The OIE is actively involved in building its Members’ veterinary capacity. To this end, it has developed evaluation tools (PVS), standards and good practice guides and has mandated an Ad hoc Group on veterinary education. It has established Collaborating Centres, which are centres of expertise each responsible, in its designated sphere of competence, for managing all aspects of its speciality in order to address the major challenges facing society, including food security and animal welfare.

Some OIE Collaborating Centres are directly involved in the initial training of veterinarians, as well as in the training of veterinary governance officials. France's National School of Veterinary Services (ENSV), which comes under the VetAgro Sup higher education and research institute for food, animal health, agricultural science and environment in Lyon, has been a Collaborating Centre for training official veterinarians since 2004. Under the mandate conferred by the OIE, it has provided the OIE with services and expertise to help build the PVS evaluation tool. It has also supported the establishment of other Collaborating Centres and training centres in its speciality (Argentina, Senegal, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia), at the same time developing a network that has led to the harmonisation of training methods, content and tools while developing mutual support and synergy. Its position at the heart of France's initial veterinary education system has enabled it to provide training programmes targeted specifically at countries engaged in developing their training processes, thereby helping to enhance their public and private veterinary governance and the skills of their veterinarians in compliance with the Day 1 minimum competencies expected of new veterinary graduates.

**Keywords**: OIE Collaborating Centre – Veterinary education – Veterinary governance.