Law 113/2006 of 12 June.

If the results of this sampling are positive for Salmonella SE or ST, the FBO has to:

- withdraw the product that is already at retail level;
- process the product in order to eliminate the danger - if the product is a stage prior to retail.

The OV supervises the corrective measures implemented by the FBO.

In the holding, after the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After disinfection, environmental samples are collected by FBO following the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR.

(maximum 200 words)

2.1.1 Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators

Samples at the initiative of the FBO must be taken and analysed to test for the target *Salmonella* serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements:

All flocks of broilers within three weeks before slaughter

Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, please explain. Indicate also who takes the FBO samples.

DGAV authorize sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the broilers are either kept more than 81 days or fall under organic broiler production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

This derrogation is applied to 217 holdings and about 1150 flocks.

The FBO has the responsibility of own-check sampling under the SCP.

However, he may delegate sampling in the veterinarian responsible or technicians who perform other tasks on the farm (farm staff).

The CA accepts to derogate from this sampling rule and instead of this the FBOs shall sample at least one flock of broilers per round on holdings with more than one flock where:
(i) an all in / all out system is used in all flocks of the holding;
(ii) the same management applies to all flocks;
(iii) feed and water supply is common to all flocks;
(iv) during at least the last six rounds, tests for *Salmonella* spp. according to the sampling scheme set out in the first subparagraph in all flocks on the holding and samples of all flocks of at least one round were carried out by the competent authority;
(v) all results from the testing according to the first subparagraph and point (b) for SE or ST were negative.

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, please indicate how many holdings and flocks are concerned

Insert text

The CA accepts to derogate from the general sampling rule and authorises FBO sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the broilers are either kept more than 81 days or fall under organic broiler production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. **Yes ☒ No ☐** If yes, please indicate how many holdings and flocks are concerned.
DGAV authorize sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the broilers are either kept more than 81 days or fall under organic broiler production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008. This derrogation is applied to 217 holdings and about 1150 flocks.

2.2 Programme participants (stakeholders)

Cooperation and division of roles and responsibilities Indicate participants (stakeholders such as competent authorities, testing laboratories, authorised private veterinarians, other stakeholders as relevant) involved in the planning and implementation of the programme; what are their roles and responsibilities; who reports to whom; what are the reporting arrangements. Indicate who is overall responsible for the programme and how the overall responsible coordinates with other stakeholders; how effective communication will be ensured. Structure and organization of the Competent Authorities (from the central CA to the local CAs) Please provide a short description and reference to a document presenting this description. Please insert the functioning url if applicable.
The role and responsibility of each participant in the program is described in the Decree-Law nº 164/2015, August 17 . The sample colletion is either made by CA and FBO. General Directorate of Food and Veterinary (DGAV), namely its Epidemiology and Animal Health Unit, is the authority at central level that is responsible for the preparation, coordination and monitoring of the program. REGIONAL COORDINATION There are five Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorates (DSAVR) and two Autonomous Regions that are local veterinary authority, control the execution of the measures of the program in their region, and also execute some of the programme actions, such as the issue of movement restriction and the sampling.

The Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorate and two Autonomous Regions are identified by the following acronyms:

DSAVRN: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Norte
DSAVRC: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Centro
DSAVRLVT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Lisboa e Vale do Tejo
DSAVRALT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Alentejo
DSAVRALG: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Algarve
RAA: Autonomous Region of Açores
RAM: Autonomous Region of Madeira

The structure of veterinary service can be seen at:
https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/DGAV-Organizational-Chart.pdf

Detection tests of samples collected by the FBO are only valid if carried out in one of the laboratories authorized by the DGAV.

All the laboratories are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates.

All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used.

The list of accredited laboratories is presented in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf

All serotypifications, both for the own checks and for the official control, are carried out at the NRL. Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme.

2.3 Management; controls and verifications, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the activities planned to ensure that the implementation of the programme activities is of high quality and completed in time (according to the plan/timeline). Explain planned controls and verifications, and monitoring of achievement of targets (activity indicators) - please describe for different programme activities.

Describe the evaluation of the progress indicators (quantitative and qualitative); the outreach of the expected results/outcome (include unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress (progress indicators) should be relevant, realistic, and measurable.

2.3.1 Official controls at feed level

Please describe the **official controls at feed level** (including sampling)

DGAV is the National Competent Authority for the Portuguese Feed Official Control Plan (CAA) under Reg. (EU) 2017/625. According to this plan, planned, executed, monitored and evaluated by DGAV, samples are annually collected and inspection actions are conducted at the level of all chain feed operators, including primary producers, feed materials producers, compound feed manufacturers, feed intermediaries, and feed imports from third countries.
Sampling provides for the execution of several analytical determinations, including the presence of Salmonella spp. Salmonella is the only microbiological criteria legally established at national level for non-animal origin feed, according to article 5 (3) of D.L. No 105/2003. For this Salmonella is analyzed in 20% of samples of compound feed collected at feed mills (industrial or home-mixers), in plant origin feed materials randomly sampled at producers and import third countries level. For consignments of animal origin feed imported from third countries, and in all by-products national processing plants, Salmonella is controlled in all collected samples. All non-compliant results obtained for Salmonella spp. are subjected to serotyping for adoption of subsequent measures, which vary with the pathogenicity of the strain to humans or animals. Thus, besides the sanctioning measures provided by national and / or Community law in force, there will be additional controls in the feed establishments of origin for preventive and corrective measures, including traceability of products for, whenever applicable, withdrawal from the market with a view to their treatment or destruction, as well as knowledge of livestock holdings of destination for adequate surveillance of those nonconformity feed destined to poultry production.
During inspection actions, which have a frequency proportional to the risk characterization of the feed establishment, a documentary control is performed in order to check compliance with the legal requirements, including the implementation and effectiveness of HACCP systems and of quality control programs developed by operators, where the assessment of the possible microbiological risk assessment, and in particular the presence of Salmonella, is always taken into consideration.

2.3.2. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery levels

a) Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.

Hygiene and biosecurity measures are regularly checked in the holdings under several official controls carried out, in particular for the attribution of the number of approval for intra-Community trade in accordance with COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2035 of 28 June 2019,, when there are positive results of the targeted serotypes in SCP, in case of positive results for Salmonella detected at slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005) and under animal welfare controls.

Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17)- Anexo V)

Biosecurity measures to be implemented are explained in the Procedures Manual for poultry on DGAV website in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Web_Manual-de-Biosseguranca_Avicultura.pdf

To prevent the introduction of Salmonella in the holding the minimum biosecurity measures are (summary):

- Fencing of farm perimeter to prevent the entry of domestic and wild animals, people and non-essential vehicles.
- Reserved access only to the indispensable personnel and vehicles (transport of animals and food). These vehicles must be previously disinfected.
- Contact with birds from other farms or other animals should be avoided by owners and handlers.
- Full protective clothing, for exclusive use in the holding, should be wear.
- Integrity of protection devices against wild animals (windows networks, fan grills, etc) should be in place and monitored regularly.
- Supply of food and water in outdoor parks is prohibited.
- Food and bed materials should be stored in separate spaces, indoors and protected from wild birds and rodents.
- The collection of dead birds should be done twice a day with correct methods of transport and disposal
- Disinfection between production cycles of all places, equipment, utensils and transport vehicles should be carried out.
- Drinking water should be treated and in the case of this being carried out at the holding, periodic analysis of water and a register should be maintained.

The verification of biosecurity measures by the CA is done:
• as part of the registration process,
• for granting approval for intra-EU trade in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC,
• when there are positive results of the targeted Salmonella serovars,
• in case of positive Salmonella test results detected in the slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2073/2005) and,
• under animal welfare controls.

In case of unsatisfactory outcome in Biosecurity measures the CA notifies the FBO to rectify the non-compliance detected.
Non compliances in biosecurity measures on farms are subjected to sanctions in accordance with Decree-Law nº 164/2015 August 17.

b) Routine official **sampling scheme:** EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:

- in one flock of broilers per year on 10% of holding comprising at least 5,000 birds

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain. Indicate also: 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples

Additional official sampling:

* In case of positive results for Salmonella detected at slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005)

* If failures are detected during the monitoring actions .

