Help prevent the spread of avian influenza

Avian influenza, also known as bird flu, is a highly contagious viral disease that affects birds, mammals species and sometimes humans. Beyond its impacts on animal health and biodiversity, the disease has devastating effects on the poultry industry, threatening workers’ livelihoods, food security and international trade.

As a concerned citizen, you have a part to play in helping to identify avian influenza and prevent its spread.

Avian influenza can easily spread through:

- Secretions and excretions from infected birds, especially faeces
- Contaminated feed and water
- The movement of infected animals
- Contact with contaminated boots, vehicles and equipment

The transmission of avian influenza from birds to humans is rare and usually occurs in very specific situations. These include repeated human exposure to infected birds, most often when it comes to backyard poultry and live bird markets.

How can you contribute to contain the disease?

- Stay informed of the disease situation when you change areas
- Report suspect sick or dead birds found to local Veterinary Authorities
- If you travel with live birds, ensure you respect all sanitary prerequisites
- Always cook poultry products properly
- Do not go near or touch bird droppings or sick or dead birds
- Avoid visiting live birds markets and poultry farms in affected areas

Learn more with:

- Our webpage on avian influenza
- Our situation reports to follow the disease evolution
- Our WAHIS system and its distribution list to get informed on the areas affected