



## **Bulletin on Avian Influenza in Cambodia**

UN system in Cambodia

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**Update on the Avian Influenza Situation**  
(as of 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008)

**Issue No. 148**



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*The information summarized below is gathered from official and non official sources, which are quoted in the text. This bulletin is prepared by the UN in Cambodia in cooperation with the Royal Government of Cambodia and development partners.*

### **I. Latest information on Avian Influenza in Cambodia**

#### **1. Country situation: Animal Health**

From 11 to 24 April, the animal health hotline received 27 calls, seven of them reported about sick and dying poultry in Siem Reap, Battambang, Svay Rieng, Kampong Speu, Kampot and Kratie provinces. The rest of the calls sought information about avian influenza. The National Veterinary Research Institute (NaVRI) contacted the chief of provincial vets to send a team of provincial and district vets to the villages with suspected AI cases. During the course of the investigation, it was decided that avian influenza was not the cause of the illness or deaths.

During this period, NaVRI received 19 samples of different types of sparrows collected by the Wildlife Conservation Society from the Riverside and Wat Phnom resort in Phnom Penh. Results of laboratory tests for eight samples will be known on Monday. The rest tested negative for HPAI through egg inoculation.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations with funding from Germany has expanded the gender and livelihood study to Siem Reap province. A study on “Gender and Socio-economic Impact of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza on the Rural Livelihood of Small Poultry Producers of Cambodia” was conducted by CEDAC (Cambodian Center for Study and Development in Agriculture) in July 2007 in

36 villages in Kampong Cham, Kampong Speu, Takeo and Kampot. The study provided important information for the South of the country. Similar information needs to be collected from the northern provinces of Cambodia which have different ecological and production conditions than the South. Siem Reap is a good representative of these Northern provinces. The Center for Development Oriented Research (CENTDOR), a local consultancy company, is conducting the study until end of May.

The study of the gender and socio-economic aspects of HPAI impacts on rural livelihoods is increasingly recognised as important in guiding policy makers in planning disease control measures. Similar studies conducted by FAO in other countries suggest that control measures such as large-scale culling, movement restriction and market closures are likely to have at least as much impact upon livelihoods than the disease itself. Both the financial and political costs associated with such impacts may affect decisions of individuals, communities and others to report disease occurrence, thereby threatening effective disease surveillance and control programmes.

## **2. Country situation: Human Health**

During week 17, the MOH hotline made 22 calls out and received 35 calls from Phnom Penh, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Kandal, Kampot, Kampong Speu, Preah Vihear and Svay Rieng provinces. 46 callers asked about signs and symptoms of avian influenza in humans and 11 calls involved animal health.

No human AI suspected found this week.

## **II. Upcoming Avian and Pandemic Influenza events in Cambodia**

28-29 April	UNSIC Review Mission
30 April- 2 May	WB AHI Mission
13 May	Monthly API Partnership meeting at UN conference room, 53 Pasteur Street (gate 1). 14.30-16.00
May	Step 5 in Siem Reap provincial pandemic planning pilot

## **III. International issues**

Click these links for the latest updates of the global situation on Avian Influenza:

<http://www.un-influenza.org>

[http://www.hewsworld.org/avian\\_flu/](http://www.hewsworld.org/avian_flu/)

<http://ochaonline.un.org/roap>

<http://www.influenza.undg.org>

<http://www.un-pic.org>

[http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian\\_influenza/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/index.html)

<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/subjects/en/health/diseases-cards/special-avian.html>

<http://www.hpai-research.net>