



# P3A



## Programme of Support to the implementation of the Association Agreement

### **Twinning Project Fiche**

**Project Title: Support for the implementation of a quality management system within Vegetal Protection and Technical Controls services**

**Beneficiary administration: Directorate for Vegetal Protection and Technical Controls (DPVCT), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries**

**Twinning ref: DZ 16 ENI AG 01 18**

**Publication Notice Reference: EuropeAid/160704/ID/ACT/DZ**

This project is financed by the European Union

**TWINNING INSTRUMENT**

**This fiche is a translation of the official version written in French with the goal of having a wider dissemination among Member States. In case of discrepancy between the French and the English versions, the French one shall prevail.**

All generic terms such as *inspector, expert, director, councillor, project director computer scientist, manager, man/day (m/d), etc.* do not refer to gender; all positions and functions mentioned in this document are equally accessible without gender discrimination.

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## Acronyms

<b>AA</b>	Algeria-EU Association Agreement
<b>ALGERAC</b>	Algerian Accreditation Body
<b>BC</b>	Beneficiary Country
<b>CNCC</b>	(National Centre for Control and Certification)
<b>CTM</b>	Common Twinning Manual
<b>DPRA</b>	Democratic and People's Republic of Algeria
<b>DPVCT</b>	(Directorate for Vegetal protection and Technical Controls)
<b>DSA</b>	(Directorate of Agriculture Services)
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>ENPI</b>	European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUD</b>	European Union Delegation
<b>INPV</b>	(National Institute for Vegetal Protection)
<b>IPF</b>	(Border Phytosanitary Inspector)
<b>ISPM</b>	International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures
<b>IPPC</b>	International Plant Protection Convention
<b>IPW</b>	(Wilaya Phytosanitary Inspector)
<b>MADRPP</b>	(Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries)
<b>MS(P)</b>	Member State (Partner)
<b>NEPPO</b>	Near East Plant Protection Organization
<b>NPPO</b>	National Plant Protection Organisation
<b>OVI</b>	Objectively Verifiable Indicator
<b>PCR</b>	Polymerase Chain Reaction
<b>PD</b>	Twinning Project Director
<b>PRA</b>	Pest Risk Analysis
<b>PRAR</b>	(Agriculture and Rural Development Renewal Policy)
<b>QAM</b>	Quality Assurance Manager
<b>ROM</b>	Result Oriented Management
<b>RTA</b>	Resident Twinning Advisor
<b>STE</b>	Short Term Expert
<b>SPS</b>	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
<b>TAIEX</b>	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange
<b>UGP-P3A</b>	(Programme Management Unit-Support to the Implementation of the Association Agreement Algeria-EU)

Acronyms where details are between brackets have been left in French language for practical purposes.

## 1. Basic information

### 1.1 Programme

Programme of support to the implementation of the Algeria-EU Association Agreement: P3A-IV ENI/2016/039-593. Indirect management.

*For British applicants: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 12.2 of the General Conditions to the grant agreement.*

### 1.2 Twinning Sector

Agriculture and Fisheries (AG)

### 1.3 EU financed Budget

1 290 000,00 EUR

## 2 Objectives

### 2.1 Overall objectives

The overall objective is to improve and strengthen the control systems for plants and plant products in view of facilitating their commerce and export to the European Union and worldwide.

### 2.2 Specific objective

Implement a quality management system within the plant protection services and technical inspections in order to enhance:

- the control capacities of the phytosanitary services in order to bring them closer to European and international standards and ensure quality compliance with the NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) standard;
- the reliability of analysis results at the INPV (National Institute for Vegetal Protection) and the CNCC (National Centre for Control and Certification) laboratories by implementing a quality management system compliant with the NA ISO/CEI 17025 (NA 13012) standard.

### 2.3 Contribution to the Association Agreement

#### 2.3.1 Framework strategy

Within the framework of the Barcelona process and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership launched in November 1995, Algeria and the European Union have signed an Association Agreement which entered into force on September 1<sup>st</sup> 1995. It sets out the legal framework for which the parties have established economic, commercial, political, social and cultural relations.

The objective of the twinning is to reinforce the institutional capacities of the structures dealing with plant protection by implementing a quality management system under article 1 of the Algeria-EU Association: “develop trade exchanges, boost economic and social relations between partners and establish conditions for the gradual liberalization of trade in goods, services and capital” and “promote mutual cooperation in the economic, social, cultural and financial fields”.

In addition, the EU and Algeria (AA, Title II free movement of goods, article 6) are progressively establishing a free trade zone (...) in compliance with multilateral agreements on goods trade (annex to the agreement establishing the World Trade organisation (WTO). Chapter 2 of the AA “agricultural products, fishery products, processed agricultural products” specifies (art.13) that “The Community and Algeria shall progressively establish a greater liberalisation of reciprocal trade in agriculture, fisheries and processed agricultural products”.

Lastly, the AA, particularly in its **article 58** (title V) relative to agriculture and fisheries, provides that the objective of modernization and restructuration efforts be aimed at the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors. With special attention to:

- the support of policies aimed at developing and diversifying production ;
- the integration of rural development, and notably the improvement of basic services and development of ancillary economic activities
- the promotion of an environmentally friendly agriculture and fishing ;
- assistance and technical training :
- **the harmonisation of phytosanitary and veterinary norms and controls** (key point in the twinning project) ;
- the cooperation between rural regions, the exchanges of experience and know-how in rural development matters.

It has to be mentioned that nearly all neighbouring countries have started to implement a quality management system. It is therefore urgent to implement this Twinning Project, in order to position Algeria at international level for plant products trade.

### 2.3.2 Contribution to the implementation of the government action plan

As part of the Algerian policy of economic diversification, harmonisation of phytosanitary and veterinary norms and controls are a **priority** matter in order to facilitate trade between Algeria, European Union countries and the rest of the world. This is why this Twinning Project has a key strategic importance as it touches regulatory convergence, control and surveillance of agricultural products, products quality and capacity of the MADRPP.

