The OIE PVS Pathway
Aquatic Animal Health Services

3rd OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health
‘Riding the wave to the future’

Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), 20-22 January 2015
The OIE PVS Pathway

- is a **continuous process** aiming to **sustainably** improve the compliance of **Veterinary Services and/or Aquatic Animal Health Services** with **international standards**, 

- respects the independence of the **Aquatic Animal Health Services (AAHS)** in a Member Country, and the OIEPVS Pathway is designed to assist a country to improve its AAHS

- irrespective of whether the **AAHS** is within the **Veterinary Services** or another Service or Ministry
OIE Standards

- OIE international standards, guidelines, and recommendations for animal health and zoonoses
  - Including standards on quality of Veterinary Services and/or Aquatic Animal Health Services

SPS Agreement

- Animal Health OIE
- Food Safety CODEX
- Plant Health IPPC

International standard setting organisations
Chapter 3.1. of the Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code) provides a legal base for the OIE quality requirements for AAHS where these are not covered by the Veterinary Services.

Article 3.1.1. The ability of Aquatic Animal Health Services to deliver appropriate services, monitor and control aquatic animal diseases based on Member Countries’ aquatic animal health legislation and regulations, can be measured through an evaluation or audit whose general principles are described in Articles 3.1.3. and 3.1.4.
Code Article 3.1.3

Every Member should recognise the right of another Member Country to undertake, or request it to undertake, an evaluation of its Aquatic Animal Health Services where the initiating Member is an actual or a prospective importer or exporter of aquatic animal commodities.

Evaluation should be conducted in accordance with Code Chapter 3.1.5 by using the OIE Performance of Veterinary Services and/or Aquatic Animal Health Services (OIE PVS Tool: Aquatic).
A **specific methodology** has been developed and the OIE has published the

**OIE Tool for the Evaluation of Performance of Veterinary Services and/or Aquatic Animal Health Services (OIE PVS Tool)**

as the **basis for evaluating performance against the international standards published in the *Aquatic Code*.
PVS Tool
A tool for the Good Governance of Veterinary Services / Aquatic Animal Health Services

Section 3
Quality of Veterinary Services
Quality of Aquatic Animal Health Services
Objective of the PVS Tool

The OIE PVS Tool is designed to:

- assist **AAHS** to establish their current level of performance;
- identify gaps and weaknesses in their ability to comply with OIE international standards;
- form a **shared vision with stakeholders / interested parties** (including the private sector); and
- establish priorities and carry out strategic initiatives.
Use of the PVS Tool

› **Self-evaluation**
  
  › To assess a country’s own *Veterinary Service / Aquatic Animal Health Service* performance;

› **Bilateral negotiations**
  
  › An evaluation of the exporting country’s *Veterinary Service / Aquatic Animal Health Service* to assist negotiations between trading countries;
  
  › Undertaken by mutual agreement.

› **Independent, external evaluation**
  
  › Provides a strong legitimization of a request for national and/or international financing;
  
  › Performed using OIE experts.
How is the OIEPVS Tool structured?
PVS Tool: Fundamental Components

- I. Human, Physical and Financial Resources
- II. Technical Authority and Capability
- III. Interaction with Interested Parties
- IV. Access to Markets

Each Component comprises 6 - 18 Critical competencies
Structure of the OIEPVS Tool

PVS

4 fundamental components

- Human, Physical, Financial Resources
- Technical Capability and Authority
- Interaction with Interested Parties
- Market Access

47 Critical competencies (6-18)

5 levels of advancement
Levels of Advancement

- Progressive and complementary information related to the compliance with OIE standards.
- 5 levels of advancement (qualitative) for each critical competency.
- A higher level assumes compliance with all preceding levels.

Level of advancement 1
No compliance

Level of advancement 2

Level of advancement 3

Level of advancement 4

Level of advancement 5 - Full compliance with OIE Standards
Definition of a Critical Competency

A specific competence of the VS / AAHS necessary for the country to comply with OIE standards.

Example:

I-7 Physical resources
The access of the VS or AAHS to relevant physical resources including buildings, transport, telecommunications, cold chain, and other relevant equipment (e.g. computers).
Definition of a Critical Competency

Example:

I-7 Physical resources : Levels of advancement

1. The VS or AAHS **have no or unsuitable physical resources at almost all levels** and maintenance of existing infrastructure is poor or non-existent.
2. The VS or AAHS **have suitable physical resources at national (central) level and at some regional levels**, and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally.
3. The VS or AAHS **have suitable physical resources at national, regional and some local levels** and maintenance and replacement of obsolete items occurs only occasionally.
4. The VS or AAHS **have suitable physical resources at all levels and these are regularly maintained.**
5. The VS or AAHS **have suitable physical resources at all levels (national, sub-national and local levels) and these are regularly maintained and updated** as more advanced and sophisticated items become available.
The OIE collaborates with governments, donors and other stakeholders.
PVS Evaluation of Aquatic Animal Health Services (AAHS)

the “diagnosis”
OIE PVS Evaluation

- **External independent process (objectivity)**
  - Experts trained and certified by the OIE;
  - Based on facts & evidence, not impressions.

- Following requests from the countries (voluntary basis)

- **To assess:**
  - Compliance with OIE Standards;
  - Strengths / Weaknesses;
  - Gaps / areas for improvement.

- Using tools recognized by OIE Members and international donors

- Not an audit

- **Country property** (confidentiality of results, unless agreed differently)
The OIEPVS IS NOT:

- only an evaluation of the Chief Veterinary / Aquatic Animal Health Officer’s office and related departments;

- an evaluation performed from the Aquatic Animal Health Services’ Headquarters;

- only an evaluation of the public sector of the Veterinary Services or Aquatic Animal Health Services;

- only an evaluation of the veterinarians or aquatic animal health professional;

- only an evaluation of the national aquatic animal health programmes.

The OIEPVS Evaluation addresses the whole VETERINARY AND AAH DOMAIN, both the public and private sectors and is an excellent way to address public-private partnership.
PVS Evaluations – Aquatic
as per end 2014

- America
  - Belize
  - Panama

- Asia
  - Maldives
  - Philippines
  - Vietnam

- Africa
  - Mozambique
  - Seychelles
Examples of global OIEPVS “diagnostic” outcomes with relevance to the Aquatic Animal Health Services

- Insufficient national chain of command;
- Weakness of private sector organizations;
- Mainly export-sector driven with little attention to domestic markets and market access;
- Failures in the control of veterinary drugs and the development of private sector veterinary services and/or aquatic animal health services;
- Limited aquatic animal health training facilities;
- Little or no aquatic animal health in veterinary pre-graduate training.
OIE PVS Pathway – Further Programme Elements

OIEPVS Gap Analysis – Costing Tool
the “prescription”

OIEPVS Specific Activities – Support Programmes
the “treatment”

OIEPVS Follow-Up Missions

Non of these Programmes have yet been undertaken in Aquatic Animal Health Services
“Treatments” available

OIEPVS Pathway Laboratory mission

Veterinary Legislation Support Programme
“Treatments” available

Veterinary Education (includes Aquatic)
“Treatments” available

- Veterinary Statutory Body Twinning Projects

- Veterinary Statutory Bodies (VSB) assist in regulating veterinarians (and veterinary para-professionals)
Thank you for your attention!