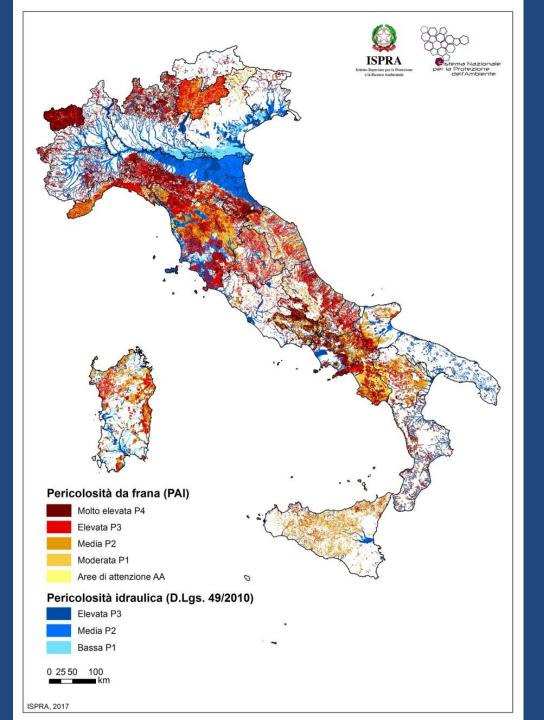
VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH IN FLOODS

THE ITALIAN EXPERIENCE

Marco Leonardi

marco.leonardi@protezionecivile.it



2017: 91% of Italian municipalities are exposed to flooding and/or landslide hazard (ISPRA)

The new civil protection legislation in Italy (Decreto Legislativo 1/2018)

The National Civil Protection Service is the system which exercises the civil protection function, consisting of all the competences and activities that are designed to protect the life, the physical integrity, the goods, the settlements, animals and the environment from damage or danger of damage arising from disastrous events of natural origin or arising from human activity.



The italian civil protection service (established in 1992)

National, regional, local adminsitrations

Fire Brigades

Armed Forces

Police

Scientific institutes

National Health Service (including veterinary services)

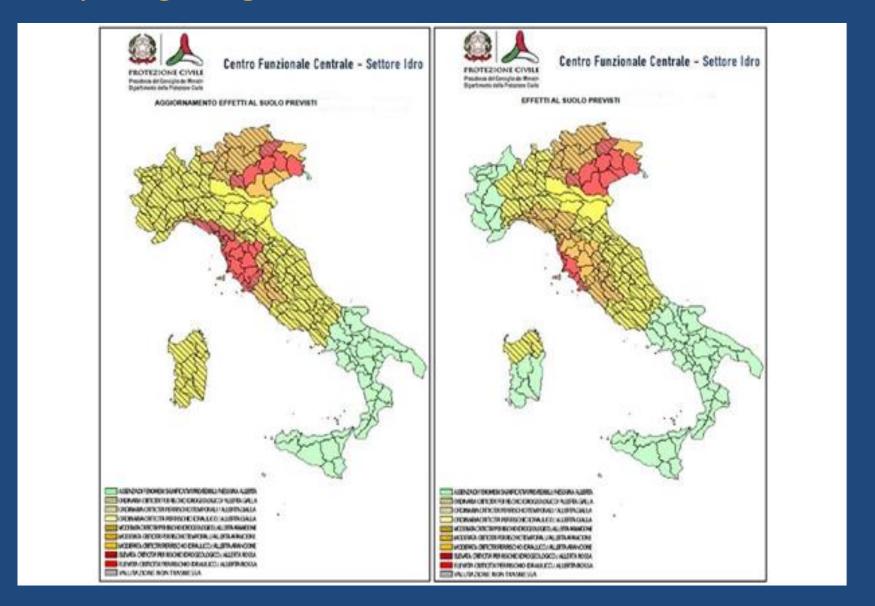
Volunteers' organizations, Italian Red Cross, Alpine and speleological rescue service

