1. **Basic Information**

1.1. **Désirée Number:** 2002/000-590-02-02  
**Twinning Component Number:** LV/2002/IB/EC-02

1.2. **Title:** Food chain surveillance

1.3. **Sector:** Free Movement of goods / Consumer Protection / Agriculture

1.4. **Location:** Republic of Latvia, Ministry of Agriculture; Republikas sq. 2, Riga, LV-1010; Food and Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture; Republikas sq. 2, Riga, LV-1010; State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre; Lejupes Str. 3, Riga, LV-1076;

1. **Objectives**

2.1. **Overall Objective:**  
Ensure food safety.

2.2. **Project purpose:**  
To strengthen capacity of food chain surveillance institutions.

2.3. **Accession Partnership**  
**Consumers and Health protection:**  
- Ensure the effectiveness of administrative structures involved in market surveillance.

   **Free movement of goods:**  
- Reinforce national accreditation system; upgrade national metrology system; complete the reform of market surveillance; design the appropriate bodies regarding notification procedures and ensure their functioning.

   **Agriculture**  
- Upgrade capacity of the agricultural administration and complete preparations for the enforcement and particular application of the management mechanisms of the Common Agricultural Policy, in particular the Integrated Administration and Control System and the Paying Agency as well as for implementation and enforcement of veterinary and phytosanitary and food safety legislation.

NPAA priority:

- Technical Fiche – LA – 029 (agricultural products)  
“Ensuring of requirements of safety, harmless and quality for agricultural products”
- Technical Fiche – LA – 032  
“Preparation of veterinary, phytosanitary, agricultural, foodstuff quality and safety, and hygiene legislation according to the EU requirements.”

3. **Description**

3.1. **Background and justification:**  
Since the food production chain is becoming more and more complex, each link in this chain must be strong so as to ensure that consumer health is adequately protected. It is therefore crucial to organize market surveillance in the food sector in a more coordinated and integrated manner with the aim to achieve the highest possible level of consumer health protection.
The competent authorities of the Republic of Latvia have identified the following steps to ensure the market surveillance system can operate effectively along the whole food chain in order to protect consumer health and safety:
- Development of risk management system;
- Development and implementation of Rapid Alert System; and
- Strengthening of laboratory testing capability.

**Development of risk management system**

One of the basic principles laid down in the European Commission’s “White paper in food safety” (12 January 2000) is that food safety surveillance should be based on risk analysis. This is also stressed in the Final report of the working group for Setting up of Food Circulation State Monitoring Service in food circulation state surveillance. Council Directive 178/2002 prescribes the general framework of a horizontal nature to be followed when measures are taken and noted risk management as one of those.

In order to implement these EU basic requirements, a single state institution in Latvia was created – The Food and Veterinary Service (FVS), which will be responsible for surveillance and control in all stages of food circulation. Development and implementation of the system of risk management is one of the tasks in the FVS in order to provide a co-ordinated and methodically managed work of all the divisions of surveillance and control in the service, according to common principles based on science. It is necessary to cover the whole of the food chain “from stable to table”, establishing a high level of consumer health protection and clearly attribute primary responsibility for safe food production to industry, producers and suppliers.

The Sanitary Border Inspection (SBI) (under the responsibility of the Food and Veterinary Service) uses elements of risk management when controlling imported cargoes. With the help of an information system SBI inspectors can receive information about goods imported by enterprises. The risk management system needs to be upgraded. An integrated data base model as a risk management subsidiary element to store the results of monitoring needs to be elaborated to provide an efficient tool for decision making.

Data bases on risk management must contain information about inspection results as well as information about samples taken within state surveillance program and their testing results. Electronic data bases will ensure rational and effective processing of information for risk management particularly hazard identification and evaluation ensuring effective food control. Elaborating effective application of data filtration it will be possible to identify weak points of food control and to perform corrective actions. This will lead to expedient use of such limited resources as time, money and people.

Next step for risk management is evaluation of implemented corrective actions that is connected with data processing again. Data bases have significant importance in planning of activities using risk management approach for the next year, for example modelling monitoring programmes for residue control in animal and plant origin products in accordance with EU requirements.

**Development and implementation of Rapid Alert System (RAS)**

One of the preconditions of Candidate Countries for integration to EU is strengthening of administrative capacity. For implementation of EU basic regulations the Food and Veterinary Service is to perform state surveillance in the whole food chain.

