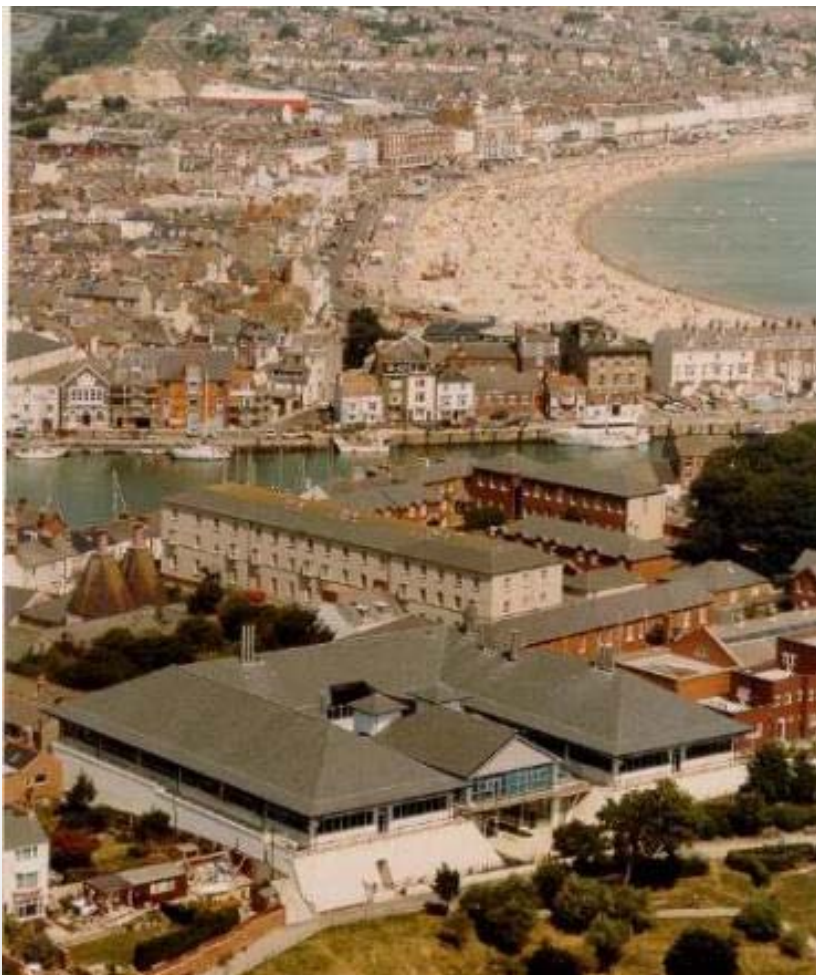




**Dr Edmund Peeler**  
Vice President Aquatic Animals Commission

## Is reporting aquatic animal diseases important?

Aquatic Focal Point meeting, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, December 4-6, 2018



- UK Government Executive Agency
- Research and regulatory responsibilities for fish and shellfish health
- Home to the Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI).

# Overview

- OIE standards for reporting
- OIE reporting system and disease freedom
- OIE objectives
  - Transparency
  - Sanitary safety
- Other benefits
  - Uses of WAHIS data

# OIE standards

## *reporting*

### Article 1.1.2.

Member Countries shall make available to other Member Countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of important diseases of aquatic animals and their pathogenic agents and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these diseases.

# OIE standards

*Reporting – listed diseases – 24 hour notification*

## Article 1.1.3.

1. first occurrence;
2. recurrence
3. first occurrence of a **new strain**;
4. **a sudden and unexpected change** in the distribution or increase in incidence or virulence of, or morbidity or mortality
5. occurrence in a **new host species**;

# Reporting system

*Two components to reporting*

- Immediate 24 hour reports
  - an early warning system to inform the international community, by means of “alert messages”, of relevant epidemiological events that occurred in OIE Member Countries, and
- 6 monthly and annual reporting
  - monitoring system in order to monitor OIE Listed diseases (presence or absence) over time



# Infection is reportable

*in absence of disease*

- .....the circumstances for regular as well as immediate notification of aquatic animal diseases do not require the presence of clinical disease or mortality.
- The *Aquatic Code* clarifies:
  - “The presence of an infectious agent, even in the absence of clinical disease, should be reported.”

# OIE standards

## *Reporting – emerging diseases*

### Article 1.1.4.

Competent Authorities shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the Headquarters:

1.a notification through WAHIS or by fax or email, when an emerging disease event has occurred in a country, a zone or a compartment;

### **EMERGING DISEASE**

means a disease, other than listed diseases, which has a significant impact on aquatic animal or public health resulting from:

1.a change of known pathogenic agent or its spread to a new geographic area or species; or

2.a newly recognised or suspected pathogenic agent.



