

# WOAH Collaborative Centre Reports Activities 2022

## Activities in 2022

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<b>Title of WOA Collaborating Centre</b>	Economics of Animal Health
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<b>Name (including Title and Position) of Head of the Collaborating Centre (WOAH Contact Point):</b>	Professor Jonathan Rushton
<b>Name of the writer:</b>	Dr Ben Huntington

1. Activities as a centre of research, expertise, standardisation and dissemination of techniques within the remit of the mandate given by WOA

### Economics

Title of activity	Scope
	<p>The major outcome of this work is improved knowledge of the investment and productivity gap in two important production systems used in Europe (Dairy cattle and Salmon, see below).</p> <p>The data available to make these assessments have been explored and mapped, highlighting gaps that need to be addressed, data brokers and intermediaries to be engaged and</p>

CCEAH Outcomes

complementary European projects with which synergies can be made. This work provides a strong basis for continued efforts towards exemplar cases for work on further systems at European and country level. In the longer-term this work is the first steps of a shared 5-year work plan between UoL, UU and NVI that aims at providing estimates of the burden of animal diseases at country and regional level in Europe. This will be achieved through knowledge transfer and application for further investment from the private and public sector for further investments in case studies in a broader range of European countries. These activities will complement the WOAAH Seventh Strategic Plan in particular in the areas of data strategy and training, and engagement in the region will be initially through the WOAAH Regional Representatives and country Delegates. The information generated provides information for evidence-based investment plans for veterinary services; allow allocation of resources to key social, economic and environmental problems; and support high quality evaluation of existing animal health investments demonstrating the value of veterinary services.

Economics

Title of activity

Scope

Output - Netherlands Case Study

Study of the burden of disease in dairy cattle in the Netherlands. Completed tasks: (i)Engagement and Data sharing; (ii) Population update, livestock systems classification and estimation of biomass and economic value; Engaged Royal GD, the Animal Health Service for The Netherlands, to provide access to and map extensive existing databases. Engaged Dr Johannes Charlier (Kreavet) and Dr Jean-Baptiste Hanon (Vetogreed), consultants with epidemiological modelling experience, to use this information to provide updated population and biomass estimates for classified production systems in the dairy cattle sector.

Economics

Title of activity

Scope

Output - Norwegian Case Study

Study of the burden of disease in farmed salmon in Norway. Completed tasks: (i)Engagement and Data sharing; (ii) Population update, livestock systems classification and estimation of biomass and economic value; Engaged Dr Paul Steinar Valle, Spill Free Analytics, to map public and private data and seek methods to release the necessary data for the case study. This included building a relationship with Aquacloud, Bergen, a data broker with an extensive private sector network. Dr Steinar Valle will use available data to provide updated population and biomass estimates for the Norwegian Salmon sector. Prior experience of bio-economic modelling at NVI and Spill Free has supported an evaluation of the proposed methodology for the Animal Health Loss Envelope and created clarity on the utility for the salmon sector.

Economics

Title of activity	Scope
Disease Prioritisation	Completed a consultancy exploring synergies and opportunities between GBADs and existing European initiatives in disease prioritisation. Specifically, the consultancy collected valuable information on: i) how GBADs can provide systematically produced data-driven evidence for experts to use when taking part in existing expert elicitation processes, and ii) how GBADs can learn from existing expert elicitation exercises to determine optimal approaches to addressing data gaps.

Capacity building

Title of activity	Scope
Research partner meeting at Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine Conference	Convened an in-person meeting on 22nd March 2022 in Belfast, Northern Ireland, of the consortium and partners, including the WOAAH, to discuss GBADs methodology, data access and application to case studies and associated European H2020 projects.

Capacity building

Title of activity	Scope
Netherlands capacity building	A meeting of the consortium members of the WOAAH Collaborating Centre for the Economics of Animal Health (Europe region) took place in the Netherlands on 28-29 September. Partners from the Norwegian Veterinary Institute and University of Liverpool travelled to Utrecht University and Royal GD Animal Health Service in Deventer. The partners met to agree a way forward for funding further research efforts, training and knowledge exchange with a particular focus on expanding the network to include other European Member States and Near Neighbour Countries. Also on the agenda were the next steps for the GBADs case studies in Norway and the Netherlands; a joint PhD supervision meeting; and a discussion on data extraction and analysis from precision livestock farming initiatives during a visit to the University farm.

Capacity building

Title of activity	Scope
Norwegian capacity building	Two in person meetings were held in Norway in November 2021, attended by OIE and University of Liverpool plus a range of government and private sector stakeholders. Information was received on the utility of the GBADs method for the sector and how the work of the Consortium links with the new Norwegian aquatic health and welfare strategy. A decision was taken to submit a proposal to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries for further financing of GBADs activities in Norway. A PhD student at the Veterinary Institute in her last year, is actively participating in GBADs meetings.