Information exchange to take immediate preventive actions (in the case of risk management) must be ensured when direct or indirect risk to human health from food or animal feed may occur. To manage these hazardous cases effectively close coordination among all involved institutions will be necessary.

EU regulation 178/2002 (Articles 50 - 52) in force since 21 February, 2002 states the principles for the Rapid Alert System. Announcements made within Rapid Alert System regarding information on food/feed products that present a direct or indirect risk to human health works as network of information flow.

For effective integration into international Rapid Alert System Latvia should ensure that its systems at national level are well-developed so as to enable its national, regional or local authorities to assume their responsibilities and to take appropriate action to inform others when a potential problem occurs in their area.
Currently the information flow is not properly coordinated. There is no system in Latvia which would allow to react quickly in case of a direct or indirect hazardous risk for human health. The speed with which the information is communicated is crucial.

For successful elaboration of Rapid Alert System it is necessary to establish a mutual announcement scheme among all involved parties and develop precise action procedures.

Not all the information related to infringements found during inspections could be classified as an emergency which require immediate corrective actions. In these cases it nevertheless will be essential to ensure effective control. It is therefore necessary to elaborate criteria that would allow separating cases in the order of their dangerousness.

Taking into account the increasing volume of cross border food trade, Latvia will have to set up the Rapid Alert System to inform the Commission and other Member States in time in case of need.

**Strengthening of laboratory testing system**

In the framework of the *Phare 1999* project a concept concerning the development of official food control laboratories was elaborated. On the basis of this concept a reorganisation plan for the official veterinary laboratories was drawn up.

Although progress regarding the possibilities for laboratory testing of food products has been made, there are still areas which food control laboratories are not able to cover:

- To guarantee reliability of test results it is essential to ensure quality of water used for testing. Presently State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre (SVMDC) has a low capacity water purification system of type III laboratory-grade water, but territorial laboratories have old distillation systems. Water purification system (type II analytical grade) is required for improvement of water quality according to standard LVS ISO 7218 in the central laboratory and two regional laboratories providing quality in whole testing procedure both microbiology and chemistry.

- At this moment there is only one AAS (atomic absorption spectrophotometer) system in network of FVS laboratories with deuterium background correction. Increasing number of samples and variety of matrices determines the need for extending of capacity of AAS laboratory. Purchase of Zeeman background correction AAS will allow to determine content of heavy metals in lower concentration and enhance selectivity of method in accordance with *Commission Directive 2001/22/EC laying down the sampling methods and the methods of analysis for the official control of the levels of lead, cadmium, mercury and 3-MCPD in foodstuffs*. Determination of trace elements should be carried out using two configurations and test regimes simultaneously. Two atomic absorption spectrophotometer systems could test regimes with in appropriate time. If only one system is used it requires additional workload to change test regimes of elements’ group and testing time is increasing 3 – 4 times.

Testing capacity of the regional laboratories shall be improved. According to the *Reorganization Plan of Laboratory Network*. The number of laboratories will be decreased to 7 laboratories in 2005. Thus the workload of remaining laboratories will increase. This would also involve an increase of the number of official samples and an extension of the testing scope is expected in connection with in creased responsibilities of the Food and Veterinary Service. In accordance with the distribution of testing activities between central and territorial laboratories, the latter will carry out routine microbiological testing of parameters envisaged by legislation.

*Council Directive 92/117 concerning measures for protection against specified zoonoses and specified zoonotic agents in animals and products of animal origin in order to prevent outbreaks of food-borne infections and intoxications and agents of “new” food-borne diseases like as E.coli O157*. According to ISO standards (ISO 6340; ISO 6785; ISO 6579 (detection of Salmonella in different products); ISO 6888 (detection of Staphylococcus aureus); ISO 7937 (detection of Clostridium prefringens); ISO 10560; ISO 11290 (detection of Listeria monocitogenes)) equipment should be upgraded thus improving the capacity of territorial laboratories regarding investigations of food pathogens and strengthening of official food control system.

Laboratory equipment is proposed for the Central laboratory of SVMDC as well as for five regional laboratories: Latgale regional veterinary laboratories situated in Rezekne and Daugavpils, Vidzeme regional veterinary laboratory situated in Valmiera and Kurzeme regional veterinary laboratories situated in Liepaja and Venspils.
3.2. Linked activities:

EU Phare 1998 Programme project “Support to the Latvian Ministry of Agriculture to Implement the Acquis Communautaire of the EU” (Latvian-German-French twinning)

There were two components of the project related to veterinary and Phytosanitary services. Within the component **Veterinary control services** the description and analysis of the situation of that period (June 1999 until November 2000) in the following sectors (legal structure of existing agricultural, customs and land consolidation administration, legal framework, personnel, financial and institutional recourses, methods applied) were made.

