

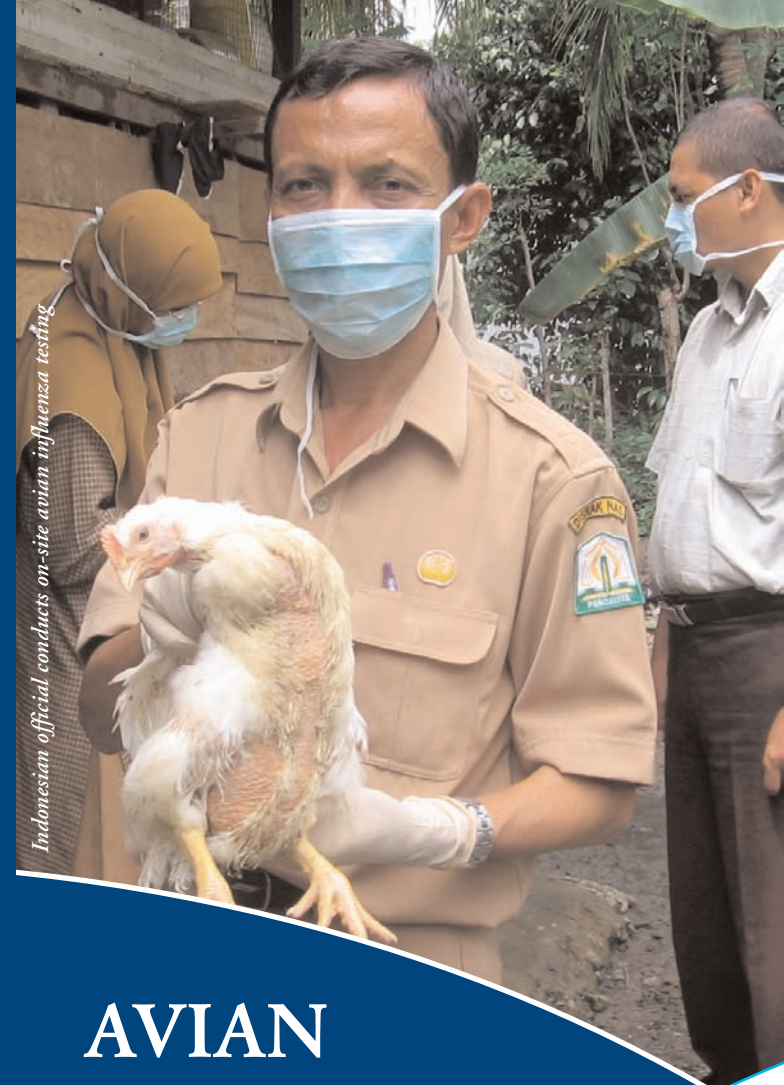
## IRD

With program offices in more than 15 countries affected or at risk of being affected by avian influenza (AI), IRD is well-positioned to work towards AI prevention as well as rapidly mobilize in response to a crisis. In addition to developing a comprehensive training curriculum for both Master Trainers and local community members, IRD has helped communities by:

- Establishing community-based animal and human surveillance;
- Conducting public awareness/health education campaigns;
- Providing personal protective equipment for first responders and health care providers;
- Improving diagnostic services to rapidly introduce containment measures;
- Training local veterinarians and health care providers; and
- Assisting local officials and community leaders in creating preparedness plans.

IRD has effective AI programs in Ukraine and Indonesia, as well as components to address prevention needs as part of our USAID-funded Humanitarian Assistance in Iraq (HAI) program. IRD has also conducted avian influenza public awareness campaigns and containment activities within the context of existing programs in Cambodia.

*Health workers spray houses near Ranya, Iraq*



# AVIAN INFLUENZA



1621 North Kent Street  
Suite 400  
Arlington, VA 22209 USA

P 703.248.0161  
F 703.248.0194  
TF 877.844.5644

[www.ird.org](http://www.ird.org)



International Relief & Development  
*Improving Lives. Building Livelihoods.*



Officials in Banda Aceh conduct testing  
IRD training seminar on avian influenza prevention



Local health workers remove poultry suspected of infection from farm in Iraq  
IRD training on the dangers of avian influenza



IRD poster cautions farmers on the correct handling of their poultry  
Workshop on emergency preparedness



## Indonesia

In 2006, IRD began implementing the “Avian Influenza Awareness Raising and Prevention” program in the Banda Aceh province of Indonesia to address growing needs for public education and prevention of AI.

IRD hosted Avian Flu workshops training more than 100 master trainers and government officials on the prevention, treatment and containment of avian flu, and helped to build the capacity of the Provincial and District Health officials throughout the Aceh province. Attendees received information about topics such as: virology and epidemiology of the disease in animals and birds; clinical aspects of the disease in humans and strategies for eradication; the biology of the avian flu virus; and medical treatments, prevention methods, and strategies for inhibiting the spread of the virus. Participants also took a field trip to examine a recent outbreak of avian flu and to demonstrate testing techniques.

The program also promotes the organization of community meetings and the establishment of a network of trained volunteers able to reach several thousand households with instructions about prevention techniques. This intervention was focused in the tsunami-affected areas and was designed to be adaptable to different districts and environmental conditions.



## Iraq

In January 2006, a girl and her uncle had both died of bird flu in the city of Ranya, Northern Iraq; the World Health Organization confirmed they were infected with the H5N1 virus, avian influenza. In response to the growing public health threat, IRD implements an awareness campaign to reach students in the Dohuk and Mosul governorates through their local departments of health.

Following the January 2006 incident, radio waves and local television channels in Northern Iraq were inundated with warnings about the disease. But the government-sponsored public health campaign had lowered in intensity because there have been no official human cases of bird flu reported since then. In order to ease public fears and promote better poultry-handling habits, IRD sends through the USAID-funded Humanitarian Assistance in Iraq program teams of doctors to visit schools and talk about the prevention, symptoms and history of the disease.

Most of the students at IRD’s seminars have heard about the disease; their families are usually farmers, so chicken and eggs are a large part of their diet. For some, they are also the main source of income.

“I knew there was this disease but we didn’t know it was this dangerous,” says Zozan Mohamed, one of the students in the room. “Now, since I know the disease comes from the chicken, I will wash the poultry more thoroughly.”

## Ukraine

The first instance of avian influenza was detected around the Sivash lakes in Crimea, Ukraine in October 2005. By February 2006, IRD began implementing a USAID-funded program to monitor AI in Crimea by organizing a public awareness campaign and strengthening community-based surveillance. The program reaches approximately 267,000 people living in the region through the following activities:

- **Training.** IRD established a network of Master and Field trainers prepared to educate communities and respond to potential outbreaks. Thus far, 26 Master trainers and 382 Field trainers have been trained, and 8,607 specialists have attended 116 seminars held across the region.
- **Public Awareness and Education.** With the help of the trainers, IRD educates the general public in Crimea based on the peer-to-peer education approach. Posters, leaflets, public service announcements and programs airing on both television and radio have reached tens of thousands of people in high-risk areas.
- **Monitoring.** IRD organizes and supports seven mobile teams for monitoring and prevention activities in rural regions.

In 2006, IRD expanded avian influenza activities to five regions of southern and southeastern Ukraine, with an emphasis on rural communities.