

YEDODE for food security in Ethiopia

Relaunch of veterinary cooperation between Ethiopia and France on training and awareness of the development of the poultry industry workforce.

ENVT, the French National Veterinary School of Toulouse, is involved in a cooperation project on the "Farm to Fork" for the avian sector.

Have you ever wondered if the food that you buy from supermarket is safe? If yes, then you are not alone. Food safety is a global issue and one of the major food group that is on everybody's mind is poultry. Globally, 1 million people suffer from food poisoning from poultry-based food every year.

Ethiopia's poultry industry is booming with rapid growth potential. But, growing production alone is not enough. Eggs and meat also need to be safe, which is currently a challenge, as the production system today remains traditional and lacks modern sanitary standards. One of the solutions could be to increase the skills of professionals in the sector and the public service responsible for health checks in the sector - veterinarians, field and laboratory technicians and breeders. These measures could indirectly contribute to the country's economy by creating jobs and improving overall population health.

France is the 4th largest producer and exporter of chicken in Europe according to European food safety standards. However, the French poultry industry regularly suffers significant losses and is currently facing numerous epidemics of highly pathogenic avian influenza since 2015, showing the importance of raising levels of health requirements in the sector.

Thus, what do they have in common? The level of health and technical requirements of the sector requires the development and maintenance of skills of veterinarians / technicians and public / private laboratories. To achieve this objective, the idea is to set up different types of continuous training and awareness raising for trainers or professionals throughout the poultry sector (laboratory operators, technicians, veterinarians, public or private services, animal feed, breeding and food hygiene).

This is how the "Chicken Health Project" was born. A two-year project within the framework of Franco-Ethiopian cooperation. It aims to strengthen cooperation and actions already initiated between French and Ethiopian companies and institutions (the National Veterinary School of Toulouse, the CEVA animal health laboratory, the Ethiopian veterinary college of Debre Zeit CVMA) and broaden the scope of food safety throughout the value chain (from farm to fork, from animal feed to the marketing of food products, but also supporting local analysis capacities).

Thus, the "Chicken Health Project" will lay the foundations for sustainable academic and economic cooperation in the field of animal health and food safety, also with a roadmap for "Franco-Ethiopian cooperation in the area of food security.

Project timetable for the ENVV (French Veterinary School of Toulouse):

- April/May 2022: E-learning session on biosecurity
- July 2022: Summer School in France. Continuous trainings for academic and technical staff

- Last trimester of 2022: Training of trainers public and private vets and labs' staff in Ethiopia.

French version : <https://portailcoop.educagri.fr/yedode-pour-la-securite-alimentaire-en-ethiopie/>

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