2. Proposal or development of any procedure that will facilitate harmonisation of international regulations applicable to the main focus area for which you were designated

Proposal title	Scope/Content	Applicable area
GBADs methodology	Aligned with the GBADs programme, the CCEAH focuses on promoting the systematic use of and training on the methods for economics in animal health, for the benefit of WOAHA Members in the Europe region. The CCEAH specially supports GBADs in the following three areas: • Enhancing methods to estimate animal disease and health burdens, where they occur, to whom and by which causes and risk factors. • Expanding access to and standardisation of animal disease and health burden information through the development of a shared, cloud-based, knowledge engine. • Improving capacity to interpret and use animal disease and health burden information.	Training and education health management Animal production

4. Did your Collaborating Centre maintain a network with other WOAHA Collaborating Centres (CC), Reference Laboratories (RL), or organisations designated for the same specialty, to coordinate scientific and technical studies?

Yes

Name of OIE CC/RL/other organisation(s)	Location	Region of networking Centre	Purpose
Nascent CCEAH Americas	Kansas State University, USA	Americas	During 2022 CCEAH Europe, supported the development of a consortium proposal for this new CCEAH Americas. The Director, at KSU, is a theme lead of the GBADs programme, and the workplan is aligned with that of the European centre. CCEAH Americas application was submitted at the end of 2022 for consideration and approval by the WOAHA GS in May 2023.
			During 2022 CCEAH Europe, supported the scoping of a proposal for a new CCEAH Asia Pacific. The consortium

Nascent CCEAH Asia Pacific		Asia and Pasific	will comprise GBADs partners in the region, notably CSIRO, BRIN (Indonesia) and Murdoch University. The application is an agreed output of the GBADs Indonesian case study. It is most likely that the proposal timeline will be to seek approval by the WOHG GS in May 2024.
Nascent CCEAH Africa		Africa	During 2022 CCEAH Europe, supported the scoping of a proposal for a new CCEAH Africa. The Director, at OVI, is a member of the GBADs programme expert review panel. The application is in its early stages and is planned for consideration and approval by the WOHG GS in May 2024.

5. Did your Collaborating Centre maintain a network with other WOHG Collaborating Centres, Reference laboratories, or organisations in other disciplines, to coordinate scientific and technical studies?

Yes

Name of OIE CC/RL/other organisation(s)	Location	Region of networking Centre	Purpose
WOHG Collaborating Centre for Emerging Aquatic Animal Diseases, Cefas, UK	UK	Europe	Exploring how the GBADs framework can contribute to the economic hub of a One Food project lead by this centre.
Epidemiology and Risk Assessment of Aquatic Animal Diseases Centre for Aquatic Health Science, Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC), University of Prince Edward Island	Canada	Americas	Exploring opportunities to collaborate on burden of disease estimation in aquaculture

6. Did your Collaborating Centre place expert consultants at the disposal of WOHG?

Yes

NAME OF EXPERT	KIND OF CONSULTANCY	SUBJECT

Jonathan Rushton, William Gilbert	Completion of a paper on the economics of preventive response to bioterrorism	Economics of preventive measures to bioterrorism
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7. Did your Collaborating Centre provide advice/services to requests from Members in your main focus area?

Yes

*UK, Norwegian and Dutch governments have benefitted from advice provided by members of the consortium, broadly on the use of economics in animal health and more specifically on the GBADs approach as a way to add value to international aid investments and to support domestic response to increasing cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza.*

8. Did your Collaborating Centre provide scientific and technical training, within the remit of the mandate given by WOA, to personnel from WOA Members?

No

9. Did your Collaborating Centre organise or participate in the organisation of scientific meetings related to your main focus area on behalf of WOA?

Yes

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL	TITLE OF EVENT	CO-ORGANISER	DATE (MM/YY)	LOCATION	NO. PARTICIPANTS
International	WOAH GS 2022	WOAH	2022-04-01	Online	500?
National	CCEAH meeting with NL Ministry of Agriculture	Netherlands Government	2022-09-01	Utrecht	8
National	GBADs workshop for Senegal feasibility study	WOAH, CIRAD	2022-06-01	Online and Dakar	50
National	GBADs workshop for Ethiopian case study	WOAH, ILRI	2022-11-01	Addis Ababa	40

10. Publication and dissemination of any information within the remit of the mandate given by WOA that may be useful to Members of WOA

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

b) International conferences:

International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics, Halifax, Canada, August 2022.

*Special session on GBADs, talks on GBADs throughout the programme, as well as multiple posters. This included work directly carried out by the CCEAH partners as well as international collaborators.*

c) National conferences:

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

11. What have you done in the past year to advance your area of focus, e.g. updated technology?

*We have initiated a process to look at how cattle mortality is calculated using the EU wide entry and exit data.*

12. Additional comments regarding your report:

*Funding for these activities was from EC DGSANTE through its annual contribution to WOAAH. A full report in line with that sub-grant was provided to the Engagement and Investment department – contact point Ingrid Contreras Arias.*