The Agricultural and Rural Development Renewal Policy (PRAR), launched in 2008 is the result of a 2000 strategy ( Agricultural Development National Plan, to which was added in 2002 rural development, National Strategy for rural development launched in 2003), where national food security and revival of rural territories are main objectives.

PRAR is defined as a “challenge for sustainable strengthening of national food security”. It is based on three complementary components:

- agricultural renewal: the launching of intensification and modernisation programmes aiming at increasing production and productivity, stabilising supply of agricultural products and protection of consumers and farmers ‘income
- rural renewal, based on an innovative approach to rural development (community-based projects for integrated rural development, PPDR) ;
- Strengthening of human capacities and technical support for producers (PRCHAT programme) is a large scale effort for enhancement of material and human capacities of institutions and organisations supporting farmers and operators in the sector, as well as developing services in matters of technical control and forest fire prevention, seed and plant certification, phytosanitary and veterinary control and protection.

### 3. Description of the project

#### 3.1 Background and justification

##### 3.1.1. ONPV Algeria and operational agencies

###### **The DPVCT (Directorate for Vegetal Protection and Technical Controls)**

*The implementation of the national policy for phytosanitary protection is regulated in accordance to Algerian legislation under “Loi N°87 – 17 du 01 août 1987”.*

The Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries is the national phytosanitary authority and its missions and the organisation of its phytosanitary services are carried out by the Directorate for Vegetal Protection and Technical Controls (DPVCT). “Phytosanitary control” missions are thus carried out under the administrative and technical authority of the DPVCT.

Resulting from its accession to the IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention), the DPVCT is the *de facto* representative of Algeria’s NPPO (National Plant Protection Organisation) and is responsible for coordinating, transmitting information and the measures taken regarding organisms harmful to plants. This accession implies compliance with the international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPM) as applied to monitoring, inspecting and analysing phytosanitary risks.

As a member of the NEPPO (Near East Plant Protection Organisation), Algeria is committed to develop and implement a strategy and regional standards (Near East zone) for plant protection.

The DPVCT consists of three sub-directorates (SD):

- SDH : Homologation (5 agents) in charge of admissibility for AMM submission files and management of authorised pesticides, issuance of approval for fumigation operations, approval of production and sale of seeds and plants as well as authorisation for product and seed imports.
- SDCT: Technical Control (6 agents) in charge of border controls, country-wide controls and plant quarantine. It organizes and coordinates analysis activities and manages phytosanitary risks. The SDCT manages throughout the country (48 wilayas) the activities of 200 inspectors in charge of controls (of which 10% at the borders (i.e. 29 points of entry: 12 ports, 7 airports and 10 border crossings) and 90% internally.  
Note : In the Directorates of Agriculture Services (DSA), the Border Phytosanitary Inspectors (IPF) ensure phytosanitary and phytotechnical controls and carry out conformity checks of pesticides (at ports, airports and dry ports) while the Wilaya Phytosanitary Inspectors (IPW) carry out “internal” controls of plant material in circulation, phytosanitary products and plant health monitoring.
- SDVP: Phytosanitary Monitoring (4 agents) is responsible for coordinating phytosanitary surveillance, fight against agricultural plagues and international relations. SDPV is setting out surveillance and fight systems.

### **The CNCC (National Centre for Control and Certification)**

Created by Decree “N°92-133 08/03/1992” and acting for control of seeds and plants,

The Law on plants, seeds and protection of plant varieties (“N° 05-03 -06/02/2005”) establishes a national phytotechnical body responsible, among other for the homologation of seed and plant varieties, their production, trade and use.

The CNCC’s missions are:

- to conduct varietal approval trials (DHS, VAT);
- to control and certify seeds and plants (in-vegetation or in-lab controls, etc.);
- to provide technical assistance to producers involved in production and sale, as well as storage agencies.

It employs 230 staff and consists of:

- at central level : 4 departments and a central laboratory, each structured in 3 services ;
- at regional level : 2 regional antennas with 3 services and 4 regional laboratories (Constantine, Sétif, Tiaret et Sidi Bel Abbes) ;
- at local level: 26 permanent representations for each production area.

The laboratories conduct tests to detect pathogens which can be transmitted by propagation of plant material, resistance tests (virological, bacteriological, nematological, fungal tests) and provide phytotechnical testing: analytical purity, morphological analyses, etc.

The CNCC is accredited by ALGERAC (under the ISO 17025 standard) for analytical purity tests, enumeration, germination and virological analyses.

The central laboratory has a new lab specialised in molecular biology (PCR) used for variety identification and virology and plans to develop its capabilities in the control, certification and cataloguing of other species, as well as becoming an internationally recognized accreditation laboratory.

*The CNCC and the DPVCT (SDH-homologation of varieties sub-directorate) work together at obtaining approval accreditation for the production and sale of seeds and plants.*

### **The INPV (National Institute for Vegetal Protection)**

The INPV was established by executive Decree “93-139 du 14 juin 1993”. EPA: Public Administrative Body. The INPV’s missions are:

- phytosanitary diagnoses and analyses;
- phytosanitary research;
- biological evaluation of pesticides for homologation;
- control of regulated non-quarantine harmful organisms;
- control of locusts ;
- phytosanitary education (agriculture extension, health warnings, etc.).

In the course of its phytosanitary monitoring and plant protection missions, the INPV is involved in a variety of risk analysis tasks, risk management in phytosanitary and agricultural development crises. This includes conducting epidemiological surveys in the field, experiments and research in control methods. It has a network of 800 observation posts throughout the country, a workforce of 574 agents in its 6 directorates, 15 regional stations with regional laboratories and 7 logistical facilities.

The INPV’s central laboratory conducts specialized pathological, entomological nematological and weed science analyses (25 000 per year on regulated harmful organisms, of which 2/3 are related to imports and 1/3, internally). It is also working on an approval project in the field of phytopharmacology and plans to expand its certification capabilities to other domains, with the creation of a complex of 4 new laboratories near a plant quarantine station.

