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DYNAMICS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA IN A CHANGING WORLD
Work Package 1  Wild waterbirds, a new ecological niche for HPAIV?

Determination of the potential for certain HPAIV to be maintained in wild waterfowl populations and to spread long-distance along interconnected migratory flyways

- To understand the role of wild birds in the long-distance spread of AIV
- To understand the dynamics of HPAIV H5N8 and other AIV in wild waterfowl

Work Package 2  Incursion of AIV into poultry holdings

Determination of the key viral, host-related and environmental factors, both at regional and local levels, for incursion of AIV from wild birds into poultry holdings

- To determine the environmental drivers for the incursion of AIV from wild birds to poultry
- To unravel biosecurity issues of poultry holdings in order to determine the route and risk of AIV incursion from wild birds into poultry holdings

Work Package 3  Virus-host interaction and adaptation

Unraveling of key viral, host-related and environmental factors in the adaptation of AIV to livestock

- To determine the effect of host and virus genetics on the immune response against AIV, with special emphasis on the role of innate responses
- To determine the role of viral, host-related and environmental factors in the transition of LPAIV to HPAIV in poultry
- To determine viral genetic factors that allow reassortants and variants of avian and mammalian influenza viruses to transmit efficiently among pigs

Work Package 4  Maximizing DELTA-FLU’s impact

Maximize the impact of DELTA-FLU’s results

- To promote the understanding of the dynamics of avian influenza regarding pathogen-, host-, and environment-related factors, in order to strengthen the evidence base for prevention and control strategies
- To improve animal health, contributing to the sustainability and competitiveness of the agri-food sectors

Work Package 5  Project management

Implementation of the appropriate organizational structures and processes to ensure DELTA-FLU’s compliance to the EC Grant Agreement and the DELTA-FLU Consortium Agreement (CA)

- To develop, conclude and maintain the DELTA-FLU CA
- To implement the project management structure and decision-making processes as agreed in the CA
- To monitor the scientific quality and efficient progress of the activities towards the objectives and the deliverables and milestones, within the planned timeframe and allocated resources