The final phase also included recommendations for continuing the reinforcement of the three concerned sub-sectors identifying especially further twinning measures needed till accession of Latvia.

EU Phare 1999 project LE9904.02 “Modernisation and Capacity Building of Food Control at National and Regional Level”

The project consists of four components:

*The first component*
Design of the Control System and Capacity Building for Ministry of Welfare through Twinning is meant to combine the experience from the EU with the enhancement of the food safety, hygiene and quality in Latvia. Expected activities within this component were a) strengthening of state control and supervision system; b) harmonisation of legislation; c) design of investment needs for upgrading of accredited food control laboratories; d) communication system on food safety (assistance in the assessment of the present communication tools in the institutions involved in the project).

*The second component*
Supply of equipment to the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture for food hygiene testing. The supply of equipment was accomplished successfully.

*The third component*
Training is meant to improve the state control and supervision system through training and exchange of experience. Within the project food inspectors from the Ministry of Welfare and Ministry of Agriculture were trained with the purpose to improve the efficiency of practical control through experience of the inspectors of EU Member States (the Netherlands). The project is addressing seminars in the following areas: (a) HACCP national evaluation system; (b) Contamination monitoring system; (c) Register of food enterprises; (d) “Novel food”, Genetically Modified food and “Food born” diseases; (e) Seminar on health promotion.

*The fourth component*
Implementation of the Communication system is meant to improve the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, FVS in food safety and quality control. This component included a system analysis which is essential for the future organisation of the food control and the work on development of an information system and to ensure effective work with data of laboratory analysis (samples taken during the inspections).

This Phare 2002 project will not overlap with the previous assistance in food control area, but is building a logical continuation and follow up of activities supported by Phare 1998 and especially Phare 1999 project. Whereas the Phare 1999 project was aimed at establishing the legislative and institutional framework for the food control system, this project is targeted to enhance the capacity of the established system and fill gaps not covered by previous assistance.

3.3. Results:

- Twinning:

  *Development of risk management system*
  - Existing risk management system is evaluated;
  - Proposal on improving risk management system including data base as supplementary element of risk management is provided;
  - Trained staff on risk management structures.
**Development and implementation of Rapid Alert System**

- Existing organisation of information flow regarding information on food/feed products that present a direct or indirect risk to human health is evaluated;
- Analysis of existing information exchange system with identification of parties that are necessary to be involved to ensure “Rapid Alert System” in whole country;
- Criteria for levels of Rapid Alert System - (a) Alert notification, (b) Information notification, (c) “News” – are developed;
- Manuals of procedures including schemes for information flow within Rapid Alert System are elaborated;
- Personnel trained able to maintain the information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health.

**Information exchanged between internal and external state food control authorities.** EU Member countries and international organisations on existing risk management and Rapid Alert System is ensured.

**Strengthening of laboratory testing system**

- Trained personnel that is able to perform testing of food products in accordance with national and international standards, methodologies and requirements.
- **Supply of equipment**
  - Improved laboratory capacity, reliability of test results and increased testing scope;
  - Improved laboratory water quality (according to standard LVS ISO 7218) used in testing of food products thus assuring testing quality;
  - State veterinary laboratories testing capability is strengthened by provided upgrade equipment;
  - Improved technical facilities for food inspectors.

3.4. **Activities:**

- **Twinning:**

**Development of risk management system** *(in accordance with Council Directive 178/2002 – Articles 6, 7)*

- Evaluation of existing risk management system;
- Elaboration of proposal on improving risk management system including data base as supplementary element for risk management;
- Training of staff in risk management structures and its usage in everyday work:
  - Study visit.

**Means:**

1 short term expert on risk management issues (2,5 mm).

**Development and implementation of Rapid Alert System** *(in accordance with EU regulation 178/2002 – Articles 50 – 52)*

- Evaluation of existing information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health;
- Preparation of report on existing information exchange system with identification of parties that are necessary to be involved to ensure “Rapid Alert System” in whole country;
- Development of criteria for levels of Rapid Alert System:
  - Alert notification;
  - Information notification;
  - “News”;
- Elaboration and submission of manuals of procedures including schemes for information flow within Rapid Alert System.
- Training of parties involved in information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health:
- Seminar;
- Study visit.

