

ONE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SUBGROUP
of the ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE NETWORK
Minutes of the 3rd meeting



07 & 14 November 2023

09:00-17:00

Minutes agreed on 28 November 2023

Location: Webconference

Attendees:

- One Health subgroup participants:

Country	Name
Austria	Georg Duscher Annette Nigsch Romana Steinparzer
Belgium	Cyril Barbezange
Croatia	Pavle Jelacic Brigita Hengl
Czech Republic	Katerina Kybicova Hana Orlíková
Denmark	Pikka Jokelainen
Estonia	Age Kärssin
Finland	Thomas Grönthal Riikka Holopainen Tarja Pohjanvirta
Germany	Sascha Knauf Christoph Staubach
Greece	Ilektra Fragkou Danai Pervanidou Smaragda Sotiraki
Hungary	Zoltán Széll
Ireland	Laura Garza Cuartero Sunita Jeawon Jessica Hayes Rachael Moran Aoife NiRathaille Virginie Gautier Gerald Barry Annetta Zintl Maire Connolly
Italy	Paolo Calistri Marco Di Luca Daniela Morelli
Latvia	Edvins Olsevskis Žanete Šteingolde
Luxembourg	Caroline Merten
Netherlands	Joke Van der Giessen Wim Van der Poel
Portugal	Andrea Cara d' Anjo



Slovak Republic	Anna Ondrejková
Slovenia	Uroš Krapež
Spain	Lucía García San Miguel Germán Cáceres Garrido
Sweden	Erika Chenais Rikard Dryselius Wonhee Cha Liese Van Gompel

- Observers:
Judith Hübschen (Luxembourg), Chantal Snoeck (Luxembourg), Sigita Taurina (Latvia), Anil Demeli (Turkey), Tamas Petrovic (Serbia)
- Hearing Experts:
Dolores Gavier-Widén, Joaquín Vicente Banos, Ezio Ferroglio, Clazien de Vos
- European Commission/Other EU Agencies representatives:
Francesco Berlingieri (EC DG SANTE G2); Razvan Anistoroaei, Marc Vandebroek (EC HaDEA); Celine Gossner, Tamás Bakonyi, Ole Heuer (ECDC)
- EFSA:
BIOHAW: Andrea Gervelmeyer (chair), Alessandro Broglia, Lisa Kohnle, Roxane Delacourt, Lina Mur, Frank Boelaert, Gabriele Zancanaro
IDATA: Ancuta Cezara Simon, Alexandra Papanikolaou



1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants and congratulated the MSs for their successful applications for direct grants setting up coordinated One Health surveillance in animals and the environment for cross-border pathogens that threaten the Union.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Presentation of expectations by European Commission

Francesco Berlingieri briefly explained the objectives of the direct grant opportunity CP-g-22-04.01 of the Eu4Health programme 2022 and the related mandate for EFSA. He encouraged MSs to collaborate in the One Health spirit with all relevant stakeholders both at the national and at the European level.

4. Presentation of project plans

The members of the One Health surveillance subgroup presented their plans for surveillance activities under the direct grants. Seven countries will carry out the work under mono-beneficiary grants. These are Croatia, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. One multi-beneficiary grant will be signed by a consortium of Austria, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary and Slovakia; a second multi-beneficiary grant will benefit a consortium of Denmark, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland and Sweden. Each of the priority pathogens identified for the One Health surveillance will be targeted by at least one MSs; in most cases more than one country will carry out surveillance for a given pathogen, which provides opportunities for synergies and sharing of experiences and lessons learnt. The One Health surveillance activities target a wide range of livestock and wildlife species; further targets are tick and mosquito vectors and environmental samples such as surface water, effluents from farms and abattoirs and sediment and soil samples. Where relevant, the samples collected from these targets will be tested for more than one priority pathogen. While all countries will collect samples from their territory, Italy will also fund the collection and testing of samples in nearby countries in North Africa.

