For the past 10 years, the PVS Pathway has strengthened Veterinary Services in more than 140 countries, leading to improved government and donor resourcing, clearer governance structures and national coordination, and improved inter-sectoral and stakeholder collaboration. Through the PVS Pathway, these countries have enhanced their animal and veterinary public health surveillance, disease control, emergency response, border control, food safety, laboratory, educational, legislative and animal welfare systems.

The biggest risk with successful, established programmes like the OIE PVS Pathway is complacency. To mark the ten-year milestone, a Think Tank Forum was held at the OIE Headquarters in Paris, in April 2017. The Forum brought together a diverse group of 74 PVS Pathway stakeholders — member countries, donors, partners, OIE staff and PVS experts to review the programme’s success, build on lessons learned and collectively set directions for an enhanced and expanded PVS Pathway of the future.

**Context**

**Think Tank Forum**

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**Key Products**

- **Tailoring PVS engagement**
- **Raising the PVS Pathway Profile:** elevating results from technical to strategic
- **Tailoring PVS engagement options based on governance and technical needs:**
  - PVS self-evaluation
  - PVS strategic planning support
  - PVS specific content (e.g. PPR, AMR)
  - PVS national specialists
  - PVS/International Health Regulations linkages

**Key Directions**

- **Advocacy and Resourcing**
  - Increasing PVS profile beyond the technical
  - Linking PVS to international agendas (One Health, food security, SDGs, aid effectiveness) to spur high-level support of VS
  - Aligning country priorities/ownership with donor project support, through PVS, against international standards at the systems level
  - Formalising regional PVS partnerships via Regional Economic Communities

- **Governance and Leveraging**
  - Leading and managing PVS evolution via a PVS Secretariat
  - Engaging OIE regional offices to better support all PVS phases
  - Breaking down silos to leverage use of PVS results across the OIE mandate
  - Facilitating strategic analysis of PVS reports
  - Updating the PVS Expert Pool and modernising HR aspects

**Technical Training and Delivery**

- Delivering a PVS Training Strategy with three training elements:
  1. **Basic (targeting countries):** Enhance country ownership, preparation and use, potentiate PVS self-evaluation, and widen expert pool
  2. **Staff (targeting regions and HQ):** Enhance PVS support and use by the OIE, with a focus on report analysis to support all elements of the OIE mandate
  3. **Specialised (targeting experienced experts):** Capacitate delivery of new forms of PVS support to countries (e.g. PVS/IHR linkage, strategic planning, specific content)

**Success Factors to Maintain**

- Voluntary
- Country-driven
- Participatory
- Collaborative
- Supportive
- Broadly systems-based
- Established methods and tools
- In-depth, using field evidence
- Knowledgeable experts
- Promotes longer term sustainable change
- Founded on OIE international standards

**Enablers**

- Political will from countries who:
  - engage through an official PVS request
  - have a clear understanding of the PVS processes, options and requirements before the mission
- ably prepare for and support the mission
- respond positively to PVS recommendations (such as via integration into country strategic planning)
- Support of donors and partners, both for OIE’s PVS Pathway delivery and their own use of results
- Leadership and management development
- Training, targeting all of the above