First OIE regional workshop on the role of Veterinary Services on animal welfare in natural disasters for Balkan countries 26-28 November 2018, Teramo, Italy

Group exercise: Elements to consider in the VS-CP’s preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR
Group 1
Elements to consider in the VS-CP’s preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR

• There is no specific plan for disasters but we are going to use a contingency plan for diseases.
  ▪ we can use the early warning of civil protection, and meteorological services.
  ▪ Identification of farmers (database, information resources)
  ▪ Meeting contact with farmers association, ngo, practitioners, veterinarian services of army
Design of the plan

- Aims
- Framework (natural hazard)
- General description (farms, animal census, rendering plants, dog shelters, etc.)
- Main available resources (Transport, practitioners, trained staff, generators, other relevant resources)
- Communication flow (internal, between different levels of VS, between other agencies)
- Internal organisation (local crisis unit, assessment teams, communication officer, etc.)
- Coordination with the general disaster response system
- Relevant agencies, stakeholders and procedures to involve them
- Action to be made in alert and emergency phase and actors
Group 2
Elements to consider in the VS-CP’s preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR – Group 2

- Legislations already established, legal guidance
- Internal meeting to delegate responsibilities
- Zoos, Farms, Pets, Media, Logistics, Data/Information system
- Chart is of tasks not exactly roles and roles can be condensed
Elements to consider in the VS-CP’s preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR – Group 2

• CVO is the Chair of the response will have a conference call with Emergency Management about Incident Status
• Everyone calls their contacts in their responsibilities
• Hotline established to field calls from the public
Elements to consider in the VS-CP’s preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR – Group 2

- Prevention messages for public
  - Prepare media messages and messages for hotline
  - Water, food and human shelter locations
  - Small animal: shelter in place or evacuate
  - Farms and Zoos must have contingency plans and respond to CVO plan if it has problems let CVO know
  - Target messages to specific audience
Group 3
Elements to consider in the VS-CP’s preparedness phase in regard to AW in a flooding scenario, according to the OIE guidelines on DMRR

1. Establish disaster type & extent/scale
   - Floods & landslides – this will define lead authority / chain of command
   - Topographical maps / flood risk areas in relation to predicted areas to be affected
   - GIS mapping
Disaster preparedness

2. Establish animal populations at risk
   • Existing databases held by vet services
     ▪ Includes numbers / species / health status / any restrictions in relation to disease status
   • Movement information if known
   • Other animal populations – zoo / research / sheleters / kennels / catteries / bees etc
   • Vet checks – census check by phone / on foot
3. Systems for rapid assessment

- link meteorological data with information from 1. & 2. and relevant information from 6.
- Alert system – red amber green
  - Early comms directing public / farmers to info sources at early stage
- Establish high risk areas & populations / species
- Identify “safe areas” for evacuation
Disaster preparedness

4. Plan describes legislative basis
   • Central competent authority role
   • VS obligations
   • Other agency obligations
   • Local obligations
     ▪ Local authorities & civil contingencies / emergency responders
     ▪ Animal owner obligations
     ▪ Agreed NGO and industry / farmer association roles
Disaster preparedness

5. Chain of command

- Define who liaises with lead authority
- Define chain within the VS and across agencies / authorities
- Define local chain of command
  - Two way process i.e. feedback level of urgency at local level to senior “commanders”
Disaster preparedness

6. Coordination, Collaboration & Communication

• With who and who takes responsibility
  ▪ In appropriate language e.g. to pet owners, farmers, private vets

• Lead authority / NGOs / other stakeholders / private vets
7. Financials

• What is mandatory compensation – when / where / to whom

• What is not compensated & what emergency support is “free” e.g. carcass removal

• What is “advised”

• Communications policy for details of this
8. Human Resources

• Veterinary Services
  ▪ Vets, technical support staff, administrative staff
    ✷ Cancel holidays!!
  ▪ Ability to co-opt additional resource e.g. from other regions or even other countries

• NGOS / local civil contingencies resources

• Volunteers
  ▪ Appropriately managed
  ▪ Vet students
9. Communication Plan

- Lead spokesperson (no “stepping on toes”)
- Communications channels central & local
- Means of communications
  - By VS – social media, tv, radio, online
  - By stakeholder groups – NGOs / industry & farmer groups
- Pre-prepared written communications and FAQs = Frequently Asked Questions
10. Sustainable continuity

- Vet Services
  - Are VS in safe place to runs operations?
  - Legal requirements for staff daily hours and time off

- Community recovery – animals / farmers
  - Food
  - Potable water
  - Communications networks and other services e.g. electrics
  - Clean up / rebuild / animal treatment