



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community Research

EU-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECT

New and emerging technologies: Improved laboratory and on-site detection of OIE List A viruses in animals and animal products (Lab-on-Site)

Time of action: LAB-ON-SITE started in November 2004 and is scheduled to end in January 2008

EU budget (funding): €1.5 million

Accurate diagnosis is the first, and arguably most important, step in controlling epidemic diseases in animals. But the value of even the best diagnostic techniques is limited unless results can be obtained quickly. This project will develop, test and distribute a range of new, improved diagnostic systems. These will include on-site systems that will allow breeders, government agents and other people on the 'front line' to obtain immediate results. The group will also develop laboratory-based procedures that can be used to confirm the quick-and-easy pen-side approaches. For avian influenza the diagnostic tests will make use of several basic technologies.

The work of LAB-ON-SITE complements the investigations of the extended AVIFLU project and the two are to coordinate their work together. The combination of improved and standardised diagnostics and AVIFLU's insights into avian influenza transmission should strengthen both Europe's position in animal welfare in general, and its protection from the immediate risk of avian influenza in particular.

Project Coordinator is Professor Sándor Belák