National Environmental protection system

Metereological services

Professional organizations

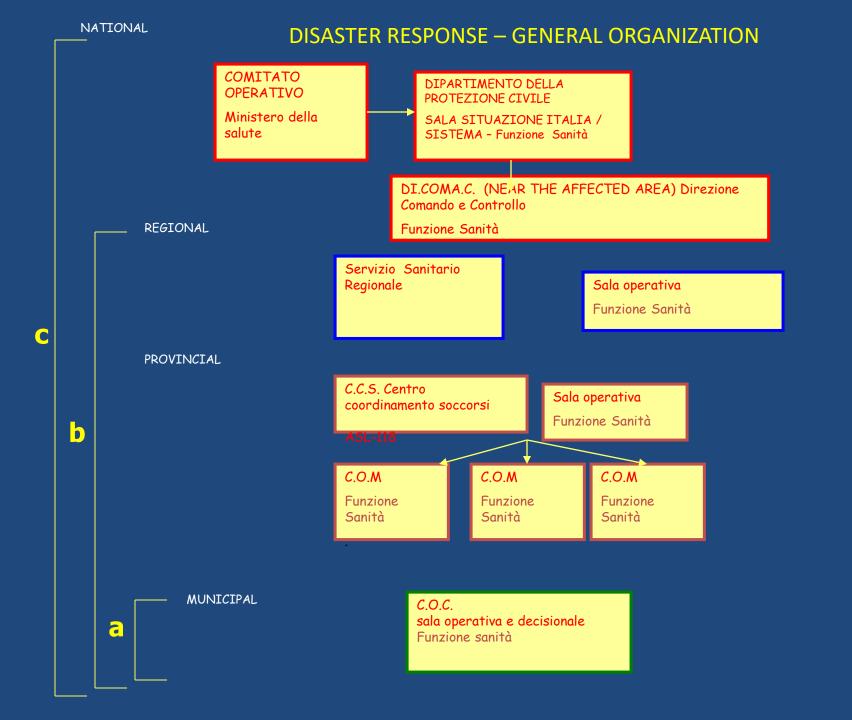
National alert system on meteorological, hydraulic and hydro-geological hazard established in 2004





Civil protection preparedness – Funzione «Sanità, assistenza sociale e veterinaria (health and social care, veterinary public health) According to «National criteria on the organisation of health services in disasters», 2001

- Extra-hospital emergency health care
- Intra-hospital emergency health care
- Health aspects connected to victim identification
- Recovery of basic health care services
- Drug supply, recovery of pharmaceutical service
- Public health in displaced camps
- Food safety
- Disposal of dead animals and food waste
- Water sanitation
- Animal health and welfare
- Psychological support
- Social care



The Regional Contact for health emergencies (RSR) Decree of the PCM 24 June, 2016

Integration of the Regional Civil Protection System and the Regional Health Service for all the health aspects connected with a disaster;

Communication with the Regional and National Civil Protection to inform on the ongoing current situation, the intervention priorities and the resources needed to ensure health care to the affected population;

Connection with the competent structures of the local health service, as well as with the Regional Civil Protection Structure;

Participation of the Regional health service to disaster preparedness activities.

What about the animals?











Floods: Impact on animal health/welfare

Effect	Impact on animal health / welfare
Flooding of buildings/facilities where animals are sheltered	Drowning, electrocution
	Need for temporary shelters
	Unattended animals
	Damage to feed
Interruption of electric power	Discomfort
	Disruption of water/feed supply
Disruption of water distribution	Disruption of water supply
Interruption of roads/transport	Interruption of feed supply
	Limited/no access of caregivers/veterinarians
Flooding of facilities were chemicals are stored	Environmental pollution
Flooding of polluted waters	Environmental pollution
	Spread of water-borne diseases
Suitable habitat for vectors	Spread of vector-borne diseases

Veterinary disaster response

Is coordinated at local level by the Veterinary services

(Local health agencies)