*The DSA inspectors (IPW) are responsible for crop monitoring and control.*

## **3.2 Current reforms**

The analysis of the current situation and the needs expressed by different structures of the DPVCT (management, the CNCC and the INPV) has helped gaining a better understanding of the context in which a quality management system can be implemented within the plant protection services and technical inspections. This calls for a few comments.

- A *Quality* policy is already in force within certain CNCC and INPV labs with designated quality managers.
- In most cases, the material conditions in terms of equipment, consumables, buildings, safety measures meet ISO 17025 requirements.
- The agents of the three structures have higher education diplomas and the qualifications necessary to implement a quality approach in their respective units and laboratories.
- If quality management for plant products is required to meet international standards and if the AA considers it a priority and is deemed essential for Algeria to provide access to the European and international markets, this is a voluntary process for the national structure.
- For the moment, a quality approach is not considered at the global level, but we have seen that this is essential with respect to ISO 17020 and ISO 17025 standards: it

concerns the whole of the plant protection services (DPVCT – IPW – IPF/CNCC and INPV) and their relations to external entities.

- The introduction of a global quality approach requires the setting up of a quality management network which includes QAM (Quality Assurance Managers) within the DPVCT, CNCC and INPV, a standard quality management plan and a network of quality managers in each unit, laboratory, as well as in the IPW.

Even though fertilizers and pesticides should be taken into consideration within a quality approach and in the meeting of standards; considering the complexity of those aspects and budget constraints, it was agreed that the present twinning should not include these components. It is recommended that the MADRPP and the UGP-P3A prepare and launch a complementary twinning project or a specific short project on issues related to fertilizers and pesticides as well as on regulatory convergence (in the meaning of approximation). Beneficiaries would be not necessarily the same as the ones of the present Twinning Project.

The *absorption capacity of twinning activities by the DPVCP and its support structures* have been evaluated, and experts indicate that twinning requirements are met in terms of staff, qualifications, premises, equipment and know-how in matter of control and laboratory techniques. The project will strengthen quality management, regulatory framework, harmonisation with EU and international phytosanitary standards, control and border and country surveillance and upgrading of laboratories to ISP 17025 norms.

**It is proposed, therefore, that this Twinning Project, be focused on a quality management system globally and within the phytosanitary services (DPVCT – IPW – IPF), CNCC and INPV.**

The capacity for each service to implement this approach and the feasibility of reaching realistic objectives within 2-3 years should be taken into consideration. For certain units, this would mean to introduce a quality management system, while others would be accompanied up to a “blank” audit before certification.

### 3.3 Linked activities

#### Cooperation with the European Union

The MADRP has benefitted from several EU twinning projects in which support to important reforms were implemented, such as:

- **Twinning DZ/11AAAG07** « *Strengthening of capacity of the National Research Centre for fisheries development and aquaculture (CNRDPA)* ».
- **Twinning DZ11/AA/AG/09:** “*Support for the creation of an observatory of the agriculture and agro-food sectors within the National Institute for Agricultural Research of Algeria (INRAA)*” implemented from 15 July 2012 to 14 July 2014 with value € 1. 130, 000. This project implemented by France and Italy had the objective to support policies of rural and agricultural revival through strengthening of the MADRP information system twinning started in November 2012, a France-Italy consortium.

- **Twinning DZ/13/ENP/AG/12:** “*Strengthening the recognition of the quality of agricultural products using distinctive signs of origin -Geographic indications and designations of origin IGAO*”. This 2-year twinning started on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014 with a France-Italy consortium had the objective to strengthen creation and implementation of quality labels for agricultural products (Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) and the Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) with EU approximation.
- **Twinning DZ/13/ENP/HE/16:** “*Strengthening the control capabilities of veterinarian services in view of meeting European and international standards*”. This continuing twinning is part of the Algerian *surveillance plan on food contaminants and residues (PASCRA)* and benefits the National Institute of Veterinary Medicine (INMV).
- **Twinning DZ/13/ENP/HE/17:** “*Upgrading the National Institute of Veterinary Medicine’s laboratories to meet European and international standards*” With a 2-year duration, this 27-month twinning has started on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 and was conducted by an Italy-France consortium.

Other important, complementary actions and linked to quality and convergence regulations are implemented by international funding programmes.

**DIVECO support to DPVCT is a technical assistance project aiming at adapting phytosanitary regulation to international requirements.** It has provided upgrading in the phytosanitary regulation field in order to meet EU and international requirements in areas such as: border controls, land monitoring, pesticide regulations, registration and control of pesticides. It also involved adapting seeds and plants regulations to international requirements. Other expertise has been provided for upgrading phytotechnical regulations to EU and international standards: mechanisms and procedures for breeders ‘rights, seeds and plants law compliance, plant breeding.

A fact-finding mission financed by DIVECO recommended that the DPVCT be provided with an interactive database enabling to control the implementation of phytosanitary regulations throughout the country. The database included three fields related to:

- technical controls ;
- pesticides and varieties ;
- land surveillance

Under DIVECO, three quality awareness workshops were organized for phytosanitary inspectors of the DPVCT in Algiers, Oran and Guelma. In a quality approach, the objective was to identify inspectors and pilot sites: “*support to Quality Assurance Services, ISO 17020 norm, compliance evaluation, requirements for the functioning of different organisations in charge of inspection, NA ISO/CEI 17020: 2013 NA 13001.*”

Many other DIVECO actions are directly related to the twinning project, in particular, the development of a Quality Assurance Manual (QAM). They also include training programmes in labelling, certification and traceability by the ITCMI and the ITELV, the acquisition of related materials by the ITCMI, ITELV, ITAFV and ITDAS as well as material support for the 7 MADRP laboratories.