Official samples are always taken by DSAVR.

c) EU conditions for confirmatory testing are complied with and confirmatory testing is not applied routinely

Yes ☒ No ☐

d) Official confirmatory sampling (in addition to the confirmatory samples at the holding which are systematically performed if FBO or official samples are positive at the hatchery):

After positive official samples at the holding

☐ Always
☒ Sometimes (criteria apply)
☐ Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

☐ Always
☒ Sometimes (criteria apply)
☐ Never

When official confirmatory sampling is performed, additional samples are taken for checking the presence of antimicrobials:

☒ Always
☐ Sometimes
☐ Never

Please insert any comments. Describe the criteria used to determine if confirmatory sampling is performed. Indicate also which samples (if any) are taken to check the presence of antimicrobials.

Sampling may be repeated in exceptional cases where the CA has reason to suspect the occurrence of false positives or false negatives results.

Under the SNCP confirmatory sampling it may be requested by the FBO (or initiated by the CA) within 72 hours of notification of an initial positive result.

The confirmatory sampling procedure exists in the SCP in broilers so there is no discrepancy with other species. Thus, FBO or CA may apply for contesting the initial results (positive or negative). So far there has never been a confirmatory sampling in this group. .

For the purposes of acceptance of the confirmatory sampling, DSAVR must assess, on the holding:

• the history of compliance of the own-checks,

• the history of positivity and

• the biosecurity measures.

Through this evaluation confirmatory sampling will only be accepted in holdings which:

• Under the national control program fully comply with the sampling of own-checks in all flocks and;

• Have no positivity repetition on the same premises in the case of the same flock or the immediately preceding flock and,

• Have a positive assessment on the application of biosecurity measures.

The samples are always taken by de CA (DSAVR) and consists in five pairs of boot swabs , two samples of 250 ml powder containing at least 100 gr of powder and two birds for antimicrobial detection.

These analyses are carried out, in accordance with the decision of the FBO, in a laboratory authorised by the CA for this purpose.

The entire procedure is monitored in person by a representative of the CA. The laboratory carrying out the detection tests will simultaneously carry out a preliminary search for the presence of antimicrobials.

All restrictive measures are prolonged until the results of the confirmatory sampling become available.

d) Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 **(antimicrobials** shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in poultry): please describe the official controls implemented (documentary checks, sample taking) to check the correct implementation of this provision. For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

The use of antimicrobials in flocks is documentary checked by CA in each official control.

Specific sampling:
Samples for antimicrobial tests will be taken:
• When a flock is suspected to be positive, when the confirmatory sampling is done;
• In any case when the CA considers it appropriate.

Type of sample:
The samples consist in 2-5 birds per flock

Analytical method used:
Rapid Method (FBO laboratories)
Reference methods (NRL – INIAV): Screening and confirmation by LC-MS/MS.

Consequence of a positive result in the detection of antimicrobials:
The flock is considered positive in scope of SCP.

2.3.3 Efficacy of disinfection

Please state who performs the testing (FBO/CA) and provide a short description of the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (number of samples, number of tests, samples taken, etc...).
After the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After clean, disinfection is carried out and followed by environmental samples collection by FBO under the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR. After the depopulation of a positive flock and after cleaning and disinfection actions, the FBO is required to carry out environmental tests prior to repopulation These tests must be carried out in accordance with the respective procedures manual available on the DGAV website https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Anexo-6-Procedimentos-colheita-amostras-ambientais-1.pdf To assess the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection actions, at least 10 samples at various points in the poultry house must be taken. It is recommended that samples be taken in the following locations: • Floor, walls and ceiling, • Doors, • Windows/Fans (ventilation systems), • Lighting devices, • Cages, • Water supply pipes, • Food supply pipelines, • Egg transport belts, • Stool mats, • Disinfection antechamber of each pavilion, • Other places susceptible to dust accumulation. Repopulation must be authorized by local veterinary services and is only carried out upon presentation of negative results for the targeted serotypes.

2.3.4 Monitoring of the target Salmonella serovars (*S. enteritidis, S. typhimurium*)

Give a short summary (from last 5 years) of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain

In the baseline study conducted under paragraph 1 of article 1 of Decision 2005/636/EC it was observed that the level of prevalence of Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis in the national holdings of broilers sampled was 39,3%. The NSCP in broiler flocks was approved, for the first time, for 2009 (Commission decision n° 2008/897/EC of 28 November). The results obtained resulting from the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex A

2.3.5 System for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks

Give a short description of the system for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks
The licensing system of livestock production (NREAP) in the case of poultry production is described by Decree-Law n.º 81/2013, 14 June (except backyard holdings) and Decree-Law nº 142/2006, 27 July and subsequent changes regarding the National System for Animal Registration and Information (SNIRA). All poultry production units have an individual holding mark with a alphanumeric code containing the letters PT and letters coding for the geographical area and number of holding. A"V" after a slash identifies a poultry holding The farm registry contains data on the owner, on the holding, its location, the species under production, the type of production. The identification of flocks is a responsibility of the FBO and in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 (a)) of article 5 of Decree No. 164/2015, each flock must be identified with a unique code, up to slaughter, allowing its distinction from other flocks. The control of flock identification is carried out by the Regional Services of CA, both during official controls and through the follow-up of own checks data sent to the laboratories with the samples. At the Central Services of CA, this information is verified and organized being available for all national territory.

2.3.6 System to monitor the implementation of the programme

Please describe
The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services. For the circuit of information established and summarized in flowcharts, several models of documents and procedures were created: • Uniform request forms for analyses • Standard submission forms (Excel) • List of authorized laboratories • Conditions of acceptance of samples by laboratories

• Procedure manuals for the sample collection

For the results to be valid within the PNCS, the FBO must:
• Perform the sampling according to the procedures stipulated
• Fill all fields of the requisition form for analysis and
• Deliver samples in authorized laboratories

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
• Check fill request form
• Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
• Enter the data information on the spreadsheets tables
• Transmit information to regional services

The request forms and the spreadsheets tables contain data on FBOs' own-check and official sampling, including identification of holdings and flocks, vaccination status of flocks, age of sampled birds and results of detection tests for Salmonella.

The data and results are supplied by the designated testing laboratories to the DSAVR. This information is transmitted, on a monthly basis by the DSAVRs to the central level DSPA, using the uniform spreadsheets.
These data are analyzed centrally and discussed during meetings of a specialized working group for SNCP, held on average 1-2 times per year.

In these meetings are presented and discussed the data for :

- Existing flock's numbers
- Number of flocks sampled (own-checks and official control)
- Non-compliance detected.
- Implementation percentages and
- Percentage of positivity.

The implementation of FBOs' own-check sampling is verified by the CA during official controls which includes official sampling and by the information supllied by laboratories.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the detetion laboratory **immediately** notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. The result of serotyping is send by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

2.4 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy

Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of the programme, and mitigation measures/strategy for addressing them.

Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures. ***Note:*** *Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organizations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.*		
Risk No	Description	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
1	Deadlines for contracting laboratory services – public procurement	Timely launch of contractual procedures to start analytics
2	No control by FBO	Penalty for the producer
3	Non-compliance by the laboratory with the analysis times	New sample collection

2.5 Milestones

Indicate control points along the programme implementation that help to chart progress. Note: Deliverables (*e.g. intermediate or final report on the implementation of programme measures*) are not milestones.		
Name	Due date (in month)	Means of verification
Verification of sampling events	monthly	Collection and analysis of laboratory results

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Describe **expected impact** (benefit) of the programme (e.g. from the economical and animal health points of view) Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them?

