Veterinary Services in Natural Disasters

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The OIE is the WTO reference organisation for standards relating to animal health and zoonoses.
CHAPTER 3.1. VETERINARY SERVICES Article 3.1.1.

The quality of the Veterinary Services depends on a set of factors, which include fundamental principles of an ethical, organisational, legislative, regulatory and technical nature.
Veterinary Services

If you have seen one Veterinary Service, you have seen one Veterinary Service

They are all unique to their respective country’s, capabilities, capacities, and requirements.
National Veterinary Authorities

Belgium
Public Federal Service for Public Health, Food Safety and Environment
Agence fédérale pour la sécurité de la chaîne alimentaire (AFSCA)

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Veterinary Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Danemark
Danish Veterinary and Food Administration

France
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Finland
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry - Veterinary and Food Department
Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira

Germany
Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMVEL)
National Veterinary Authorities

Greece
Ministry of agriculture - Dept of Infectious Diseases

Italy
Ministry of Health

Netherlands
Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

Norway
Norwegian Food Safety Authority
National Veterinary Authorities

Poland
Glówny Inspektorat Weterynarii

Portugal
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries (MADRP)

Spain
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Medio Rural y Marino (MARM)

Sweden
National Veterinary Institute
Swedish Board of Agriculture

Switzerland
Federal Veterinary Office

United Kingdom / Great Britain
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
OIE Performance of Veterinary Services
PVS Pathway Programme

The OIE PVS Pathway is a global programme for the sustainable improvement of a country's Veterinary Services' compliance with OIE standards on the quality of Veterinary Services.
Natural Disasters and “One – Health”
Are we prepared?

From a National Veterinary Services perspective the answers are clear:

Yes
No
Maybe
OIE Survey of European Region and West Asia Region Veterinary Services on Animal Health in the Light of Natural Disasters and Bioterrorism 2014

48 of 53 (91%) Countries responded to the OIE Questionnaire
Recent Experience with Natural Disaster?

Survey Responses

- YES: 22
- NO: 25 (52%)

All Veterinary Service disaster responses were rated Acceptable to Very Effective.

Only 14 completed After Action Reports. Only 2 were publically available.
What Animal Species are Covered in National Disaster Management Plans?

48 Responses

- Livestock/Production: 39
- Zoo/Aquatic: 25
- Companion Animals: 25
- Wildlife: 20

Reponses
VS Disaster Preparedness and Response Gaps in Survey

12% no or limited legal authority in animals in disasters

19% animal response not in national response plans

21% no national legislation for animals in disasters

23% no authority for bioterrorism investigation

27% no capacity for bioterrorism

66% VS with no disaster guidelines
OIE activities to support Competent Authority Were Requested by 94% of Respondents

The most requested OIE activities requested were in order:

OIE publish standards and guidelines

Education and Training

Convene a Global Summit

Planning and coordination support

Legislative support
The One Health Elephant in the Room
Barriers to Effective One Health

• Legal Authority
• Funding
• Institutional Culture
• Processes
• Terminology
• Facilities
• Infrastructure
• Information technology
US Department of Defense Lyme Disease Example

US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

US Army Veterinary Command

US Army Medical Centers
Cultural and Organizational Barrier

“The threat to human health will persist as long as the problem persists in animals.”

Dr. Peter Horby
World Health Organization
Viet Nam
ICD-10 Example Terminology and Information Technology Barrier

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Veterinary Terms in Human Databases

Sample of pink salmon infected with *Henneguya salminicola*, caught off the Queen Charlotte Islands, Western Canada in 2009
Rinderpest was declared as eradicated worldwide by the OIE and FAO in May and June 2011.

In accordance with the decision taken by the World Assembly at the 79th General Session, Member Countries are now exempted from annual reconfirmation for rinderpest free status.
OIE Role in Animal Health and Welfare and Veterinary Public Health in Disasters

Support strengthening National Veterinary Services Capacity

Develop Guidelines and Standards

Provide Training and Education

Support Knowledge Management Exchange
One Health Lenses

Narrow
Broad
Holistic

Ecosystem Services
Humans
Domestic Animals
Wildlife
Climate

World Bank - People, Pathogens and our Planet
Holistic One Health

The Peaceable Kingdom - Edward Hicks 1780-1849
Discussion