Means:
1 short term expert on implementation of Rapid Alert System (3 mm);
1 short term expert on implementation of RAS (1,5 mm).

**Insurance of information exchanged between internal and external state food control authorities.**
EU Member countries and international organisations on existing risk management and Rapid Alert System.

Means:
1 Long term expert (PAA) on risk management and Rapid Alert System (12 mm).

**Strengthening of laboratory testing system** (in accordance with Commission Directive 2001/22/EC, 92/117/EC)

- Training of laboratory personnel:
  - Seminars in Latvia on Laboratory management; Food pathogens: methods and newest technologies of detection;
  - Training visits for laboratory staff to Member States on:
    - Detection of food microorganisms: Salmonella typing, Listeria monocitogenes, Campylobacter, Bronchotrix, S.aureus, Yersinia, E.coli O154, Lactic acid bacteria, Media preparation for detection of food pathogens and quality assurance;
    - Application of Zeeman background correction and flow injection system for testing of toxic elements.

Means:
1 short term laboratory expert (1 mm).

- Supply of equipment
- Supply of equipment

**Twinning experts’ profile:**

1 Pre-Accession Adviser (12 mm)
- at least ten-year experience in market surveillance and control in relevant body of EU Member state;
- experience in development of strategic documents and legislative acts;
- working experience with risk management and Rapid Alert System;
- Relevant University degree
- fluency in English.

1 short term expert on risk management system (2,5 mm):
- at least five-year experience on risk management issues;
- experience in the setting up of risk management system;
- experience in development of procedures and proposals;
- working experience in similar EU Member state body
- Relevant University degree
- fluency in English.

2 short term experts on Rapid Alert Systems related to food surveillance (3 and 1,5 mm) profile:
- at least five-year experience on Rapid Alert System issues;
- experience in the setting up of Rapid Alert System;
• experience in development of criteria and procedures;
• working experience in similar EU Member state body
• Relevant University degree
• fluency in English.

1 short term laboratory expert (1 mm)
• at least five-year working experience in relevant EU Member state laboratory;
• working experience with newest testing methods;
• experience in evaluation of technical specifications concerning laboratory equipment in food area;
• Relevant University degree
• fluency in English.

3.5. Lessons learned:

According to the Interim Evaluation Report No IE/LE/AGR/01019 there are remarks that are going to be taken into consideration by implementing authority during, implementation and finalization of the project:

1) “2.2.2 - …Sequencing of the projects also needs special attention.” As there is newly established FVS that is now responsible for food safety control throughout the whole food chain in Latvia, one of the main tasks is the strengthening of Risk assessment department as the food safety surveillance is mainly based on risk analysis.

2) “2.6. - …In addition, the beneficiaries were not too precise in estimating the budget for the equipment supplies and installation of the information system on food control.” This remark is going to be taken into consideration and all the budgetary subjects are going to be recalculated with assistance of local experts.

3) “3.6.1. – The rating “unsatisfactory” is in part due to the difficult programme environment involving many stakeholders and major changes in the structural policy of food control during the course of the project implementation.” Project is going to have two main stakeholders – FVS and SVMDC that is under supervision of FVS. Also the structural policy of state is determined clearly now and no more crucial changes are expected in this respect.

4) “4.1.4. - The SPO should also ensure that the regional food control specialists who have no knowledge of foreign languages benefit from the training activities.” This remark goes together with contribution that was asked (allocation of the certain amount of finances for translation needs) from the project in the previous proposals.

4. Institutional Framework

The Parliament, when adopting the Law on Veterinary Medicine (26.04.2001, as last amended on 13.12.2001), enlarged the scope of the State Veterinary Service, which is now (as from 01.07.2001) the Food and Veterinary Service. In order to improve the effectiveness of the food control and the implementation of the EU rules from 2002 a single institution is responsible for food safety control throughout the whole food chain. For this purpose, in accordance with the Law on Veterinary Medicine and the Law on Surveillance of Food Circulation, following additional tasks have been added to the functions of the former State Veterinary Service:

- Food safety control in retail and Catering (formerly performed by State Sanitary Inspection (SBI));
- Veterinary border control, thus ensuring that veterinary control in the country and on the external border is carried out by the same and uniform body (formerly performed by SBI);
- Food safety and quality control in production of plant origin products (formerly performed by – Plant Origin product Quality Service).