Define the short, medium and long-term effects of the project. ***Possible examples:*** reduction to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S. enteritidis* (SE), *S. typhimurium* (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), *S. hadar* (SH), *S. infanti*s (SI) and *S. virchow* (SV).
This program will make possible the accomplishment of the Union targets: - Reduction to less than 1% the maximum percentage of broiler flocks of Gallus gallus remaining positive for the target Salmonella serovars: S. enteritidis (SE), S. typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-). The evaluation of cost / benefit must take into account several factors including the cost of disease corresponding to direct losses to production (cost of morbidity and cost of decreased production) and indirect losses (eg barriers to free trade). The benefits resulting from the reduction of salmonellosis in poultry is also associated with a lower likelihood of infection of consumers via their products and with the associated socio-economic benefits.

3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding
Describe the communication and information dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.
The results of the programs are disseminated in several meetings held throughout the year with the poultry production sector, in DGAV meetings and in forums related to poultry farming. Coordination meetings are held to present the programme to local veterinary services which are responsible for sampling as well as to discuss the progress of the implementation of the programme. Information about this programme is publicly available at DGAV web portal. There is a Salmonella dedicated page in this portal containing information about: a) Disease detection, diagnosis, and notification of suspicions. b) Epidemiological situation of Salmonelosis in Portugal, c) Information for poultry keepers regarding biosecurity and other relevant issues Regular awareness sessions about Salmonella for poultry industry stakeholders, including epidemiological situation, prevention, and biosecurity as well as activities within the scope of the surveillance programme, are held either online or physically.

3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation Describe the how will the project impact be ensured and sustained long term? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained, and which resources will be necessary to continue? Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the results of the implementation of this project?
An efficient surveillance programme is essential for early detection and timely implementation of control measures. Prevention and control rely on appropriate biosecurity measures, surveillance, and rapid action. Surveillance is the key for controlling this zoonosis. Official controls have to be maintained to ensure correct implementation by the FBO namely to verify farm biosecurity measures

ANNEX

IX. Baseline population data

X. Targets for 2025-2027

XI. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

XII. Maps (as relevant)

IX. Baseline population data

Table 1 for year 2025: Flocks subject to the programme

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with broilers in the MS	1114
Total number of houses in these holdings	3400
Number of holdings with more than 5 000 broilers	1039

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to 03/2024; **Source of the data**: “DSAVR "

Table 1 for year 2026: Flocks subject to the programme

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with broilers in the MS	1114
Total number of houses in these holdings	3400
Number of holdings with more than 5 000 broilers	1039

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

Table 1 for year 2027: Flocks subject to the programme

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with broilers in the MS	1114
Total number of houses in these holdings	3400
Number of holdings with more than 5 000 broilers	1039

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

X. Targets for 2025-2027

Table 2 for year 2025: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**104**
Serotyping	**40**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**4**

Table 2 for year 2026: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**104**
Serotyping	**40**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**4**

Table 2 for year 2027: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**104**
Serotyping	**40**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**4**

Table 3 for year 2025: Targets on official samples from broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	**0**	**10500**
N of flocks in the programme	**0**	**10450**
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	**0**	**104**
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**104**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**104**
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**6**

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST*Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2026: Targets on official samples from broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	**0**	**10500**
N of flocks in the programme	**0**	**10450**
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	**0**	**104**
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**104**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**104**
	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Target serovars (d)	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**5**

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST*Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Type of test (description)	**Rearing flocks**	**Adult flocks**
Total N of flocks (a)	**0**	**10500**
N of flocks in the programme	**0**	**10450**
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	**0**	**104**
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**104**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**104**
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**4**

Table 3 for year 2027: Targets on official samples from broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST*Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

XI. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme)

(TRACEABILITY, DISEASE NOTIFICATION AND MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THE DISEASE)

EU countries

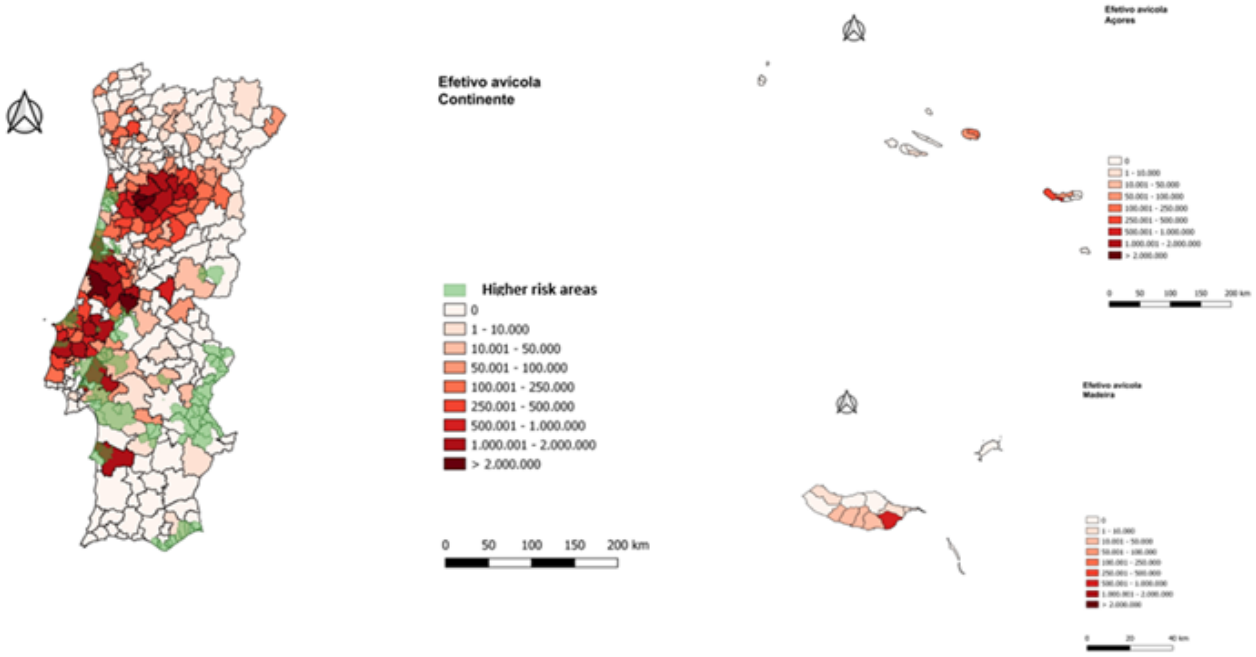
- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003R2160-20210421&qid=1652941252241
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2012 of 8 March 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of Salmonella enteritidis and Salmonella typhimurium in flocks of broilers, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02012R0200-20190310&qid=1652941636751
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32006R1177&qid=1652941414224

- Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0099-20130701&qid=1652941345135

- Decree-Law nº164/2015 of 15 August 2015 for implementation of SCP in Poultry

XII. Maps (as relevant)

POULTRY DENSITY DISTRIBUTION



Single Market Programme (SMP Food)

EU co-funded Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme for year 2025-2027

EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HADEA)
Department A Health and Food Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

SUBMISSION FORM: DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION
(Annex 1 – Description of the action (part B))

Zoonotic *Salmonella* Programme
Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in Breeding flocks of Turkeys 2025-2027

Countries seeking an EU financial contribution for the implementation of national programmes for eradication, control and/or surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit this Form (*Annex 1 - Description of the action (part B)*) **completely filled in**, **by the 31 May** of the year preceding its implementation (*Part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).*

Applicant shall provide information on each question contained in the Form. The information filled in the Form, shall be clear, concise, consistent and complete.

