



AGRICONCONSULTING EUROPE SA

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Regional action on animal disease eradication in the Western Balkans (ADEWB) Project

Workshop:

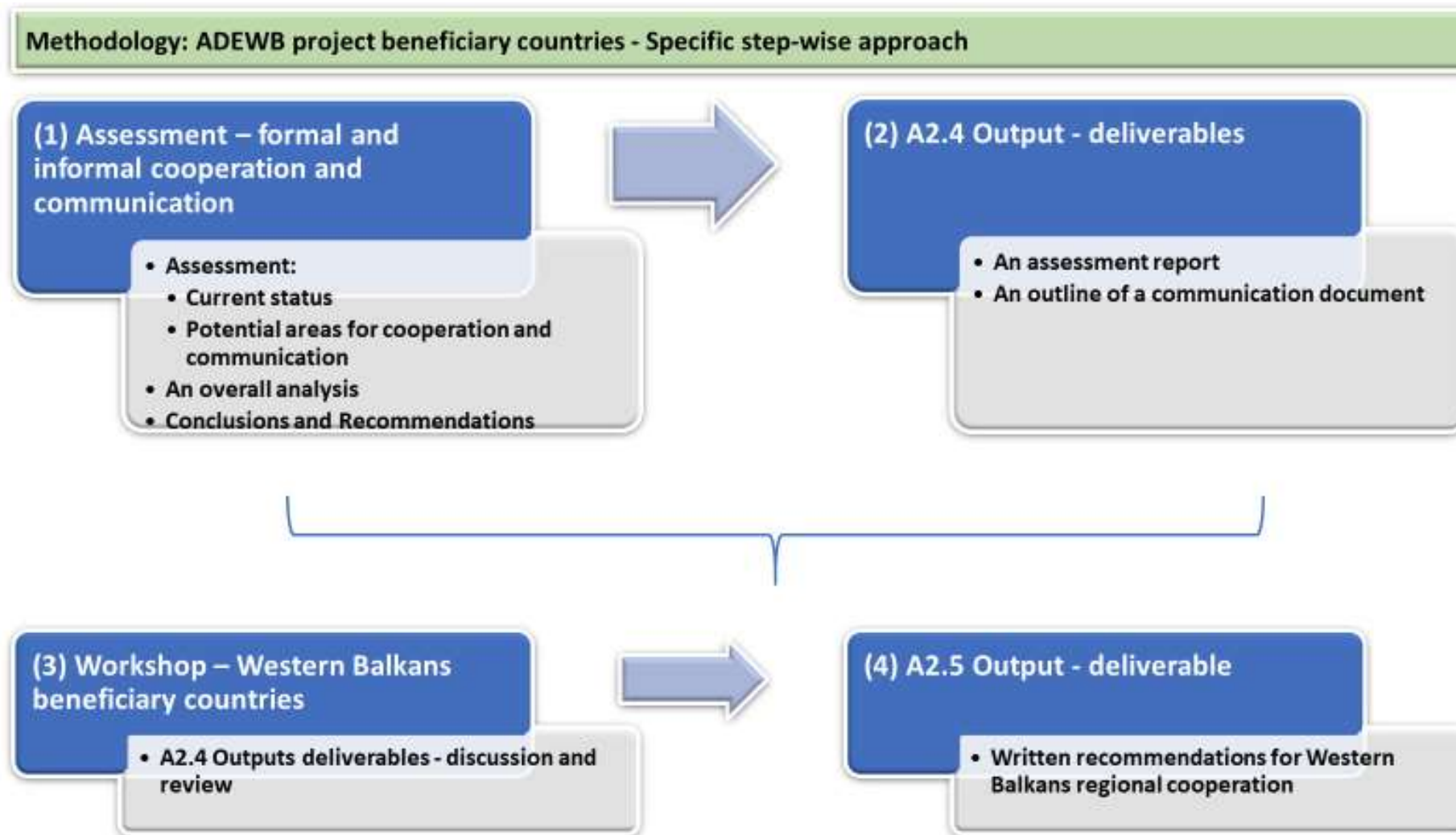
**REGIONAL APPROACH IN CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY DISEASES, COOPERATION,
COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES**

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Regional cooperation and communication – Assessment of the current practices



Regional cooperation and communication – Workshop Objectives

Exploring potential for Enhanced Regional approach

- Assessment of the current situation
- Enhanced multi country cooperation
- Protocol for multi country cooperation and communication

