



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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FAO DIGITAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

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**Working together for Zero Hunger
through digital innovation**

EVENT MOBILE APPLICATION (EMA-i)

This app enables data collection and real-time reporting at country level of geo-referenced information on animal diseases, facilitating both surveillance and early warning.

ISSUE

Animal disease surveillance and early warning, for livestock diseases including zoonotic diseases with a potential impact on food security, public health, enable national authorities to take effective and targeted prevention and control measures, and advise livestock farmers and communities at risk. However, weak infrastructure, a lack of skilled human resources, and inadequate incentives present an obstacle in many countries. The use of mobile technologies can improve cost-effectiveness, quality and delivery of surveillance and reporting systems.

FAO developed the Event Mobile Application (EMA-i) technology to enhance disease reporting in developing countries and support decision-makers. It facilitates timely information-sharing among all stakeholders, from livestock farmers to district and chief veterinary officers.

ACTION

Using smartphones, geo-referenced information on animal diseases is collected from the field and entered into the app. This generates a report that is sent in real time to FAO's Global Animal Disease Information System (EMPRES-i) database, where the information is safely stored for

- **Animal disease mobile reporting tool available in three languages.**
- **Used by veterinary services to improve quality and timeliness of disease reporting.**
- **National veterinary services validate and use their own data.**
- **Field data feed into a global platform (EMPRES-i) for analysis and real time mapping of the disease situation.**



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country users. The reports are also accessible through a mapping component of EMA-i, which allows users to visualize the location and analyse the epidemiological data of a disease event from the field.

In addition to EMA-i, the EMPRES-i platform serves as a tool for data analysis through charts, tables and maps. An early warning e-mail notification system is also in place to inform the EMA-i network of users about disease events. Crucially, the application allows for confidentiality of sensitive information. Only registered participants of a National EMA-i network have access to national data.

Available to all FAO member states, the tool exists in English, French

MORE INFORMATION

FCC-EMPRES Information Sheet:
www.fao.org/3/a-i4853e.pdf

Video:
www.fao.org/food-chain-crisis/resources/video/detail/en/c/387987/



and Spanish and is adaptable to specific needs.

IMPACT

By building surveillance and early warning capacities and improving communication between stakeholders, EMA-i strengthens early warning of animal disease occurrence at national, regional and global levels. First tested and

implemented in Uganda in 2013, EMA-i has been implemented in the United Kingdom of Tanzania, Mali and Zimbabwe and will be further expanded in 2018 to serve other African countries including Ghana, Lesotho, Burkina Faso and Republic of Guinea. The expansion of EMA-i to other African countries is also foreseen, as well as to other regions such as Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

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Working for  #ZeroHunger

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