

OIE PVS PATHWAY INCLUDING VETERINARY EDUCATION

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The OIE's global PVS Pathway shifts away from externally driven, short-term, emergency response type 'vertical' approaches addressing specific diseases and contributes to a more sustainable, long term strengthening of 'horizontal' systems. This programme targets capacity building and good governance of institutional systems via improved compliance with OIE international standards, including those relating to the quality of Veterinary Services and of Aquatic Animal Health Services, as well as responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials.

The OIE acknowledges that the objective of protecting human and animal health through minimised antimicrobial resistance, can only be attained, and then maintained, through the concurrent strengthening of Veterinary Services based on an unified approach.

The OIE PVS Pathway involves the systematic evaluation of Veterinary Services with regards to international standards (**PVS Evaluation**) on a voluntary basis; costed plans based on integrating the PVS Evaluation findings with national priorities (**PVS Gap Analysis**); and, a consistent mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of progress (regular **PVS Pathway Follow-up missions**). The PVS Pathway, which has an approximate timeframe of five years, can then be repeated to create a continuous cycle of improvement, employing readjusted levels of OIE support as capacity and understanding increases.

Under the PVS Pathway umbrella, the OIE has also developed specific twinning programmes to improve the skills and competencies of Veterinary Services to responsibly promote animal health, animal welfare, veterinary public health, and food safety.

The **Twinning of Laboratories** provides for a more balanced geographical global distribution of advanced expertise. They facilitate access to high quality diagnostic testing and technical knowledge as well high level of scientific expertise for the formulation of science-based animal health strategies.

The **Twinning of Veterinary Education Establishments** between countries based on the '*OIE recommendations on the Competencies of graduating veterinarians ('Day 1 graduates') to assure National Veterinary Services of quality*' addresses, among others, Veterinary products and medicines, and is a step towards improving veterinary education worldwide and compliance with OIE international standards.

The **Twinning of Veterinary Statutory Bodies** assists countries in creating an independent body to responsibly oversee the quality and professional conduct of veterinarians working in the country. By facilitating twinings between countries, the OIE aims to ensure the excellence of the veterinary profession by setting standards for licensing and education (both initial and continuing); these also address ethics and codes of conduct of the veterinary profession.

