



World Organisation  
for Animal Health



# Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Network for North Africa (RAAHN-NA)

25 – 27 April 2023 Tunis, Tunisia



# Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animal Health for Asia and the Pacific

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Aquatic Animal Health Officer  
WOAH Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific

# Presentation outline

## Focus of the talk

*To describe the Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animal Health for Asia and the Pacific*

## Outline

- Rationale
- Establishment of the *Framework*
- Terms of reference
- Roles and responsibilities
- Operational mechanisms
- Flagship activities
- Future plan

# Rationale

## Challenge

Increase in emerging disease occurrence but limited resource

Need for improved transparency of aquatic animal disease information

Lack of coordination mechanism among stakeholders

## Regional experts agreed:

Need for proficiency testing, test validation, and emergency response

Need to draw existing activities and professional expertise of WOAHA Reference laboratories



Expert Consultation Meeting on Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnosis and Control, Bangkok, Thailand, November 2018

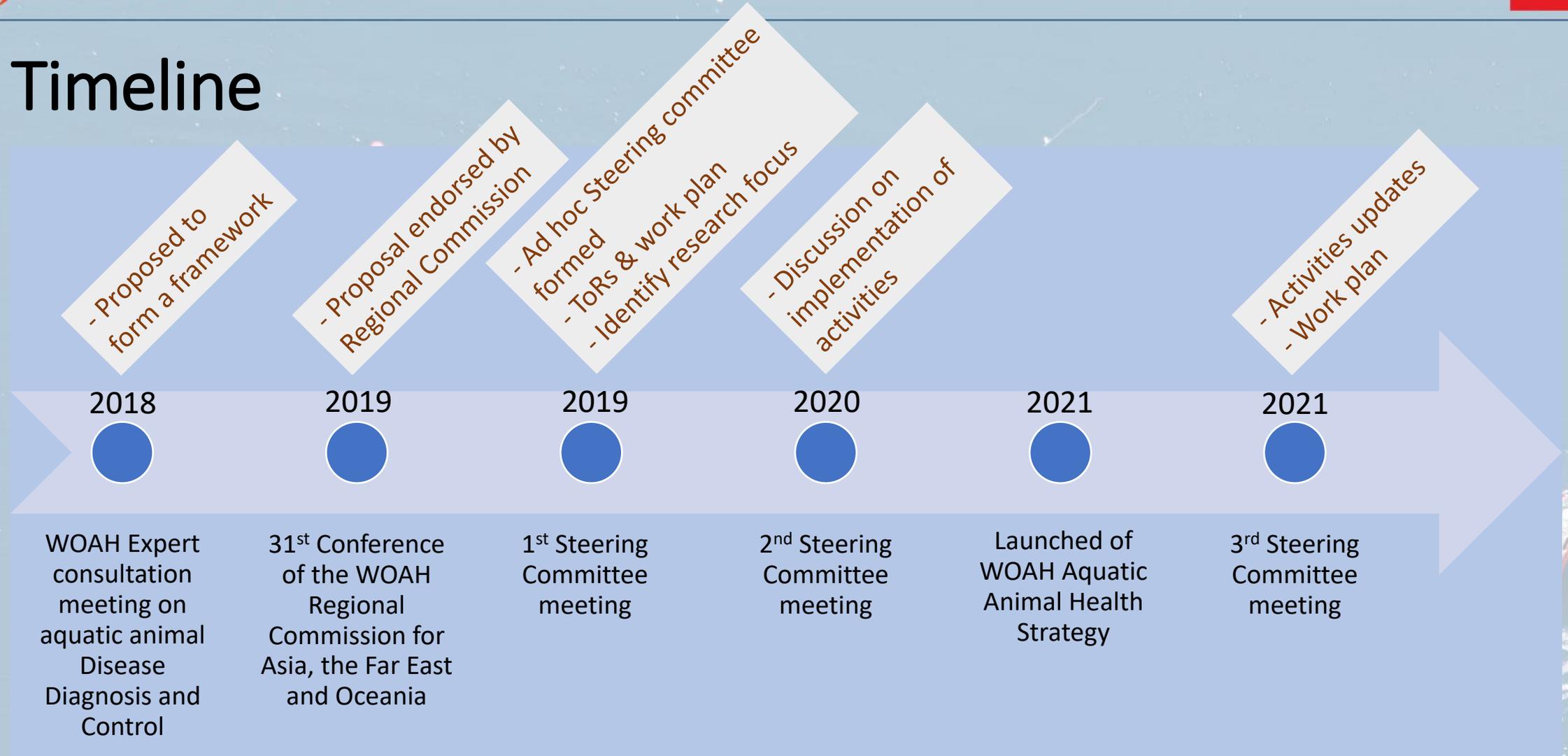
# Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animal Health for Asia and the Pacific