**The Programme of Support to Economic Diversification – Fisheries sector- (DIVECO II):** Algeria and the EU have signed a financing covenant of 15 million EURO for this DIVECO II which includes also aquaculture. The programme which has started in October

2015 has the objective of increasing economic diversification in the country through sustainable development and improvement of fisheries and aquaculture economic performances. As such, it is perfectly in line with the national Plan AQUAPECHE2020.

Expected results of DIVECO II are:

- 1- Strengthening of management and leadership in view of consolidating pertinent strategies
- 2- Promotion and valorisation of the sector and channels
- 3- Strengthening of professional organisations capacities

Under of the TAIEX<sup>1</sup> instrument, the INPV has hosted an expert mission (April 20-22 2015) entitled “*Support and advice for the creation of a diagnostic laboratory complex specialized in “nematology, bacteriology, virology and mycology” in compliance with international standards.*” It had the objective of evaluation and final scheme in order to validate the study and remove potential reserves.

The CNCC has benefited from TAIEX assistance in the form of two study visits at plant health laboratories in France: at the ANSES in April 2014 and at Beaucouzé in March 2015 in a meeting with the GEVES (Groupe d’Étude et de contrôle des Variétés et des Semences). The purpose of these actions was to gain in-situ information on the implementation of a standardised quality management system for norm ISO/CEI/17025 related to surveillance of pathogen agents transmitted through plant propagation material in order to assure food security of consumers and in the future promote exportations of seeds and plants to the EU.

The short description of these actions raise toward the twinning objectives following comments:

- Missions related to phytosanitary field (regulation, inspection, laboratories, quality system) were of short duration and generally led to recommendations and proposals of complementary missions or projects. Their results will be taken into account at the start of the present twinning project.
- Concrete realisations promoted by these actions necessitate an important investment by phytosanitary services, on a long duration and with an adaptation of those services, in particular for the quality management system.

**These comments show that the twinning instrument is an excellent instrument, especially when carried out over a long period, as it allows reaching objectives and results. In the present project, close attention will be paid to complementarity of activities with those of other international cooperation programmes and projects, related to quality system.**

### 3.4 List of applicable acquis, standards, norms

- **Directive 2000/29/CE** for exchanges with the EU, in order to determinate the status of harmful organisms as well as to define linked phytosanitary measures, using international norms (INPM) as described by IPPC, convention of which Algeria is member.

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<sup>1</sup> TAIEX : EU financed and managed instrument allowing public short term expertise, seminars and study visits

- The new EU phytosanitary regulation (EU Regulation 2016/2031). This new European Union phytosanitary legislation focuses on the prevention of the entry or spread of plant pests in the EU. The central idea is to devote more resources at an early stage in order to avoid heavy losses on European production and/or on the environment. This is a complete overhaul of 1977 phytosanitary legislation with consequences on imports from third countries, and therefore from African countries. Imports of most plants and plant products from third countries will in principle be allowed but will be subject to stricter and more precise rules on risk assessment and risk management. This regulation entered into force on 13 December 2016 but will not be fully applicable until 13 December 2019, allowing time for the various stakeholders and authorities to adapt.

### 3.5 Results

This twinning should achieve four (mandatory) results:

#### **Component 1: National regulations on phytosanitary and phytotechnical controls and standards are progressively brought in line with European and international standards**

Many of the Algerian regulations include both phytosanitary and technical requirements dealt with by the DPVCT. A list of regulatory bodies, involved with internal or import measures, are set out in decrees dated 1993 and 1995.

Furthermore, the controls of phytotechnical regulations initiated by the CNCC are based on technical regulations which date back to 1995 listing harmful organisms to plants whose production, propagation and distribution should be exempt. The technical regulations for certain species are non-existent.

It should be remembered that the regulatory updating of the national list of plant enemies and pests is mandatory under article 9 of the “Loi N°87-17 du 1er août 1987” relative to phytosanitary protection.

In the context of developing exports of local plant products, Algerian regulations should be adapted to meet international requirements (in particular the provisions of Directive 2000/29/CE concerning exports to the EU). Therefore it is essential to determine the identity of harmful organisms, as well as to define the appropriate phytosanitary measures based on international standards (ISPM) defined by the IPPC. Algeria has adhered to this convention.

With PRA, these standards enable to define the criteria on which organisms are subject to quarantine or not and to justify the phytosanitary measures taken, without discriminating between contracting parties in the IPPC.

The objective of result 1 is to adapt Algerian phytosanitary regulations to meet international requirements (CIPV – NIMP) and facilitate international trade by updating lists of regulated harmful organisms and harmonizing the appropriate phytosanitary measures.

#### **Component 2: The quality management system is implemented within the phytosanitary control services according to the NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) standards**

The phytosanitary inspections and controls are conducted at the borders by the Phytosanitary Border Inspection services (IPF), and those on the field are conducted by the Wilayas Phytosanitary Inspection Services (IPW). According to the nature of the inspection, the latter is composed of a joint brigade of DVPCT inspectors, agents of the INPV and agents of the CNCC.

The DPVCT assumes responsibility for and supervision of the inspection strategy, describes the procedures and instructions pertaining to the monitoring and control of harmful organisms. But its global organizational strategy must be updated and formalized, its procedures updated and inspection services capabilities and performances should be strengthened.

Thus, it is necessary to:

- clarify the shared responsibilities of the DPVCT, IPF, IPW, INPV and CNCC inspectors in performing their phytosanitary and phytotechnical duties, planning and implementing action plans ;
- adapt monitoring and control plans to take into consideration new risks pertaining to harmful organisms whose regulatory status is modified as a consequence of PRA ;
- consolidate phytosanitary actions by implementing standardised procedures (particularly by providing inspection guides in which sampling methods, in particular, are described).

The objective of result 2 is to introduce a quality management system within the DPVCT's phytosanitary services in accordance with the requirements of the NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) standard. Reinforcing the control capabilities of the phytosanitary services in order to meet European and international standards requires the designation and training of a Quality Assurance Manager (QAM) within the DPVCT; the drawing up of a Quality Manual, the implementation of a quality management system, the reviewing of work procedures and tools, the enhancing of technical skills.

