# The CASCADE simulation exercise on floods and earthquakes in Portugal

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Organisation mondiale de la santé animale Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal









The **General Directorate of Food and Veterinary** (DGAV) is a central service of direct State administration, under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

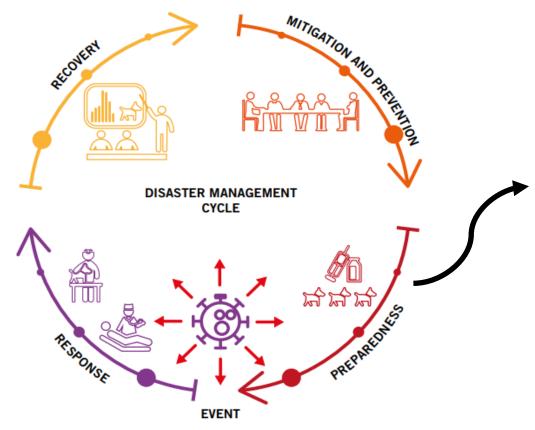
MISSION: to define, execute and evaluate food safety, animal protection and animal health, plant protection and plant health policies, being invested with the functions of National Veterinary and Phytosanitary Health Authority, National Authority for Veterinary Medicines and Authority responsible for managing the Food Safety System.

The National Authority for Emergency and Civil Protection is a central service of direct State administration, under the supervision of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

MISSION: responsible for **planning**, **coordinating** and **executing** civil protection policy – namely in the fields of prevention and response to **major accidents and disasters**, protection and relief and superintendence of fire brigades.



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The CASCADE simulation exercise PT

Figure 1. Phases of the Disaster Management Cycle



# THE CASCADE 2019 EXERCISE **REFERS TO "PREPAREDNESS"**



# "PREPAREDNESS" includes the following aspects:



- → CONTINGENCY PLAN
  Planning of work + doc
- → PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS Meetings, events
- → MATERIALS FOR RESPONSE
  Purchase equipment, suppliers

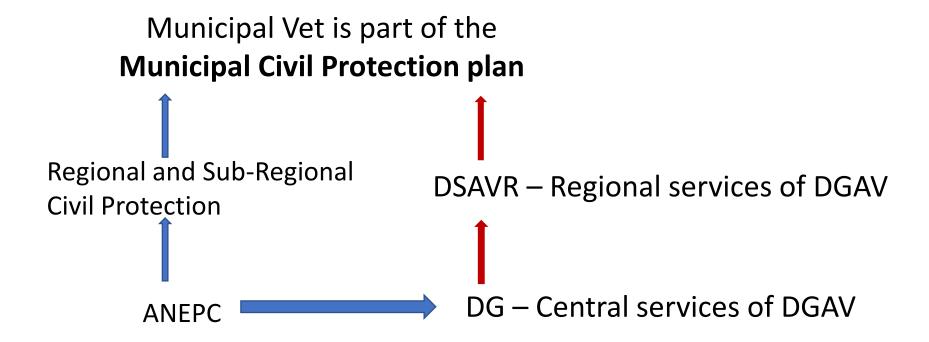
→ SIMULATION EXERCISES

- WHERE: Mapping of geographical risks
   → How to make animal production more resilient?
- WHERE: Profile and distribution of animal populations
- WHO: Human Resources in VS / Training
- WHO: Partnerships (NGO, Priv Vets) / Training
  - → Who is in the field, who can we enrol?
- HOW: Chain of command with regard to interventions on animals (organised intervention)
- HOW: Financial resources
- WHAT: **Technical intervention**: capture, containment, evacuation, registration and shelter infrastructure (field hospitals) or provisions, vet care and specific interventions, feed and water, hygiene, security, return to owners, carcass disposal, update information systems



# PT organization regarding animal protection in disasters





# The CASCADE simulation exercise

The CASCADE simulation exercise PT



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COORDINATION: ANEPC

- > Preparation of the exercise with all the entities involved
- → Development of the exercise
- → Evaluation and reporting

**FLOOD** Centro Region

**EARTHQUAKE** Alentejo Region

**Scenarios** 

**Participants** 

Equipment

Heavy precipitation and southwest wind  $\rightarrow$  need to open the dam gates in Sever do Vouga

Damage of structures and release of domestic animals; injured wild animals





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DGAV represented in CCON (center of command of ANEPC)



- 2. Trigger responses and make contacts
- 3. Coordinate the information to be transmitted to ANEPC
- 4. Communication (attend briefings and prepare info)



