

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

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Lisbon, Portugal
17th January, 2024

National Sanitary-Veterinary and Food Safety Authority



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE





Legislation and regulatory authority

- **Government Emergency Ordinance 21/2004 on the National Emergency Management System, with subsequent amendments**
 - regulates the creation, at central and territorial level, of structures with attributions in the field of emergency management, ensuring the unitary and permanent management of all planning activities and the implementation of measures to prevent, limit and remove the destructive effects of emergency situations
- **Government Decision no. 557/2016 on risk type management**
 - establishes the authorities and specialized bodies of the central public administration, the territorial structures subordinated, coordinated or under their authority, the local public administration authorities, and the economic operators who have the obligation to ensure the management of the types of risk and the fulfillment of support functions;
 - classifies the responsible authorities into authorities with a primary role and authorities with a secondary role for each type of risk



Legislation and regulatory authority

- **Government Ordinance 42/2004 on the organization of sanitary-veterinary activity, with subsequent amendments**
 - establishes the way of organization and functioning of veterinary services in Romania
 - represents the legal framework for the creation and functioning of the Committee for Emergency Situations (CES)
 - represents the legal framework for the creation of the National Center for Disease Control
- **Government Decision 1189/2009 regarding the organization, functioning and attributions of the National Center for Disease Control**
 - establishes the organisation, functioning and attributions of the National Center for Disease Control



Legislation and regulatory authority

- **The sanitary-veterinary services in Romania**
- **Organization**
 - according to a unitary concept
 - in a pyramid system of command flow
 - on the territorial principle
- **Structure**
 - at the **central** level
 - National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (NSVFSA)
 - **Emergency Situations Committee**
 - **National Center for Disease Control (for epizootics)**
 - national reference veterinary institutes
 - at the **territorial** level
 - the sanitary-veterinary and food safety directorates (42)
 - **Local Operational Unit**
 - sanitary veterinary and food safety laboratories
 - border inspection posts



Legislation and regulatory authority

- **The sanitary-veterinary services in Romania**
- **Main attributions:**
 - organize public sanitary-veterinary activities on the entire territory of the country, according to a unitary concept, to ensure animal health, public health, animal protection, environmental protection and food safety;
 - elaborate annual and multiannual national programs in the field of animal health and food safety
 - collaborate with central and local public administration authorities, with associations and patronages in the agricultural and pharmaceutical industry, with representatives of civil society and with international organizations in the sanitary-veterinary field, to carry out public sanitary-veterinary activities
 - cooperate with neighboring countries to implement prevention and control measures for diseases, when appropriate



National Emergency Management System

- National Emergency Management System
 - Created in 2004
 - Role - prevention and management of emergency situations, ensures and coordinates the human, material, financial and other resources necessary to restore the normality after the occurrence of an emergency situation
 - Structure:
 - Committees for Emergency Situations– National/Ministerial/County/Local
 - Department for Emergency Situations
 - General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations
 - professional emergency services and voluntary emergency services
 - operative centers and intervention, coordination and management centers
 - operational centers for emergency situations
 - action commander



National Emergency Management System

- Main public institutions responsible for flood risk management at national level:
 - Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests
 - National Administration "Romanian Waters"
 - Subordinate institutions
- The National Committee for Emergency Situations
 - is headed by the Deputy Prime Minister for National Security
 - is coordinated by the Ministry of the Internal Affairs



National Emergency Management System

- **National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority**
- According to Government Decision no. 557/2016 on risk type management, within the National System for the Management of Emergency Situations, the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (NSVFSA) and the subordinated structures are responsible authorities:
 - Mainly for the management of the epizootics and zoonoses risk
 - Secondary for the management and risk reduction involving animal health and welfare and public health (NSFVSA completes, according to its competence, questionnaires for the preparation of the Country Report on Disaster Risk Management)
- **Emergency Situations Committee (organized at the NSVFSA level)**
 - Headed by the President of the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority
 - Members: persons with decision-making authority, experts, specialists from National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority and from the subordinated structures



National Emergency Management System

- **National Center for Disease Control (NCDC)**
 - Headed by the Ministry of the Internal Affairs
 - coordinated by the Prime Minister
- Structure of **National Center for Disease Control**
 - Central Unit of Decisions (CUD) – organized at National Committee for Emergency Situations level
 - **Central Operational Unit (COU) – organized at NSVFSA level**
 - Central Support Unit (CSU) - main responsibility of supporting the Central Operational Unit (stakeholders involved)
- **Local Centers for Disease Control (LCDC) – structure:**
 - Local Unit of Decisions (LUD)
 - Local Operational Unit (LOU) including Centre for Intervention in the Field – **organized at county level**
 - Local Support Unit (LSU)



National Emergency Management System

CHAIN OF COMMAND

National Center for Disease Control (NCDC)

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

**Permanent members: Representatives of the National Committee for
Emergency Special Situations**

Non-permanent members: When it is necessary



PRESIDENT OF NSVFSA (CVO)



Local Center for Disease Control (LCDC)

PREFECT

County Inspectorate for Emergency Situations

Non-permanent members: When it is necessary



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**County Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorates, respectively
of municipality of Bucharest (CSVFSD)**



