



**First OIE regional workshop on the role of Veterinary
Services on
animal welfare in natural disasters for Balkan countries
26-28 November 2018, Teramo, Italy**

**Group exercise: Elements to consider in the VS-CP's
preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding
scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR**

Group 1

Elements to consider in the VS-CP's preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR

- There is no specific plan for disasters but we are going to use a contingency plan for diseases.
 - we can use the early warning of civil protection , and meteorological services.
 - Identification of farmers (database, information resources)
 - Meeting contact with farmers association , ngo , practitioners, veterinarian services of army

Design of the plan

- Aims
- Framework (natural hazard)
- General description (farms, animal census, rendering plants, dog shelters, etc.)
- Main available resources (Transport, practitioners, trained staff, generators, other relevant resources)
- Communication flow (internal, between different levels of VS, between other agencies)
- Internal organisation (local crisis unit, assessment teams, communication officer, etc.)
- Coordination with the general disaster response system
- Relevant agencies, stakeholders and procedures to involve them
- Action to be made in alert and emergency phase and actors

Group 2

Elements to consider in the VS-CP's preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR – Group 2

- Legislations already established, legal guidance
- Internal meeting to delegate responsibilities
- Zoos, Farms, Pets, Media, Logistics, Data/Information system
- Chart is of tasks not exactly roles and roles can be condensed

Elements to consider in the VS-CP's preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR – Group 2

- CVO is the Chair of the response will have a conference call with Emergency Management about Incident Status
- Everyone calls their contacts in their responsibilities
- Hotline established to field calls from the public

Elements to consider in the VS-CP's preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR – Group 2

- Prevention messages for public
 - Prepare media messages and messages for hotline
 - Water, food and human shelter locations
 - Small animal: shelter in place or evacuate
 - Farms and Zoos must have contingency plans and respond to CVO plan if it has problems let CVO know
 - Target messages to specific audience

Group 3

Elements to consider in the VS-CP's preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR

1. Establish disaster type & extent/scale

- Floods & landslides – this will define lead authority / chain of command
- Topographical maps / flood risk areas in relation to predicted areas to be affected
- GIS mapping

Disaster preparedness

2. Establish animal populations at risk

- Existing databases held by vet services
 - Includes numbers /species / health status / any restrictions in relation to disease status
- Movement information if known
- Other animal populations – zoo / research / sheelters / kennels / catteries /bees etc
- Vet checks – census check by phone /on foot

Disaster preparedness

3. Systems for rapid assessment

- link meteorological data with information from 1. & 2. and relevant information from 6.
- Alert system – red amber green
 - Early comms directing public / farmers to info sources at early stage
- Establish high risk areas & populations / species
- Identify “safe areas” for evacuation

Disaster preparedness

4. Plan describes legislative basis

- Central competent authority role
- VS obligations
- Other agency obligations
- Local obligations
 - Local authorities & civil contingencies / emergency responders
 - Animal owner obligations
 - Agreed NGO and industry / farmer association roles

Disaster preparedness

5. Chain of command

- Define who liaises with lead authority
- Define chain within the VS and across agencies / authorities
- Define local chain of command
 - Two way process i.e. feedback level of urgency at local level to senior “commanders”

Disaster preparedness

6. Coordination, Collaboration & Communication

- With who and who takes responsibility
 - In appropriate language e.g. to pet owners, farmers , private vets
- Lead authority / NGOs / other stakeholders / private vets

Disaster preparedness

7. Financials

- What is mandatory compensation – when / where / to whom
- What is not compensated & what emergency support is “free” e.g. carcass removal
- What is “advised”
- Communications policy for details of this

Disaster preparedness

8. Human Resources

- Veterinary Services
 - Vets, technical support staff, administrative staff
 - ♦ Cancel holidays!!
 - Ability to co-opt additional resource e.g. from other regions or even other countries
- NGOS / local civil contingencies resources
- Volunteers
 - Appropriately managed
 - Vet students

Disaster preparedness

9. Communication Plan

- Lead spokesperson (no “stepping on toes”)
- Communications channels central & local
- Means of communications
 - By VS – social media, tv, radio, on line
 - BY stakeholder groups – NGOs / industry & farmer groups
- Pre-prepared written communications and FAQs = Frequently Asked Questions

Disaster preparedness

10. Sustainable continuity

- Vet Services
 - Are VS in safe place to runs operations?
 - Legal requirements for staff daily hours and time off
- Community recovery – animals / farmers
 - Food
 - Potable water
 - Communications networks and other services e.g. electrics
 - Clean up / rebuild / animal treatment