

Panorama

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Editorial
Perspectives
Dossier
Around the World
Resources



Building Leadership in Veterinary Services



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The Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBADs) programme will systematically assess the economic importance of animals, documenting the human costs of poor animal health and welfare, and identifying what people spend on their animals' health [1]. GBADs will complement other World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) programmes, such as the Platform for Training Veterinary Services and the PVS Pathway [2, 3].

Building the capacity of Veterinary Services to use the GBADs approach and the information generated from this will allow better decision-making when it comes to allocating resources to meet the technical, economic and social needs of farmers and their wider communities. In fact, all those involved in terrestrial and aquatic livestock production and processing will benefit. The intention is to manage, analyse and present data that can be interpreted at the local, national, international and regional geographic scale, categorising this information by production sector and system, as well as by gender.

The GBADs programme will draw on existing data from a large variety of public- and private-sector sources by forming data alliances with multiple stakeholders. WOAH and Veterinary Services play a key role in data generation, reporting and validation. Information from the PVS Evaluation process will be used to assess the readiness of Veterinary Services to perform economic analysis. It will also help them to determine the best ways to develop their capacity to provide data and carry out economic analyses using the GBADs approach.

Numerous PVS Pathway Critical Competencies support economic literacy for Veterinary Services. Others address data management, which is essential to carrying out an economic analysis of animal health. Understanding the current state of these Critical Competencies through the PVS evaluation process is an important first step in building the capacities needed to use the GBADs approach.

The coverage and quality of GBADs data should improve over time. Veterinary Services will continue to play a key role in this, by generating and reporting valid data and contributing to GBADs analyses. Training in the GBADs approach will be given to WOAH Members through the WOAH Training Platform [2]. The current WOAH training system, anchored in a Competency-Based Training Framework, includes a competency package entirely devoted to the economics of animal health. Users will be provided with learning opportunities to use the GBADs approach for interpretation and analysis. To demonstrate the value of GBADs and build momentum, the GBADs Global Team will provide support in selected country case studies.

Using information generated through the GBADs approach can support the case for investment in Veterinary Services and encourage strategic development plans for national animal health services during the planning stages of the PVS Pathway (PVS Gap Analysis and PVS Strategic Planning Support). At the international and regional level, GBADs can support the prioritisation, mobilisation of resources and performance monitoring of global initiatives, such as the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs).

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PERSPECTIVES

▶ OPINIONS AND STRATEGIES

Building capacities for animal health using the Global Burden of Animal Diseases

(GBADs) approach

SUMMARY

Incorporating economic analysis into the decisions taken on animal health investment by using the GBADs approach will help to target resources more effectively towards animal diseases that threaten national food security, people's livelihoods, public health and trade.

KEYWORDS

#animal health, #capacity building, #cost-benefit analysis, #economics in animal health, #education, #Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBADs), #One Health, #training, #Veterinary Services, #WOAH PVS Pathway, #World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

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<https://gbads.woah.org/>

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WOAH (founded as OIE) is a global organisation, working to ensure the health of animals across the world. Since 1924, we have focused on the complexities of animal health. We disseminate information on animal diseases and use science-based strategies to limit their potentially negative impact on society.

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