



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Community Research

## EU-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECT

### 2<sup>nd</sup> European surveillance network for influenza in pigs (ESNIP 2)

**Time of action:** ESNIP 2 started in January 2006 and is scheduled to end in December 2008

**EU budget (funding):** €0.3 million

This project builds on the solid foundation of a previous EC concerted action (ESNIP 1). Its aim is to better understand the epidemiology and evolution of swine influenza virus (SIV) in different European countries, through an organised surveillance programme together with antigenic/genetic characterisation using standardised methodology.

These data will be used to improve the diagnosis of SIV by updating the reagents used in classical techniques and by the development of a rapid, molecular test for SIV detection. The virus bank and electronic database that were established during ESNIP 1 will also be expanded with relevant SIV isolates and information.

In addition, European pigs will be screened for the circulation of avian influenza viruses and the influenza situation in swine will be compared with that in humans and birds. This will allow to better analyse the public health risk of influenza in swine

Participation from third countries (Hong Kong, USA) will facilitate greater global interaction and worldwide understanding of the epidemiology of SIV.

Project Coordinator is Kristien Van Reeth