



## **OFFLU Applied Epidemiology Technical Activity**

### **Terms of Reference:**

#### **Purpose / role of the Technical Activity**

The purpose of the OFFLU Applied Epidemiology Technical Activity is to provide guidance and advice to stakeholders at sub-national, national, regional and global level in relation to avian influenza (AI) risk assessment and management.

The scientific aims of the OFFLU applied epidemiology technical activity are to contribute to the:

1. Identification of the pathways leading to the introduction, spread and maintenance of relevant avian influenza viruses in different eco-social system settings and estimate the risks associated with these pathways, within the context of structured risk assessments
2. Development of appropriate risk management options for relevant avian influenza viruses in different eco-social system settings, including the design of surveillance systems and their components

#### **Working methods**

The activities of the OFFLU epidemiology technical activity will be operated mainly through tele-conferencing or email communications and when needed face-to-face meetings to be organised based of funds availability. .

When appropriate, some activities of the technical activity will be delivered by sub-technical activities which may include additional members with relevant expertise. Where the work includes the animal-human interface, representatives from WHO, or suitably qualified public health scientists shall be included.

Members of the technical activity will make their services available for short virtual meetings/teleconferences as a pro bono public contribution.

The meetings and other activities of the group will be coordinated by the Chair with the support of the OFFLU Secretariat and FAO focal point for this Technical Activity.

Notes from each meeting will be produced by the FAO focal point for this TA and OFFLU Secretariat.

### **Outputs, data management and coordination**

Data gathered, processed and analysed by the OFFLU epidemiology technical activity as part of OFFLU activities will be made available to countries and the scientific community.

Activities should have defined objectives and measurable outputs with an associated timeframe for delivery.

Outputs may take the form of advice, recommendations, opinion, reports or scientific publications.

The Technical Working Group aims to publish outputs of technical activities in peer-reviewed scientific journals and to present findings at scientific conferences.

The activities of the OFFLU epidemiology technical activity and other OFFLU Technical Activities will be coordinated to avoid duplication and facilitate synergies. This will also include collaboration and data exchange between the different OFFLU Technical Activities.