

EFSA-CVO WORKSHOP, 3 SEP 2025

JOINT PROGRAMMING ON RISK ASSESSMENTS RELATED TO VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES



RECAP FROM LAST WORKSHOP

- Vector-borne diseases (VBDs) are an emerging threat
- MSs are not aware of which VBD risk assessment (RA) neighbouring countries are doing
- General support that it would be useful if EFSA could facilitate collaboration on RA of VBDs among MSs and with EFSA
- Agreed actions:
 - map ongoing RA on VBDs
 - EFSA to explore joint programming on VBDs



NEW MANDATE TO EFSA ON VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

Monitoring



EFSA report Mar 2026



to be updated afterwards

Assessment

VBD inside EU

VBD outside EU

Introduction

Introduction

Spread

Spread

Impact

Impact

Mitigation

EFSA scientific opinion Dec 2026



more detailed assessments afterwards?

Potential to become more efficient in MS-EFSA collaboration on VBDs?



LIST OF 25 DISEASES

1. AHSV
2. Akabane virus
3. *Besnoitia besnoiti*
4. Borreliosis
5. Bovine Ephemeral Fever
6. BTV
7. Cache Valley virus
8. CCHF
9. *Coxiella burnetii* (Q-fever)
10. EEE/ WEE
11. EHDV
12. EIA (Equine infectious anaemia)
13. JEV
14. Leishmaniosis
15. LSDV
16. RVFV
17. Schmallenberg virus
18. Shuni virus
19. St. Louis encephalitis virus
20. Surra (*T. evansi*)
21. *T. vivax*
22. TBE
23. VEE
24. VSV
25. WNV



JOINT PROGRAMMING – WHAT?

The Joint programming aims to **facilitate the optimization of the capacity available in terms of risk assessment around VBDs**

The objectives are:

- build long-term capacities and partnerships for risk assessment of VBDs in the EU
- develop a roadmap of scientific topics that, if addressed, could help in enhancing the support to decision makers when dealing with challenges posed by VBDs
- enhance the coordination of activities in a manner that guarantees resource optimization and increase resilience against VBDs
- address gaps in knowledge relevant to all countries within the same geographical area



HOW TO SETUP JOINT PROGRAMMING?

- October: launch a call to establish a **Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA)**
- Spring: signature of the FPA & start of a 4-year project

Today we present the draft outline of the FPA¹:

- to raise awareness of the upcoming call
- to get MS feedback on what is feasible or not

¹The text at the moment of launching the FPA call can deviate from the draft info available in this presentation.



DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE FPA

Who can apply?

- **Art36 organisations** which are performing risk assessment on VBDs to inform risk managers at the national level
evidence to be provided: statement by the CVO
- **There will 4 lots in the call, representing 4 different areas in Europe** in which there are similar conditions on vector survival and epidemiological situation
 - Northern Europe: Lithuania, Denmark, Latvia, Ireland, Finland, Estonia, Sweden, Norway, Iceland
 - Southern Europe: Spain, Greece, Malta, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia, Portugal, Cyprus
 - Western Europe: Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Austria
 - Eastern Europe: Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Romania(based on <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/4793>)

Organisations could apply to different lots!



DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE FPA

What are the type of competencies needed?

- carrying out (rapid) Risk Assessments in the field of vector-borne diseases
- coordination among the institutions forming the consortium as well as with other MSs in the same geographical area
- coordination with EFSA and the consortia of the 3 other areas

What will be the tasks?

- Define a 4-year roadmap
- Afterwards, EFSA will sign specific agreements based on the roadmap

When will payments be done?

- Indicatively 40% pre-financing at start of each specific agreement
- Upon delivery of interim/final deliverables



DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE FPA

FIRST DELIVERABLE:

Prepare a Roadmap for the specific geographic area (within 5 months after signature of FPA)

- Problem formulation: what are the key topics to be addressed in the next 3-4 years (in consultation with all countries of the same geographical area)
- Define the methodologies, methods and tools to be used
- Identify challenges and blockers
- Describe a roadmap, indicating the time and resources needed for each identified topic
- The draft roadmap should be shared and discussed with the consortia of the other geographical areas, to ensure a consistent approach within the EU and aiming for harmonized approaches and optimization of the resources of the organizations involved

Once the roadmap is delivered, EFSA will use it as a basis to issue specific agreements

(a list of potential tasks is presented in the next slides)



DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE FPA

POTENTIAL DELIVERABLES AFTER DELIVERING THE ROADMAP:

Topics selected from the roadmap will be selected.
A report will be produced for each of them.
The **type of tasks** that can be selected are:

Scientific tasks:

- Rapid, regular or complex risk assessment
- Data analysis: collection, collation and analysis of data, including statistical and mathematical modelling, GIS analysis, trend analysis, etc
- Data management
- Development/enhancement of R-codes or simple R-markdown files
- Development/enhancement of dashboards
- Extensive or systematic literature reviews or review or reports
- Provide ad-hoc scientific and technical advice



DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE FPA

DELIVERABLES:

Dissemination of knowledge

- Webpage design
- Design of a communication strategy
- Webinars

Project coordination and management

- Liaison with the other countries of the same/other geographical areas
- Preparation and attendance of meetings
- Archive the deliverables in a shared workspace

Is there any deliverable missing that would be relevant to a MS?



NEXT STEPS

- Launch call (planned for first week of Oct)
- Webinar to explain the call (shortly after it has been launched)
- Update the Advisory Forum (Oct)
- Signature of the FPA (spring 2026)



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