WOAH’s support to the Global Partnership Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa

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Outline

1. The Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction
2. The Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa
3. WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative
4. WOAH’s priorities for investment
The Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (the Global Partnership)

What? Established in 2002, it is a G7-led, 31-member international initiative

Why? Terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction is one of the gravest threats to international peace and security

Aim? Prevent the proliferation of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) weapons and related initiatives

How? Partner with international organisations, including WOAH, for coordination of projects following a defined set of Principles and Guidelines
The Global Partnership

Global Partnership Working Group

- Biological Security Working Group
- Chemical Security Working Group
- CBRN Security Working Group
- Nuclear & Radiological Security Working Group
- Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa
The Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa

- Large scale disease outbreaks
- Need to build sustainable health security capacities
- Response to high consequence pathogens

Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa

- Collaboration with Africa CDC and other African partners
- Collective effort
The Signature Initiative to Mitigate Biological Threats in Africa

4 programmatic pillars of the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity
2. National Governance Structure
3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence
4. Non-Proliferation
Fortifying Institutional Resilience against Biological Threats (FIRABioT) project

Objectives

01
Improve WOAH’s ability to anticipate, respond to and recover from emergencies and ensure business continuity

02
Strengthen WOAH Members’ abilities and capacities to respond to emergencies, particularly in Africa

03
Demonstrate value of WOAH as a partner for security organisations
FIRABioT Project breakdown: Workstreams

1. Establish a WOAH Incident Management System

2. Improve capacity of WOAH Members to respond to emergencies resulting from deliberate releases (focused on Africa)

3. Scientific and evidence-based guidance and standards for emergency management developed

4. Dissemination of good practices for emergency management (including for deliberate releases)
Request for interest

- Identified 10 priority countries

Define needs and capacities
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

4 programmatic pillars of the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity
2. National Governance Structure
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4. Non-Proliferation
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity

International Standards

Biosafety and Biosecurity of Veterinary Services
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- Orientation
- Evaluation
- Planning
- Targeted support
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- Training, Workshops and Guidelines

- Guidance and Training on Prevention and Response to Agro-Crime
- Global Laboratory Leadership Programme Training
- E-learning modules on Emergency Management
- One Health Integration (WHO IHR – WOAH PVS National Bridging Workshops)

Terrestrial Animal Health Code

World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- Training, Workshops and Guidelines
- Exchange Programmes

WOAH Lab Twinning Programme
Emergency Management Programme

Global distribution of WOAH Lab Twinnings

Map last updated in February 2023
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- Training, Workshops and Guidelines
- Exchange Programmes
- Simulation Exercises

Exercise Phoenix: a joint WOAH, FAO and INTERPOL international agro-terrorism simulation exercise

Session 7
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- Training, Workshops and Guidelines
- Exchange Programmes
- Simulation Exercises
- Grand Challenge for Sustainable Labs
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

4 programmatic pillars of the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity
2. National Governance Structure
3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence
4. Non-Proliferation
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

2. National Governance Structure

International Standards

Quality and Good Governance of Veterinary Services
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

2. National Governance Structure

CASE STUDY – ETHIOPIA

INTEGRATION OF THE PVS PATHWAY INTO A NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOSTERED INTERNAL RESOURCING AND CHANGE

PVS Evaluation in 2011 | PVS Gap Analysis in 2012

Based on the PVS Pathway outcomes, in 2013, Ethiopia developed a Veterinary Services Strategy with 13 major / 6 subsidiary interventions which started in 2014.

Key achievements in response to the PVS findings:

- Real time mobile phone-based Animal Health information system.

- National paper based reporting > partially web-based, now includes abattoir, quarantine station and laboratory data.

- A national Livestock Identification and Traceability System piloted in 2 locations for 2 production systems.

- The Veterinary Services Rationalization Road Map identifying three groups of Veterinary Services: private good, public good and private-public partnership (PPP) with resources targeted accordingly.
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

2. National Governance Structure

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<tr>
<th>International Standards</th>
<th>PVS Pathway</th>
<th>Training, Workshops and Guidelines</th>
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Veterinary Legislation Support Programme (VLSP)

- Advocacy material for veterinary legislation and biological threats
- VLSP identification missions with a special focus on biological threat reduction
- VLSP experts training on global legal framework for biological threat reduction

With support from OIE through a VLSP identification mission and a follow on VLSP Veterinary Legislation Agreement completed in 2016, was able to draft and finalize a new Veterinary Practice Act for submission to Parliament that regulates both veterinarians and for the first time, veterinary paraprofessionals.
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

4 programmatic pillars of the Signature Initiative

1. Biosafety and Biosecurity
2. National Governance Structure
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4. Non-Proliferation
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence

International Standards

Animal Disease Diagnosis, Notification, Prevention, Surveillance and Control
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway

Orientation → Planning → Evaluation → Targeted support
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- WAHIS

Real-time alert notices
Session 2
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- WAHIS
- Training, Workshops and Guidelines

Guidance on disinformation and misinformation
Training on Import Risk Analysis

Session 11
WOAH’s Programmes and Activities that support the Signature Initiative

3. Surveillance and Epidemic Intelligence

- International Standards
- PVS Pathway
- WAHIS
- Training, Workshops and Guidelines
- Capacity building and surveillance for viral haemorrhagic fevers “EBO-SURSY Project”

Session 12 Parallel Workshop
WOAH’s priorities for investment

- Grand Challenge for Sustainable Labs
- WAHIS change management
- Capacity building activities
Thank you

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