

WOAH Collaborative Centre Reports Activities 2025

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CENTRE INFORMATION

*Title of WOA Collaborating Centre	Sandia National Laboratories, Global Chemical and Biological Security
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*Name (including Title and Position) of Head of the Collaborating Centre (WOAH Contact Point):	Dr. Melissa R. Finley, Manager, Global Chemical and Biological Security
*Name of the writer:	Dr. Melissa R. Finley

TOR 1 AND 2: SERVICES PROVIDED

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

Category	Title of activity	Scope
Training, capacity building (true)	Biological Risk Management Training	Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) is committed to institutionalizing and standardizing global biological risk management through comprehensive training and capacity-building initiatives. Our goal is to ensure the safe and secure handling of hazardous pathogens. Training programs are tailored based on thorough needs assessments and fostered through ongoing collaborations, often evolving alongside our country partners over several years. Our training offerings encompass a wide range of topics, including foundational biological risk management, trainer development, advanced trainer development, and preparation for certification by the International Federation of Biosafety Associations (IFBA). Additionally, we focus on the development and sustainability of biological risk management cohorts, ISO 35001 certification, waste management, biosecurity, human reliability, information security, rapid inactivation of pathogens, safe and secure shipping of biological materials, community of practice establishment, and curriculum development.
Diagnosis, biotechnology and laboratory (true)	Laboratory design and augmentation through training	Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) actively supports the design and enhancement of laboratories to improve biological risk management. We assist in the design of public and animal health laboratories, ensuring that they are constructed or renovated with a strong emphasis on biological risk management principles and integration of biological safety and security systems. Additionally, SNL offers training in modern diagnostic methods, equipping laboratories to conduct sensitive diagnostic testing while reinforcing their biological risk management practices.

TOR 3: HARMONISATION OF STANDARDS

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
Biological Risk Management	Provision of biological risk management globally.	Training and Education

3. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOA?

No

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

Yes

Name of WOA CC/RL/other organisation(s)	Location	Region of networking Centre	Purpose
Jordan University for Science and Technology	Jordan	Oriente Medio	To provide molecular biology and genetic sequencing training to partner countries
Malaysia Public Health Laboratories/Griffith University	Malaysia	Asia y el Pacífico	Harmonization of the Malaysian Public Health Laboratory Network
Thailand Regional Reference Laboratory of FMD/Centre for Disease Preparedness - Australia	Thailand	Asia y el Pacífico	Establish a framework for biological risk management for FMD BSL3 activities
Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health	Romania	Europa	To establish a twinning program between IDAH and SNL
Thailand NIH Department of Medical Sciences/Victorian Infectious Disease Reference Laboratory	Thailand	Asia y el Pacífico	To develop a combined ISO35001/15190 audit checklist to identify conformity with NIH, DMSc, Thailand requirements.
Thailand DMSc Laboratories/Yale University	Thailand	Asia y el Pacífico	Develop a checklist for biological waste management
Nigerian Biological Safety Association	Nigeria	África	Develop a trainers network

TOR 4 AND 5: NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

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

No

TOR 6: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Name of expert	Kind of consultancy	Subject
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Melissa Finley	Sustainable Laboratories Support (available but did not participate in any laboratory assessments)	Biological Risk Management
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TOR 7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

7. Did your Collaborating Centre provide advice/services to requests from Members in your main focus area?

Yes

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) offers expert guidance and services to a diverse array of collaborating partners worldwide. These collaborations focus primarily on training initiatives, the development of training materials, laboratory design, and curriculum enhancement. SNL grants partners access to its standardized curriculum, the Global Biological Risk Management Curriculum (GBRMC), along with comprehensive training guides, enabling them to effectively deliver training across their network of laboratories.