For questions on the information requested in this Form, please contact: HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu

For more information or questions on the eGRANTS Portal Submission System, please access the EU Funding & Tenders Portal or contact the IT Helpdesk

APPLICANT (Name of EU / non-EU country)	
Disease	**ZOONOTIC SALMONELLA**
Animal population/Species	**Breeding flocks Turkeys**
Implementation Year	**2025-2027**

CONTACT PERSON on Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme:

Name	Ana Caria Nunes
e-mail	ana.nunes@dgav.pt
Job type within the CA	Head of Animal Health Division

Salmonella in Breeding flocks Turkeys
Programme – 2025-2027

1.RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives (*in relation to the Call*)

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:
- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry

Yes ☐ **No** ☐

There are no breeding flocks of turkeys in Portugal

(maximum 200 words)

1.2 Needs and specific objectives

The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce to 1% or less the maximum percentage of flocks of breeding turkeys remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S. enteritidis* (SE), *S. typhimurium* (ST) (including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), *S. hadar* (SH), *S. infantis* (SI) and *S. virchow* (SV).

Yes ☐ **No** ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 500 words)

For MS with less than 100 flocks of breeding turkeys, the Union target shall be that annually no more than one flock of adult fattening turkeys may remain positive.

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 500 words)

1.3 Complementarity with other actions — European added value

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field.

Illustrate the European dimension of the activities: trans-national dimension of the project; impact/interest for a number of EU countries; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation among EU countries, EU and non-EU countries, etc.

Which countries will benefit from the project (directly and indirectly)?

Insert text

(maximum 500 words)

1.4 Target population and Area of the implementation

This programme will be implemented on all breeding flocks of turkeys

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please explain on which flocks:

(maximum 500 words)

Fill in **Table 1**) **in the Annex** to this Form.

This programme will be implemented on the whole territory of the Member State

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 500 words)

1.5 Notification of detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is

notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.
Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, please describe the procedure briefly. If no, please explain: ***(maximum 500 words)***

1.6 Epidemiological situation background

Describe the epidemiological disease situation background i.e. describe key obstacles and constraints hampering the control of Salmonella cases.
Insert text

2. QUALITY

2.1 Concept and methodology (Programme activities/measures)

The programme activities/measures shall be clear, suitable to address the needs and to achieve desired outcomes/ impact. They have to be adapted to the *Salmonella* in Breeding *Gallus gallus* situation/risk and feasible in terms of the capacities for their implementation.

As mentioned in section 1.1. the MS attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval. This includes: - that the appropriate measures are taken with regards to biosecurity, collection, transportation and storage of samples, and EU microbiological criteria in fresh poultry meat in birds from flocks infected with *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium.* -laboratory accreditation, analytical methods used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars, antimicrobial controls and transportation of and storage of samples tasks are all performed according to the respective current EU legislation [accreditation requirement according to Art 37(4) of EU Regulation 2017/625].
Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, please explain: ***(maximum 200 words)***

2.1.1 Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators

The EU minimum requirements for FBO sampling are as follows: ☐ Rearing flocks: at day-old, at four weeks of age, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit ☐ Adult flocks: Every third week during the laying period at the holding or at the hatchery (only at the holding for flocks producing hatching eggs intended for trade within the union). The last sampling session takes place withing three weeks before slaughter. **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ Indicate also who takes the FBO samples
Insert text
If the EU target is achieved for more than 2 consecutive calendar years in the whole member state, the CA has accepted to implement the derogation of point 2.1.(a)(iv) of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 and therefore the EU minimum requirements for FBO sampling frequency at the holding on adult flocks is every four weeks. However, the CA may decide to keep or revert to a three-week testing interval in the case of detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes in a breeding flock on the holding and/or in any other case deemed appropriate by the CA. **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ *If no please explain. Indicate also 1) if additional FBO sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed (to be described) 2) who is taking the official samples*
Insert text

2.1.2 Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant (i.e. due to the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), all birds of infected rearing or adult flocks are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and all eggs are destroyed or heat treated):

Please indicate also if birds are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and if eggs are destroyed or heat treated. Please specify the options applied.

Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, please explain.
Insert text

2.2 Programme participants (stakeholders)

Cooperation and division of roles and responsibilities Indicate participants (stakeholders such as competent authorities, testing laboratories, authorised private veterinarians, other stakeholders as relevant) involved in the planning and implementation of the programme; what are their roles and responsibilities; who reports to whom; what are the reporting arrangements. Indicate who is overall responsible for the programme and how the overall responsible coordinates with other stakeholders; how effective communication will be ensured. Structure and organization of the Competent Authorities (from the central CA to the local CAs) Please provide a short description and reference to a document presenting this description. Please insert the functioning url if applicable.
Insert text

2.3 Management; controls and verifications, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the activities planned to ensure that the implementation of the programme activities is of high quality and completed in time (according to the plan/timeline). Explain planned controls and verifications, and monitoring of achievement of targets (activity indicators) - please describe for different programme activities. Describe the evaluation of the progress indicators (quantitative and qualitative); the outreach of the expected results/outcome (include unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress (progress indicators) should be relevant, realistic, and measurable.

2.3.1 Official controls at feed level

Please describe the **official controls at feed level** (including sampling)
Insert text

2.3.2. Official controls at holding and flock

a) Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.
Insert text
b) Routine official **sampling scheme when FBO sampling takes place at the hatchery**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed: • once a year, all flocks with at least 250 adult breeding turkeys between 30 and 45 weeks of age and in all holdings with elite, great grand-parents and grand-parent breeding turkeys; the competent authority may decide that this sampling may also take place at the hatchery; and • all flocks on holdings in case of detection of *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* from samples taken at the hatchery (FBO or official samples), to investigate the origin of infection; **Yes ☐ No ☐** If no please explain. Indicate also : 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples
Insert text
c) EU conditions for confirmatory testing are complied with and confirmatory testing is not applied routinely **Yes ☐ No ☐** **d) If confirmatory samples taken at the holding** (after positive results at the hatchery, or suspicion of false positivity on FBO samples taken on the holding) are negative, please describe the measures taken: ☐ Testing for antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors (at least 5 birds per house) and if those substances are detected the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented (annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003): ☐ Other official samples are taken on the breeding flock; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted ☐ Other official samples are taken on the progeny; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted ☐ None of these measures

Describe also if any other measures are implemented
Insert text

d) Antimicrobial control Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 (**antimicrobials** shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in poultry): please describe the official controls implemented (documentary checks, sample taking) to check the correct implementation of this provision (at the holding and at the hatchery). For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.
Insert text

2.3.3 Vaccination

☐ Voluntary ☐ Compulsory ☐ Forbidden The use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006. If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc).
Insert text

2.3.4 Efficacy of disinfection

Please state who performs the testing (FBO/CA) and provide a short description of the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (number of samples, number of tests, samples taken, etc...).
Insert text

2.3.5 Monitoring of the target Salmonella serovars (*Salmonella enteritidis, Salmonella typhimurium*)

Give a short summary (from last 5 years) of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain
Insert text

2.3.6 System for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks

Give a short description of the system for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks
Insert text

2.3.7 System for **compensation to owners** for the value of their birds slaughtered or culled and the eggs destroyed or heat treated

Describe the system for compensation to owners. Indicate how improper implementation of biosecurity measures can affect the payment of compensation
Insert text

2.3.8 System to monitor the implementation of the programme

Please describe
Insert text

2.4 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy *Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of the programme, and mitigation measures/strategy for addressing them.* *Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures.* ***Note:** Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organizations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.*

Risk No	Description	Proposed risk-mitigation measures

2.5 Milestones

Indicate control points along the programme implementation that help to chart progress. Note: Deliverables (*e.g. intermediate or final report on the implementation of programme measures*) are not milestones.		
Name	Due date (in month)	Means of verification

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

Describe **expected impact** (benefit) of the programme (e.g. from the economical and animal health points of view) Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them? Define the short, medium and long-term effects of the project. ***Possible examples:*** reduction to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S. enteritidis* (SE), *S. typhimurium* (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), *S. hadar* (SH), *S. infantis* (SI) and *S. virchow* (SV).
Insert text

3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding Describe the communication and information dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.
Insert text

3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation Describe the how will the project impact be ensured and sustained long term? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained, and which resources will be necessary to continue? Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the results of the implementation of this project?
Insert text

ANNEX

XIII. Baseline population data
XIV. Targets for 2025-2027
XV. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme
XVI. Maps (as relevant)