5. Overview of surveillance activities by pathogen and surveillance targets



At the start of the second meeting day, an overview of the surveillance plans was provided in terms of pathogens and surveillance targets. This overview will be completed and shared with MSs as soon as all MSs have provided their surveillance cards to EFSA. As this information is pivotal for EFSA's preparation of the data model, the deadline for submission of the surveillance cards is 22 December 2023.

6. EFSA SIGMA data model

Gabriele Zancanaro presented the structure of the EFSA's data model that will be further tailored before implementation for the One Health surveillance data reporting. It is based on the Standard Sample Description version 2 (SSD2) which has been successfully used in the SIGMA project to collect analytical test result data from, e.g., ASF and AI surveillance. MSs need to report the results of their One Health surveillance targeting animal, environmental and vector samples at single test-result level. A brief overview of the variables included in the data model was provided, highlighting that a detailed, hands-on training on the data model that will be ready in January 2024 will be offered to the data providers of the MSs in spring 2024.

7. EFSA data reporting process

Alexandra Papanikolaou explained the data reporting process that MSs will have to follow when submitting their One Health surveillance data to EFSA's Data Collection Framework (DCF). The data referring to pathogen detection in livestock, wildlife, vectors and environmental samples will be submitted to the DCF. Data regarding vector presence and abundance needs to be submitted to Vectornet. MSs need to nominate data providers who prepare, submit, check and correct, if necessary, the data; in addition, data validators need to be nominated who will coordinate data collection and correction, and accept the validated data. Microstrategy will be used for the steps of data validation for display in the dashboard and of data confirmation/acceptance for the use in reports. The data collection for the One Health surveillance data will open in September 2024, and countries can submit their data as soon as a given sample has been analysed and all relevant information has been gathered.

8. Reporting to HaDEA

Razvan Anistoroaei explained how MSs can fulfil their direct grant reporting obligations to HaDEA. Using the 'Portal Continuous Reporting Tool', the direct grant holders can upload their reports on the One Health surveillance activities in various formats. Technical reports and technical statements must be submitted 18 and 36 months after agreement signature. EFSA will provide the option for MSs to download the surveillance sample data from Microstrategy into a report that can be complemented with additional information and submitted to HaDEA. Links to detailed explanations of the reporting process have been provided in the presentation.

9. Visualisation of data reported to EFSA



Lina Mur presented EFSA's proposals for visualisation of the One Health surveillance data in Microstrategy dashboards. Based on the feedback received from MSs before the meeting, as soon as the submitted data has been validated by MSs, it will be displayed in dashboards that will be only accessible by authorised users from the direct grant holders. Each country will be responsible for the validation and confirmation (acceptance) of their data. Most country representatives in the One Health subgroup confirmed that all users involved in the One Health surveillance data collection (including data providers and data validators) should be able to visualise at NUTS 3 level all data submitted to EFSA's Data Collection Framework by all participating countries. EFSA will send formal data sharing agreements to MSs for signature, that assure that the relevant data privacy protection rules will be adhered to in the visualisation dashboards. Provided that there are not any technical bottlenecks, the data will become visible to all countries the day after submission. Examples of possible visualisations of descriptive data analysis results in tables, graphs and maps were shown. MSs are invited to closely collaborate with EFSA in developing the dashboards by providing their ideas/needs for what should be displayed in November 2023 and by providing feedback on the concrete proposals that EFSA will share in February 2024. The dashboards will be ready by September 2024 when the One Health surveillance data collection framework opens.

10. Report generation by EFSA

Andrea Gervelmeyer explained the different kind of reports of the One Health surveillance data that EFSA will produce. Annually, starting in April 2025 and ending in March 2027, EFSA will prepare descriptive analyses of the reported data. Once during the direct grant period, a risk assessment will be carried out whose outcomes will be used in a re-prioritisation exercise with MSs, ECDC and EC. This activity is scheduled for mid-2025 and the risk assessment and re-prioritisation report will be published in September 2025, to allow HaDEA to amend the direct grant agreements where necessary before the start of the last agreement year 2026. It was highlighted that the data visualisation tool also allows MSs anytime to download validated data in pdf format including set of tables and graphs and some basic text for use in their own reports.

