



**OFFLU strategy assessment: objectives, actions and outcomes (August 2016)**

OFFLU objectives	Activities	Outcomes
<p>To share and offer technical advice, training and veterinary expertise to international organisations and Member Countries to assist in the prevention, diagnosis, surveillance and control of animal influenza</p>	<p>Technical advice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OFFLU experts provided technical assistance in response to HPAI H5N1, H5N6, H5N8, pandemic H1N1 and H7N9 outbreaks</li> <li>- OFFLU biosafety guidelines for handling HPAI, pH1N1 and LPAI H7N9 developed and communicated via the OFFLU web site</li> <li>- Guidelines and Recommendations on avian influenza vaccines and vaccination (Verona, 2007 &amp; Beijing, 2013) and on equine influenza vaccines (updated annually)</li> <li>- Publication on the assessment of national strategies for control of AI with emphasis on vaccines and vaccination collected from 69 countries (Papers published)</li> <li>- OFFLU Strategy document for surveillance and monitoring of influenzas in animals</li> </ul>
	<p>Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Electronic training material posted on OFFLU website</li> <li>- Global OFFLU ring trials conducted for avian influenza labs – Promoted consistency in diagnostic testing among reference, national and regional labs (annual exercise)</li> </ul>
	<p>Veterinary expertise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Established and maintained global avian, swine and equine influenza experts who provided expertise on related influenza issues</li> <li>- OIE and FAO reference centres engaged in OFFLU</li> <li>- Developed diagnostic standards (e.g. Universally usable RNA standard for PCR assays)</li> <li>- Vaccine efficacy projects assisted Indonesia and Egypt</li> <li>- OFFLU experts participated in missions for outbreak investigations as and when needed</li> </ul>

To exchange scientific data and biological materials (including virus strains) within the network, to analyse such data, and to share such information with the wider scientific community	Exchange scientific data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information shared on HPAI H5N1, pandemic H1N1, H7N9 outbreaks etc. for harmonization of diagnostic protocols</li> <li>- OFFLU website Meetings/teleconferences was used as a mechanism for coordination and data exchange</li> <li>- Surveillance and research findings on swine influenza shared annually in OFFLU SIV group meetings and scientific publications</li> </ul>
	Exchange biological materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resolution on sharing of avian influenza materials in the OIE General Session (2008)</li> <li>- OFFLU played an ad hoc role in facilitating sharing (pandemic H1N1 – Chile, H5N1 Indonesia)</li> <li>- FAO payment for shipping samples</li> <li>- Advocacy – OFFLU statement on MTAs and template for MTA developed</li> </ul>
	Analyse data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OFFLU took a lead role in collating, analyzing and communicating data from the animal influenza for pandemic preparedness (participation in WHO VCM)</li> </ul>
	Sharing information with wider scientific community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OFFLU updates and outputs were regularly shared in influenza meetings and symposia</li> <li>- Annual OFFLU technical meetings held at intervals involving the whole OFFLU community</li> <li>- Developed OFFLU website for sharing influenza related news, events, guidelines and scientific information</li> <li>- Global swine influenza surveillance paper published by OFFLU swine influenza virus group</li> <li>- OFFLU SIV group set of slides and poster used by SIV experts at several meetings</li> <li>- OFFLU annual reports</li> <li>- OFFLU statement on use of public available databases</li> </ul>
To collaborate with the WHO on issues relating to the animal-human interface, including pandemic preparedness for early preparation of human vaccine	Human – Animal interface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contributed to the WHO research agenda document</li> <li>- Joint human and animal sector influenza risk assessment activities</li> <li>- OFFLU collaborated with WHO in developing a unified nomenclature system and virus clades for H5N1 HPAI viruses</li> <li>- Participated in PH meetings e.g. CDC influenza network meeting, Arizona 2012</li> <li>- Participated in WHO PIP framework meetings and previously in the WHO IGM</li> </ul>

	<p>Pandemic preparedness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided animal health data to the biannual WHO Vaccine Composition Meetings for pandemic preparedness for past 4 years</li> <li>- Formal relationship established with WHO for animal health contributions to the Vaccine Composition Meetings for pandemic preparedness, and renewed for a second term</li> <li>- The implications for animal health and animal health laboratories on WHO's PIP framework clarified</li> <li>- OFFLU participated in the WHO informal consultation in improving the influenza vaccine virus selection process</li> <li>- Advice on detection and control in animal source to minimise pandemic threat</li> </ul>
<p>To highlight influenza surveillance and research needs, promote their development and coordination</p>	<p>Surveillance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OFFLU surveillance strategy document – for poultry, wild birds, equine, swine</li> <li>- Reviewed and recommended improvements for AI surveillance and epidemiological projects (2005-2009) in Europe, Africa and Asia</li> <li>- SIV group provided guidance on harmonized approaches to surveillance</li> <li>- SIV group developing standardized and harmonized system for SIV nomenclature</li> </ul>
	<p>Research needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OFFLU research agenda document (2010) – poultry, wild birds, swine, equine influenza</li> <li>- OFFLU-STAR-IDAZ consultation to develop a global animal influenza research agenda</li> <li>- Technical activity on research agenda</li> <li>- Participated in development of WHO influenza research agenda</li> <li>- Scientific publications e.g. Animal influenza research needs: protecting humans, animals, food, and economies (influenza and other resp. viruses)</li> <li>- Strategic partnership with STAR-IDAZ</li> </ul>