**Component 3: The support structure laboratories (INPV – CNCC) are assisted towards their accreditation according to the NA ISO/CEI 17025 (NA 13012) standard, for the national and international recognition of their analysis results and diagnoses**

The analysis of the laboratory network seeking accreditation to the ISO 17025 standard must first lead to an update of their quality management system. Their missions are to officially confirm the analysis results for the DPCVT, the phytotechnical and phytosanitary authority.

For the INPV and CNCC laboratories, the objective is to have their results recognised through a quality approach and to expand the scope of their accreditation.

For the central laboratories of the INPV and CNCC, the implementation of molecular biology techniques for analyses is a means of providing a quick response to requests on the part of inspection services or economic operators. Support activities based on these techniques, including test audits, are necessary in response to precise and strategic accreditation requirements.

Result 3 also deals with analytical techniques, other than molecular biology, in specialised fields (mycology, bacteriology, virology, nematology, acarology, entomology, weed science) in order to provide a systematic approach to the diversity of harmful organisms.

The activities of this result should, if possible, be planned as to benefit from the specific knowledge provided by the short-term experts in these fields.

The EMP key expert in result 3 are responsible for monitoring the activities and their progressive implementation. During the twinning, he/she also provides progress reports in the course of three regularly planned progress report seminars.

#### **Component 4: The phytosanitary services and support structures (INPV-CNCC) are prepared for the implementation of an information system**

At present, the DPVCT's phytosanitary services and support structures do not have a national information system enabling them to process phytosanitary information in a standard manner, i.e. using the same retrieval, processing and dissemination methods. Furthermore, data collection does not conform to ISO 17020 and 17025 standards. Work on a DIVECO database has started, but has yet to be completed.

In many wilayas, because of a lack of a quality system and methods, inspectors have set up their own databases which are not always computerized or do not use common data collection criteria. At the borders, information is processed but not standardized. Each of the INPV and CNCC laboratories has its own "database".

In this component, it is foreseen to support the DPVCT, its phytosanitary inspection services (IPW-IPF) and its support services (INPV and CNCC) in the implementation of an information system and data-base. Twinning experts will assist in designing the architecture and functionalities of the system, its complementarity with existing information infrastructures and with interoperability national standards, as well as the structure of the databases.

The DPVCT will make the necessary computer equipment, material and tools available, which should be purchased through a tender procedure. This is a prerequisite in order to implement the information system and the databases.

### **Twinning Activities**

A Twinning Project is not a one-way technical assistance from a Member State to a Beneficiary Country.

It should contribute to initiate and share best EU practices in terms of community legislation and beneficiaries' specific needs in the field of cooperation between high education bodies, research centres, private sector and involved authorities.

The MS Twinning proposal must include activities ensuring achievement of mandatory results as of the Fiche. Activities will be further developed with twinning partners during the contracting phase (work plan setting-up), taking into account that the final list of activities will be decided in cooperation with the MS Twinning partner.

Components are closely linked and should be sequenced accordingly.

In addition to component activities and quarterly meeting of the Steering Committee, horizontal activities should ensure project visibility as such.

### **Horizontal Activities**

Activity 0.1. Opening event

Activity 0.2. Visibility and institutional communication

Activity 0.3. Mid-term seminar Activity

Activity 0.4. Closing event

## **3.6 Means/Input from the MS Partner Administration**

### **Work organisation**

Based on the principle of the twinning instrument and the forming of twin teams, the following work organisation involving the MS experts and beneficiaries is proposed:

#### **3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the Project Leader (PL)**

The Project Leader (PL) should be a high ranking official of a public administration or an assimilated agent in the twin administration which should also be involved in the designing, supervising and coordinating projects. He/she must be able to conduct an operational dialog and obtain the required political support. He/she must provide solutions to the problems and difficulties encountered during the twinning project. His/her level of responsibility must enable him/her to mobilize administrative and institutional partners and call upon short-term experts to ensure efficient implementation of the projected activities.

The PL will allocate at least three days per month on the project and visit every 3 months to participate in meetings with the Steering Committee. With the PL of the BC, the PL oversees the implementation of the twinning project. Both organize and jointly chair the quarterly meetings of the Steering Committee.

The PL should have an academic education and at least 10 years working experience in public administration or an assimilated organism, preferably in the phytosanitary, phytotechnical or quality management fields.

Knowledge in twinning mechanisms and instruments would be an asset, along with managerial or monitoring experience in similar international projects.

Furthermore the PL should be proficient in French and/or English.

#### **3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA)**

The RTA is the only MS expert to work full-time throughout the duration of the twinning project with Algeria. As the interface between the twinning partners, he/she is responsible for the implementation of the project. According to a pre-defined work plan, his/her mission is also to provide the DPCVT, its phytosanitary inspection services and the INPV and CNCC laboratories with technical advice and expertise. He/she will coordinate the activities of the short-term experts involved.

Training: The RTA should have an academic education, preferably in the fields of Agronomy or Plant Biology.

Experience of the RTA: the RTA should have 07 years of professional experience in the field of phytosanitary work and good knowledge of the European legislation in plant protection and SPS standards. He/she has held a position of responsibility in a central or decentralized administration of an EU member state.

Required qualifications: he/she is a competent negotiator and facilitator, able to listen to partners, offer suggestions and manage negotiations efficiently. Furthermore, he/she must have the technical knowledge necessary to manage projects and teams, establish contacts, and be experienced in working with authorities, professional associations and private partners.

He/she has a good knowledge of all the actions to undertake in terms of plant protection, notably inspection, control, risk analysis and management as well as phytosanitary emergencies. The knowledge of phytosanitary laboratory analyses and constraints according to the ISO/CEI 17025 standard is an asset.

Familiarity with institutional twinning projects, with the mechanisms in the transposition and approximation of EU acquis, as well as previous experience in managing international technical assistance projects are also assets.