*A framework of actors to strengthen laboratory capacity for aquatic animal disease activities in Asia and the Pacific*

## Framework objectives

- Strengthen collaboration
  - WOAH Reference Centres and Members
- Share and exchange information
  - test validation, reference materials, and positive samples

# Timeline



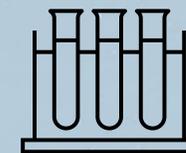
# Composition of the *Framework*

- Steering Committee
- Members:
  - Permanent Members
  - Members engaged on ad hoc basis

# Composition of the *Framework*

## Steering Committee

- WOAHA Collaborating Centres
  - Diagnostic test validation science (1)
  - New and emerging diseases (1)
- WOAHA Reference laboratories (3)
- WOAHA FP for Aquatic Animals (4)
- WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health Standard Commission (2)
- Regional partners
  - NACA, FAO, SEAFDEC
- Secretariat
  - WOAH RRAP



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## Permanent members

- WOAHA Collaborating Centres
  - Diagnostic test validation science
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- WOAHA Reference laboratories
- 32 FP for Aquatic Animals from Asia Pacific
- National Reference laboratories (as designed by WOAHA Delegates)

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## Ad hoc Members

Public and private universities, research institutions, private companies and donors

# Roles and responsibilities

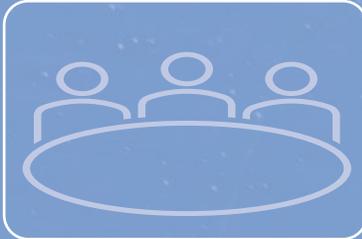
Reference Centres and Member representatives agree to:

- **Coordinate and provide Proficiency testing programmes** across the Asia-Pacific region
- **Support emergency response and provide in-country training**
- Improve communication among and between Reference Centres and WOAHA Member Countries to **enable information, resource, technology and sample sharing** between parties
- Support and promote a **standardisation of methods to diagnose and confirm a pathogenic agent**

Stakeholder group members would support

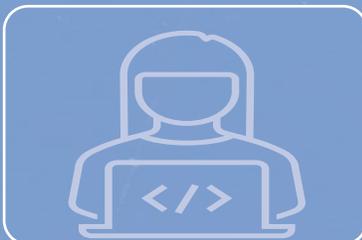
- information sharing as well as research assistance and technical support especially on emerging diseases

# Operational mechanisms

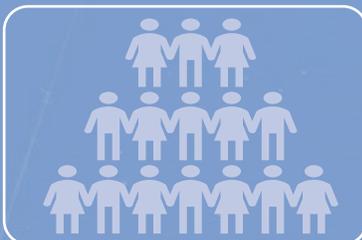


## Steering Committee

- Develop a plan (objectives and implementation)
- Draft annual activities plan
- Prepare annual report for Regional Commission for Asia and Far East and Oceania

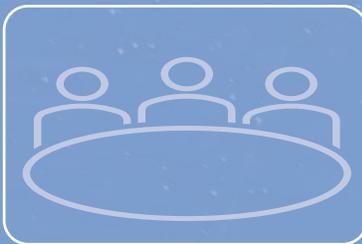


## Secretariat



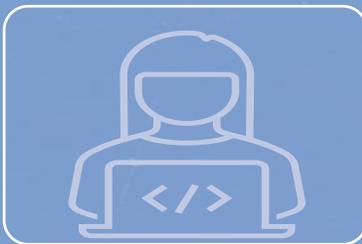
## Members

# Operational mechanisms



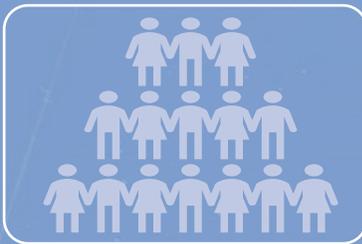
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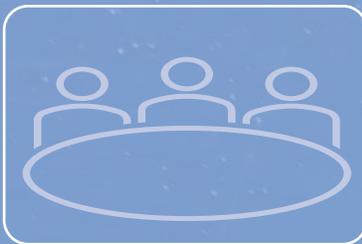
## Secretariat

- Strengthen multilateral relations and communication
- Share and disseminate relevant information with other parties
- Support the Steering Committee and framework



