Evaluation for action
FAO Surveillance Evaluation Tool (SET)

SET in Action
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What SET does
- Evaluate animal disease surveillance capacities
- Develop action plans for improvement
- Coordinate efforts at regional levels
- Follow-up evaluations to assess progress

What SET provides
- Rapid identification of strengths and weaknesses
- Comparative and progress assessments
- Graphical representation of surveillance status
- Guidance for capacity-building projects on surveillance

Example SET output

1 Central institutional organization
2 Field institutional organization
3 Intersectoral collaborations
4 Lab – Operational aspects
5 Lab – Technical aspects
6 Lab – Analytical aspects
7 Objectives and context of surveillance
8 Surveillance data collection
9 Surveillance procedures
10 Animal health investigation
11 Risk assessment
12 Workforce management
13 Training
14 Information system
15 Data processing and exploitation
16 Internal communication
17 External communication and resources
18 Internal evaluation
19 External evaluation

Original assessment shows deficiencies in communication
Implementation of a communication and collaboration plan reveals progress on output
SET identifies and prioritizes surveillance weaknesses, and brings stakeholders together to develop action plans of high impact low cost improvements

Increasing surveillance capacities prevents diseases from spreading at source, a crucial step in pandemic prevention

What SET has found

- Implementation of One Health Platforms are underway, but are not yet operational at the field level
- Field Epidemiology Training Programmes are reinforcing local epidemiology capacity, but veterinary trainings are lacking
- Real-time reporting is not carried out in most cases
- Zoonotic diseases have been prioritized, but current animal surveillance strategies are inadequate
- Active surveillance is rare. Where passive surveillance plans exist, performance indicators are not used
- Majority of surveillance efforts are unsustainable as they function on project-based funds
- Limited capacity to carry out sustainable field operations including sampling

SET roadmap

Great improvements at the central level and we should maintain our efforts to operationalize the field”

Dr. Mamadou Diallo, FAO regional livestock officer, Senegal

Next steps: Create sustainability

1. Formalization of protocols, procedures for passive surveillance and communications
2. Build capacity for operational field activities including sampling, real-time reporting and joint response teams
3. Regional coordination of surveillance activities
4. Transfer ownership of surveillance activities to national governments while providing policy support