

Animal health surveillance systems for Papua New Guinea



Key details

Location Papua New Guinea Duration Start May 2008 **End** Jun 2013 Budget AUD 812,044 **Partners** Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service; Department of Agriculture and Livestock; Lutheran Development Service; Murdoch University; National Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Authority; Queensland Dept of Agriculture & Fisheries; University of Goroka; University of Technology **Project Leader**

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Program Livestock Systems

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Overview

Papua New Guinea, like many Pacific island countries and territories, is experiencing shortfalls in available veterinary and animal health auxiliary personnel. This project facilitated the collection and reporting of signs of disease in the country's livestock by introducing simple checklists and training to livestock owners and animal health auxiliary staff in provincial departments, commercial livestock companies and non-government organisations. The capacity for such reporting expanded the reach of existing government animal health staff. This in turn assisted with documentation and assessment of Papua New Guinea's animal health status for endemic animal diseases, and facilitated more rapid reporting of incursions of exotic diseases and outbreaks of newly emerging diseases (which may be zoonoses affecting both animals and humans). The improved information on disease distribution, prevalence and incidence could also greatly assist in disease control programs.



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