XIII. Baseline population data

Table 1 for year 2025: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling shall take place
Rearing flocks	**0**			
Adult flocks	**0**			
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: " "

Table 1 for year 2026: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling shall take place
Rearing flocks	**0**			
Adult flocks	**0**			
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

Table 1 for year 2027: Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	**Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders**	**Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place**	**Number of flocks where official sampling shall take place**
Rearing flocks	**0**			
Adult flocks	**0**			
Comments:				

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

XIV. Targets for 2025-2027

Table 2 for year 2025: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	
Serotyping	
Antimicrobial detection test	
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	

Table 2 for year 2026: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	
Serotyping	
Antimicrobial detection test	
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	

Table 2 for year 2027: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	
Serotyping	
Antimicrobial detection test	
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	

Table 3 for year 2025: Targets on official samples from breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)		
N of flocks in the programme		
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)		
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)		
N of official samples taken		
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☐ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars		
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated		
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled		
Total N of eggs to be destroyed		
Total N of eggs to be heat treated		

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST*Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2026: Targets on official samples from breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)		
N of flocks in the programme		
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)		

No of flock visits to take official samples (c)		
N of official samples taken		
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☐ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars		
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated		
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled		
Total N of eggs to be destroyed		
Total N of eggs to be heat treated		

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST*Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2027: Targets on official samples from breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)		
N of flocks in the programme		
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)		
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)		
N of official samples taken		
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☐ SE+ ST	☐ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars		
Possible N of flocks to be depopulated		
Total N of birds to be slaughtered/culled		
Total N of eggs to be destroyed		
Total N of eggs to be heat treated		

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST*Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 4 for year 2025: Targets on vaccination for breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	
Number of doses expected to be administered	

Table 4 for year 2026: Targets on vaccination for breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	
Number of doses expected to be administered	

Table 4 for year 2027: Targets on vaccination for breeding flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Target on vaccination
Number of flocks in the *Salmonella* programme	
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	
Number of doses expected to be administered	

XV. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme)

(TRACEABILITY, DISEASE NOTIFICATION AND MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THE DISEASE)

EU countries

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003R2160-20210421&qid=1652941252241
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02012R1190-20190310&qid=1652941712941

- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32006R1177&qid=1652941414224

- Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0099-20130701&qid=1652941345135

XVI. Maps (as relevant)

Single Market Programme (SMP Food)

EU co-funded Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme for year 2025-2027

EUROPEAN HEALTH AND DIGITAL EXECUTIVE AGENCY (HADEA)
Department A Health and Food Unit A2 EU4Health/SMP

SUBMISSION FORM: DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION
(Annex 1 – Description of the action (part B))

Zoonotic *Salmonella* Programme
Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in Fattening flocks of Turkeys 2025-2027

Countries seeking an EU financial contribution for the implementation of national programmes for eradication, control and/or surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit this Form (*Annex 1 - Description of the action (part B)*) **completely filled in**, **by the 31 May** of the year preceding its implementation (*Part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).*

Applicant shall provide information on each question contained in the Form. The information filled in the Form, shall be clear, concise, consistent and complete.

For questions on the information requested in this Form, please contact: HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu

For more information or questions on the eGRANTS Portal Submission System, please access the EU Funding & Tenders Portal or contact the IT Helpdesk

APPLICANT (Name of EU / non-EU country)	
Disease	**ZOONOTIC SALMONELLA**
Animal population/Species	**Fattening flocks Turkeys**
Implementation Year	**2025-2027**

CONTACT PERSON on Zoonotic *Salmonella* programme :

Name	Ana Caria Nunes
e-mail	ana.nunes@dgav.pt
Job type within the CA	Head of Animal Health Division

Salmonella in Fattening flocks Turkeys
Programme – 2025-2027

1.RELEVANCE

1.1 Background and general objectives (*in relation to the Call*)

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:
- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 200 words)

1.2 Needs and specific objectives

The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce to 1% or less the maximum percentage of flocks of fattening turkeys remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S. enteritidis* (SE), *S. typhimurium* (ST) (including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-)

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

(maximum 500 words)

For MS with less than 100 flocks of adult fattening turkeys, the Union target shall be that annually no more than one flock of adult fattening turkeys may remain positive.

Yes ☐ No ☒

There are more than 100 flocks of adult fattening turkeys in Portugal.

(maximum 500 words)

1.3 Complementarity with other actions — European added value

Explain how the project builds on the results of past activities carried out in the field.

Illustrate the European dimension of the activities: trans-national dimension of the project; impact/interest for a number of EU countries; possibility to use the results in other countries, potential to develop mutual trust/cross-border cooperation among EU countries, EU and non-EU countries, etc.

Which countries will benefit from the project (directly and indirectly)?

This programme contributes to the maintenance of a high level of food through early detection of Salmonella in poultry and the enforcement of subsequent control measures.

The high frequency of testing and the excellent results obtained in the program in the years of implementation, allowed Portugal to be a safe exporting country

Our consistent negative results ensure therefore greater protection of Public Health not only in our country, but also in all trading partners.

(maximum 500 words)

1.4 Target population and Area of the implementation

This programme will be implemented on all Fattening flocks of turkeys

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain on which flocks:

This programme does not apply to flocks for private domestic use.

(maximum 500 words)

Fill in **Table 1**) **in the Annex** to this Form.

This programme will be implemented on the whole territory of the Member State

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain:

The program will be implemented on the whole territory of Portugal: Continent and the Autonomous Regions of Madeira and Azores (maps attached). The Competent Authority (CA) is the official veterinary services - DGAV (General Directorate of Food and Veterinary).

(maximum 500 words)

1.5 Notification of detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, please describe the procedure briefly.

The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services of DGAV.

Procedure manuals with illustrations, explain sampling times, frequency, type and quantity of samples to be collected as well as the correct way of packaging prior to sending to the laboratory, are available https://www.dgav.pt/pncs_perus/

When sent to the laboratory, samples must be accompanied by uniform request sheets, specifically designed for this purpose.

All the authorized laboratories performing detection test, are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates.

The list of accredited laboratories can be found in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
- Check fill request form
- Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
- Enter the data information on spreadsheets tables
- Transmit information to regional services **immediately** in case of positive results for Salmonella, monthly in negative cases.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the laboratory immediately notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. Restrictive measures are imposed to the flock. The result of serotyping is sent by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

The obligations of each participant in the program, as well as the sanctions to be applied for non-compliance are described in Decree-Law No. 164/2015 of August 17 (Annex V)

(maximum 500 words)

1.6 Epidemiological situation background

Describe the epidemiological disease situation background i.e. describe key obstacles and constraints hampering the control of *Salmonella* cases.

In the baseline study conducted under paragraph 1 of article 1 of Decision 2006/662/EC it was observed that the level of prevalence of Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis in the national holdings of fattening turkeys sampled was 0%.

The NSCP in flocks of fattening turkeys was approved, for the first time, for 2010 (Commission decision n° 2009/883/EC of 26 November).

The results obtained from 2010 to 2023, resulting from the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex A

Since 2010 until now, we have always achieved the Union target.

2. QUALITY

2.1 Concept and methodology (Programme activities/measures)

The programme activities/measures shall be clear, suitable to address the needs and to achieve desired outcomes/ impact. They have to be adapted to the *Salmonella* in Breeding *Gallus gallus* situation/risk and feasible in terms of the capacities for their implementation.

As mentioned in section 1.1. the MS attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval. This includes:

- that the appropriate measures are taken with regards to biosecurity, collection, transportation and storage of samples, and EU microbiological criteria in fresh poultry meat in birds from flocks infected with *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium.*

-laboratory accreditation, analytical methods used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars, antimicrobial controls and transportation of and storage of samples tasks are all performed according to the respective current EU legislation [accreditation requirement according to Art 37(4) of EU Regulation 2017/625].

Yes ☒ No ☐

Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17) FBO have to implement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks (see 2.3.1).