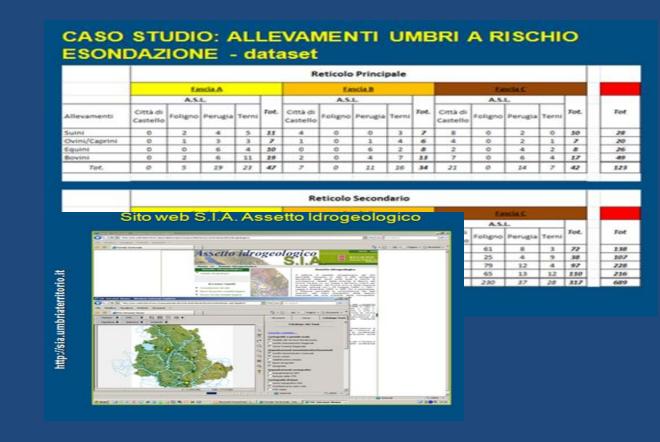
Other actors concur to the activities (practitioners, police, volunteers, etc.)

Forecast and prevention – Umbria

Umbria Region is heavily exposed to hydraulic and hydrogeological hazard.

In the framework of a collaboration between the Regional civil protection and «Istituto Zoorofilattico Sperimentale» (IZS) the regional GIS on hydraulic and hydro-geological hazard has been integrated with the data concerning farms based on livestock and farm anagraphical records

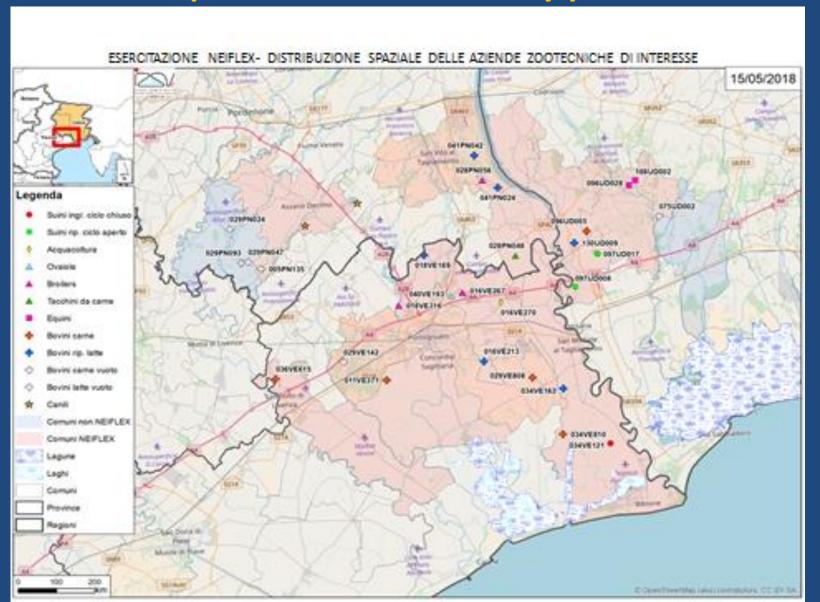
Every year a training course for veterinarians on non epidemic emergencies, including an exercise on the field, is organised jointly by the IZS and Regional civil protection



«Gestione dati epidemiologici per la costruzione di mappe di rischio»
Gina Biasini (a), Raffaello A. Morgante (a), Carmen Maresca (a), Telemaco Cenci (a), Nicola Berni (b), Federico Governatori Leonardi (b)

- (a) Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Umbria e delle Marche Perugia
- (b) Regione Umbria, Centro Funzionale del Servizio Protezione Civile Foligno (PG)

NEIFLEX – North Eastern Italy Flood Exercise Tabletop exercise on veterinary public health



Critical points

- > Short notice alert how much time for preventive measures?
- Animal related issues are not considered in local emergency plans
- Veterinary services are not integrated to the same extent into local civil protection systems
- Lack of specific logistic resources to deal with animal-related issues
- Involvement of practitioners and relevant stakehodlders in preparedness and response (e.g. farmers, animal rights NGOs)

Memorandum of understandings with animal rights NGOs