Regional cooperation and communication – Assessment of the current practices

• Current status

- European Commission reports
- Cooperation and communication:
 - The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
 - European Commission (EC)
 - European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
- Relevant ADEWB project outputs:
 - Regional Laboratory networks
 - Regional Bluetongue Strategy
 - Regional Rabies Strategy
 - Regional Strategies for other targeted TADs

EU funded programmes (e.g. IPA)

- Emergency times
 - Immediate notifications
 - Follow-up notifications
- Non-emergency times
 - Membership (i.e. OIE)
 - Active participation at various OIE, EC and EFSA initiatives

EC funded regional programme in Western Balkan

Regional cooperation and communication – Assessment of the current practices

Engagement in Regional initiatives									
ADEWB project beneficiary countries	Regional collaboration and communication								
	EC - Rabies Oral Vaccination	EC TAIEX	FAO/OIE GF TADS for Europe (e.g. LSD)	FAO REU & EuFMD South East Europe	EFSA SIGMA project	EU – ADEWB project	BT joint collaboration	Collaboration with EC on LSD vaccination	Bi-lateral – veterinary services cooperation
Albania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Kosovo*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	
Montenegro	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Macedonia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
The Republic of Serbia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Kosovo* - This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

Regional cooperation and communication – Assessment of the current practices

Interviews with ADEWB project beneficiary countries

- Interviews held (period: May – June 2021)
- Interviews guided by a questionnaire:
 - Strategic and Policy Framework
 - National legislation and strategies/strategic action plans
 - International standards and compliance
 - EC Chapter 12 (Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy)
 - Technical Framework
 - Preparedness (non-emergency times)
 - Border protection
 - Prevention
 - Detection
 - Response (emergency times)
 - Recovery (post emergency times)



All ADEWB project beneficiary countries:

- **Took part in the interviews**
- **Demonstrated high level of cooperation with the ADEWB project**

Regional cooperation and communication – Assessment of the current practices

Key Conclusions:

ADEWB project beneficiary countries:

- Similar challenges – significant potential for sharing experience and knowledge
- Institutional reforms and development and availability of relevant documentation
- Identified potentials and demonstrated high level of willingness for regional cooperation and collaboration in prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses
 - Recognised opportunities to explore possibilities for regional synergies, networks and expertise
 - Recognised potential for increasing visibility and credibility of veterinary services nationally, regionally and internationally

Regional cooperation and communication – Assessment of the current practices

Recommendations:

ADEWB project beneficiary countries should:

- Continue with adoption of the principles of regional cooperation and communication as promoted by the best practice (i.e. OIE, EU – EC and EFSA)
- Consider a regional ownership and approach to prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses by:
 - **Establishing a joint Western Balkan Chief Veterinary Officers Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication through:**
 - Setting the principles for exchange of information
 - Defining key priority Strategic and Policy areas and Technical areas that meets actual needs and demands

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 1:

Set up a WB CVOs
Regional Forum

Step 2:

Establish an agreed
process

Step 3:

Determine regular and
ad-hoc mechanisms

Step 4:

Management and
Timelines

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 1:

Set up a WB CVOs Regional Forum

1. Defining Scope: (WB CVOs Regional Forum)

Strategic

Technical

2. Defining operational mechanisms: (WB CVOs Regional Forum)

Cooperation

Communication

3. Key Implementation Areas with focus on: (Nominated Country Coordinators Technical Group)

Capability

Capacity

Resources

Training &
Simulation

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 1:

Set up a WB CVOs Regional Forum

The ADEWB project beneficiary countries regional cooperation and communication (an example only)

Proposed structure	Prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses
1. Strategic and Policy (high level decision-making) level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief Veterinary Officers:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Agree and establish an ADEWB project beneficiary countries Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication,○ Set regional priorities by considering potential areas related to Strategic and Policy Framework and Technical Framework (i.e. Preparedness, Response and Recovery),○ Agree/initiate core implementation mechanisms,○ Oversee and review implementation,○ Oversee liaison with international initiatives (OIE, FAO) and funding donors (EU)
1. Technical (operational) level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nominated Country Coordinators Technical Group:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Establish a joint coordination framework,○ Coordination of an action plan with focus on identified key priority areas related to capability, capacity, resources and training and simulation, including implementation and reporting,○ On-going review and proposing recommendations and updates.