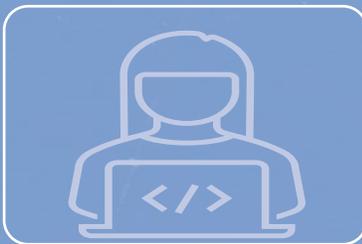
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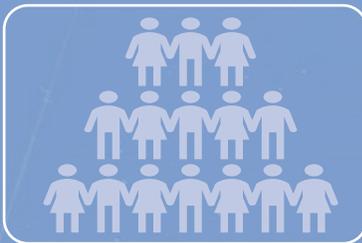
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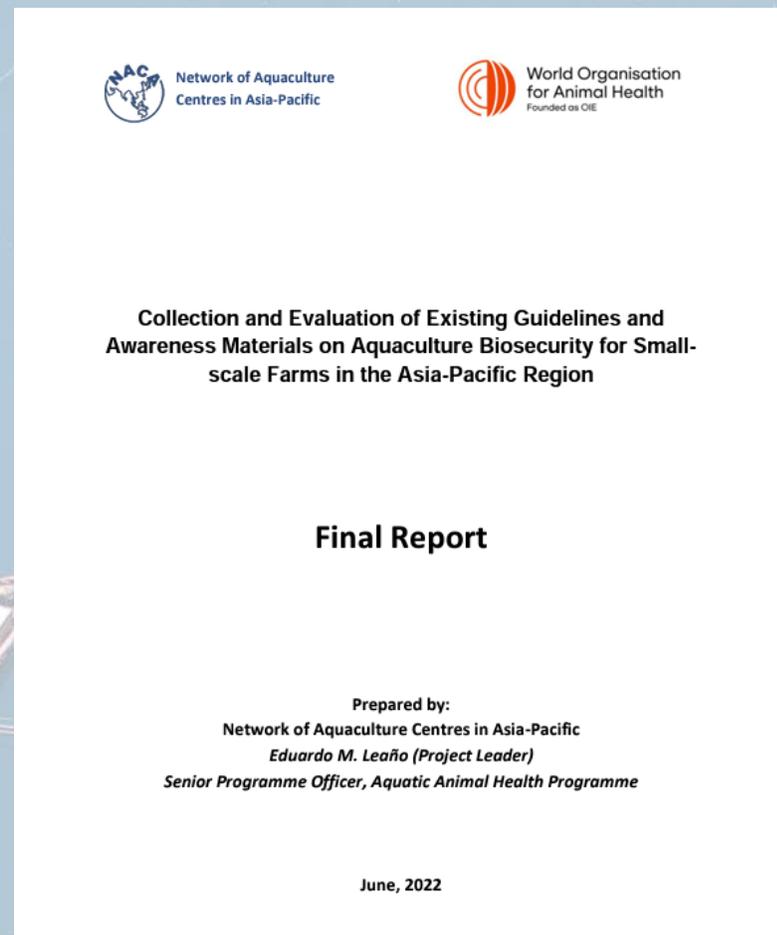


## Members

- Support Steering Committee in planning and participating in activities
- Share and disseminate relevant information with other parties
- Contribute to preparations for an annual report

# Flagship activities

Aquaculture Biosecurity in small-scale holders  
Evaluation of AHPND causative agent  
Emergency response and preparedness



 Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific
  World Organisation for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

**Collection and Evaluation of Existing Guidelines and Awareness Materials on Aquaculture Biosecurity for Small-scale Farms in the Asia-Pacific Region**

**Final Report**

Prepared by:  
**Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific**  
**Eduardo M. Leaña (Project Leader)**  
 Senior Programme Officer, Aquatic Animal Health Programme

June, 2022



# Other activities

## Training materials

[Sampling Methods of Histopathology for Fish and Shellfish](#) (shared by Dr. Miwa Satoshi)

## Scientific information

[Activities of the WOA Reference Centres in Asia and the Pacific](#)

[Information on DIV1 positive control](#)

## Events

- [11th Symposium on Diseases in Asian Aquaculture](#) (Aug 2022)
- [13th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Virtual Forum](#) (May 2022)
- [Regional Webinar on Infection with Decapod Iridescent Virus 1 \(DIV1\) and Preparedness for Emerging Shrimp Diseases](#) (Sep 2020)

## Disease cards

- [Tilapia lake virus \(TiLV\)](#)
- [Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans](#)
- [Infection with decapod iridescent virus \(DIV1\)](#)

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LAST UPDATED: 31 MAR 2023

# Information Sharing Platform on Aquatic Animal Health



# Regional webinars

## Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and Antimicrobial Use (AMU)

- WOAHA Virtual Consultation Meeting on AMR and AMR in Aquaculture (June 2021)
- Responsible and prudent AMU in aquatic animals in Asia and the Pacific (November 2020)

## PVS Aquatic

- WOAHA PVS Aquatic: Virtual Information Session for Asia and the Pacific

# Upcoming activities

- Regional workshop for Focal Points for Aquatic Animals
- 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of *ad hoc* Steering Committee for the *Framework*

# Priority areas for future

- Implementation of Aquatic Animal Health Strategy
- Promote the use of PVS Aquatic
- Improve Aquatic animal disease reporting

# Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animal Health for Asia and the Pacific