He/she must master the working language which is French.

Tasks of the RTA: the RTA must accompany the implementation of the various components of the project. He/she provides assistance to the various beneficiary structures in managing and executing the project. Hi/her mission is:

- to work closely with the DPVCT, its sub-directorates, the Wilaya phytosanitary inspection services, the INPV and CNCC laboratories in implementing and coordinating the various expert interventions during the project ;
- to ensure continuity with the Algerian RTA, the various beneficiary structures, the short-term experts, the EU and Algerian project managers as well as the UGP-P3A project management unit.

### 3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component leaders

For each result, a Key Expert will be nominated as well as a national homologue. The 4 Key experts will follow from beginning to end the activities of the component. S/he will undertake short-term missions and in close collaboration with the RTA, will plan and monitor activities, manage teams and experts and ensure reporting on the component. S/he should attend steering committee meetings.

Were designated 3 Quality Management Officers within DPVCT, INPV and CNCC. Their responsibilities and tasks are clearly defined and their role very important in the implementation and management of quality in each service. Their nomination is a requirement of norms ISO 17020 and 17025.

For each result and for each activity, MS experts will be mobilised through short-term missions in each speciality. These missions will be planned and organised by the RTA, in close collaboration with the Component leaders and according to the quarterly workplan.

On its side, the beneficiary institutions (DPVCR, INPV, CNCC) will create from for each result ad hoc working groups. Each group will be of 4-5 people, who will be selected according to the topics of activities or to attend training sessions or study visits. Where necessary, additional staff can be added, when a specialist is needed. They can be from other partner institutions, IPW or IPFs, members of other DSA, custom officers, professionals or associations, university researchers, the RTA, the director of one of the institutions, QAMs, who should be present in the working groups meetings.

#### Profile of the Component Leaders

Key experts intervene as a technical expert, in addition to their tasks of component leaders.

<b>Results</b>	<b>Key expert profiles</b>
<b><u>Result 1</u> Regulations</b>	Higher education diploma in agronomy or plant biology Minimum five years professional experience Minimum five years professional experience in public administration, in charge phytosanitary regulations and quality control Working language : French and/or English
<b><u>Result 2</u> Phytosanitary quality inspections and controls</b>	Higher education diploma in agronomy or plant biology Minimum five years professional experience Minimum five years professional experience in a management position in phytosanitary controls and inspections, and in quality control Working language : French and/or English
<b><u>Result 3</u> Laboratories</b>	Higher education diploma in agronomy or plant biology Minimum five years professional experience Minimum five years professional experience in laboratory work, specialized in plant protection, preferably in plant pathology Working language : French and/or English
<b><u>Result 4</u> Information system</b>	Higher education diploma in computer science Minimum five years professional experience Minimum five years professional experience specializing in the setting up of information systems and databases in the public sector and, ideally, for the Ministry of Agriculture or phytosanitary services Working language : French and/or English

#### 3.6.4 Profile of short-term experts

The RTA will be assisted by short-term experts in order to implement the whole range of activities planned in the twinning project. They are qualified experts able to provide all competences needed by the activities. Missions of short-term experts, civil servants or equivalent from mandated bodies, will be organised by the RTA and experts will be mobilised by the Member State (s)

*The general tasks of the short-term experts are:*

- to provide the technical input in fields specific to the implementation of the project, including providing technical and institutional support, organising training sessions and workshops, drafting educational materials, procedural documents and quality manuals, and other activities mentioned ;
- to accompany the DPVCT and its support structures in implementing activities and provide specific expert recommendations ;
- to provide the RTA with a report and deliverables at the end of each mission.

*The profiles of the short-term experts are:*

- a higher education diploma in the relevant field of intervention ;
- minimum five years of relevant professional experience ;
- preferably one experience as an expert in a development cooperation projects ;
- experience in working abroad is an advantage ;
- fluency in French or English is an asset.

*Short-term experts, especially training experts, must have a satisfactory command of French and/or English, even though translation and interpretation costs are eligible and included in the indicative budget of the twinning.*

**MS short-term expert profiles (specialised in the fields included in each component):**

	<b>Result 1: regulations</b>
	- phytotechnical field and in phytosanitary and varietal certification.
	- good command of pest risk analysis (PRA), and knowledge of regulations in sanitary and phytosanitary measures
	- seed and perennial plant certification

	<b>Result 2 : inspection and controls</b>
	- phytosanitary inspection quality management
	- management of quality referential of phytosanitary inspections (training)
	- good command of PRA: plant pathologies, bacteriology, virology, mycology)
	- in animal
	- in animal pests (nematology, entomology, acarology)
	- - Weed science and invasive plants
	- agronomists (1 for vegetable crops and 1 for fruit crops)
	- specialised in import-export controls
	- biological monitoring and phytosanitary risk management
	- biological monitoring, plant quarantine and certification

<b>Result 3 : laboratories</b>	
	- ISO 1705 quality management : QAM in an MS laboratory
	- good command of molecular biology techniques ( virology, bacteriology, mycology)
	- molecular biology – varietal characterization
	- metrology
	- - good command of laboratory techniques, including molecular biology techniques: virology; bacteriology, mycology, nematology
	- entomology et acarology
	- weed science

<b>Result 4 : information system</b>	
	- good command of phytosanitary information systems
	- in the phytosanitary field, public information systems, computer specialist
	- in the phytosanitary field, computer specialist

## 4. Budget

The maximum budget available for this Twinning Project is EUR 1 290 000, 00 (one million two hundred ninety thousand euros)

## 5. Implementation arrangements

### 5.1 Contracting Authority

The Contracting Agency is the Programme Management Unit Support to the Implementation of the Association Agreement (*UGP-P3A*).

