



TV UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

Release Date: May 2007

Programme No. 1075

Duration: 4'24 ''

Languages: English, French, Spanish and Russian

MOLDOVA'S SUCCES IN PREVENTING BIRD FLU

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATION

MODEL CHICKEN FARM

A model chicken farm in Moldova, one of Europe's poorest nations. Two hundred chickens are kept here. Special attention is given to hygiene and the keeper makes sure that the animals are separated from wild birds. But places like this are exceptions to the rule. (18")

MAN HEADING GEESE

Most people do not have money to improve their own living conditions, much less those of their animals. But one thing people have here is knowledge. Few countries worldwide have populations so well informed about the dangers of bird flu. (14")

PHYSICIANS IN LAB

Experts believe that the world is due for a new influenza pandemic. The last one occurred nearly 40 years ago and the next one could be a real catastrophe, especially for the poor. (11")

BIRDS FLYING OVER POND

The Republic of Moldova is a high risk country, situated directly on the path of migratory birds. (6")

MAP

The country borders Romania and Ukraine, where outbreaks of Avian Influenza have been recorded.

BIRDS

But to date no cases of avian flu among poultry, wild birds, or animals, and no suspicious cases among the human population, have been registered. (15.5")

POULTRY MARKET

Eighty-seven percent of the people living here rely on poultry as a stable source of income and food. Keeping these birds healthy is critical. (8.5")

Veterinarian, Eugen Voineski, discusses prevention methods. (3.5")

VOINESKI ON CAMERA

VOINESKI: (In Romanian)

"At the border crossing points we are installing disinfecting stations. We are also undertaking studies to track the route of the migratory birds. "
(8.5")

PHYSICIANS IN LAB

NARRATION

But Moldova is getting ready in case the disease does strike. At the Centre for Prevention Medicine in Chisinau, the country's capital, testing is being done to find traces of bird flu. So far everything has been working well, says Dr. Ion Bahnarel, the Centre's Director. (17")

BAHNAREL ON CAMERA

BAHNAREL: (In Romanian)

"I think we've done a great job. Each citizen has

gotten the message. Every farmer was informed and the campaign still goes on.” (8”)

ANIMATED CARTOON

NARRATION

This animation for the very young explains how the virus affects birds and humans. (5”)

MIHAIL ENTERS COOP

Children are particularly vulnerable since they are often responsible for collecting eggs and feeding the chickens. 15-year old Mihail is cautious. (9”)

MIHAIL ON CAMERA

MIHAIL: (In Romanian)

“I never go directly home after feeding chickens and I always wash my hands. I apply the knowledge I gained in school.” (7”)

MIHAIL AT SCHOOL

NARRATION

Reaching children and their parents is the key to win the fight to prevent bird flu. Access to information is paramount. A great way to reach kids and adults is via local schools. (11”)

PRINTING SCHOOL NEWSPAPER “SPIRIT”

Mihail and his friends are at the forefront of the fight against the disease. He is a member of the editorial board that runs his school newspaper, “Spirit”. They often publish stories about what is being done to prevent a bird flu outbreak in the country. (13.5”)

MIHAIL & MARIA SPEAK TO CHILDREN

Mihail and his 18 year-old friend, Maria, speak to smaller children on how to avoid infection and what

to do in case there is an outbreak. Here they explain to the children how important it is to isolate birds from humans. The separation is crucial because if one falls down it could bring everyone else down too. Maria is impressed with their enthusiasm. (20")

MARIA ON CAMERA

MARIA: (In Romanian)

"I must say that I was astonished by the amount of information these children have, because often children when not interested, they don't really listen. But these children really know." (11")

BABY CHICKS AND CHICKENS AT POULTRY MARKET

NARRATION

UN agencies like UNICEF, the UN Development Programme and the World Bank have played a major role in helping countries to avoid an international avian influenza crisis. In the case of the Republic of Moldova, authorities and the population have found that the best way to deal with a potential pandemic of unimaginable consequences is knowledge and preparedness. (22")

LOGO

This report was prepared by Chaim Litewski and Mary Ferreira for the United Nations.