UTF/077/ZAM: Technical Assistance to the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project (ZAEDP)

Session 3
Checklist 10
Validation and quality assurance

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Training Course on Development of an Active Surveillance for Epizootic ulcerative syndrome (EUS) and Tilapia lake virus (TiLV) using the FAO 12-point surveillance checklist (for non –specialist) and its implementation

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10	**Validation and quality assurance**	**Done by statistical estimation of the level of confidence (Se of surveillance program)** **Done by pilot trial** **Done by expert/external evaluation (peer-review)** **Audit and corrective measures**

- **Validation** is the process that determines the fitness of an surveillance system, which has been properly developed, optimised and standardised for a specific and defined objective.
- Overestimation or underestimation of parameters of interests were most common problem in different surveillance.
- We need validation of surveillance to confirm its scientific value, confidence in system and its compliance with international standards.
- This step is done throughout the whole process from the design until the actual implementation.
- The surveillance design and implementation plan might be validated by both data or test validation, pilot studies, external evaluation and peer review evaluation by experts and other relevant project proponents.

Validation

- Done by statistical estimation of the level of confidence (Se of surveillance program)
- Done by pilot trial
- Done by expert/external evaluation

Quality assurance

- Surveillance should incorporate the principles of quality assurance and be subjected to periodic auditing to ensure that all components of the system function and provide verifiable documentation of procedures and basic checks to detect significant deviations of procedures from those documented in the design.
- Administrative and procedural activities need to be done in order to avoid problems and if problems or mistakes occur, corrective measures can be introduced.
- These will guarantee good quality implementation of the surveillance plan

Quality assurance

- Included in surveillance program
- Audit and corrective measures identified and documented

Example of EUS/TiLV surveillance QA

- national surveillance team (NST) established;
- training and education of NST on EUS pathogen biology, pathology, diagnostics and surveillance;
- data collection and a questionnaire described and explained clearly and common understanding achieved;
- diagnostic laboratory accredited in line with ISO 17025, if possible; trained field and laboratory personnel;
- a clear standard operating procedures developed and used during implementation,
- aseptic technique procedures for minimizing contamination from potential areas of sample collection developed and made clear to the sampling teams;
- sampling teams closely supervised;
- and a pilot survey will be conducted as a sampling exercise.

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Thank you for your attention