# WOAH Guidelines on disaster management and risk reduction in relation to animal health and welfare and veterinary public health

Regional Training Seminar for WOAH National Focal Points for Animal Welfare

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## GUIDELINES ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RISK REDUCTION IN RELATION TO ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE AND VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

(GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES)



"a disaster is a <u>serious</u>
 disruption of the functioning of
 a community or a society,
 involving widespread human,
 material, economic or
 environmental losses and
 impacts, <u>which exceeds the</u>
 internally resourced coping
 ability of the affected
 community or society"

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)



#### **GUIDELINES FOR SIMULATION EXERCISES**

A consistent set of good practices for preparing, delivering, and learning from animal health and welfare and veterinary public health simulation exercises for Veterinary Services







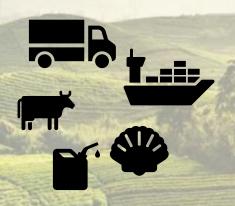
Infectious diseases, including emerging zoonoses and vector-borne pathogens



Technological disasters and contamination of food and feed chains



Geological events: earthquakes, volcars in tsurami



Transport and maritime accidents, including oil spills



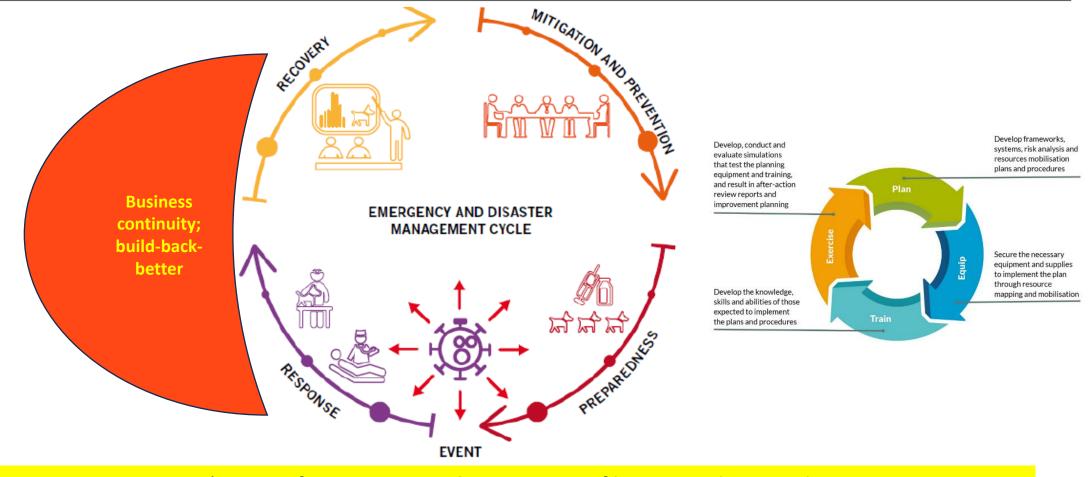
Adverse weather and climatic events: storms, floods, fire and drought



Agro-crime, agro-terrorism, cybersecurity, conflict, refugees



### The Emergency Management Cycle – a Planning Tool



PREPAREDNESS means 'a state of <u>READINESS and CAPABILITY</u> of human and material means, structures, communities and organisations enabling them to ensure an effective rapid response to a disaster, obtained as a result of action taken in advance'. (EU Civil Protection Mechanism, 2013)

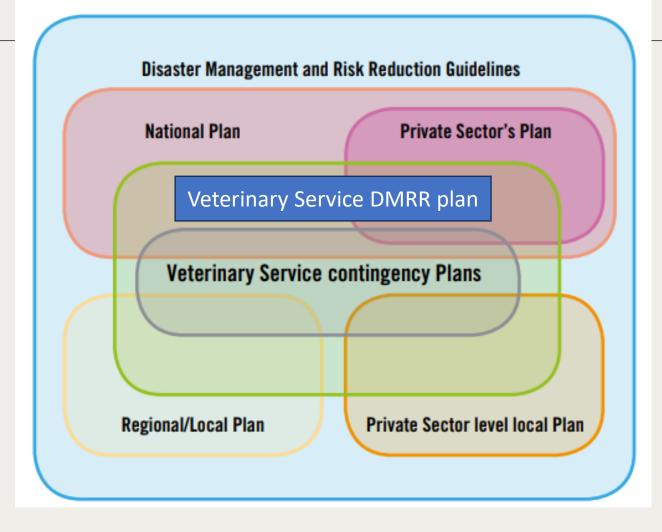


"a disaster is a <u>serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society</u>, involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, <u>which exceeds the internally resourced coping ability of the affected community or society</u>"

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Contingency planning means a management process that analyses specific potential events or emerging situations that might threaten society or the environment and establishes arrangements in advance to enable timely, effective and appropriate responses to such events and situations.