# Don't forget diseases of wildlife

- Some listed disease primarily affect wildlife
  - *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*
  - *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans*
  - *Gryodactylus salaris*
  - Epizootic haematopoietic virus
  - Ranavirus
- Diseases in wildlife may be important reservoirs of infection for aquaculture



# Why reporting is important

*Countries with self-declared disease free status*

- A commitment to notify disease occurrence is required to support any claim for a disease status (e.g. free, under control)

WHICH

- Is the basis on which regulation of trade to minimise disease spread is based (i.e. free trade between areas of equal status)

# Self declared disease freedom

*From a specified pathogen*

- OIE standards require
  - A legal obligation that the disease is notifiable
  - An early detection system is in place
  - Restrictions on imports (i.e. trade in live susceptible species only with countries of the same status)



why should countries report?

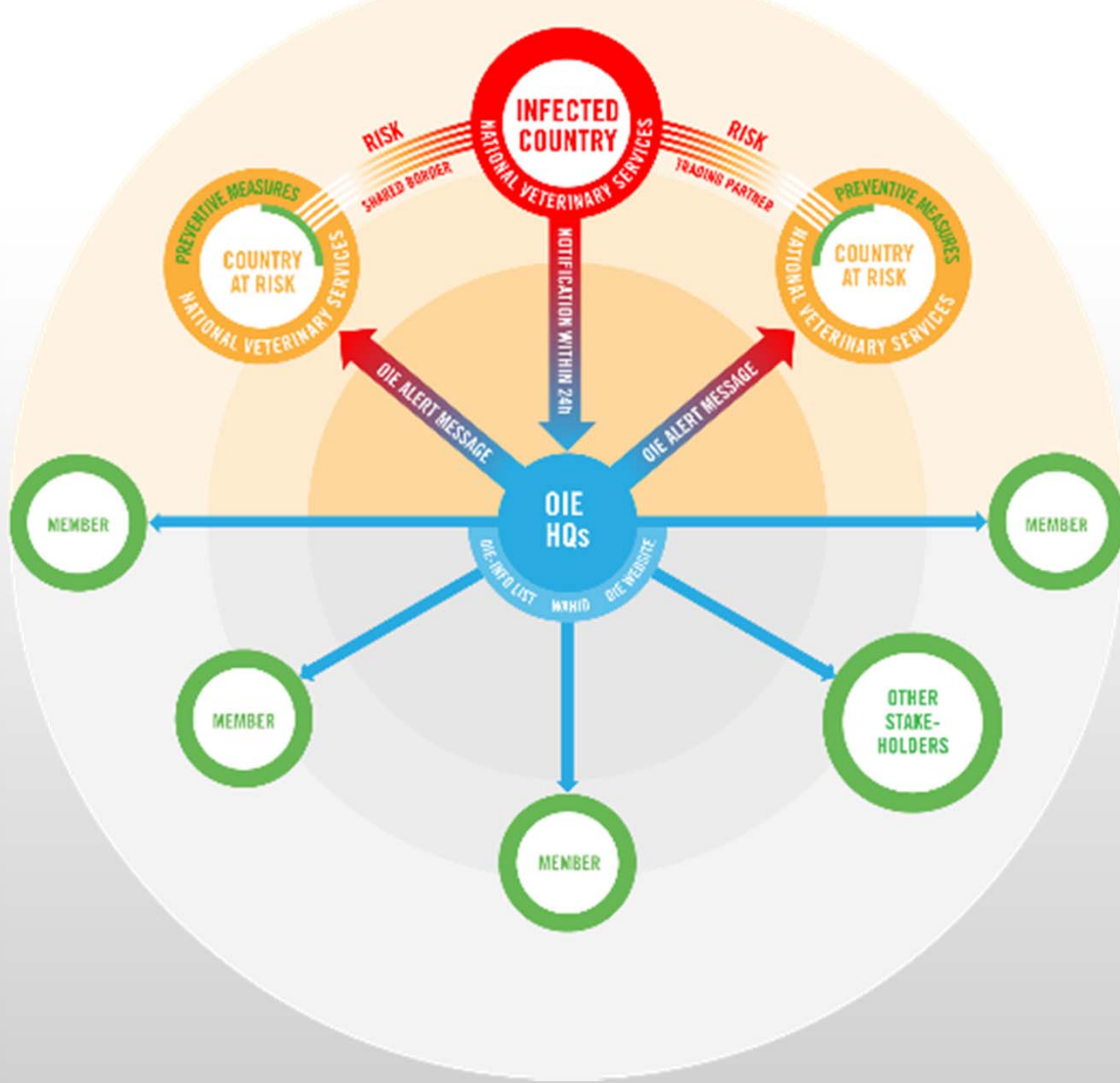
# Reporting supports the OIE's objectives

