

WOAH PVS Evaluation of Aquatic Animal Health Services MALAYSIA

Regional Workshop for WOAH Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

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FP AAH Malaysia



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Introduction

Timeline of Malaysia's Aquatic Animal Health Services Evaluation

A chronological journey through the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) PVS Evaluation process for Malaysia's Aquatic Animal Health Services (AAHS) from 2017 to 2025.

PHASE 1: STRATEGIC PLANNING & APPROVALS (2017-2023)

2017



Official Request for OIE PVS

Malaysia formally requested PVS tools for aquatic animal management to align with international standards.

2023



Confirmation of Regional Support

The RRAP issued email confirmation supporting the mission request in April 2023.



DoF Agreement to Proceed

The Department of Fisheries (DoF) Malaysia formally agreed to move forward with the PVS evaluation.

PHASE 2: EVALUATION & FINALISATION (2024-2025)

2024



On-site WOA Evaluation

WOAH experts conducted a comprehensive field evaluation in Malaysia from 14-25 October 2024.

Dr Pablo Belmar Kretschmann
Dr Nikša Barišić
Dr Larry Hammel
Dr Thitiwan Patanasatienkul

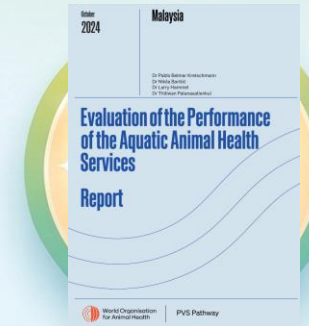
WOAH Experts Team



Technical Coordination & Follow-up

Direct communication between WOAH experts and the Person-In-Charge (PIC) occurred throughout December 2024.

2025



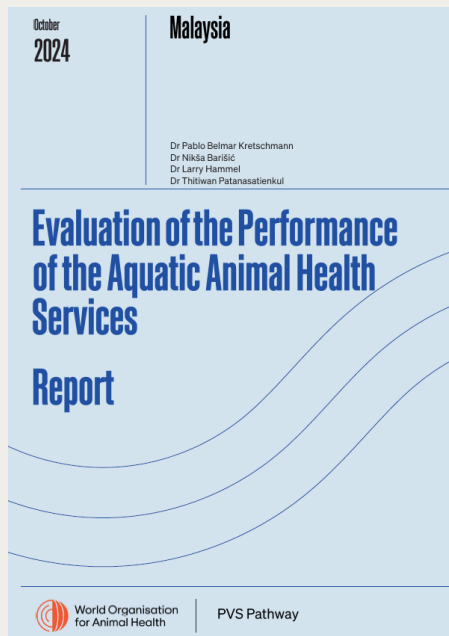
Final AAHS Evaluation Report

The process concludes with the publication of the PVS Aquatic Animal Health Services report in February 2025.



Objective of this presentation:

To share Malaysia's experience with the Aquatic PVS, including challenges, outcome and impact of the activity since 2023.





Why PVS?