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

Yes

a) Technical visit : 4

b) Seminars : 0

c) Hands-on training courses: 49

d) Internships (>1 month) : 0

Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)	Content	Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training	No. participants from the corresponding country
C	Biological Risk Management: Rapid Inactivation of Pathogens (13-May-2025 to 09-Sept-2025; monthly instruction)	Yemen	19
C	Biological Risk Management: Information Security and Cyber Security in Laboratories (24-Feb-2025 to 28-Feb-2025)	Romania	24
C	Biological Risk Management: Biosafety Officer Training	Malaysia	16
C	Biological Risk Management: Train the Trainer Waste Disposal (14-Feb-2025)	Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia	34
C	Biological Risk Management: Human Vulnerability and Cyber Security (14-May-2025 to 16-May-2025)	Philippines	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Foundational Biological Risk Management Training (14-May-2025 to 21-May-2025)	Philippines	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Foundational Biological Risk Management Training (14-July-2025 to 17-July-2025)	Philippines	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Biosecurity Best Practices	Vietnam	26
C	Biological Risk Management: Training Center Assessment Workshop (Multiple remote sessions from 15-Jan-2025 to 26-Feb-2025)	Vietnam	16
C	Biological Risk Management: Training Center Assessment Workshop (14-Apr-2025 to 18-Apr-2025)	Vietnam	16

C	Biological Risk Management: Veterinary Field Operations Sample Collection and Transport (11-Aug-2025 to 15-Aug-2025)	Vietnam	27
C	Biological Risk Management: Biological Risk Management Foundational Training (28-Apr-2025 to 2-May-2025)	Morocco	40
C	Biological Risk Management: Field Biosecurity (26-May-2025 to 29-May-2025)	Jordan	25
C	Biological Risk Management: Curriculum Development (8-Feb-2025 to 10-Feb-2025)	Malaysia	12
C	Biological Risk Management: Curriculum Development (18-Apr-2025 to 19-Apr-2025)	Malaysia	12
C	Biological Risk Management: Curriculum Development (01-Aug-2025 to 03-Aug-2025)	Malaysia	12
C	Biological Risk Management: Field to Laboratory Operations (03-Aug-2025 to 07-Aug-2025)	Jordan	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Curriculum Development, Scenarios (21-Apr-2025 to 25-Apr-2025)	Malaysia	25
C	Biological Risk Management: Sample Shipping Train the Trainer 05-May-2025 to 08-May-2025)	Malaysia	16
C	Biological Risk Management: Sample Shipping 2 (27-Jul-2025 to 31-Jul-2025)	Malaysia	48
C	Biological Risk Management: Foundational Biological Risk Management (14-Apr-2025 to 17-Apr-2025)	Nigeria	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Advanced Training (07-Apr-2025 to 11-Apr-2025)	Nigeria	30
C	Biological Risk Management: Advanced Training (21-Jul-2025 to 25-Jul-2025)	Nigeria	30
C	Biological Risk Management: Trainer Development (16-Jun-2025 to 20-Jun-2025)	Nigeria	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Advanced Trainer Workshop (18-Aug-2025 to 22-Aug-2025)	Nigeria	20
C	Biological Risk Management: ISO 35001 Audit Training (19-May-2025 to 23-May-2025)	Malaysia	8