- Sanitary safety
- Transparency
  - To ensure transparency in the world animal health situation
- Scientific information
- International solidarity
- Food safety and animal welfare
- Promotion of veterinary services

# Transparency

- **Ensure transparency in the global animal disease situation**





# Key objectives of information collected and disseminated through WAHIS



**PREVENT THE TRANSBOUNDARY SPREAD OF IMPORTANT ANIMAL DISEASES, INCLUDING ZOOZOSES**

- countries can take appropriate actions



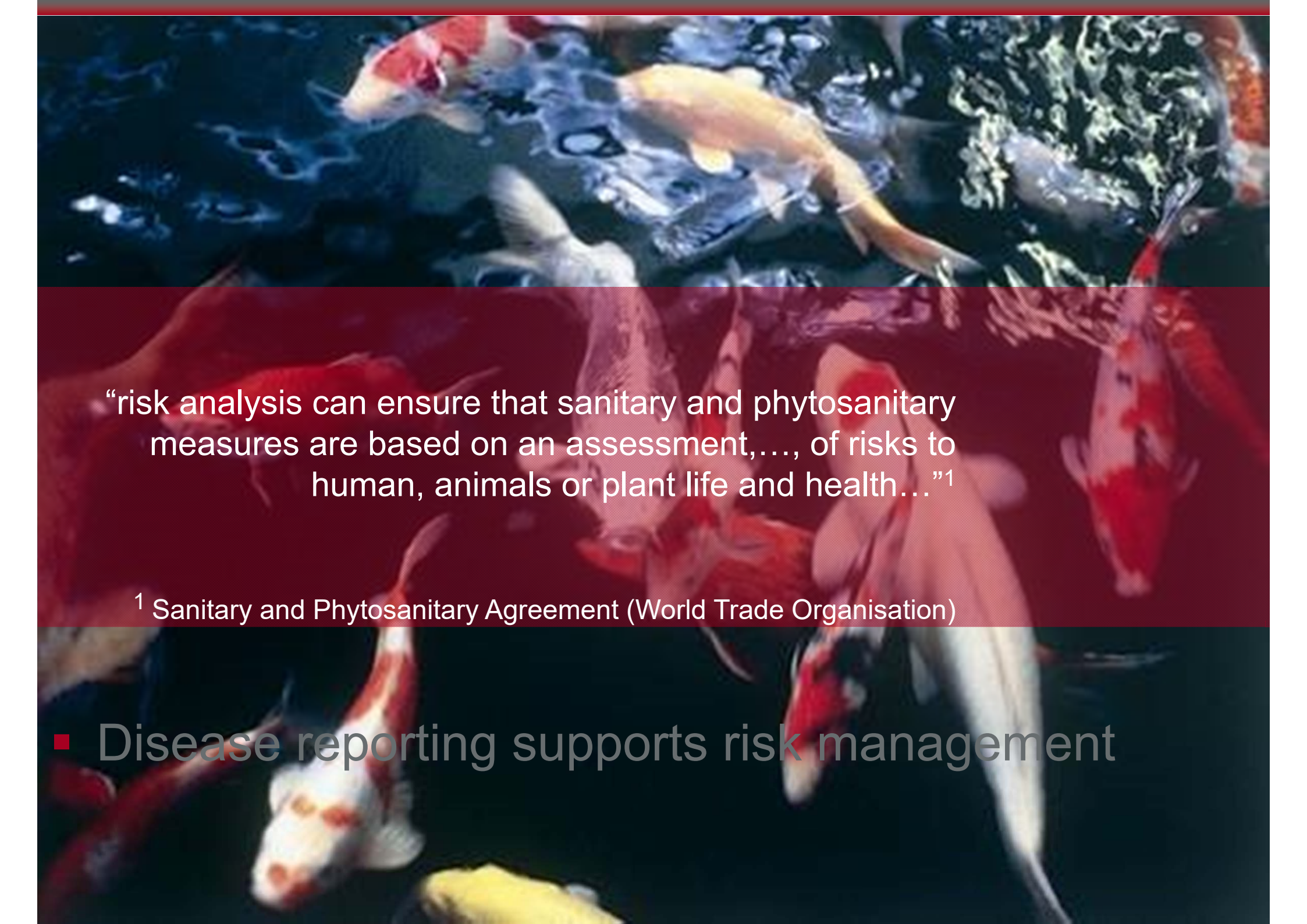
**SUPPORT ANIMAL HEALTH DECISION MAKING AND DISSEMINATING SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE**



