



Emerging Animal Diseases in the Middle East Region: Potential Threats to Agriculture and Public Health.

**Middle East Regional Gap Analysis Workshop
Amman, Jordan
July 26-28, 2016**

Purpose: Identify strategic research initiatives that will enable the development of scientific information and veterinary medical countermeasures to protect animals and people.

The intent of the workshop is to identify gaps in knowledge associated with priority emerging and re-emerging diseases that pose a threat to animal agriculture, food security, and public health. Emphasis will be given to zoonotic diseases but diseases that impact food security and therefore the livelihood, nutrition, and health of people of the Middle East Region will be included. The goal of the workshop is to identify high level research priorities that, if implemented, will provide scientific information that will benefit the health of animals and people. This information will be useful to identify strategic areas of research for maintaining a healthy and safe food supply for the agricultural communities and consumers of agricultural products in the Middle East Region. This workshop will include representation from government and academic scientists, food animal commodity groups, and regulatory and funding agencies.

This workshop is organized with the support of the United States Department of State, Bureau of Near East Affairs, Office of Regional and Multilateral Affairs (NEA/RMA) and USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS).



Preliminary Program

DAY 1 TUESDAY AFTERNOON

JULY 26, 2016

	Opening: 1:00-1:15 PM
	<i>Welcome Address</i>
	<i>USDA's Investments in Agricultural Sciences Supporting Development of Agriculture in the Middle East Region</i> Ibrahim Shaqir, Director Office of International Research Programs Agricultural Research Service, USDA
	<i>The National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIH/NIAID) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) supports research on infectious diseases and immunology globally, including in the Middle East and North Africa Region</i> M. Jane Coury Regional Program Officer Middle East, North Africa, and Europe Office of Global Research National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases National Institutes of Health
	<i>Program Review – Workshop Objectives and Expected Outcomes</i> Cyril G. Gay, National Program Leader Animal Production and Protection Office of National Programs Agricultural Research Service, USDA
	Fawzi Shiab Director General National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension

Session 1

Review of the Animal Health Situation and Priorities in the Middle East Region and North Africa

The purpose of this session is to review the status of animal agriculture in the Middle East Region and North Africa. Emphasis will be given to diseases that pose a threat to animal production, food security, and public health.

1:15 – 4:30	Regional Status of Animal Health By Country Moderator: Nabil Hailat
4:30 – 6:00	Working Reception
7:00	Group Dinner

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY ALL DAY

JULY 27, 2016

Session 2

Gap Analysis

Identification of Gaps, Available Scientific Information and/or Veterinary Medical Countermeasures to Control Priority Diseases

The aim of this session is to identify gaps in knowledge and available veterinary medical countermeasures, and to discuss the specific aspects of priority diseases that makes them especially damaging to animal agriculture, the livelihood of farmers, regional economies, and/or public health. After the disease-specific presentations, breakout groups will be organized for each the five diseases selected for this workshop. Participants will have three hours to identify research priorities and explore potential research collaborations to implement the research.

Rabies	
Brucellosis	
PMERS	
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch
Avian Influenza	
Foot & Mouth Disease	
3:00 – 3:15	Overview of Breakout Session Methodology and Objectives Cyril Gay
3:15 – 6:00	Breakout Groups
Voucher Dinner	

DAY 3 THURSDAY UNTIL EARLY AFTERNOON

JULY 28, 2016

SESSION 3

Report from Breakout Groups

The purpose of the last session will be for the breakout groups to report the outcome of their gap analysis on research needs and priorities for each of the five diseases and briefly discuss potential international research collaborations to implement the research. Products of the workshop will be a written report and proposals for research collaboration to address the research priorities identified during the workshop.

- Breakout Groups to Designate Presenters

9:00 – 9:30	Rabies	
	Research Priorities	Group Report
	Potential Research Collaborations of Mutual Interest	
9:30 – 10:00	Brucellosis	
	Research Priorities	Group Report
	Potential Research Collaborations of Mutual Interest	
10:00 - 10:30	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus	
	Research Priorities	Group Report
	Potential Research Collaborations of Mutual Interest	
10:30 – 11:00	Avian Influenza	
	Research Priorities	Group Report
	Potential Research Collaborations of Mutual Interest	
11:00 – 11:30	Foot & Mouth Disease	
	Research Priorities	Group Report
	Potential Research Collaborations of Mutual Interest	
1130 – 11:50	Instructions for submitting research proposals and next steps	Cyril Gay
11:50 – 12:00	Closing Remarks	Ibrahim Shaqir
12:00 – 1:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
Depart		