In order to implement these functions, the new FVS has partly incorporated the above-mentioned institutions and overtake their human, financial and technical resources. FVS, SBI and the Plant Origin product Quality Service are now joined together into the Food Circulation State Monitoring and Control Service on the basis of the FVS.
Basic functions of the FVS are supervision and control of compliance with valid procedures and requirements at the establishments subjected to supervision all over the food chain, in the sphere of animal health and welfare, as well as border control of incoming, outgoing and transit consignments, with a view to ensuring a safe and reliable circulation of food, favourable status for animal infectious diseases and animal health.

Article 4 of the Law on Veterinary Medicine (26.04.2001) lays down the provision that the FVS, based on requirements set by the State surveillance programmes and regulatory documents, organizes and ensures a joint State surveillance and control in the following areas: a) Prophylactics and eradication of animal infectious diseases; b) Animal welfare; c) Products of animal origin; d) Circulation of animal waste; e) Circulation of veterinary drugs, veterinary pharmaceuticals and means of animal care; f) Circulation of animal feed and feed additives; g) Registration of animals and herds, identification of herds and animal movement; h) Classification of carcasses.

Based on Article 21 of the Food Circulation Law, functions of the FVS within food chain are as follows: a) To carry out supervision and control, all over the food circulation chain, of conformity with requirements laid down in regulatory documents of foodstuffs; b) To approve and register activities of food processing plants according to procedures provided by regulatory documents; c) To carry out supervision and control of activities of food processing plants and conformity of processes taking place within food circulation with requirements laid down by regulatory documents; d) To carry out supervision and control of foodstuffs brought into the country; e) To carry out veterinary supervision and control in compliance with regulatory documents.

Performance of the FVS functions is organized and ensured by:

- Central body of the FVS (national level);
- Territorial structural units of the FVS in each district and Riga city;
- SBI of the FVS (as from 01.01.2002);
- The SVMDC of the FVS.

Veterinary control on the external border, in free zones, free warehouses and customs warehouses regarding bringing into the country of foodstuffs, products subjected to veterinary checks, as well as imports, exports or transit of other goods or products is carried out by the SBI. In accordance with procedures provided by regulatory documents, SBI carries out the functions of the State supervision and control at the border control posts.

To ensure a joint State supervision and control of the food chain and animal health, there are two departments set up within the Central body of the FVS – Food Control Department and Animal health and welfare Department.

The Food Control department has the following tasks: a) Coordination and management of conformity control of foodstuffs in respect of public and animal health; b) Appraisal, approval and registration of food processing plants; c) Conformity control of food processing plants and the food chain; d) Risk analysis and management within the food chain.

The Animal health and Welfare Department has the following tasks: a) To coordinate and manage measures for prophylactic and eradication of animal infectious diseases; b) To control compliance with animal welfare requirements, registration and circulation control of veterinary medicine, animal feed and veterinary pharmaceuticals; c) To control registration of animals and herds and animal movement; d) To carry out risk analysis and to undertake management in case of animal infectious diseases.

Activities of the FVS are managed by the Director who is at the same time the State Chief Food and Veterinary Inspector.

The territorial structural unit of the FVS carries out the State supervision and control functions in a definite part of the country’s territory. Head of the territorial structural unit is the State senior food inspector or the State senior veterinary inspector of a respective territory. If the head of a respective territorial structural unit is the State senior food inspector of a respective territory then his deputy is the State senior veterinary inspector and vice versa.

Based on Article 11 on the Law on Veterinary Medicine, the SVMDC:
1) Carries out functions of a reference laboratory in the areas of laboratory diagnostics of animal infectious diseases and laboratory control of residues;
2) Fulfils reference functions in respect of other types of laboratory examinations in accordance with authority of the Cabinet of Ministers;
3) Ensures laboratory examinations provided by residue control programme;
4) On request, in accordance with the procedure provided by the Cabinet of Ministers, carries out laboratory examinations in diagnostics of animal infectious diseases, as well as laboratory examinations associated with environmental, veterinary drugs, pharmaceuticals, animal feed, feed additives and circulation of food;
5) Organizes interlaboratory calibration of the self-check laboratories belonging to establishments.