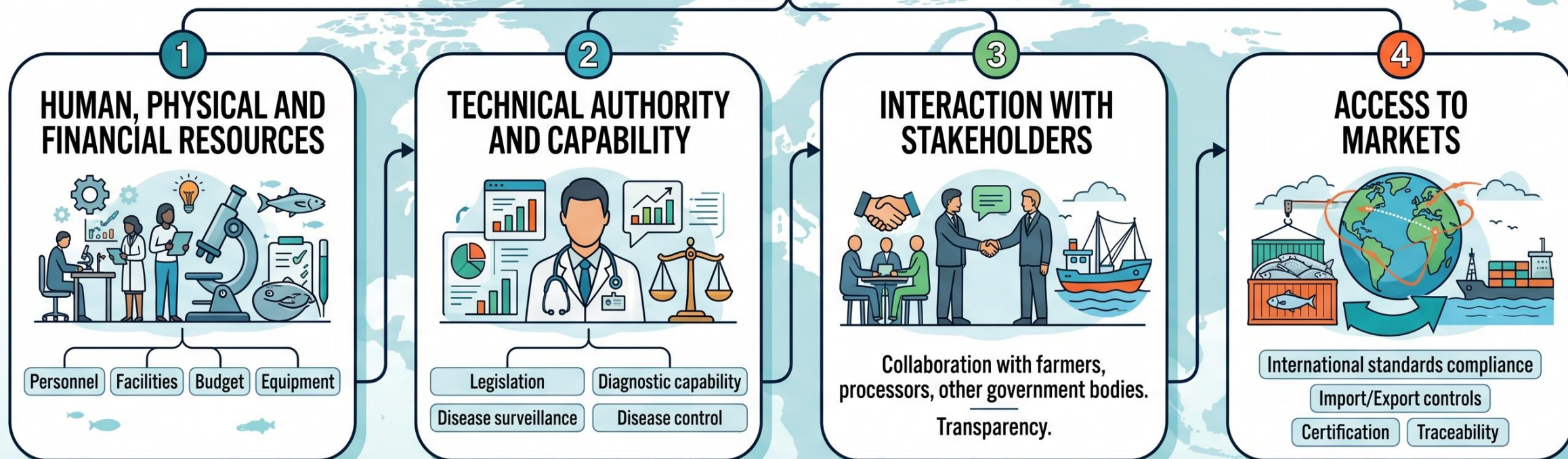
To identify strengths, gaps, and recommendations in compliance with the criteria of the WOA Aquatic Animal Health Code.

PVS Aquatic Animal Health Evaluation will support evidence-based decision-making and strategic planning to strengthen the national aquatic animal health system in Malaysia according to 4 pillars of evaluation.

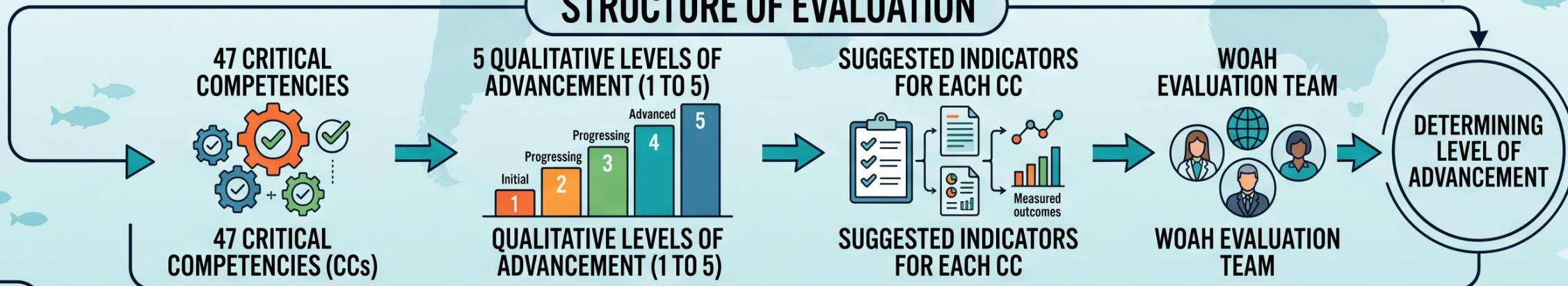




WOAH PVS TOOL - AQUATIC: FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENTS

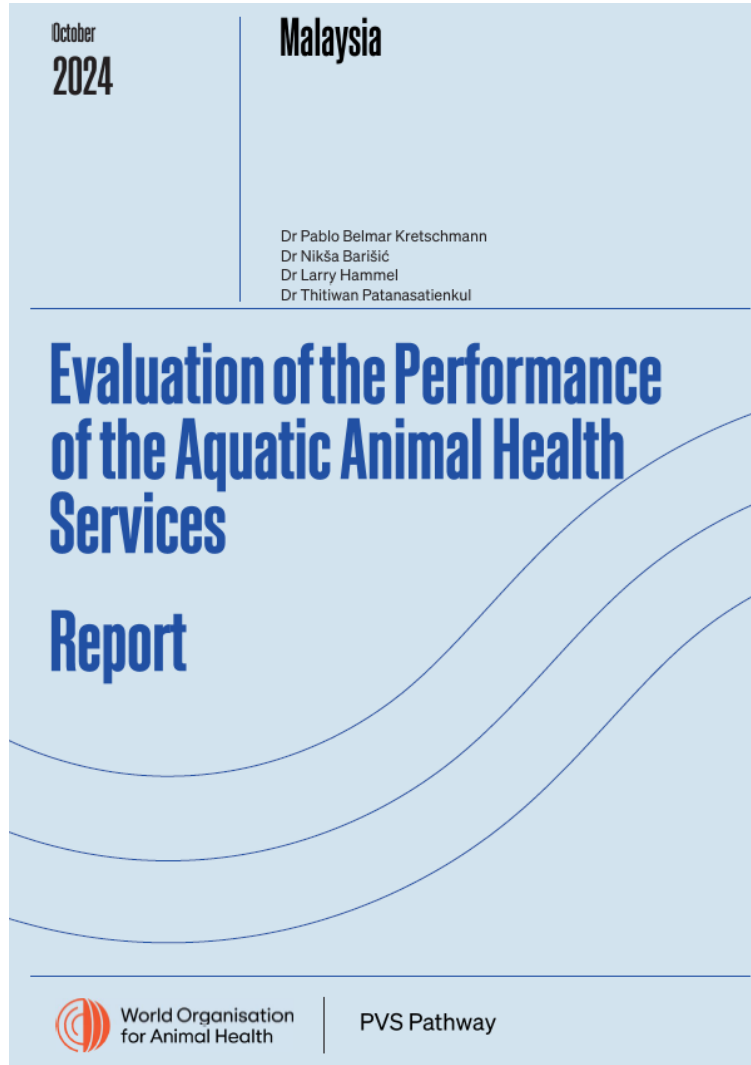


STRUCTURE OF EVALUATION





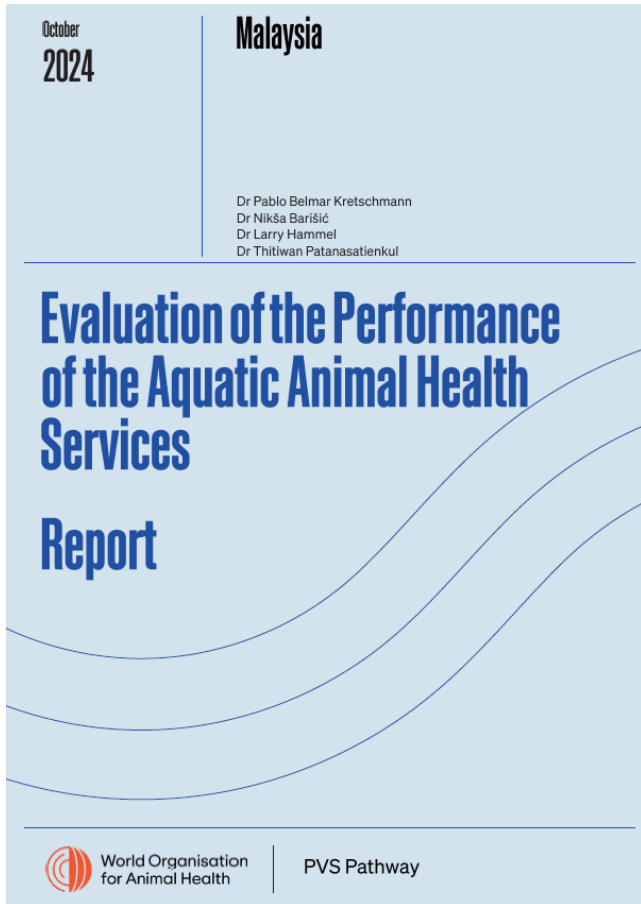
Experiences



- Develop robust emergency response framework
- Broaden engagement with small-scale producers and diversify partnerships through series of interview sessions.
- Previous focal point and Biosecurity staff gained exposure to how external parties conduct fish health assessments, which are benchmarked against Malaysia's aquatic animal health capabilities across **47 Critical Competencies in the 4 main pillars**
- The decline in operational budget forces biosecurity division to curtail field surveillance and limits laboratory resource replenishment