Laboratories in which samples (official and FBO samples) collected within this programme are analysed are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for *Salmonella* detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used.

Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010. Samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling. If time limits are exceeded a new collection sample is made.

Flocks infected with SE or ST can only be transported to the slaughterhouse with authorization of the DSAVR . The Official Veterinary (OV) of the slaughterhouse chosen is informed in advance by both, the regional services and the FBO responsible for the slaughterhouse.

The Food Chain Information (FCI) that acompasses the animals has to mention the result of the Salmonella testing.

The OV informs the FBO of the procedures that have to be adopted during the slaughter of the positive flock.

The FBO of the slaughterhouse has to comply with all the procedures imposed by the OV. This means that the infected flock has to be slaughtered after all the negative flocks to avoid cross contamination and that the speed line may have to be lowered to permit the careful evisceration and the watchful Post Mortem Inspection (PMI) of the animals.

The carcasses and offals with pathology compatible with infection caused by Salmonella will be subject to total condemnation, according to the OV criteria.

The positive flocks shall have priority for the purpose of sampling for the hygiene criteria analysis and the OV confirms that the FBO gives priority to the positive flock when sampling for hygiene criteria.

The OV introduces all the relevant information regarding this slaughter in the national database system.

Slaughterhouse operators are required to comply with the sampling provided for in Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 of the Commission of 15 November 2005, for application of the relevant microbiological criteria. Failure to comply is punishable under Article 24 of Decree-Law 164/2015 of August 17 and Article 6, paragraph a) of Decree-Law 113/2006 of 12 June.

If the results of this sampling are positive for Salmonella SE or ST, the FBO has to:

- withdraw the product that is already at retail level;
- process the product in order to eliminate the danger - if the product is a stage prior to retail.

The OV supervises the corrective measures implemented by the FBO.

In the holding, after the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After disinfection, environmental samples are collected by FBO following the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR.

(maximum 200 words)

2.1.1 Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators

Samples at the initiative of the FBO's will be taken and analysed to test for the target *Salmonella* serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements:
All flocks of fattening turkeys within three weeks before slaughter.

Yes ☒ No ☐

The competent authority may authorise sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the turkeys are either kept more than 100 days or fall under organic turkey production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain. Indicate also who takes the FBO samples. If the derogation is applied, how many holdings and flocks are concerned

DGAV authorize sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the turkeys are either kept more than 100 days or fall under organic turkey production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

This derrogation is applied to 139 holdings and about 1250 flocks.

The FBO has the responsibility of own-check sampling under the SCP.

However he may delegate sampling in the veterinarian responsible or technicians who perform other tasks on the farm (farm staff).

2.2 Programme participants (stakeholders)

Cooperation and division of roles and responsibilities

Indicate participants (stakeholders such as competent authorities, testing laboratories, authorised private veterinarians, other stakeholders as relevant) involved in the planning and implementation of the programme; what are their roles and responsibilities; who reports to whom; what are the reporting arrangements.

Indicate who is overall responsible for the programme and how the overall responsible coordinates with other stakeholders; how effective communication will be ensured.

Structure and organization of the Competent Authorities (from the central CA to the local CAs) Please provide a short description and reference to a document presenting this description. Please insert the functioning url if applicable.
The role and responsibility of each participant in the program is described in the Decree-Law nº 164/2015, August 17 (Annex V). The sample colletion is either made by CA and FBO. General Directorate of Food and Veterinary (DGAV), namely its Epidemiology and Animal Health Unit, is the authority at central level that is responsible for the preparation, coordination and monitoring of the program. REGIONAL COORDINATION There are five Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorates (DSAVR) and two Autonomous Regions that are local veterinary authority, control the execution of the measures of the program in their region, and also execute some of the programme actions, such as the issue of movement restriction and the sampling. The Regional Food and Veterinary Service Directorate and two Autonomous Regions are identified by the following acronyms: DSAVRN: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Norte DSAVRC: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Centro DSAVRLVT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Lisboa e Vale do Tejo DSAVRALT: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Alentejo DSAVRALG: Food and Veterinary Service Directorate of the Region Algarve RAA: Autonomous Region of Açores RAM: Autonomous Region of Madeira The structure of veterinary service can be seen at: https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/DGAV-Organizational-Chart.pdf Detection tests of samples collected by the FBO are only valid if carried out in one of the laboratories authorized by the DGAV. All the laboratories are accredited (ISO 17025) by IPAC (National Accreditation Body) and Salmonella detection is performed, according their Annex to Accreditation Certificates. All the detection tests (both official and own-checks) are made according ISO EN 6579-1. No alternative methods are used. The list of accredited laboratories is presented in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Lista_laboratorios_analises_salmonelas.pdf All serotypifications, both for the own checks and for the official control, are carried out at the NRL. Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme. The information circuit is described in point 1.5.

2.3 Management; controls and verifications, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation strategy

Describe the activities planned to ensure that the implementation of the programme activities is of high quality and completed in time (according to the plan/timeline). Explain planned controls and verifications, and monitoring of achievement of targets (activity[1] indicators) - please describe for different programme activities. Describe the evaluation of the progress indicators (quantitative and qualitative); the outreach of the expected results/outcome (include unit of measurement, baseline and target values). The indicators proposed to measure progress (progress indicators) should be relevant, realistic, and measurable.

2.3.1 Official controls at feed level

Please describe the **official controls at feed level** (including sampling)
DGAV is the National Competent Authority for the Portuguese Feed Official Control Plan (CAA) under Reg. (EU) 2017/625. According to this plan, planned, executed, monitored and evaluated by DGAV, samples are annually collected and inspection actions are conducted at the level of all chain feed operators, including primary producers, feed materials producers, compound feed manufacturers, feed intermediaries, and feed imports from third countries. Sampling provides for the execution of several analytical determinations, including the presence of Salmonella spp. Salmonella is the only microbiological criteria legally established at national level for non-animal origin feed, according to article 5 (3) of D.L. No 105/2003. For this Salmonella is analyzed in 20% of samples of compound feed collected at feed mills (industrial or home-mixers), in plant origin feed materials randomly sampled at producers and import third countries level. For consignments of animal origin feed imported from third countries, and in all by-products national processing plants, Salmonella is controlled in all collected samples. All non-compliant results obtained for Salmonella spp. are subjected to serotyping for adoption of subsequent measures, which vary with the pathogenicity of the strain to humans or animals. Thus, besides the sanctioning measures provided by national and / or Community law in force, there will be additional controls in the feed establishments of origin for preventive and corrective measures, including traceability of products for, whenever applicable, withdrawal from the market with a view to their treatment or destruction, as well as knowledge of livestock holdings of destination for adequate surveillance of those nonconformity feed destined to poultry production. During inspection actions, which have a frequency proportional to the risk characterization of the feed establishment, a documentary control is performed in order to check compliance

with the legal requirements, including the implementation and effectiveness of HACCP systems and of quality control programs developed by operators, where the assessment of the possible microbiological risk assessment, and in particular the presence of Salmonella, is always taken into consideration.

2.3.2. Official controls at holding and flock level

a) Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.

Hygiene and biosecurity measures are regularly checked in the holdings under several official controls carried out, in particular for the attribution of the number of approval for intra-Community trade in accordance with Directive 2009/158/EC, when there are positive results of the targeted serotypes in SCP, in case of positive results for Salmonella detected at slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005) and under animal welfare controls.

The checklist for verifying hygiene and biosecurity measures is in Annex VII.