5. Detailed Budget

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<th>Phare Support</th>
<th>Phare Investment Support</th>
<th>Support Institution Building</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
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6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1. Implementing Agency
Central Financing and Contracting Unit, Ministry of Finance, Smilsu str. 1, Riga LV – 1919

- **PAO Mrs Valentina Andrejeva**, State Secretary of the Ministry of Finance,
The overall technical responsibility is under the Ministry of Agriculture; Republikas sq. 2, Riga, LV-1010;

- contact person: **Mr Martins Roze**, Head of EU Integration and Foreign Affairs Department; Senior Programme Officer
  Phone: +371 7027567; Fax: +371 7830272, e-mail: martins.roze@zm.gov.lv

6.2. Twinning
Ministry of Agriculture: Republikas sq. 2, Riga, LV-1010;

- contact person: **Mr Martins Roze**, Head of EU Integration and Foreign Affairs Department; Senior Programme Officer
  Phone: +371 7027567; Fax: +371 7830272, e-mail: martins.roze@zm.gov.lv

Food and Veterinary Service, Ministry of Agriculture: Republikas sq. 2, Riga, LV-1010;

- contact person: **Mr Vinets Veldre**, Head of Food and Veterinary Service;
  Phone: +371 7325446, Fax: +371 7322727; e-mail: vinets.veldre@pvd.gov.lv
- contact person: **Mrs Biruta Amolina**, Head of International Projects Department;
  Phone: +371 7095269, Fax: +371 7322727; e-mail address: biruta.amolina@pvd.gov.lv

State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre: Lejupes Str. 3, Riga, LV-1076;

- contact person: **Mrs Alda Vizbule**, Head of EU legislation department;
  Phone: +371 7620668; Fax: +371 7620434; e-mail address: alda@vvdc.lv

6.3. Non standard aspects
During the project implementation DIS Manual will be strictly followed and contracts will be signed according to the procedures provided in Practical Guide for Phare, ISPA and SAPARD Contracting Procedures.
Ratio: if during project implementation the project cost for some reasons will decrease, the Phare financing will also decrease proportionally.

6.4. **Contracts**
Contract 1: Twinning Phare – 393 000 EURO
Contract 2: Supply contract 300 000 EURO

7. **Implementation Schedule**

7.1. **Start of tendering/call for proposals**

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<th>Twining covenant</th>
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7.2. **Start of project activity**
Start of Twinning activities 1 May, 2003;
Start of equipment supply 1 December, 2003.

7.3. **Project Completion**
Final payment within the Twinning contract - May, 2004
Final payment within supply contract - April, 2004

8. **Equal Opportunity**
There will be equal rights for all appropriate civil servants to participate in the activities of the project.

9. **Environment**
N/a

10. **Rates of return**
N/a

11. **Investment criteria**

11.1. **Catalytic effect:**
As a result of implementation of project the institutional capacity of food safety control of the Food and Veterinary Service will be strengthened and requirements EU of food control legislation will be met.

11.2. Co-financing:
The project will be co-financed by the Latvian Government through the state budget funds for contracting in the amount of 119 000 Euro. The co-financing will be allocated in state budget for the year 2003 and 2004 as soon as Phare funds will be available.

11.3. Additionality:
The Phare funds will attract additional funds from state budget as co-financing for investment in laboratory equipment. No other financiers will be displaced.

11.4. Project readiness and Size:
Total project cost is 0,7 MEUR. Twinning size is 0,4 MEUR and 0,3 MEUR for supplies. The project will be ready for implementation as soon as funds are available. To guarantee this, involved institutions have carried out the evaluation of training and investment needs.

11.5. Sustainability:
Latvian Government will cover future maintenance and operation costs.

11.6. Compliance with state aids provisions:
State aids provisions of the Europe Agreement will be respected.

11.7. Contribution to National development Plan
Technical assistance and investments support to accomplish priorities in the Technical Fiche – LA-029, LA-032 and the Reorganization Plan of Laboratory Network.