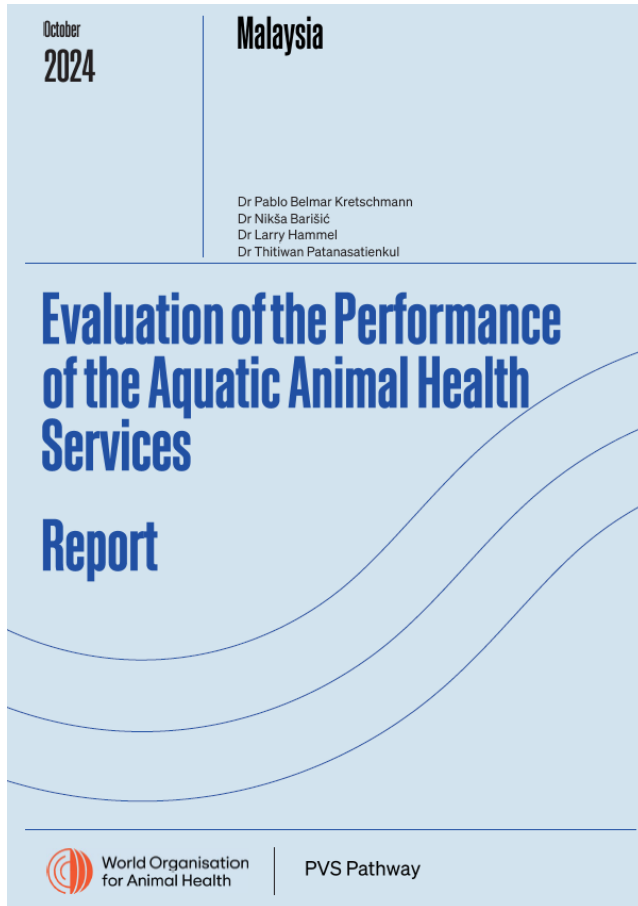
Challenges



- Limited knowledge of private/farmed veterinarians regarding aquatic animal health. This gap impacts the quality of advice provided at the fish farm level. Need to develop a formal framework to regulate qualified AAH professionals including the veterinary based qualification.
- To follow all the recommendations as it may involve **government policies and other rules** and regulations, especially in relations to staffing (e.g: Capability Development vs. Staff Turnover)
- To effectively manage the AAH since involving several departments even though under same ministry [DOF (management); NaFish (R&D) & MAQIS (entry/exit point)]
- Budget constraints :
 - full surveillance throughout countries and listed diseases
 - Maintenance of facilities and human resources in both AAH R&D and management



Outcome / impacts



- Revisit on the documents (NFHS, contingency planning etc)
- The biosecurity division successfully secured an increased 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK13) budget for AAH operations compared to the previous five-year period
- To expand fish health surveillance programs under 13th MP compared to 12th
- Allocated dedicated funding to maintain and upgrade diagnostic laboratories facilities including High-Value Laboratory Instruments and Equipment within the biosecurity division.
- Strengthen domestic market legislation, improve traceability compliance, and expand certification programs to create disease-free zones.
- Previous focal point gained opportunities to join the PVS team as an expert trainee during the PVS evaluation of AAHS in Timor-Leste

Thank you

- WOAH
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security Malaysia
- Dr. Kua Beng Chu (previous FP)
- Biosecurity division, Putrajaya