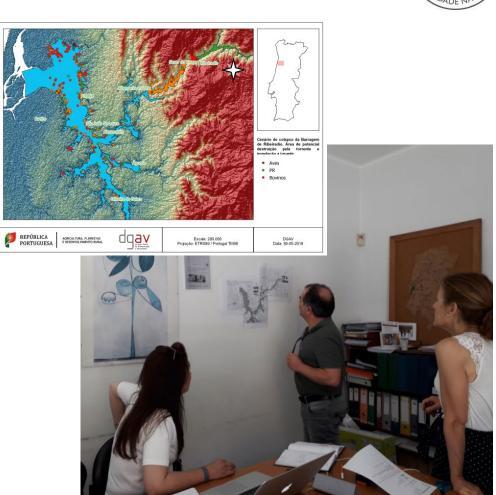






FLOOD Centro Region

- → OBJECTIVE: implementation of planned actions to ensure animal rescue, health and well-being (exercise was carried out one day before expected)
- 1. Preparation and management of animal reception places
- 2. Organization of **means of transport** for the collection and rescue of animals and send to collection locations
- 3. **Veterinary assistance** for injured animals / field hospital
- 4. Mobilization of food and water
- 5. Collection and disposal of animal carcasses





EARTHQUAKE Alentejo Region

- → OBJECTIVE: preparation and management of an animal shelter, attached to the accommodation for victims of accidents
- 1. Preparation and management of an **animal shelter** in a real scenario / near people shelter
- 2. Veterinary **assistance for injured animals**, at the reception location
- 3. Mobilization of food and water
- 4. Volunteers management





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EARTHQUAKE Alentejo Region

→ ANIMAL SHELTER / HOSPITAL







Treatment facilities





Warehouse



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EARTHQUAKE Alentejo Region

→ ANIMAL SHELTER / HOSPITAL



Large animal's shelter







DGAV, Municipal vets, volunteers





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#### **SURPRISE FEEDS!**

EARTHQUAKE LVT Region

- 1. Identification and mobilization of teams from Municipality Services to **collect stray animals**
- 2. Identification of **housing sites** for collected animals
- 3. Management of **identification and destination** of animals, announcement on the Municipality webpage
- 4. Contact the Zoo, to trigger the emergency plan regarding animal escapes.

#### CONTACTS

- Neighboring municipalities (capture and accommodation)
- Veterinary clinics and hospitals (assistance)
- Associations (accommodation)







### **Evaluation of the CASCADE** simulation exercise

The CASCADE simulation exercise PT



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- → REPORTING
- > EVALUATION OF STRONG AND WEAK POINTS AT AL LEVELS

#### **EXAMPLE – CENTRAL:**

#### a) Logistical aspects of the exercise (strengths and weaknesses)

- Well organized, adequate support logistics; weak internet, tight space for the number of institutions
- Interesting cases suitable for the institutions' response
- Many SMS and email messages, difficult to manage
- Possibility of direct communication with other entities at the National Command Post
- Briefings that allow you to have a global view of the exercise, but lack the possibility of monitoring all scenarios

#### b) Organizational aspects of emergency response

- Good prior organization and contacts with the Alentejo CM for planning the accommodation location and mobilizing equipment
- Good coordination with DAVRC; with DSAVR Alentejo, since the exercise was planned, without the need for incident injection, the connection ended up being made directly with the field services of the institutions, to learn about what was already organized
- Communication: communication via Whatsapp is useful, to allow images to be sent; It would be interesting to have a service phone that teams could carry with the application installed.
- Press releases, in emergency situations, are approved by Management and sent to ANEPC, with the knowledge of Agric Ministry.



## **Evaluation of the CASCADE** simulation exercise



#### **EXAMPLE - REGIONAL:**

#### a) Strengths

- Organization, technical knowledge, existence of a structured Regional Contingency Plan, with a series of extended contacts, great availability and involvement of technicians, real knowledge of structures and entities.
- Good responsiveness to poor information regarding the beginning of the exercise, which could have harmed the result as the people to be involved and the expected conditions were not fully met.
- Availability of MVs from Producers Organizations and Municipal Councils
- Good response from the Clinics/Hospitals involved, making itself available for any necessary medical treatment.
- Availability of agricultural cooperatives to provide/sell feed and indicate contacts for the supply of straw

#### b) Difficulties / Weaknesses

- Lack of detail in prior information and incorrect information regarding the beginning of the exercise
- There were difficulties in identifying all small ruminant farms.
- It is desirable to update and expand the contact network / Some difficulties in the information circuit with some entities
- Lack of means of containing animals, namely structures, electric fences...
- Some of the national databases, such as those for transporters, shelters, animal housing sites and clinics do not make it possible to know contacts or apply a filter by location.
- Need for an easily accessible and consultable document with food and watering needs by species and age/weight.
- It is desirable to carry out more training situations regarding this type of scenarios.

# Thank you

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