12. Conditionality and sequencing
- Steering committee established;
- Three working groups established;
  o Development of food surveillance and control system based on risk analysis and management system;
  o Implementation and maintenance of Rapid Alert System – elaboration, possible installation, and complete implementation of Rapid Alert System;
  o Strengthening of laboratory testing system – elaboration of technical specification;
- Procurement of equipment is subject to the approval by EU expert.
- Ensured co-financing by the state budget

Annexes
Annex I Logical framework matrix in standard format
Annex II Detailed implementation plan
Annex III Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of programme
Annex IV List of relevant Laws and regulations
## LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Food chain surveillance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programme name and number</td>
<td>Contracting period expires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total budget:</td>
<td>Phare budget:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>737 000 Euro</td>
<td>618 000 Euro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Annex I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall objective</th>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
<th>Sources of Verification</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure food safety</td>
<td>- Food control system ensuring traceability of products which present risk to human health; - Food control systems comply with EU requirements.</td>
<td>Regular Progress Report; EU Common Position.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project purpose</th>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
<th>Sources of Verification</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To strengthen capacity of food chain surveillance institutions</td>
<td>- Established and implemented Rapid Alert System in the Food and Veterinary Service</td>
<td>Regular Progress Report; Strategic and structural plans.</td>
<td>Support from other relevant institutions; Adequate provision from state budget.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Results

- Existing risk management system is evaluated;
- Proposal on improving risk management system including data base as supplementary element of risk management is provided;
- Trained staff on risk management structures;
- Existing organization of information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health is evaluated;
- Analysis on existing information exchange system carried out with identification of parties that are necessary to be involved to ensure “Rapid Alert System” in whole country;
- Criteria for levels of Rapid Alert System – (a) Alert notification, (b) Information notification, (c) “News” – are developed;
- Manuals of procedures including schemes for information flow within Rapid Alert System are elaborated;
- Personnel trained able to maintain the information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health;
- Information exchange between internal and external state food control authorities, EU Member countries and international organisations on existing risk management and Rapid Alert System is ensured.
- Trained personnel that is able to perform testing of food products in accordance with national and international standards, methodologies and requirements
- Improved laboratory capacity, reliability of test results and increased testing scope;
- Improved laboratory water quality (according to standard LVS ISO 7218) used in testing of food products thus assuring testing quality;
- State veterinary laboratories testing capability is strengthened by provided upgrade equipment;
- Improved technical facilities food inspectors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectively verifiable indicators</th>
<th>Sources of Verification</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Proposals on improvement of risk management system is elaborated; - Rapid Alert System is elaborated; - Personnel educated regarding information flow on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health (~20 people) and risk management system (<del>3 people); - Laboratory staff is educated on performance of testing of food products (</del> 20 people); - Laboratory is capable to fulfil testing of food pathogens and trace elements; - Inspectors are equipped with necessary technical facilities.</td>
<td>Inception, quarter and final reports of the envisaged project; Regular Progress Report.</td>
<td>Change in the structure and functions of the institutions involved; Training is relevant and adequate in timing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12
- Evaluation of existing risk management system;
- Elaboration of proposal on improving risk management system including data base as supplementary element for risk management;
- training of staff in risk management structures and its usage in everyday work;
- Evaluation of existing information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health;
- Preparation of report on existing information exchange system with identification of parties that are necessary to be involved to ensure “Rapid Alert System” in whole country;
- Development of criteria for levels of Rapid Alert System;
- Elaboration and submission of manuals of procedures including schemes for information flow within Rapid Alert System;
- Training of parties involved in information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health;
- Insurance of information exchanged between internal and external state food control authorities, EU Member countries and international organisations on existing risk management and Rapid Alert System.
- Training of laboratory personnel:
  - 1 PAA on risk management and Rapid Alert System for 12 mm;
  - 1 short term expert on risk management system for 2,5 mm;
  - 1 short term expert on Rapid Alert System 3 mm;
  - 1 short term expert on risk management and Rapid Alert System 1,5 mm;
  - 1 short term laboratory experts 1 mm;
  - 3 study visits.
  - 3 seminars;
  - Inspection equipment;
  - Equipment for testing of food pathogens
  - Equipment for testing of residue and environmental contaminants;
  - Equipment for purification of water.
  - The Steering Committee of envisaged project;
  - Regular Progress Report.

**Preconditions**

- Secondary veterinary legislation, instructions on sampling methods. State surveillance and control programme.
- 20 April, 2001 the Government of Latvia made a decision to establish a joint service responsible for food safety surveillance on the basis of the Food and Veterinary Service and delegated to the Minister of Agriculture to set up a working group with a view of preparing proposals for measures to be taken in order to establish the joint service.
- Central and territorial units are equipped with hardware and software;
- Long and short term experts have corresponding experience and skills.
### Detailed implementation plan