11. Vector surveillance – support for field work

Sofie Dhollander explained in a pre-registered presentation the EU-funded Vectorsnet initiative of EFSA and ECDC, and the support available for the One Health surveillance field work targeting mosquitoes and ticks. In addition to publications of how to organise vector surveillance or to identify mosquitoes, Vectorsnet has also organised face-to-face trainings and webinars. A call for tender for a new project covering the period of 2024-2028 has been launched in Nov 2023. The new project will continue the capacity building activities and MSs have been encouraged to contact members of the Vectorsnet entomological network for support to their One Health surveillance targeting mosquitoes and ticks.

12. Wildlife surveillance - support for field work



Dolores Gavier-Widén, Joaquín Vicente Banos and Ezio Ferroglio presented the EFSA-funded project ENETWILD. They highlighted how to plan wildlife surveillance, how to obtain or collect samples from wildlife species, and indicated relevant reports that provide guidance on how to design sampling protocols. Apps that can be used by citizens, hunters or researchers to report the presence of wildlife species were presented. MSs were advised to contact members of the [ENETWILD](#) consortium for support or/and to join the [European Wildlife Disease Association](#).

13. Use of One Health Surveillance results by ECDC

Tamás Bakonyi provided an outlook on how the One Health surveillance results from animals and the environment could be used by ECDC. He presented the current public health sector surveillance activities for the One Health priority pathogens. In cooperation with EFSA (and the European Environment Agency EEA, if applicable), ECDC could contribute to joint analyses and visualisations of animal, human and environmental surveillance data. Joint assessments of risks for humans and animals could be envisaged. These could support the development of One Health preparedness and response plans and of integrated One Health surveillance systems. It was underlined that the comparability of animal, human and environmental surveillance data will need to be analysed; for example, differences in spatial resolution might exist as human data is reported to ECDC at NUTS3 or at country level.

14. EFSA Living Risk Assessments of cross-border threats

Clazien de Vos presented the Living One Health Risk Assessment (LORA) Tool that is under development by an EFSA-funded consortium. The tool will assess the risk of incursion, extent of spread and impact for a range of livestock and zoonotic diseases, among them those caused by the priority pathogens of the One Health surveillance. The tool considers multiple host species including livestock, companion animals, wildlife and insect vectors; humans are only considered as spill-over host without human-to-human transmission. It was highlighted that the data on pathogen presence generated by MSs through the One Health surveillance could be included in the LORA module on disease occurrence. The risk assessments of the priority pathogens will be carried out by January 2025 and will be used in the One Health surveillance re-prioritisation exercise in mid-2025.

15. Conclusions and take-home messages

Andrea Gervelmeyer thanked all participants and presenters for their active and constructive participation in the meeting. The need to timely share the information about EFSA's data model and reporting deadlines with all national stakeholders was underlined. MSs should identify data providers and data validators and assure that for all samples the complete set of information on the required attributes of the data model is collected and reported. MSs should confirm their agreement to share data at NUTS 3 level within the One Health subgroup. To this end, EFSA will soon send out a data sharing agreement form that should be signed and returned to EFSA. Those MSs which have not yet provided the surveillance cards for the One Health surveillance activities they are planning to carry out under the direct grant should do so before 22 December 2023. MSs were invited to use the opportunity to



shape the data visualisations that will be provided by EFSA's One Health surveillance dashboard and to provide their feedback on the data visualization proposals that will be shared with them by EFSA in February 2024. Finally, the possibility to nominate additional or other representatives for the One Health surveillance subgroup through MSs' Focal Points was explained.

The next meeting of the One Health surveillance subgroup will take place in the fourth quarter of 2024 and will provide the opportunity to exchange on lessons learnt during the first year of One Health surveillance activities.