# Benefits of WAHIS+

*National veterinary services*

- Improve national surveillance
- Share information with national partners
- Spatial data for risk analysis, correlations with production loss,
- Visualisation of the global animal sanitary situation
- Predict disease outbreaks
- Analysis of long terms trends (30 years)
- Linkage to OIE PVS

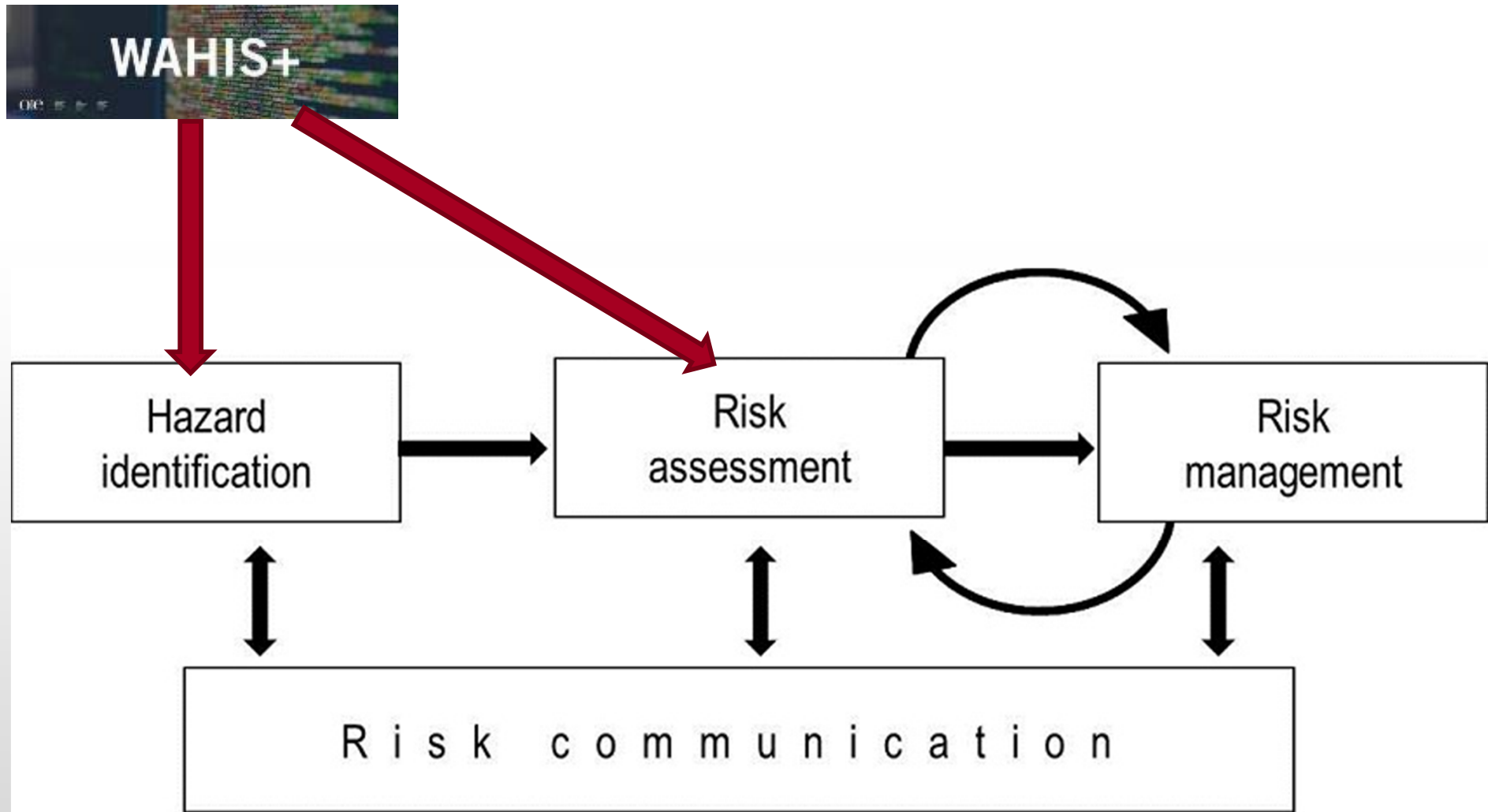


“risk analysis can ensure that sanitary and phytosanitary measures are based on an assessment,..., of risks to human, animals or plant life and health...”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement (World Trade Organisation)