**Project No:**
**Project title:** Food chain surveillance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTRACT I – TWINNING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Evaluation of existing risk management system;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Elaboration of proposal on improving risk management system including data base as supplementary element for risk management;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Training of staff in risk management structures and its usage in everyday work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1. 1 study visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Evaluation of existing information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Report on existing information exchange system identifying parties that are necessary to involve to ensure “Rapid Alert System” in whole country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Development of criteria for levels of Rapid Alert System: (a) Alert notification, (b) Information notification, (c) “News”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Elaboration and submission of manuals of procedures for Rapid Alert System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Training of parties involved in information flow regarding information on food/feed products which present a direct or indirect risk to human health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1. 1 seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2. 1 study visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Seminar for laboratory staff in Latvia on Laboratory management and food pathogens: methods and newest technologies of detection;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Insurance of information exchanged between internal and external state food control authorities, EU Member countries and international organisations</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
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<tr>
<td>IV</td>
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<td>VI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
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<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract I – Twinning</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. on existing risk management and Rapid Alert System;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Training visits for laboratory staff to MS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.1. Detection of food microorganisms: Salmonella typing, Listeria monocitogenes, Campylobacter, Brochotrix, S.aureus, Yersinia, E.coli O154, Lactic acid bacteria, Media preparation for detection of food pathogens and quality assurance;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.2. Application of Zeeman background correction and flow injection system for testing of toxic elements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract II – Supply of Equipment</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Providing of equipment</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1.</td>
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### Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of programme

*Project No:*

*Project title: Food chain surveillance*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Contract 1 – Twinning</th>
<th>Contract 2 – Supply</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>T</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>31.03.03</td>
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<td>30.06.03</td>
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<td>30.09.05</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31.12.05</td>
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</table>

**T**  Tendering  
**C**  Contracting  
**P**  Payment
### Annex IV

**List of relevant Laws and regulations**

3. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 130 “Hygiene requirements on food circulation” in force since 18.04.1998.
4. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 292 “Regulation on food contamination” in force since 20.08.1999.
5. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 293 “Regulation on maximum residue limits of pesticides in foodstuff of animal origin” in force since 20.08.1999.
8. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 86 “Regulation on obligatory safety requirements in food where food additives are used” in force since 27.02.2001.
9. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 264 “Regulation on obligatory safety requirements and maximum residue limits of veterinary medicine products in foodstuffs of animal origin” in force since 08.08.2000.
10. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 63 “Obligatory safety requirements for drinking water” in force since 03.03.1999.
12. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 46 “Regulation on labelling of foodstuff” in force since 08.02.2000.
13. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 144 “Obligatory safety and labelling requirements on dietary food with diminish energetic value” in force since 27.03.2001.
14. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 155 “Obligatory safety and labelling requirements on dietary food for humans with a health disorder” in force since 03.04.2001.
15. Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 314 “Obligatory safety requirements on foodstuff where in the production extraction dissolvent are used” in force since 10.07.2001.
## Text abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAC</td>
<td>Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVS</td>
<td>Food and Veterinary Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMO</td>
<td>Genetically Modified Organisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCR</td>
<td>Polymerise Chain reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAS</td>
<td>Rapid Alert System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBI</td>
<td>Sanitary Border Inspection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVMDC</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre</td>
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</table>
## Annex X

### Indicative detailed budget breakdown for investment

#### Food chain surveillance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
<th>Amount 3</th>
<th>Institute/Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atomic absorption spectrophotometer with Zeeman background correction, graphite furnace and accessories; Refrigerators</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>20 000</td>
<td>80 000</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water purification systems; Storage and distribution systems accessories; Storage reservoir accessories</td>
<td>14 550</td>
<td>4 850</td>
<td>19 400</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refrigerators</td>
<td>18 300</td>
<td>6 100</td>
<td>24 400</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre and regional laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermostats bacteriological</td>
<td>17 145</td>
<td>5 715</td>
<td>22 860</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre and regional laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colony counter</td>
<td>6 405</td>
<td>2 135</td>
<td>8 540</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre and regional laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacteriological media preparation and distribution system</td>
<td>31 500</td>
<td>10 500</td>
<td>42 000</td>
<td>Regional laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conductivity meter</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>State Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment for inspectors to ensure satisfactory inspection</td>
<td>75 000</td>
<td>25 000</td>
<td>100 000</td>
<td>Food and Veterinary Service national end regional level</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>223 531</strong></td>
<td><strong>74 511</strong></td>
<td><strong>298 042</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(225 000)</td>
<td>(75 000)</td>
<td>(300 000)</td>
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