



## LIST OF MAIN FOCUS AREAS AND SPECIALTIES FOR WOAHP COLLABORATING CENTRES

The role of WOAHP Collaborating Centres is anchored to the WOAHP's founding mandate<sup>1</sup> and to the Seventh Strategic Plan (2021–2025)<sup>2</sup>.

### 1. Animal health management

WOAHP has the responsibility to collect, analyse and disseminate relevant scientific information, especially on disease control methods, and to provide expertise in the control of animal diseases including zoonotic diseases, as well as health threats at the animal–human–ecosystems interface, under the 'One Health' approach. This topic covers issues primarily, but not exclusively, related to Sections 2 and 4 of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* and to Part 3 of the *Terrestrial Manual* and Part 2 of the *Aquatic Manuals*, respectively. The topic is expected to assist WOAHP and its Members to fulfil the core missions of the organisation.

- Disease prevention, risk assessment, early warning and preparedness
- Species related (e.g. molluscs, bees, camelids)
- Biosecurity and disease prevention along the value-chain
- Emerging animal diseases (early detection, warning and response)
- Animal health emergencies
- Zoonotic diseases
- Epidemiology, modelling, surveillance
- Social and economic implications of animal disease control
- Biothreat reduction
- Impact of climate change on animal health

### 2. Animal production

WOAHP's founding mandate has evolved and has been adapted to Members' needs, it now includes improving the safety of food of animal origin from hazards originating in animal production, and establishing standards and guidelines for animal welfare through a science-based approach and promote their application. This topic corresponds to this mandate and more specifically to Section 7 of the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* on animal welfare, and the relevant provisions on food and feed safety in Section 6 on Veterinary Public Health of the *Terrestrial Code* and Chapter 4.9 of the *Aquatic Code*.

- Animal welfare
- Animal production food safety
- Sustainable animal production (including integrated health management)
- Safety of animal feed
- Climate change and impacts

### 3. Laboratory expertise

This topic covers issues related to management and operation of veterinary diagnostic laboratories. It corresponds essentially to provisions of Chapters 1.1.1 to 1.1.7 of the *Terrestrial Manual*, as well as Chapter 2.1.2, and to Chapters 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 of the *Aquatic Manual*. Beyond WOAHP standards, the topic is expected to assist WOAHP and its Members to follow the recommendations of the first two International Conferences on Biological Threat Reduction, as well as to contribute to the Seventh WOAHP Strategic Plan and commitment to modern technology.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/who-we-are/structure/framework/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/document/seventh-strategic-plan/>

- Biorisk management
- Quality management systems
- Biobanking and reference collections
- Genomics and bioinformatics
- Laboratory information systems technology
- Validation of laboratory methods
- Development and application of innovative technologies

#### 4. Training and education

It is part of the WOAHA's founding mandate to improve the legal framework, competency and resources of national Veterinary Services, and particularly their global public good components. This topic covers the scientific and technical veterinary knowledge and skills needed for veterinarians, animal health professionals and veterinary para-professionals to implement WOAHA Standards. The topic primarily, but not exclusively, corresponds to provisions of the Section 3 of the *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes*. The topic is also expected to assist the WOAHA and its Members to follow-up on the recommendations of International Conferences of Veterinary Education.

- Veterinary education (under- and post-graduate)
- Post-graduate training and education (scientific and technical)
- Laboratory or epidemiological expertise in infectious diseases
- Capacity building of Veterinary Services or Aquatic Animal Health Services

#### 5. Veterinary products

This topic corresponds to Chapters 1.1.8 to 1.1.10, and most of the specific recommendations included in the Part 2 of the *Terrestrial Manual*. Progress made on vaccines, diagnostics and the development of new drugs is believed to contribute to the global efforts against antimicrobial resistance. As for antimicrobial resistance, the topic also corresponds to Chapters 6.1 to 6.4 of the *Aquatic Code*, Chapters 6.6 to 6.10 of the *Terrestrial Code*, and Chapter 2.1.1 of the *Terrestrial Manual*.

- Vaccines, diagnostics, and drugs
- Managing antimicrobial resistance
- Alternatives to antimicrobials
- New technologies

#### 6. Wildlife health and biodiversity

Wildlife plays a vital role in maintaining healthy and functioning ecosystems, thus contributing to the preservation of biodiversity. Wildlife is an asset, supporting livelihoods through the provision of income, whether it be through tourism or as a source of food. Importantly, wildlife has a positive effect on human well-being, contributing to education, physical and mental health, social values, culture and spirituality. This topic is expected to address animal health issues, including terrestrial and aquatic animals, connected to wildlife, biodiversity, and emerging risks.

- Threats to wildlife health and welfare and biodiversity
- Impact of climate change on wildlife
- Wildlife disease epidemiology, modelling, and surveillance
- Transboundary diseases at the ecosystem/human/domestic animal health interface
- Drivers for emerging risks
- Wildlife's role in the epidemiology of diseases affecting livestock and humans, and in disease emergence at the human-animal interface