Center for Intervention in Field



Emergency support functions

- NSVFSA informs the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situation (GIES) about the situations that could generate emergency situations according to the specific competence, and participates, at the request of the GIES, in all the meetings organized in emergency situations at the central and at the territorial level.
- In the frame of its activity, NSVFSA collaborates with state institutions, non-governmental organizations, industry representatives and farmers, according to the provisions of the Contingency Plan and the specific legislation in force.
- Depending on the type of disaster, NSVFSA issues instructions and recommendations according to its competence, and these are transmitted to the subordinate structures for implementation. They carry out cascading trainings of subordinated veterinarians (official and empowered), operators or keepers of animals.
- The instructions refer to the measures that have to be taken in order to protect the health and welfare of animals in the event of an emergency situation, relating to: providing feed and water, medical assistance for affected animals, measures to prevent the spreading of diseases, including zoonoses, carrying out of emergency vaccinations where appropriate, measures regarding the transport of animals, the disposal by humane methods of animals that are in pain, checks for verification of the compliance with the legislation, etc.
- Also, the national reference institutes and the county sanitary veterinary laboratories carry out analyzes to determine the levels of contamination of food, animal feed and water used in the technological process.
- NSVFSA monitors the situation of the operators in the field of animal health and welfare, the situation of animal mortality and of the units for the neutralization of animal by-products, etc. (e.g. service notes no 8356/26.01.2022, 8378/08.02.2022, 8474/29.03.2022, 8735/24.11.2022, 8899/19.04.2023, 9068/01.11.2023, 9082/13.11.2023)



Budgeting and resourcing

- The funds for the implementation and development of emergency management activities - provided from the state budget
- The costs needed for applying the legal measures for specific prophylactic measures and control of infectious-contagious animal diseases are covered from National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority budget
- Compensations of owners for losses of their animals in case of animal diseases are paid from budget funds allocated by the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority, according to Government Decision 1214/2009, with subsequent amendments
 - The compensations are granted at the market price of the animals at the moment of the event



Instructions and trainings

- The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction is developed by the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES) in the frame of the POCA 866 Project, with the support of the World Bank and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (Source-GIES).
- The main objective of this project is the development the necessary tools for the activity of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, including **a national database on the losses caused by disasters**.
- As a result, the Department for Emergency Situations created the national database called "**DesInventar**" for the collection of data on losses caused by disasters. Its implementation was approved by the National Committee for Emergency Situations Decision no. 14/2021. This decision is addressed to all institutions involved in the management of emergency situations.
- As NSVFSA is responsible for managing the risk of epizootics and zoonoses and for collecting the information on the amount of compensation granted for such situations, NSVFSA and the subordinate structures participated in 2023 (period of 24.10-14.11.2023) in trainings organized by the GIES on the "DesInventar" database. The goal of these trainings was to present to the local (county) and central authorities the procedures for completing and validating data related to specific emergency situations in the "DesInventar" database; also, instructions on this subject were sent by the service note 9008/18.08.2023 to county sanitary veterinary and food safety directorates.
- At national level, on 12.12.2023 took place the meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy organized by the GIES; all institutions involved in Disaster Risk Reduction participated in this meeting.



Instructions and trainings

- In 2022, it was signed **the cooperation protocol between the National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority and the General Inspectorate of Romanian Police** (no. 30/27509/08.12.2022) **regarding the application of the legal provisions on the animal protection**
- The purpose of this protocol is to strengthen the cooperation between the two institutions, at the central and territorial level, within the specific activities and actions and to verify the fulfillment of the provisions established by the legislation in force in the field of animal protection
- This protocol was sent to the territorial structures for implementation, by service note no 8787/13.01.2023
- Other **instructions on animal protection** (during the animals transport, culling or extreme temperatures) were sent to the territorial structures by service notes (e. g. service note no 8830/14.02.2023, no 8953/19.06.2023, no 8971/04.07.2023, no 9105/04.12.2023)



Instructions and trainings

- The operators (especially of porcine and poultry farms) are obliged to elaborate **biosecurity plans and emergency plans** that contain the procedures and logistics necessary to prevent or manage an emergency situation in case of confirmation of a disease
- These plans are verified and approved by the county sanitary veterinary and food safety directorate and they are brought to the knowledge of the prefect as head of the Local Center for Disease Control
- Instructions for the elaboration of the biosecurity plans and of the emergency plans are sent by NSVFSA by service notes and video-conferences; also, at the level of NSVFSA, the biosecurity plans and the emergency plans are verified and the unconformities identified are discussed with the county sanitary veterinary directorates for compliance measures (examples of service notes on biosecurity plans and emergency plans: service note no 8437/10.03.2022, service note no 8459/18.03.2022, service note no 8952/19.06.2023, service note no 9108/06.12.2023)



Internal and external communications and further actions

- Beside those above mentioned:
- **Communications**
- The NSVFSA issues press releases when necessary
- According to the last amendment (from 24.02.2023) of the Government Decision no. 557/2016 on risk type management, for increasing the level of information and training of the population, it was published on the NSVFSA web page a link to the National platform on preparation for emergency situations "fii pregatit.ro"
 - this Platform contains guides on the different types of risks, including in case of flooding
- **Further actions**
- Contributing to the creation of the national database "DesInventar"
- Take the necessary steps to achieve continuous training in the field of competence, including simulation exercises
- Considering that the National Committee for Emergency Situations has the main role in emergency management, the NSVFSA will ensure all support according to the specific competences and will ensure the participation in all trainings and interventions that require its attendance

Thank you

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