Veterinary Service contingency plans, for animal disease outbreaks or any other hazards, acknowledged within the overarching national framework for emergency management

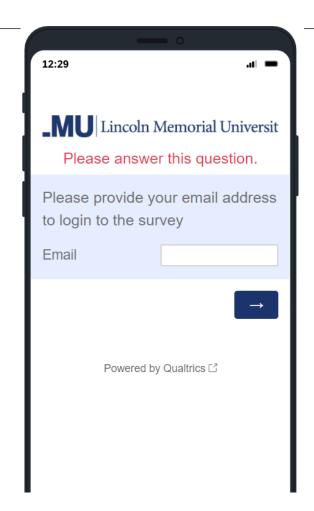
(from: OIE Guidelines on Disaster Management and Risk Reduction in relation to Animal Health and Welfare and Veterinary Public Health)



In 2021, a survey on the levels of "Veterinary Services' preparedness for dealing with animal welfare emergencies during natural disasters" has been distributed to the 53 OIE European Members during the second trimester of 2021, in collaboration between the WOAH Platform on Animal Welfare for Europe and the Lincoln Memorial University.

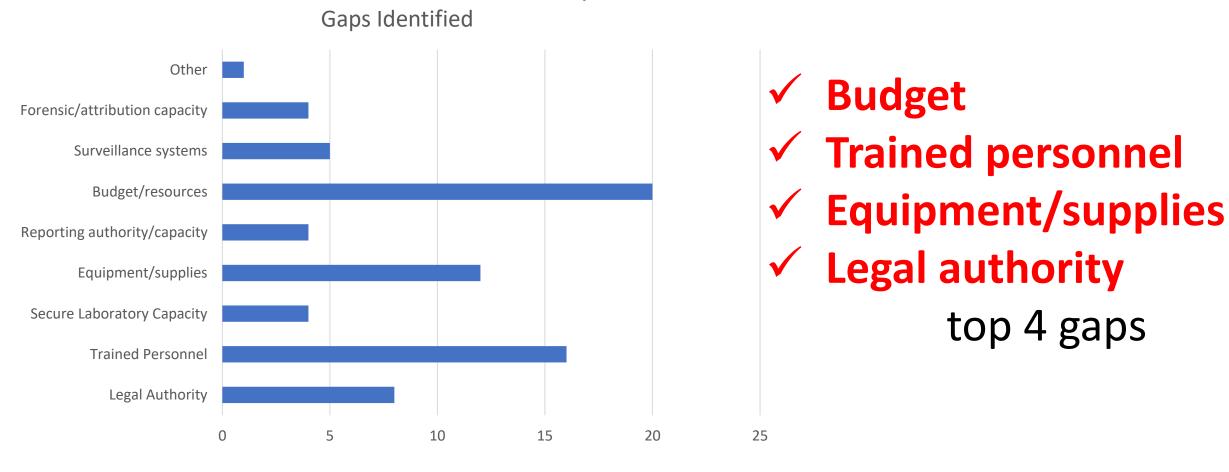
## Lincoln Memorial University

The outcomes of this initiative have contributed **to identify strenght and weaknesses in this area**, by collecting information and relevant contacts about the emergency managements systems in place, and for <u>targeting training of staff</u> by <u>learning from exercises and real events</u>.





## Q40 - What are the <u>major gaps or shortages</u> in animal welfare in disaster preparedness and response?





#### TAKE HOME MESSAGE

The WOAH Guidelines on disaster management for National Veterinary Services (2015) and the Guidelines for Simulation Exercises (2020) provide a detailed overview of the process to follow for the development of national frameworks for the management of epidemic and non-epidemic emergencies.

Veterinary Services should activate and maintain a proactive attitude toward contingency planning and be prepared when risks for natural disaster are greater and where communities and animals have fewer resources to mitigate, survive, and recover from different types of disasters.

# Thank you! Merci Gracias

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