

Please Note: The 2016 TB-Eradication programme, approved for co-funding by the EU, will be continued through to the end of 2018. This is therefore current policy for implementation over the next 3-years although additional controls aiming to further reduce herd incidence will undoubtedly be incorporated as time progresses. Co-funding applications will, also be submitted to the EU for 2017 and 2018 and accordingly some details for the final programmes for each of those years may consequently be modified if and as required by the Commission.

1. **Identification of the programme**

Member **State: Ireland**

Disease(s)¹: **Bovine Tuberculosis**

Request of Community co-financing for²: **2016 to 2018**

Reference of this document: **TB Programme 2016 to 2018**

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**PROGRAMA ERRADICACIÓN TUBERCULOSIS BOVINA EN IRLANDA
2016 - 2018**

¹ One document per disease is used unless all measures of the programme on the target population are used for the monitoring, control and eradication of different diseases.

² Indicate the year(s) for which co-financing is requested

In view of the significant contribution of the badger culling programme to the reduction in the incidence of TB in Ireland and the likely contribution of vaccination of badgers in the future, we believe that the costs associated with badger culling and vaccination should be eligible for co-funding and we are applying for funding for these costs under this programme in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation 652/2014 which provides that costs other than those listed in Art 11(a) to (h) may be eligible for funding in exceptional and duly justified cases.

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1. Summary of measures under the programme

First year: 2016

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Control ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> Slaughter and animals tested positive ✓ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Testing ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> Killing of animals tested positive ✓ |

Last year: 2018

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eradication ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> Slaughter and animals tested positive ✓ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Testing ✓ | <input type="checkbox"/> Killing of animals tested positive ✓ |

4.1.1 Timeline for the eradication

The specific objective of the programme is the final eradication (biological extinction) of *M. bovis* from Ireland by addressing infection with this mycobacterium in all species in which it occurs and which share the same environment, to contribute to the high level of health for humans and animals and thereby eliminate the cost of the disease and associated controls. As indicated above, having regard to the progress achieved since 2008 and taking account of the reduction in the incidence of TB in badgers in recent years and the likely future developments in relation to the vaccination of badgers, Ireland believes that the programme currently in place is an effective programme and is capable of eradicating the disease by 2030.

The operational objective of this 3-year programme, 2016-2018 inclusive, with respect to sympatric animal species in which *M. bovis* causes infection is to continue to progressively reduce the measured and measureable disease parameters such as prevalence in wildlife and domestic species that act as maintenance hosts for *M. bovis*.

With respect to humans the Health Protection Surveillance Centre <http://www.hpsc.ie/> collates and publishes figures on the incidence of TB in humans attributed to *M. bovis* and the annual number of such cases each year is 6 (2011), 4 (2012), 5 (2013) and 3 (2014) [not all cases relate to Irish born people]. For TB cases born in Ireland the peak age group is >64yrs and without a current identified exposure risk it is probable that the exposure is historical in nature.

Con respecto a los humanos, el Centro de Vigilancia de Protección de la Salud <http://www.hpsc.ie/> recopila y publica cifras sobre la incidencia de la TB en humanos atribuida a *M. bovis* y el número anual de tales casos cada año es de 6 (2011), 4 (2012), 5 (2013) y 3 (2014) [no todos los casos se refieren a personas nacidas en Irlanda]. Para casos de tuberculosis nacidos en Irlanda, el pico el grupo de edad es > 64 años y sin un riesgo de exposición identificado actualmente es probable que la exposición sea de naturaleza histórica.

4.2 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders¹⁰ involved in the programme:

4.2.1. Programme and Policy

The initiation and drafting of the programme and policy is the responsibility of the ERAD (Eradication of Animal Disease) Administrative and Veterinary HQ Divisions of the DAFM under the responsibility of a Director of Animal Health and Welfare and Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer (DCVO). In consultation with ERAD HQ, the programme delivery is implemented through the Department's regional Veterinary offices (RVOs) which are operated and managed by Area Management teams (AMTs) whose main function is to ensure delivery of the programme and verification of the effectiveness of controls.

4.2.2. Veterinary Laboratory Services

The Veterinary Laboratory Services (VLS) comprises the Central Veterinary Research Laboratory (CVRL) and the Regional Veterinary Laboratory (RVL) at Backweston in Co. Kildare, the Brucellosis Laboratory, Cork, and five RVLs located in Athlone, Cork, Kilkenny, Limerick and Sligo. The Bacteriology/Parasitology Division of the VLS provides a number of services to the BTEP, including:

¹⁰ Describe the authorities in charge of supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme and the different operators involved. Describe the responsibilities of all involved.