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C	Biological Risk Management: ISO 35001 Audit Training (21-Jul-2025 to 25-Jul-2025)	Malaysia	8
C	Biological Risk Management: ISO 35001 Assessor Training (17-Mar-2025 to 28-Mar-2025)	Thailand	36
C	Biological Risk Management: ISO 35001 Audit Training (14-Apr-2025 to 17-Apr-2025)	Iraq	19
C	Biological Risk Management: Trainers Network (12-Mar-2025 to 13-Mar-2025)	Vietnam	59
C	Biological Risk Management: Trainers Network (11-Jun-2025)	Vietnam	59
C	Biological Risk Management: Trainers Network (10-Sep-2025)	Vietnam	59
C	Biological Risk Management: Multisectoral Laboratory Design (21-Apr-2025 to 25-Apr-2025)	Vietnam	16
C	Laboratory Design: Sustainability for Laboratory Design AUPANVAC (22-Jan-2025)	Africa Regional	2
C	Biological Risk Management: Biosecurity Roundtable (20-Oct-2025 to 23-Oct-2025)	Romania	40
C	Biological Risk Management: Waste Management (18-Aug-2025 to 22-Aug-2025)	Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam	13
C	Biological Risk Management: International Federation of Biosafety Associations Certification Preparation (Monthly 16-Jun-2025 to 09-Aug-2025)	Romania	30
C	Biological Risk Management: Human Vulnerability and Insider Threat Training (28-Jul-2025 to 5-Aug-2025)	Romania	30
C	Biological Risk Management: Enhancing Genomic Security and Cyber Biosecurity (22-Sep-2025 to 26-Sep-2025)	Pakistan	15
C	Biological Risk Management: Human Vulnerability and Insider Threat (09-Dec-2025 to 12-Dec-2025)	Romania	25
A	Biological Risk Management: Facility Visit - Insider Threat Biosecurity (7-Apr-2025 to 10-Apr-2025)	Romania	18
A	Biological Risk Management: Twinning Poster Presentations (11-Feb-2025 to 13-Feb-2025)	Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand	5

A	Biological Risk Management: Resource Planning (19-May-2025 to 23-May-2025)	Kazakhstan	8
A	Biological Risk Management: Risk Assessment (3-Mar-2025 to 04-Mar-2025)	Romania	6
C	Biological Risk Management: One Health Community of Practice (27-Feb-2025 to 26-Jun-2025; monthly sessions)	Vietnam	32
C	Biological Risk Management: Southern Africa Trainers Network foundational biological risk management training (20-Jan-2025 to 24-Jan-2025)	Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, and Zambia	20
C	Biological Risk Management: West Africa Trainers Network foundational training (05-May-2025 to 09-May-2025)	Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Trainers Network foundational training (25-Jul-2025 to 01-Aug-2025)	Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone	20
C	Biological Risk Management: West Africa Trainers Network foundational training (12-May-2025 to 16-May-2025)	Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo	20
C	Biological Risk Management: West Africa Trainers Network foundational training (04-Aug-2025 to 08-Aug-2025)	Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo	20
C	Biological Risk Management: Central Africa Trainers Network foundational training (14-Jul-2025 to 18-Jul-2025)	Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon	20
C	Outbreak Investigation and Response (14-Apr-2025 to 18-Apr-2025)	Senegal	20
C	Outbreak Investigation and Response (22-Jul-2025 to 15-Sep-2025)	Vietnam	40
C	Biological Risk Management Training Grants (monthly 31-Jan-2025 to 30-Jul-2025)	Africa Regional	40

TOR 8: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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

No

TOR 9: DATA AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

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

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

b) International conferences:

1. *USDA ARS 9th International*

Biosafety & Biocontainment Symposium. Designing Effective Role-Based Training to Mitigate Biorisk in Agriculture and Animal Health Settings. LouAnn Burnett

2. *USDA ARS 9th International*

Biosafety & Biocontainment Symposium. Lessons Learned from a Decade of Global Biorisk Management Human Capacity Development

LouAnn Burnett, MS, CBSP(ABSA), Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM

c) National conferences:

1. American Biological Safety Association Annual Conference. Infectious Substance Shipping Certification. Eric Cook

2. American Biological Safety Association Annual Conference. ISO35001 Implementation Workshop . Eric Cook

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 developed a standardized biological risk management curriculum that serves both our partner countries and Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) staff in delivering effective training. This curriculum undergoes an annual review and update process, with the latest revisions completed in 2025. In addition, SNL maintains a comprehensive library of core documents that support the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs). These documents were thoroughly reviewed and revised in 2025, with new materials added to enhance our resources. Furthermore, we have created new training materials focused on genomic security, cybersecurity, and research security. Our efforts also include the expansion of our Community of Practice in Africa, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing across the region.

12. Additional comments regarding your report:

Participant numbers in TOR 7 are often a combination of public and animal health biomedical professionals, not exclusively animal health. This helps foster a One Health atmosphere using biological risk management as platform.