Feedback from visits to Twinning Laboratories

OIE Twinning Feedback Workshop
Paris (France), 30-31 March 2010
### OIE Laboratory (or Collaborating centre) Twinning Project - State of Play

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expression of interest</th>
<th>Proposals</th>
<th>Approved and signed</th>
<th>Completed projects</th>
<th>Average duration (months) 12-36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Situation as of 28 March 2011
OIE Laboratory (or Collaborating centre) Twinning Project - State of Play\(^1\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total earmarked for this activity to date (30 projects)</th>
<th>Average Budget (30 projects)</th>
<th>Budget Range</th>
<th>% of funds received disbursed (receipt of first report)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 718 321,04 €</td>
<td>90 610,70 €</td>
<td>from 33 560€ to 148 766€</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Situation as of 28 March 2011
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

**Objective**

To review progress across twinning projects and to identify lessons that can be used to further strengthen the effectiveness of the programme.
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

Planning

- Three randomly selected twinning projects
- Audits between February and March 2011
- A technical expert assessed the extent to which the twinning project complied with twinning principles and the agreed project plan
- A financial expert verified compliance with the approved budget and financial rules of the twinning project
- The audits involved visits to both the Parent and Candidate Laboratories and interviews with Chief Veterinary Officers
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

**Terms of Reference**

- Assess whether the objectives of the twinning project have been achieved within the designated timeframe of the project.
- Evaluate the overall implementation of the twinning project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the twinning contract.
- Compare details of actual activities undertaken with those described in the work plan.
- Evaluate the degree to which the Candidate Laboratory is able to meet the mandate of an OIE Reference Laboratory or Collaborating Centre.
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

Terms of Reference

- Assess whether there is a strategy for maintaining and continuing to build capacity, including retention of local experts
- Identify any lessons learned from the twinning project
- Identify any further needs in the Candidate Laboratory
Donors expect that the OIE ensure due diligence on the use of the funds used for the laboratory twinning projects:

- Detailed accounting system per Donor/Activity/Nature of expenses
- Interim reports technical and financial reports
- Final technical and financial reports
- audits/visit to laboratories
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

General comments

- The investment made by donors in the OIE twinning project is an effective method of raising the standard of laboratories in developing countries.
- Feedback from the OIE after receipt of the annual reports would facilitate the achievement of twinning project objectives.
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

**Technical observations**

- The laboratories have the capacity for financial management of small projects
- Some twinning projects involve the training of a wide range of techniques. However, training focused on a smaller number of specific, high priority techniques would be more efficient
- Number of staff trained in their local environment was lower than expected
Technical and Financial Audit of Twinning Projects

Financial observations

- The OIE payment schedule must take into account the ability of the Parent laboratory to pre-finance the project, before the final payment under the Twinning contract is received from the OIE.
- OIE rules on travel expenditure should be adhered to – business class flight tickets are not eligible.
- The twinning project leader should sign all invoices related to the twinning project costs. The budgets should be clearer.
- One person from the Parent laboratory should be assigned to take charge of the financial part of the twinning project to facilitate transparency.
Thank you for your attention