Country Report:
Emergency preparedness of the Veterinary Services for natural disasters

BULGARIA

Bulgarian Food Safety Agency
Competent authorities responsibility for disaster prevention and disaster management

at national level

• All Ministries (MI, MFF, MH, MD, MtrC, METC, MEW, MAFF, MC, MEdC, Bg red cross)

• NGOs, other G Institution

• The veterinary authority is involved through the responsibilities of MAFF. National Veterinary Service has the legal responsibility to provide for animal health and welfare in disaster events
Competent authorities

➢ LAW FOR DISASTER PROTECTION

- National Disaster Protection Plan/ Regional Disaster Protection Plan;

➢ LAW of VETERINARY ACTIVITIES

The tasks the veterinary experts are detailed into the Disaster Protection Plan.

No special plans, guidelines/ instructions are available dedicated special for the veterinary experts in case of natural disasters.
Cooperation with private actors and non-governmental organisations

- NGOs
- Legal entities and sole traders (private veterinarians, agri-food industry, farmer associations other)
- Physical persons in peace-time” and/or emergencies
Experience of natural disasters

- Flooding and forest fire, other
Experience of natural disasters

- Rescue animals
- Ensure feed and animal health/welfare care
- Disposal of dead animals
- Prevent epidemics
- Cleaning /Disinfection control
- Financial support (by MAFF)
Training and simulation exercises

• Practical experience due to many disasters
• No additional /simulation exercise or training programmes for veterinary services in case of natural disasters;
• plan and management of training to be by each parties (Ministries ) involved into the National disaster protection plan
• Educational material to support training of veterinary services in natural disasters havenot been drafted
Exercises, training and lessons learned

"After-Action Review“; weaknesses and strengths identified

➢ Better preparedness of all institution
➢ Preventive measures to be taken (risk zones, planning, capacity, communication)
➢ Veterinary issues:
  - in disaster: saving animals (evacuation places), animal care/handling and transport;
  - after disaster: risk from animal diseases (dead animals; movement of animals (rescued/wild animals; increased vector abundance); prevention, surveillance and control of disease (clinical examination/testing; eradication, desinfection/desinsection;
  - technical capability, human (laboratory and trained personnel) and financial recourses; additional capacity
  - mass media (reporting, communication)
Thank you for your attention!