L'UGP-P3A is located :

Palais des expositions, Pins Maritimes, Mohammadia – Algiers

Tél. +213 21.21.94.02 / +213 21.21.94.01

Fax. +213 21.21.04.12

Web site : [www.p3a-algerie.org](http://www.p3a-algerie.org)

Contact person: **Djilali Lebibat**

Programme National Director P3A- Contact Point for twinning projects, TAIEX and SIGMA in Algeria

Email: [djilali.lebibet@p3a-algerie.org](mailto:djilali.lebibet@p3a-algerie.org)

*Any request of clarification related to this Twinning Fiche should be sent exclusively to UGP P3A and by e-mail only –see art.10 of the call for proposals.*

## 5.1 Institutional Framework

### 5.2.1. DPVCT

DPVCT: its phytosanitary inspection services (IPF – IPW) and support structures (INPV and CNCC).

The director of the DPVCT will ensure that the necessary staff is made available for the successful completion of the project. Special attention is given to the workload and capacities of the DPVCT, INPV and CNCC in achieving the (mandatory) results, and avoiding any overcapacity.

### 5.2.2. Other partner institutions

Other partner institutions, not directly benefiting the present twinning, are the specialized Technical Institutes, production consulting organisms, crop protection associations, companies performing pest management trials and the producers. This non-exclusive list also includes customs and fraud enforcement services and regional phytosanitary laboratories which are not under the responsibility of the INPV or the CNCC.

**The beneficiary institution** is the DPVCT, represented by its Director Khaled MOUMENE.

## 5.3 Beneficiary institution homologues

### 5.3.1 Project leader

Mr. Khaled MOUMENE, DPVCT Director, is the BC Project Director. He will work closely with the MS Project Leader, the RTA and the RTA counterpart. He will supervise the progress made by the project and bring all necessary support for proper implementation of the project activities. He will co-chair the quarterly Steering Committee meetings.

Mrr Khaled MOUMENE

Address : Ministère de l'Agriculture, du Développement Rural et de la Pêche  
12, Boulevard Colonel Amirouche - Alger

Tel : 213 (0) 23. 503.173

E-Mail : [moumenekhaled63@gmail.com](mailto:moumenekhaled63@gmail.com)

Web site: <http://www.minagri.dz/>

### 5.3.2 RTA homologue

Mrs. BENCHEHIDA Amina Amal, Deputy Director of phytosanitary surveillance will be the homologue of the RTA and such the main referent during the whole project duration. She will be in charge of daily coordination with the RTA of activities to be organised by the Algerian side and will ensure linkage with managers, working groups and MAS component leaders.

Address : Ministère de l'Agriculture, du Développement Rural et de la Pêche  
12, Boulevard Colonel Amirouche - Alger

### 5.3.3 Quality Assurance Managers (QAM)

Mrs. HAMOUDI Zakia, Head of office, QAM for DPVCT.

Mr SMAHA Djamel, Head of service of the laboratory of nematology QAM of INPV.

Mr BENINAL Lyes, Agronomist at the phytosanitary laboratory, QAM of CNCC..

## 5.4 Other arrangements

### *Working language*

The official working language will be French or English. Contributions can be made in other official EU languages. Translations and interpretation, notably in Arabic, are eligible costs in the twinning budget. The services of an interpreter will be available for the duration of the project (24 months) and are included in the twinning budget.

### *Working groups*

Operational working groups will be set up for the implementation and monitoring of Project activities (each per component)..

They will ensure organisation and monitor realisation of activities, to identify sensitive or difficult issues and present them to the Steering Committee. They will be assisted by the RTA and experts for the planning and the implementation of main activities of the Algerian side, essential for the achievement of twinning results.

### *Project Steering Committee*

The Steering Committee shall meet on a quarterly basis during the whole project duration to discuss and measure project progress, verify mandatory objectives reached and plan future actions. The final composition and procedures of the Steering Committee will be defined in the Twinning Contract and is composed of:

- the MS and BC Project Leaders
- the two RTAs (MS and BC) and assistant
- UGP-P3A representative
- EU Delegation representative
- Component leaders

Other short-term experts and relevant representatives of other partners may usefully attend.

## 6. Project Duration

24 months with a legal implementation period of 27 months.

## 7. Sustainability

For the DVCPT and its support structures (INPV, CNCC), the project will contribute to a substantial strengthening of its institutional and technical capacities in view of introducing a quality management system meeting ISO 1720 and 17025 requirements. And, thus, enable them to conduct sustainable and irreversible control and monitoring missions, as well as analyses in the phytosanitary and phytotechnical fields. The twinning will upgrade phytosanitary regulations, make inspections meet ISO requirements, reinforce the analytical capacities of laboratories and provide reliable information. Furthermore, the project will contribute to develop staff skills and competences and, above all, allow to attain sustainable and homogenous national work standards and meet international standards in phytosanitary measures.

## 8. Crosscutting issues

### Gender equity

Algeria fully subscribes to gender equality as defined by the UN *Millenium Development Goals*. Providing public services without gender discrimination is a fundamental principle which is applied in the national administration, in particular in the Ministry of Agriculture, the DPVCT and its support structures. This twinning project and its formulation are gender-neutral and none of its results or activities involve discrimination or differentiation of any kind.

### Democracy, good governance and the rule of law

The twinning project is set within the framework of values and principles outlined and agreed to in the AA Algeria-EU Association Agreement. It is perfectly neutral in terms of democracy, good governance and the rule of law, except when it concerns the protection and health of citizens, without discrimination.

### Environment

Algeria is very concerned with environmental issues. The project has no direct impact on the environment.

## 9. Conditionality and sequences

No conditionality, specific expectations or particular sequences are required, other than those mentioned in the twinning fiche

## 10. Performance indicators

- the quality management system is implemented within DPVCT, phytosanitary inspection services (IPW-IPF) and supporting structures (INPV, CNCC);
- the staff competences are upgraded;
- Quality Assurance according to NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) et NA ISO/CEI 17025 ( NA 13012) norms are set-up and harmonised with EU and international standards;
- Methods, procedures and tools are in place in accordance with the requirements of the 2 norms
- The personnel are trained, knowledgeable and able to implement the standards and tasks, relevant to DPVCT missions.
- 
- Work quality of DPVCT, its phytosanitary inspection services and supporting structures is enhanced

## 11. Available Facilities

In compliance with the Twinning Manual, DPVCT, beneficiary institution is exclusively responsible for making available for the project team professional infrastructure, equipment thus ensuring best working conditions to the experts. Under no circumstances can equipment be financed by the EU part of the Twinning budget.

