

The Capacity Building Department keeps zooming and PVS sees new horizons

WHAT'S NEW?



The only opportunity the entire PVS team has had to meet in person since last September, was the ‘farewell party’ organised to congratulate François Caya for his appointment as Chief of Staff. Any time we are more than two at Headquarters, we feel like we are at a party. In-person coffee breaks have become a unique opportunity to exchange smiles and tell ourselves that ‘Yes, we can do this’! Zoom coffee breaks help us to keep in touch the rest of the time – not quite the same, but we have gained two new team mascots, David and Camille’s dogs! The pre-COVID PVS Programme was entirely based on face-to-face contact with our beneficiary members, and needless to say, the pandemic has put a stop to many activities, generating thoughts on how to redesign the programme to make it more reliable and sustainable during times of crisis, and more specifically, for post-COVID times.

The independent evaluation carried out on the PVS Pathway in 2020, has helped us to prioritise our needs. We have built a management response taking into consideration two approaches: from general to particular, and from particular to general. All the single PVS components have been analysed in terms of priority, feasibility and urgency, and on this basis, we have assured their sustainability, including resource allocation (@Engagement and Investment Department, thank you!). Last but not least, the PVS Evaluation database has begun to take shape. The information management system will allow greater efficiency in the capture, extraction, analysis and sharing of PVS Pathway data, as well as greater uniformity and accountability of PVS processes and synergies across the activities of the OIE and its partners.

At the same time, we are starting to design a new PVS Pathway adapted to the 'new normal' and supported by new technologies. A new overall and comprehensive Information system will be designed and progressively implemented to increase effectiveness and efficiency in management, service delivery, monitoring and assessment and will offer versatile options for PVS activities, mixing both field and virtual formats. Our dream is to see in tentatively five years that all PVS-related activities are achievable through a single access point and that data can be shared and coordinated to build solid capacity-building processes, and more (@Digital Transformation & Information Systems Department, we rely on you!).

Some success stories can already be told, while others are forthcoming. Remote Veterinary Virtual legislation support is being piloted, a virtual laboratory mission is ongoing in Liberia and the Information System for Sustainable Laboratories is growing (@Jennifer Lasley, working with you has been great!). Veterinary paraprofessional projects are progressing, a new gap analysis will be piloted in Kazakhstan, new orientation and self-evaluation are nearly ready for validation. Focal Point training is online and new targeted support programmes are being developed (e.g., Public-Private Partnerships, @Isabelle Dieuzy-Labaye, you're making this happen!). New bridging workshops are resisting the pandemic in the traditional face-to-face format. And finally, Members have been willing to test new approaches, and this is opening up greater opportunities to work more closely with our regional and sub-regional offices.

What else? Stay tuned, you will discover more very soon.

We wish to thank our colleagues from the Capacity Building Department and the PVS team, notably Barbara Alessandrini, Sonia Fèvre and Maud Carron for writing this article for the OIE In-house Times.

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