Veterinarians are expected to perform their work in an ethical and competent manner and their capacity to do this depends on high quality initial and continuing veterinary education. However, veterinary education is of low quality in many countries of the world.

With the objective of strengthening veterinary education and governance, the OIE has adopted standards in the Terrestrial Code and has published guidelines on the competencies of graduating veterinarians (‘Day 1 competencies) and on the basic veterinary curriculum - both guidelines reflecting the requirements defined by the OIE for the delivery of national Veterinary Services of good quality.

With strong support from its 178 Member countries, the OIE delivers the OIE PVS Pathway for strengthening good governance of Veterinary Services. The PVS Tool, which is used in evaluations of the quality of Veterinary Services, includes critical competencies relevant to veterinary education, notably critical competency I-2A and B and critical competency I-3. Related critical competencies cover the governance of the veterinary profession, in particular critical competency 111-5 A and B ‘Authority and competence of the Veterinary Statutory Body’ (VSB). The PVS Evaluation gives a ‘snapshot assessment’ of the quality of veterinary education and veterinary governance. Member countries may request a more detailed analysis, in a specialised mission. Twinning programmes for both veterinary education establishments (VEE) and VSBs are available for building the capacity of these important institutions.

This paper provides a regional and global perspective on the findings obtained in PVS Evaluations of 112 countries with respect to veterinary education, by analysing the levels of achievement reported with respect to critical competency I-2A and B and critical competency I-3. This type of analysis can be used by governments and donors to help to benchmark the performance of a country or group of countries against that of other countries or regions. This can be particularly useful in analysing gaps and needs within a region. This paper illustrates the rich source of data relevant to quality of national Veterinary Services that can be obtained from the reports of PVS evaluations.

The ongoing use of the PVS Tool and other activities in the PVS Pathway (e.g. twinning of VEE) is invaluable in supporting the OIE objective of strengthening quality and good governance of Veterinary Services to help improve economic performance in developing countries.

**Keywords:** OIE Day 1 Competencies – Veterinary Education – PVS Pathway – Basic Veterinary Curriculum.