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 2:
Establish an agreed process

The ADEWB project beneficiary countries - Process for Regional cooperation and communication (An example only)

The process	Prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses
1. Determine the scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify past and ongoing regional activities and their key focus areas,Identify challenges,
2. Agree main objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify context for common objectives of interest for regional cooperation and communication related to prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses, and/or other areas as needed,Identify communication mechanisms and their implementation,
3. Agree an action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Define key priorities of interest and a timeline,Identify implementation options and mechanisms,
4. Ensure implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Carry out implementation of an agreed action plan,
5. Monitor an action plan and assess the impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hold the regional forum's virtual and in-person meetings,Review progress, timelines and whether the objectives, key priorities and implementation activities are still relevant,
6. Review an action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adjust action plan as required.

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 2:
Establish an agreed process

Potential common objectives for the ADEWB project beneficiary countries regional cooperation and communication (An example only)					
Context	Key Priority Areas				
	Border control (pre-border, border, post-border quarantine)	Diseases - introduced and endemic	Anti-microbial resistance	Compartments & Zoning	Exports
Key Requirements and Cooperation mechanisms	Evidence & Data & Documents and publications, Cross-border collaboration, Laboratory networks & Legislation, Strategies and Action Plans Contingency Plans, Vaccination plans/programmes, Manuals, SOPs, Templates, Guidelines				
	Rotational chair, virtual meetings, in person-meetings, invited observers, Capability & Training, Simulation exercises, Study visits, Supporting tools				

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 2:

Establish an agreed process

The ADEWB project beneficiary countries - Identifying potential for regional cooperation and communication

Areas	Interviews: Identified specific aspects of potential interest
I. Strategic and Policy framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Animal Health Strategy and Action Plans,• Exchange of experiences related to OIE PVS Evaluation, Joint WHO/OIE External evaluation,• Availability of regional FAO trainings in good emergency management practices (i.e. GEMP),• Intra-institutional linkages within the government departments,• Inter-institutional linkages with other government departments,• Mapping and engagement with stakeholders' networks,

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 2:

Establish an agreed process

The ADEWB project beneficiary countries - Identifying potential for regional cooperation and communication

Areas	Interviews: Identified specific aspects of potential interest
II. Technical areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PREPAREDNESS<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BORDER PROTECTION• PREVENTION• DETECTION• RESPONSE• RECOVERY

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 3:

Determine regular and
ad-hoc mechanisms

- Rotating Chair and Deputy Chair
- Regular six-monthly meetings
- Ad-hoc meetings as agreed
- Standardised Agenda and Meeting templates

Regional cooperation and communication – Enhanced multi country cooperation

Process for establishing a WB CVOs Regional Forum for Cooperation and Communication

Step 4: Management and Timelines

- **Rotating Chair invitation outlining:**
 - A meeting date, time, and a venue (either virtual or physical),
 - A meeting Agenda outlining objectives and expected outputs.
- **Meeting Minutes outlining:**
 - Agreed actions – responsibilities, mechanisms and agreed timelines,
 - A next rotating Chair and Deputy Chair

Regional cooperation and communication – Protocol for multi country cooperation and communication

Establish Regional Action Plan



Activity	Lead WB country	Context/Description	Timeline
Draft WB Regional Action Plan for cooperation and communication	A selected WB country with support from ADEWB project and all other WB countries	To provide WB countries with information on preferred solutions to regional cooperation and communication	1 year following the 1 st Forum's meeting
Implementation	All WB countries	To implement agreed regional Action Plan for cooperation and communication	Regular Six-monthly Forum's consultations and review, and ad-hoc consultations as required
Publication	All WB countries veterinary services through their dedicated websites	To inform political structures, international organisations and donors and public	1 month following the Forum's approval of the WB Regional Action Plan for cooperation and communication

Regional cooperation and communication – Protocol for multi country cooperation and communication

The WB CVOs Regional Forum Committee composition

The WB CVOs Regional
Forum Committee

The WB CVOs Forum Committee:

- CVO of Albanian veterinary service
- CVO of Bosnia and Herzegovina veterinary service
- CVO of Kosovo*¹ veterinary service
- CVO of North Macedonia veterinary service
- CVO of Montenegro veterinary service
- CVO of the Republic of Serbia veterinary service

Regional cooperation and communication – Protocol for multi country cooperation and communication

The WB CVOs Regional Forum Committee

The WB CVOs Regional
Forum Committee

- The Committee's Roles and Responsibilities
- Rotational Chair and Deputy Chair
- Nominated National Country Technical Coordinators
- Chair, Co-Chair and WB country participants roles and responsibilities

Regional cooperation and communication – Protocol for multi country cooperation and communication

The WB CVOs Regional Forum Committee

Organisation of the meetings

- Frequency
- Agenda and Meeting Templates
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Media outputs



Thank you for your attention



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Balkans