INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT MATRIX (CAM) TOOL

Purpose and Layout of the CAM

The Curriculum Alignment Matrix (CAM) is a tool which allows you to compare your Veterinary Paraprofessional (VPP) training programme against the OIE Curricula Guidelines for Veterinary Paraprofessionals to determine alignment, or “match” with these Guidelines.

The CAM is set up as a matrix which contains the OIE VPP Curriculum Guidelines on the Y-axis and blank spaces for course names of the VPP educational programme being analysed across the X-axis. As shown in the figure below, the OIE Guidelines include the Modules, Units, and Learning Outcomes. The Learning Outcomes are the unit of comparison for determining programme alignment; the content taught by a course should be the primary focus of this exercise, rather than course names which will vary between institutions.

BLANK EXAMPLE OF THE CAM FOR ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAMMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OIE Curriculum Recommendations</th>
<th>CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT MATRIX - ANIMAL HEALTH TRACK - [PROGRAMME EXAMPLE]</th>
<th>Country Programme Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GUIDELINE COMPONENTS</td>
<td>Course</td>
<td># Occurrences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to Use the CAM to Assess Programme Alignment

1. Begin by entering the course names of the VPP training programme you are analysing into the “Course” Row, as shown to the right.

2. Once all course names have been entered into the CAM, compare course descriptions and learning outcomes and/or objectives from your institution against the OIE VPP Learning Outcomes.

[Date of publication]
3. If you feel that a course reasonably addresses an OIE VPP Learning Outcome, locate the cell in the CAM where your course and the OIE Learning Outcome intersect, and enter the number “1” into the cell.

4. This will activate conditional formatting which will color the cell blue. The sum of each row and column will automatically be calculated in the “# Occurrences” column and row.

5. Complete this exercise for all courses in the VPP training programme.

Interpreting the Completed CAM

In the body of the matrix, **BLUE** cells indicate alignment between the OIE VPP Curriculum Guidelines and the VPP training programme being analysed.

In the # Occurrences column, **GREEN** cells indicate 2 or more matches, suggesting that the VPP training programme being analysed generally meets the OIE VPP Curriculum Guidelines for that learning outcome.

**YELLOW** cells indicate 1 match, and **PINK** cells indicate 0 matches. If the cell is either yellow or red, these curricular Learning Outcomes should be targeted for programme improvements and revisions to enhance the alignment with OIE Guidelines. It should be noted, however, that variation from the OIE Guidelines can be appropriate depending on specific context and country needs.