

# State of the art on contingency planning for the management of animal welfare issues during floods

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# Greece's experience with "DANIEL" natural disaster



<https://www.naftemporiki.gr/society/1513474/thessalia-posa-nekra-zoa-echoyn-perisyllegei/>



# 1. Legislation and regulatory authority

- *Were the Veterinary Services (VSs) progressively integrated in the national Risk Reduction Plan (Civil Protection mechanism)?*
- *YES following official communication between Central Services for the management of dead animals*

*YES following official communication during the fire incident of Thrace area in August 2023 as regards animal welfare*

- *Did the VS achieved the legal authority to act in emergency situations? YES*
- *Do VS interact with private institutions and organizations?*

*YES: with NGOs regarding:*

*the management of dogs in shelters (including those of municipalities) and wildlife (limited rescue procedures)*

*With private companies for animal feed*

- *Is there a mechanism in place for the licensing and credentialing of volunteers? NO*



## 2. Emergency support functions (ESF)/ expert teams

*Which of the following ESF are currently available?*

- *Farms /animals databases*
- *GIS (geographic information systems)*
- *Communication*
- *Assessment of the value of animals*
- *Animal sheltering (for companion animals)*
- *Animal feed and water*
- *Animal search and rescue*
- *Animal control/capture*
- *Transportation of animals and of animal support equipment*
- *Veterinary medical care, decontamination and disease management (incl. zoonosis)*
- *Animal mortality management, incl. culling and disposal of carcasses*
- *Animal/owner reunion*
- *Special animals / productions, e.g. zoo animals*



## 3. Budgeting and resourcing

- *Are contingency funds currently available and accessible (i.e. payment of service providers/suppliers, compensation funds, etc.)?*

*Payment of service providers/suppliers is foreseen mainly in the context of disease depopulation.*

*Compensations funds were immediately announced by the government but have not been reimbursed yet.*

- *Are funds for risk-reduction activities currently available (i.e. running early warning systems, education, training)?* **NO**



## 4. National/Regional Emergency Operation Centre (EOC)

- *Is the location of the national/regional EOC identified? YES, for the flood in Thessaly there was a Regional EOC established in the Region of Thessaly which comprised of:*
  - *Political leadership of the Central Competent Authority*
  - *Political leadership of the Regional Competent Authorities*
  - *The Regional Veterinary Services*
  - *The private company for the management of animal by products and others involved – The Greek army was involved for dead animals and the Hellenic Police was in charge of the whole process in total along with the Ministry of Civil Protection.*
- *Is the staff of the national /regional EOC identified, as well as the command structure? YES*
- *How is the national /regional EOC equipped? State Vehicles, IT, communication devices and tools etc. In Fthiotida Regional Unit the building of VS was completely flooded and all equipment was destroyed.*



## 5. Local Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) and mobile units

- *Is the location of a possible local EOCs predetermined? Or do you have a procedure to do so? **NO (VS)***
- *Is the staff of a local EOC identified? **YES***
- *Have you determined the job profiles, roles and responsibilities? Is the command structure clear? **YES (no VS)***
- *How is a local EOC equipped (e.g. transportation, IT, communication devices and tools, template documents and procedures...)? **State Vehicles, IT, communication devices and tools etc.***
- *Do you have mobile units? **NGOs in a broader sense for companion animals***



## 6. Instructions

*It is recommended to build an operational procedures/protocols, Do you have/are you **planning to** develop operational protocols for:*

- *Activation of contingency plan*
- *Activation and deactivation of the national EOC*
- *Activation and deactivation of the local EOC*
- *Activation of funding mechanism*
- *Activation of contracts (personnel, services)*
- *Distributions of donations*
- *Indemnity claims*
- *Evacuation of animals*
- *Relocation of animals*
- *Animal identification and record keeping*
- *Search and rescue of animals*
- *Veterinary TRIAGE (treatment/euthanasia/humane slaughter)*
- *Carcass disposal*
- *Management of abandoned animals*
- *Feed and water distribution*





## 7. Internal and external communications

*Have you activated:*

- *Tools and technologies, procedures and templates to communicate with other governmental partners (civil protection, meteorological, hydrological services etc..)?*
- *Internal communication and reporting network*
- *Communication between key points of contact at different levels of the VS and across government ministries/agencies, and services providers*
- *Communication channels with public target audience (templates for public awareness, information, alerts, warnings) and main stakeholders*
- *Cross-border communication and collaboration (i.e. rendering plants)*
- *Communication with international organizations (support, funds, donations)*



## 8. Training and education

- *Have you implemented training/capacity building initiatives?*
- *Who, what, frequency?*
- *Did you identify Day-One competencies to be required and continuing education programs to maintain Disaster Management competencies?*
- *Have you trained the national/local Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) staff on emergency management principles and best practices?*



## 9. Information technology and knowledge management

*Can you currently rely on:*

- *In-house analysis capacity or outsourcing, including cross-analysis and mapping of high-risk areas, topography and farms/animals' locations (Web-based Geographic Information Systems)? **VS in collaboration with the Ministry of Civil Protection***
- *Data sources (including meteorological, hydrological services and institutions)?*
- *Situational awareness and impact assessment analysis?*

***Coordinated by the Ministry of Civil Protection***



# 10. Integration and coordination with other agencies, organizations and stakeholders

*Were you able to map the agencies and stakeholders involved in the VS-CP and understand their respective roles and responsibilities?*

- *Other national authorities and agencies, incl. environmental agency and Meteorological institutions*
- *Other data/analysis providers*
- *Official and private veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary practice managers*
- *Animal welfare NGOs, animal shelters, animal rescue units*
- *Farmers organisations and breeders organizations*
- *Fire brigades*
- *Police*
- *Army*
- *Citizens*



# 11. Evaluation, monitoring and lessons learnt

*Do you normally M&E the DMRR actions:*

- *In the response phase: systematic recording with key indicators for monitoring of the response (e.g. number of evacuated/relocated animals, mortality/culling) **No time***
- *After the emergency situation: after-action reports, evaluation and impact assessment for the VS-CP review and modification, **review and update of legal framework***
- *During the build-back-better process: gap analysis of VS needs (**resources and process gaps**, in consultation with stakeholders) Review and update of training*

# Thank you

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