Biosecurity is one of the fundamental parts of the programs. It is provided for in national legislation (decree-law nº 164/2015 of August 17)- Anexo V)

Biosecurity measures to be implemented are explained in the Procedures Manual for poultry on DGAV website in https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Web_Manual-de-Biosseguranca_Avicultura.pdf

To prevent the introduction of Salmonella in the holding the minimum biosecurity measures are (summary):

- Fencing of farm perimeter to prevent the entry of domestic and wild animals, people and non-essential vehicles.
- Reserved access only to the indispensable personnel and vehicles (transport of animals and food). These vehicles must be previously disinfected.
- Contact with birds from other farms or other animals should be avoided by owners and handlers.
- Full protective clothing, for exclusive use in the holding, should be wear.
- Integrity of protection devices against wild animals (windows networks, fan grills, etc) should be in place and monitored regularly.
- Supply of food and water in outdoor parks is prohibited.
- Food and bed materials should be stored in separate spaces, indoors and protected from wild birds and rodents.
- The collection of dead birds should be done twice a day with correct methods of transport and disposal
- Disinfection between production cycles of all places, equipment, utensils and transport vehicles should be carried out.
- Drinking water should be treated and in the case of this being carried out at the holding, periodic analysis of water and a register should be maintained.

The verification of biosecurity measures by the CA is done:
• as part of the registration process,
• for granting approval for intra-EU trade in accordance with COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2035 of 28 June 2019,
• when there are positive results of the targeted Salmonella serovars,
• in case of positive Salmonella test results detected in the slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) 2073/2005) and,
• under animal welfare controls.

In case of unsatisfactory outcome in Biosecurity measures the CA notifies the FBO to rectify the non-compliance detected.
Non compliances in biosecurity measures on farms are subjected to sanctions in accordance with Decree-Law nº 164/2015 August 17.

b) Routine official **sampling scheme:** EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:

- in one flock of fattening turkeys per year on 10% of holding comprising at least 500 fattening turkeys;

Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, please explain. Indicate also : 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples

The holdings selection is made taking into account several issues namely new farms, Biossecurity, problems with Welfare (some of them detected in slaughter), and previous positive results to Salmonella in the farm or slaughterhouse.

Additional official sampling:

- In case of positive results for Salmonella detected at slaughterhouse (during sampling in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005)
- If failures are detected during the monitoring actions .

The official samples are taken by DSAVR.

c) EU conditions for confirmatory testing are complied with and confirmatory testing is not applied routinely

Yes ☒ No ☐

d) If confirmatory samples taken at the holding (in addition to the confirmatory samples at the holding which are systematically performed if FBO or official samples are positive at the hatchery):
After positive official samples at the holding

☐ Always
☒ Sometimes (criteria apply)
☐ Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

☐ Always
☒ Sometimes (criteria apply)

☐ Never

When official confirmatory sampling is performed, additional samples are taken for checking the presence of antimicrobials:

☒ Always
☐ Sometimes
☐ Never

Please insert any comments. Describe the criteria used to determine if confirmatory sampling is performed. Indicate also which samples (if any) are taken to check the presence of antimicrobials.

Sampling may be repeated in exceptional cases where the CA has reason to suspect the occurrence of false positives or false negatives results.

Under the SNCP confirmatory sampling it may be requested by the FBO (or initiated by the CA) within 72 hours of notification of an initial positive result.

The confirmatory sampling procedure exists in the SCP in turkeys so there is no discrepancy with other species. Thus, FBO or CA may apply for contesting the initial results (positive or negative). So far there has never been a confirmatory sampling in this group. .

For the purposes of acceptance of the confirmatory sampling, DSAVR must assess, on the holding:

• the history of compliance of the own-checks,

• the history of positivity and

• the biosecurity measures.

Through this evaluation confirmatory sampling will only be accepted in holdings which:

• Under the national control program fully comply with the sampling of own-checks in all flocks and;

• Have no positivity repetition on the same premises in the case of the same flock or the immediately preceding flock and,

• Have a positive assessment on the application of biosecurity measures.

The samples are always taken by de CA (DSAVR) and consists in five pairs of boot swabs , two samples of 250 ml powder containing at least 100 gr of powder and two birds for antimicrobial detection.

These analyses are carried out, in accordance with the decision of the FBO, in a laboratory authorised by the CA for this purpose.

The entire procedure is monitored in person by a representative of the CA. The laboratory carrying out the detection tests will simultaneously carry out a preliminary search for the presence of antimicrobials.

All restrictive measures are prolonged until the results of the confirmatory sampling become available.

d) Antimicrobial control Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 (**antimicrobials** shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in poultry): please describe the official controls implemented (documentary checks, sample taking) to check the correct implementation of this provision (at the holding and at the hatchery). For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.
The use of antimicrobials in flocks is documentary checked by CA in each official control. Specific sampling: Samples for antimicrobial tests will be taken: • When a flock is suspected to be positive, when the confirmatory sampling is done; • In any case when the CA considers it appropriate. Type of sample: The samples consist in 2-5 birds per flock Analytical method used: Rapid Method (FBO laboratories) Reference methods (NRL – INIAV): Screening and confirmation by LC-MS/MS. Consequence of a positive result in the detection of antimicrobials: The flock is considered positive in scope of SCP.

2.3.3 Efficacy of disinfection

Please state who performs the testing (FBO/CA) and provide a short description of the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (number of samples, number of tests, samples taken, etc...).
After the depopulation of an infected flock, FBO must perform the cleaning of the poultry house, including safe disposal of waste and beds. After clean, disinfection is carried out and followed by environmental samples collection by FBO under the instructions of the CA. The restocking can only be made in case of negative results to Salmonella, and after authorization of DSAVR. After the depopulation of a positive flock and after cleaning and disinfection actions, the FBO is required to carry out environmental tests prior to repopulation

These tests must be carried out in accordance with the respective procedures manual available on the DGAV website https://www.dgav.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Anexo-6-Procedimentos-colheita-amostras-ambientais-1.pdf

To assess the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection actions, at least 10

samples at various points in the poultry house must be taken.

It is recommended that samples be taken in the following locations:

• Floor, walls and ceiling,

• Doors,

• Windows/Fans (ventilation systems),

• Lighting devices,

• Cages,

• Water supply pipes,

• Food supply pipelines,

• Egg transport belts,

• Stool mats,

• Disinfection antechamber of each pavilion,

• Other places susceptible to dust accumulation.

Repopulation must be authorized by local veterinary services and is only carried out upon presentation of negative results for the targeted serotypes.

2.3.4 Monitoring of the target Salmonella serovars (*Salmonella enteritidis, Salmonella typhimurium*)

Give a short summary (from last 5 years) of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain
In the baseline study conducted under paragraph 1 of article 1 of Decision 2006/662/EC it was observed that the level of prevalence of Salmonella Typhimurium and Salmonella Enteritidis in the national holdings of fattening turkeys sampled was 0%. The NSCP in flocks of fattening turkeys was approved, for the first time, for 2010 (Commission decision n° 2009/883/EC of 26 November). The results obtained from 2010 to 2022, resulting from the implementation of the program, are summarized in Annex

2.3.5 System for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks

Give a short description of the system for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks
The licensing system of livestock production (NREAP) in the case of poultry production is described by Decree-Law n.º 81/2013, 14 June (except backyard holdings) and Decree-Law nº 142/2006, 27 July and subsequent changes regarding the National System for Animal Registration and Information (SNIRA). All poultry production units have an individual holding mark with a alphanumeric code containing the letters PT and letters coding for the geographical area and number of holding. A"V" after a slash identifies a poultry holding The farm registry contains data on the owner, on the holding, its location, the species under production, the type of production. The identification of flocks is a responsibility of the FBO and in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 (a)) of article 5 of Decree No. 164/2015, each flock must be identified with a unique code, up to slaughter, allowing its distinction from other flocks. The control of flock identification is carried out by the Regional Services of CA, both during official controls and through the follow-up of own checks data sent to the laboratories with the samples. At the Central Services of CA, this information is verified and organized being available for all national territory.

2.3.6 System for **compensation to owners** for the value of their birds slaughtered or culled and the eggs destroyed or heat treated

Describe the system for compensation to owners. Indicate how improper implementation of biosecurity measures can affect the payment of compensation
There is no compensation following positive results to the target serotypes under this program.

