

Better Training for Safer Food BTSF Contingency planning and animal diseases

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The role of the Food and Veterinary Office

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The Food and Veterinary Office (FVO)

- FVO carries out audits to verify compliance with EU standards in animal health and welfare, food safety and plant health
- FVO's office is in Ireland
- 160+ staff (50% inspectors)







FVO (cont.)

- FVO is one of seven Directorates of Directorate-General Health and Consumers (DG SANCO)
- DG SANCO is one of 33 Departments of the European Commission
- DG SANCO is based in Brussels and has around 900 staff in seven Directorates



FVO structure

Seven Units

- F1: Country Profiles, co-ordination of follow-up
- F2: Food of animal origin: Mammals
- F3: Food of animal origin: Birds and fish
- F4: Food of plant origin, plant health; processing and distribution
- F5: Animal nutrition, import controls and residues
- F6: Animal health and welfare
- F7: Quality, planning and development



FVO structure

Five Audit/inspection Units

- F1: Country Profiles, co-ordination of follow-up
- F2: Food of animal origin: Mammals
- F3: Food of animal origin: Birds and fish
- F4: Food of plant origin, plant health; processing and distribution
- F5: Animal nutrition, import controls and residues
- F6: Animal health and welfare ©
- F7: Quality, planning and development



FVO structure

Two non-audit Units

- F1: Country Profiles, co-ordination of follow-up
- F2: Food of animal origin: Mammals
- F3: Food of animal origin: Birds and fish
- F4: Food of plant origin, plant health; processing and distribution
- F5: Animal nutrition, import controls and residues
- F6: Animal health and welfare
- F7: Quality, planning and development

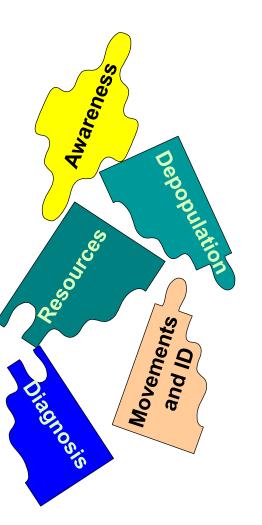


An FVO audit

- Basis = EU legislation
- The system as it should be:
 Information from Competent Authority
 - before and during the visit
- The system in practice: visits on-the-spot

An assessment - based on sampling - of the performance of the Competent Authority (CA)



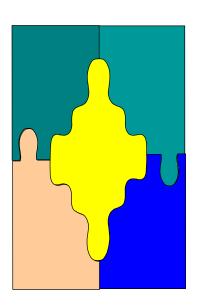


Simply:

Is there a system in place?

Can it work?

Does it work?





After the audit - report

- Description of findings
- Conclusions on the effect/consequences
- Recommendations to the CA
- Report published on Commission website
- Action plan from CA
- Follow-up of corrective actions on paper and/or on site



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FVO and contingency planning (CP)

- Council Directive 92/35/EEC African Horse Sickness
- Council Directive 92/66/EEC Newcastle Disease
- Council Directive 92/119/EEC other OIE listed diseases
- Council Directive 2000/75/EC Bluetongue
- Council Directive 2002/60/EC African Swine Fever
- Council Directive 2001/89/EC Classical Swine Fever
- Council Directive 2003/85/EC Foot-and-Mouth Disease
- Council Directive 2005/94/EC Avian Influenza
- Council Directive 2006/88/EC Aquatic Animal diseases



The current EU CP-legislation

- Differences in wording, phrasing, scope, depth, details and structure of the requirements for contingency planning (not necessarily related to the specific disease conditions)
- FMD the most advanced requirements
- The new EU Animal Health Law will contain general provisions for CP



Components of a contingency plan

- ✓ Legal powers
- ✓ Financial provisions
- ✓ Chain of command
- √ NDCC, LDCC
- ✓ Expert group
- √ Human resources

- **✓ Equipment and infrastructure**
- ✓ Operational manuals
- **✓ Emergency vaccination**
- ✓ Training
- ✓ Disease awareness



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Chain of command

Director CCA

Minister

Laboratory

?

CVO

NDCC

LDCC

Expert Group

- ✓ Overall direction of control strategies
- ✓ Delegation of duties
- ✓ Deployment of staff
- ✓ Liaison with diagnostic laboratory
- ✓ Communication: media, EU, MS, OIE....
- ✓ Liaison with livestock industry, veterinarians, etc.



Previous and planned FVO audits on contingency planning

First round: 1999/2002 15 MS

Second round: 2003/2004

Third round: 2005/2009 12 MS

Fourth round: starting 2012

2012 2 MS

2013 6 MS



Overall report by FVO and external evaluation

DG SANCO 2003-9502 series in 15 MS (FMD & CSF)

Evaluation of the EU rapid response network, crisis management and communication capacity regarding certain transmissible animal diseases (2012)

/Agra CEAS Consulting Ltd. Food Chain Evaluation Consortium (FCEC)

Presented to CVOs in Cyprus, 3-4 September 2012



2012-2013 audits

Implementation of the CPs, with particular focus on:

- ✓ CPs for all epizootics / emerging diseases?
- ✓ Simulation exercises
- ✓ Surveillance, early detection
- **✓ Depopulation** (Council Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009)
- ✓ Preparedness for emergency vaccination



2012-2013 audits

Taking into account:

- √Identification of examples of best praxis
- ✓ Problems common to a number of MS
- **✓** Anomalies in current legislation
- ✓ Suggestions for consideration when subordinate legislation under the new Animal Health Law is drafted



Information about animal health and welfare rules and measures can be found here:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/index_en.htm

More information on the FVO can be found here:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/index_en.cfm

FVO reports and CA action plans are published here:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/ir_search_en.cfm

All relevant Community legislation may be obtained from:

http://europa.eu/documentation/legislation/index_en.htm