- Disease reporting supports risk management

# Risk analysis model



# Benefits of WAHIS+

## *Private sector*

- Decisions about sourcing stock
- Enhanced understanding of national context of trading partners & health certification
- Opportunities to develop public-private partnerships
- Ability for private partners to incorporate official and reliable data on OIE-listed diseases into their strategic plans

# Benefits of WAHIS+

## *Academia*

- Up to date information on latest disease situation
- Training tool
- Global disease data source (from 1996)
- Data extraction function to support analysis
- Support development of research projects

## *...but it all depends on reporting*

- Benefits of WAHIS+ only realised if reporting is timely, accurate and complete

“Garbage in, garbage out”



Your analysis is as good as your data.

# AAD reporting to the OIE in 2016

Country	Disease	Reason for notification	Disease manifestation	Outbreaks
Australia	Hepatopancreatitis in prawns	Emerging disease		2
Australia	Infection with <i>Bonamia exitiosa</i>	First occurrence	Clinical disease	2
Australia	White spot disease	First occurrence	Clinical disease	8
Canada	Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	Unexpected change or increase	Clinical disease	
Croatia	Koi herpesvirus disease	First occurrence in the country		4
Czech Republic	Koi herpesvirus disease	Recurrence	Clinical disease	2
Ireland	Koi herpesvirus disease	Recurrence	Clinical disease	1
Kenya	Infect. haematopoietic necrosis	First occurrence in the country		1
Romania	Koi herpesvirus disease	Recurrence	Clinical disease	1
Romania	Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	First occurrence	Clinical disease	1
Slovakia	Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	Recurrence	Clinical disease	1
South Africa	Epizootic ulcerative syndrome	Recurrence	Clinical disease	1
South Africa	Epizootic ulcerative syndrome	Recurrence	Clinical disease	1
Zimbabwe	Epizootic ulcerative syndrome	First occurrence in the country		2

# AAD reporting to the OIE in 2017

Country	Disease	Reason for notification	Disease manifestation	Outbreaks
Belgium	Koi herpesvirus disease	Recurrence	Clinical disease	3
Chinese Taipei	Tilapia lake virus disease	Emerging disease		9
Faroe Islands	Infectious salmon anaemia virus	Recurrence	Sub-clinical infection	1
Finland	Infectious haematopoietic necrosis	First occurrence		6
Hong Kong	Infection with ranavirus	First occurrence		1
Ireland	Crayfish plague ( <i>Aphanomyces astaci</i> )	Recurrence	Clinical disease	2
Israel	Tilapia Syncytial Hepatitis	Emerging disease		16
Italy	Koi herpesvirus disease	Recurrence	Clinical disease	3
Malaysia	Tilapia lake virus disease	Emerging disease		4
Norway	Infection with <i>Marteilia refringens</i>	First occurrence		1
Norway	Infectious salmon anaemia virus	Recurrence	Clinical disease	3
Panama	Red sea bream iridoviral disease	First occurrence		1
Philippines	Tilapia Lake Virus (TiLV)	Emerging disease		1
Romania	Koi herpesvirus disease	Recurrence	Clinical disease	2
Romania	Spring viraemia of carp	Recurrence	Clinical disease	2
Slovakia	Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	Recurrence	Sub-clinical infection	1
South Africa	Koi herpesvirus disease	First occurrence	Clinical disease	3
Sweden	Infection with <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i>	Recurrence	Sub-clinical infection	1
Thailand	Tilapia lake virus disease	Emerging disease		1
United Kingdom	Infection with <i>Marteilia refringens</i>	First occurrence	Sub-clinical infection	2
United Kingdom	Spring viraemia of carp	Recurrence	Clinical disease	1
United States of America	Acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease	First occurrence		1



# Current reporting

- Emerging diseases are not reported
- Low level of reporting from Asia-Pacific given importance of aquaculture
- Shrimp diseases are not often reported

# Conclusions

## *Disease reporting.....*

- Is essential to support claims of disease freedom
- Underpins OIE objectives to support safe trade
- Is essential for the development of evidence based disease control
- Is a global public good

# Thank you for your attention



Edmund Peeler



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