2.3.7 System to **monitor the implementation** of the programme

Please describe
The monitoring of the program is based on the establishment of an information circuit to allow de follow up of sampling and other measures carried out by the FBO and Regional Veterinary Services. For the circuit of information established and summarized in flowcharts, several models of documents and procedures were created: • Uniform request forms for analyses • Standard submission forms (Excel) • List of authorized laboratories • Conditions of acceptance of samples by laboratories • Procedure manuals for the sample collection For the results to be valid within the PNCS, the FBO must: • Perform the sampling according to the procedures stipulated

• Fill all fields of the requisition form for analysis and
• Deliver samples in authorized laboratories

Under the information circuit, the authorized laboratories:
• Check fill request form
• Check the conditions of the samples for their acceptance
• Enter the data information on the spreadsheets tables
• Transmit information to regional services

The request forms and the spreadsheets tables contain data on FBOs' own-check and official sampling, including identification of holdings and flocks, vaccination status of flocks, age of sampled birds and results of detection tests for Salmonella.

The data and results are supplied by the designated testing laboratories to the DSAVR. This information is transmitted, on a monthly basis by the DSAVRs to the central level DSPA, using the uniform spreadsheets.
These data are analyzed centrally and discussed during meetings of a specialized working group for SNCP, held on average 1-2 times per year.

In these meetings are presented and discussed the data for :

- Existing flock's numbers
- Number of flocks sampled (own-checks and official control)
- Non-compliance detected.
- Implementation percentages and
- Percentage of positivity.

The implementation of FBOs' own-check sampling is verified by the CA during official controls which includes official sampling and by the information supllied by laboratories.

Following isolation of Salmonella spp. (from an FBO or official sample), the detetion laboratory **immediately** notifies DSAVR on the positive results and the isolate is forwarded to the Salmonella NRL for serotyping. The result of serotyping is send by NRL to DSPA that informs the DSAVR.

2.4 Risk management

Critical risks and risk management strategy

Describe critical risks, uncertainties or difficulties related to the implementation of the programme, and mitigation measures/strategy for addressing them.

Indicate for each risk (in the description) the impact and the likelihood that the risk will materialise (high, medium, low), even after taking into account the mitigating measures.

Note: *Uncertainties and unexpected events occur in all organizations, even if very well-run. The risk analysis will help you to predict issues that could delay or hinder project activities. A good risk management strategy is essential for good project management.*		
Risk No	Description	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
1	Deadlines for contracting laboratory services – public procurement	Timely launch of contractual procedures to start analytics
2	No control by FBO	Penalty for the producer
3	Non-compliance by the laboratory with the analysis times	New sample collection

2.5 Milestones

Indicate control points along the programme implementation that help to chart progress. Note: Deliverables (*e.g. intermediate or final report on the implementation of programme measures*) are not milestones.		
Name	Due date (in month)	Means of verification
Verification of sampling events	monthly	Collection and analysis of laboratory results

3. IMPACT

3.1 Impact and ambition

*Describe **expected impact** (benefit) of the programme (e.g. from the economical and animal health points of view)*

Who are the target groups? How will the target groups benefit concretely from the project and what would change for them?

Define the short, medium and long-term effects of the project.

Possible examples: reduction to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *S. enteritidis* (SE), *S.*

typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-), *S. hadar* (SH), *S. infanti*s (SI) and *S. virchow* (SV).
This program will make possible the accomplishment of the Union targets: - Reduction to less than 1% the maximum percentage of fattening turkeys flocks remaining positive for the target Salmonella serovars: S. enteritidis (SE), S. typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12: i:-). The evaluation of cost / benefit must take into account several factors including the cost of disease corresponding to direct losses to production (cost of morbidity and cost of decreased production) and indirect losses (eg barriers to free trade). The benefits resulting from the reduction of salmonellosis in poultry is also associated with a lower likelihood of infection of consumers via their products and with the associated socio-economic benefits.

3.2 Communication, dissemination and visibility

Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding Describe the communication and information dissemination activities which are planned in order to promote the activities/results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many, etc.). Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.
The results of the programs are disseminated in several meetings held throughout the year with the poultry production sector, in DGAV meetings and in forums related to poultry farming. Coordination meetings are held to present the programme to local veterinary services which are responsible for sampling as well as to discuss the progress of the implementation of the programme. Information about this programme is publicly available at DGAV web portal. There is a Salmonella dedicated page in this portal containing information about: a) Disease detection, diagnosis, and notification of suspicions. b) Epidemiological situation of Salmonelosis in Portugal, c) Information for poultry keepers regarding biosecurity and other relevant issues Regular awareness sessions about Salmonella for poultry industry stakeholders, including epidemiological situation, prevention, and biosecurity as well as activities within the scope of the surveillance programme, are held either online or physically.

3.3 Sustainability and continuation

Sustainability, long-term impact and continuation

Describe the how will the project impact be ensured and sustained long term? Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained, and which resources will be necessary to continue? Are there any possible synergies/complementarities with other (EU funded) activities that can build on the results of the implementation of this project?
An efficient surveillance programme is essential for early detection and timely implementation of control measures. Prevention and control rely on appropriate biosecurity measures, surveillance, and rapid action. Surveillance is the key for controlling this zoonosis. Official controls have to be maintained to ensure correct implementation by the FBO namely to verify farm biosecurity measures

ANNEX

XVII. Baseline population data
XVIII. Targets for 2025-2027
XIX. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme
XX. Maps (as relevant)

XVII. Baseline population data

Table 1 for year 2025: Flocks subject to the programme

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with fattening turkeys in the MS	**140**
Total number of houses in these holdings	**270**
Number of holdings with more than 500 fattening turkeys	**139**

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

Table 1 for year 2026: Flocks subject to the programme

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with fattening turkeys in the MS	**140**
Total number of houses in these holdings	**270**
Number of holdings with more than 500 fattening turkeys	**139**

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

Table 1 for year 2027: Flocks subject to the programme

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with fattening turkeys in the MS	**140**
Total number of houses in these holdings	**270**
Number of holdings with more than 500 fattening turkeys	**139**

All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available. The above data refer to MM/YYYY; **Source of the data**: “ "

XVIII. Targets for 2025-2027

Table 2 for year 2025: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from fattening flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**14**
Serotyping	**60**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**4**

Table 2 for year 2026: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from fattening flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**14**
Serotyping	**60**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**4**

Table 2 for year 2027: Targets on laboratory tests on official samples from fattening flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Number of planed tests
Bacteriological detection test	**14**
Serotyping	**60**
Antimicrobial detection test	**0**
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	**4**

Table 3 for year 2025: Targets on official samples from fattening flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	**0**	**1260**
N of flocks in the programme	**0**	**1260**
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	**0**	**14**
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**14**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**14**
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**8**

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.

(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

Table 3 for year 2026: Targets on official samples from fattening flocks of Turkeys

Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	0	1260
N of flocks in the programme	0	1260
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	14
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	14
N of official samples taken	0	14
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	0	7

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

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Type of test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total N of flocks (a)	**0**	**1260**
N of flocks in the programme	**0**	**1260**
N of flocks planned to be checked (b)	**0**	**14**
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	**0**	**14**
N of official samples taken	**0**	**14**
Target serovars (d)	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	☐ SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
	☒ SE+ ST	☒ SE+ ST
	☐ others, please specify:	☐ others, please specify:
Possible N of flocks infected by target serovars	**0**	**6**

(a) Including eligible and non-eligible flocks
(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
(d) *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* = SE + ST; *Salmonella enteritidis, typhimurium, hadar, infantis, virchow* = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

XIX. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme)

(TRACEABILITY, DISEASE NOTIFICATION AND MEASURES FOR EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THE DISEASE)

EU countries

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003R2160-20210421&qid=1652941252241
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02012R1190-20190310&qid=1652941712941
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32006R1177&qid=1652941414224

- Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02003L0099-20130701&qid=1652941345135

- Decree-Law nº164/2015 of 15 August 2015 for implementation of SCP in Poultry

XX. Maps (as relevant)