

Session 3:

Veterinary public health and 'Veterinary Services' concept

One world, one health

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The ongoing animal and human health crises caused by influenza viruses of H5N1 subtype have polarised the attention of international organisations and donors on the need for improved veterinary infrastructure in developing countries and the need for facilitating communication between the human and animal health sectors. Possibly the biggest challenge we face is to find novel ways to maximise the use of the information which is generated as a result of the improved networking and diagnostic capacities. In the era of globalisation, emerging and re-emerging diseases of public health relevance are a concern to developing and developed countries and are a real threat due to the interdependence of the global economy. Communication and analysis systems available should be tailored to meet the global health priorities, and used to develop and constantly improve novel systems for the exploitation of information to generate knowledge.