## Annexes

Matrix of the logical framework

**ANNEX 1: Matrix of the logical framework**

<b>Twinning acronym : « DPVCT »</b>	<b>Reference : DZ 16 ENI AG 01 18</b>	<b>Duration: 24 months</b>	<b>Budget : € 1 290 000,00</b>
<b>Overall objective</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of verification</b>	
The overall objective is to improve and strengthen the control systems for plants and vegetal products in view of facilitating their commerce and export to the European Union and worldwide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The quality management system is implemented at the DPVCT, its phytosanitary services (IPW – IPF) and support structures (INPV, CNCC).</li> <li>- Staff competences are enhanced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quarterly reports and at the start and end of the project</li> <li>- Competence evaluations</li> </ul>	
<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of verification</b>	<b>Assumptions and risks</b>
Implement a quality management approach within the plant protection services and technical inspections in order to enhance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the control capacities of the phytosanitary services in order to bring them closer to European and international standards and ensure quality compliance with the NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) standard;</li> <li>- the reliability of analysis results at the INPV (National Institute for Vegetal Protection) and the CNCC (National Centre for Control and Certification) laboratories by implementing a quality management system compliant with the NA ISO/CEI 17025 (NA 13012) standard.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The quality management system is compliant with NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) et NA ISO/CEI 17025 (NA 13012) standards and harmonized with European and international standards.</li> <li>- Methods, procedures and tools are implemented according to the 2 standards</li> <li>- Personnel have the skills and competences required to perform the tasks and missions assigned by the DPVCT and its support structures.</li> <li>- The quality of work at the DPVCT, its phytosanitary inspection services and support structures is enhanced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress report seminars for each Result</li> <li>- Quarterly reports,</li> <li>- Training sessions conducted and evaluated</li> <li>- Interim reports by specialty, « blank » reports</li> <li>- Technical notes and procedures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Before accreditation, a « blank » report on certain activities of the INPV et du CNCC</li> <li>-A progressive quality implementation for other activities</li> <li>-Quality will not be fully implemented in certain structures and Wilayas</li> </ul>

Results	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions and risks
<p><b>Result 1:</b> National regulations on phytosanitary and phytotechnical controls and standards are progressively brought in line with European and international standards</p>	<p><b>Indicator 1</b> (OVI1): Algerian phytosanitary and phytotechnical regulations are updated.</p> <p><b>Indicator 2</b> (OVI 2): Algerian phytosanitary and phytotechnical regulations are harmonized to meet European and international requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report on the updated list of regulated pests</li> <li>- Suggested modifications to phytosanitary texts</li> <li>- Publication of the implementation decrees of technical regulations</li> </ul>	<p>Difficulty in adopting and applying regulatory texts</p>
<p><b>Result 2:</b> A quality management system is introduced in the phytosanitary control services compliant with the NA ISO/CEI 17020 (NA 13001) standard</p>	<p><b>Indicator3</b> (OVI 3) the quality management of the phytosanitary controls is operational</p> <p><b>Indicator 4</b> (OVI 4): the Quality Manual is ready and procedures are applied in compliance with ISO 17020 requirements</p> <p><b>Indicator 5</b> (OVI 5): the personnel is trained, knowledgeable and is able to implement the standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Precise report describing the role and function of quality assurance in phytosanitary inspections</li> <li>- The Quality Manual</li> <li>- Standardized control procedures are applied to both imports and exports</li> <li>- Report on training and pedagogical kits</li> <li>- Implementation of the PRA and the risk and crisis management methods</li> </ul>	<p>Dissemination from 3 pilot Wilayas to the whole of the IPWs</p>

Results	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions and risks
<p><b>Result 3:</b> The support structure laboratories (INPV – CNCC) are assisted towards their NA ISO/CEI 17025 (NA 13012) standard accreditation with national and international recognition of their analyses and diagnoses</p>	<p><b>Indicator 6</b> (OVI 6) : The Quality Manual is drawn up and applied within each laboratory (INPV et CNCC)  <b>Indicator 7</b> (OVI 7) : The CNCC’s phytosanitary molecular biology laboratory is under ISO/CEI 17025 quality assurance with test audits in bacteriology, mycology and virology for three harmful organisms  <b>Indicator 8</b> (OVI 8) : The INPV’s phytosanitary laboratory is under ISO/CEI 17025 quality assurance with test audits in bacteriology, mycology, virology and nematology for the identification of a limited number of harmful organisms ( 4-6)  <b>Indicator 9</b> (OVI 9) : The personnel is trained, knowledgeable and able to implement the standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training report for the laboratory personnel complying to the ISO 17025 standard</li> <li>- The Quality Manual</li> <li>- Report on the « blank » audit of the molecular biology laboratory (CNCC)</li> <li>- Report on the « blank » audit of the INPV’s phytosanitary laboratory in bacteriology, virology and nematology</li> </ul>	<p>Check and update, if necessary, the laboratory equipment                      Important workload for lab staff</p>
<p><b>Result 4:</b> The phytosanitary services and support structures (INPV- CNCC) are ready for the implementation of an information system.</p>	<p><b>Indicator 10</b> (OVI 10) : The phytosanitary information system is ready for implementation  <b>Indicator 11</b> (OVI 11) : The 3 databases (regulations, control, laboratories) are operational</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information system specifications</li> <li>- Report on the structure and implementation of the 3 computerized database</li> </ul>	<p>Check suitability of the computer equipment</p>