OFFLU Applied Epidemiology Technical Working Group work plan

Tentative work plan

The work plan including prioritisation (low=L; medium=M; high=H) will serve as broad guidance. It will be adjusted and updated over time by the OFFLU AETWG, and it is not expected that all items listed below will be covered.

Risk assessment and modelling

Task	Priority (L/M/H)	Timeline
1) Support, on request, national, subnational, regional and global risk assessments (RA) through the following activities:		
a) Contribute to development of frameworks for estimating risks	H	1 – 3 yr
b) Facilitate/collate case studies of how different RA tools and guidelines have been used in countries	L	1 – 3 yr
2) Use and support further development of the EFSA/FAO FLURISK model	M	1 – 3 yr
3) Review risk assessments produced by FAO, upon request	H	1 – 3 yr

Surveillance

Task	Priority (L/M/H)	Timeline (1yr/3yr)
1) Contribute to provision of guidance on how to optimise the effectiveness of AI surveillance in domestic poultry in terms of cost and sensitivity (together with OFFLU Socio-Economics TA)	L	1 – 3 yr
2) Support the development of guidance for meaningfully integrating different surveillance data types into a surveillance system, including molecular and wild bird surveillance	M	1 – 3 yr
3) Support the development of minimum data and metadata requirements so that the risk of inappropriate use or interpretation of data is minimised	M	1 – 3 yr
4) Contribute to provision of guidance on wild bird AI surveillance and its integration into AI surveillance systems (in collaboration with OFFLU Wildlife Technical Activity, FAO and OIE)	L	1 – 3 yr
5) Review and update surveillance guidelines produced by OFFLU, OIE and FAO, on request	M	1 – 3 yr

Data management and visual analysis tools

Task	Priority (L/M/H)	Timeline (1yr/3yr)
1) Advocate for data exchange between WAHIS and EMPRES-i	M	1 – 3 yr
2) Advocate for continued development and maintenance of global databases on livestock population density	M	1 – 3 yr
3) Contribute towards consolidation of existing tools and databases – potentially develop an inventory	L	1 – 3 yr
4) Advocate for user interface designs for visual analysis tools which make them accessible to a wider range of users	L	1 – 3 yr

Data collection

Task	Priority (L/M/H)	Timeline (1yr/3yr)
1) Develop checklist of data requirements for risk assessment and recommendations for how to collect it and how to optimise data quality	M	1 – 3 yr
2) Produce advice and usage guidance for countries on data collection methods, tools and data quality protocols	M	1 – 3 yr
3) Identify new or currently underutilized data types suitable for epidemiological and molecular analysis (e.g. phylogeography; antigenic cartography) and contribute to development of guidance in relation to data format and standardisation	M	1 – 3 yr
4) Contribute to recommendations for data collection in relation to value chain mapping and analysis (together with OFFLU Socio-Economics Technical Activity)	M	1 – 3 yr
5) Provide, on request, recommendations to international or regional organizations and scientific community on:		
a) Data gaps and investment needs	M	1 – 3 yr
b) Collection and storage of data that is currently not managed in a coordinated way (e.g. results from infection and other biological studies [e.g., receptor binding, pH-dependent fusion activity etc.])	L	1 – 3 yr
c) The potential and utility of novel data collection technologies (e.g. social media data, location tracking, mobile phone records)	M	1 – 3 yr

Risk management

Task	Priority (L/M/H)	Timeline (1yr/3yr)
1) Advocate the need for taking the role of social science (economics, anthropology etc.) into account when it comes to development of effective control and prevention strategies (work with OFFLU Socio-Economics Technical Activity)	H	1 – 3 yr
2) Consider exploring analysis tools such as multi-criteria decision analysis which allow bringing together epidemiological and socio-economic factors into a joint analytical framework for selecting optimal control methods	L	1 – 3 yr

Task	Priority (L/M/H)	Timeline (1yr/3yr)
3) Review and evaluate AI control strategies	M	1 – 3 yr
4) Provide recommendations on farm biosecurity risk management	M	1 – 3 yr
5) Provide guidance for conducting outbreak investigations, including data collection	H	1 – 3 yr

Membership

Name	Skill	Country / Organisation	E-mail address
Dirk Pfeiffer (Chair)	Risk assessment; Risk modelling (statistical); Risk management	CityU, Hong Kong; RVC, UK	dirk.pfeiffer@cityu.edu.hk pfeiffer@rvc.ac.uk
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