

# International horse movement in the Asia and Pacific Region

## - The work plan for the WOAHP project-

Susanne Münstermann  
WOAH consultant

18 January 2023



World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health  
Founded as OIE

Organisation  
mondiale  
de la santé  
animale  
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal  
Fundada como OIE



- **The objective of the WOAHA project is to facilitate international horse movement in the Asia and Pacific region**
  - Building on previous work done by WOAHA and its private partners at global level
  - Creating a framework of capacity building for disease prevention and control, laboratory capacities and interactions between Veterinary Services and the private equestrian sector
  - Making use of equestrian events for promotion of the project's outcomes and to serve as examples

## Proposed activities under the expected Outcomes (1)

---

### **1. A regional coordination mechanism for international horse movement between the public and private sector**

- Nomination of a liaison person(s) for each country ✓ ☺ (21/32)
- Establish a list of key national stakeholders (e.g Government and private labs, NF, racing associations, animal welfare NGOs)
- Project to contact the key global stakeholders and inform them about the project (e.g. FEI, IHSC, FEI Group VIII, AEF, HKJC)
- Identify important equestrian events and meetings during 2023 which could be suitable to introduce the project in person or organise a side event (e.g. IHSC General Assembly; Asian Racing Conference Melbourne, 14 – 19.2.23; Asian Games; SEA EF meeting)
- Organise a meeting with the nominated Veterinary Service liaison persons and discuss suggestions for a coordination mechanism for the network (e.g. monthly / quarterly meetings)
- Start the network coordination once the mechanism has been agreed upon by government and private partners

## Proposed activities under the expected Outcomes (2)

---

### **2. A capacity building program on equine diseases, WOAHA concepts and emergency preparedness for emerging equine diseases**

- Carry out a rapid survey among the Veterinary Service liaison persons and the private partners on their priority topics for training courses
- Project to develop a list of trainings proposed to be offered under this project for discussion and selection by WOAHA and the countries. Some topics already proposed:
  - Disease reporting
  - Customs procedures for im- and export of equines,
  - Surveillance (**vector control & surveillance already on offer on 26.1.23**)
  - Risk assessment
  - WOAHA principles: EDFZ, zoning, HHP, self-declaration for disease freedom
  - Vector borne equine diseases
- Identify course developers and offer these trainings



### **3. Assessment of laboratory capacity to diagnose equine diseases and building networks between public and private laboratories**

- Establish a list of laboratories in the region with capacity and specialisation in equine diseases (public and private) through rapid assessment
- Deepen the understanding of the capacity (and lack thereof) through a specific questionnaire survey
- Propose networking, e.g. by inter-laboratory PTs between those labs in the region that have specialised capacity in equine disease diagnostics
- Propose to selected laboratories to apply for international PTs with EU Reference Lab for equine diseases, ANSES
- Offer laboratory training to this network
- Encourage selected 1 or 2 labs to become WOAHP Reference labs for equine diseases (specific disease to be identified)



### 4. **Harmonized import health certificates**

- Follow up on the work done by Veterinary Services with support from WOAHI Regional Office after the HK 2019 Workshop
- Organise a Webinar with Veterinary Services to work on a proposal for a harmonised health certificate
- Discuss the harmonised health certificate with customs authorities
- Liaise with FEI and align proposed harmonised health certificate with FEI regulations
- Present national systems of registration of equines and discuss possibilities of introduction of national equine identification systems accessible to Veterinary Services (Webinar)

## **5. Presentation of project outputs to partners during Regional Workshops /meetings**

- Once tangible project outcomes are available, prepare a “Hongkong 2019 follow up Conference”
- Organise “side events” at suitable equestrian events to present project outcomes and to get public support and “buy-in”
- Encourage and support in-country meetings between Veterinary Services and equestrian sport sector





- Hoping that these proposals are meeting your interest – possibility to provide your input !
- Requires regular and constant exchange between project and liaison persons
- A depository of information collected will be created, accessible to all liaison persons
- Some information related to the 5 expected outcomes will be collected in the following session,
  - This information is anonymous and will only provide us with a general trend
  - Will provide valuable directions for more detailed surveys which will collect information at country level
- We are hopeful that this project will enable us to also meet in person in the course of this year!





Thank you for your attention!



Asian Games, 2018