



EASVO Strategy 2022-2025

Version 6 of the Document –
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Introduction

EASVO's vision is "Ensuring the well-being of humans and animals" in support of the FVE's mission to enhance animal health, animal welfare, public health and the protection of the environment through the work of the veterinary profession.

We live in a rapidly changing world where people and animals are living closely together and are more interconnected than ever. They can travel more rapidly between countries and continents, than the incubation period of the pathogens they may carry. We face challenges and inequalities on a global scale, leading to crises developing at an overwhelming pace, including new diseases, wars, as well as droughts and flooding.

State Veterinary Officers, united in EASVO, are at the centre of this world and protect the health, welfare and well-being of humans, animals and the environment alike through a preventative approach. This is achieved by ensuring the safety of the whole production chain of food and feed, preventing or containing animal diseases and zoonosis, verifying the protection of animals from unnecessary suffering, and supporting sustainable agriculture, all in line with the principles of **"One Health" and "One Welfare" and "One World"**.

EASVO was founded in 1980 and represents Veterinary Inspectors and Official Veterinarians, most of whom are employed by Competent Authorities within State Veterinary Services in European Countries. Our members specialise in one or more disciplines to deliver this role (e.g., epidemiology, animal welfare and ethics, transboundary diseases, food and feed safety through the delivery of Official Controls). However, attraction and retention of young colleagues is a continuing challenge, exacerbated by the workforce shortages in other sections of the profession. This means that paying attention to the well-being of our profession, both physical and mental, is vitally important in delivering our mission.

Strategic planning is a prerequisite for preparedness through a One Health approach within multidisciplinary and multisectoral teams, which is at the core of the activities of official veterinarians. Contingency planning and exercises for emergencies at the human-animal-environment interface are delivered under the responsibility of official veterinarians. The Tripartite of the FAO, WAOH and WHO, has published their [Guide](#) to cover prevention, preparedness, detection and response to zoonotic threats at the animal-human-environment interface. EASVO also aims to contribute to creating a regulatory environment with the flexibility to respond to other health threats (e.g., antimicrobial resistance and food safety).

This strategy document will guide EASVO's work during the period 2023-25. It is the first-ever EASVO strategy and we are also taking the opportunity to look back on the many achievements in recent years in terms of positive impact on legislation since the time of drafting the early "Hygiene Package" preparatory documents and releasing of position papers. Throughout this document, we seek to turn our challenges into opportunities.

Our Members

EASVO is a section of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe. It gathers national associations of State Veterinarians Organisations (SVO) and/or Delegates representing SVOs in national veterinary associations. Today EASVO has 17 member organisations and two observer members and represents veterinarians working for governmental competent authorities from all over Europe.

The following associations are currently members of EASVO:

- Austria: Österreichischer Verband der Amtstierärztinnen und Amtstierärzte (ÖVA)
- Czech Republic: Komora veterinárních lékařů České
- Denmark: Den Danske Dyrlægeforening (DDD)
- Finland: Suomen Eläinlääkäriliitto (SELL)
- France: Syndicat National des Vétérinaires de l'Administration (SNVIA)
- Germany: Bundesverband beamteter Tierärzte (BbT)
- Iceland: Icelandic Veterinary Association (DYR)
- Ireland: Veterinary Officers' Association (VOA)
- Italy: Sindacato Italiano Veterinari Medicina Pubblica (SIVeMP)
- Netherlands: Koninklijke Nederlandse Maatschappij voor Diergeneeskunde (KNMvD)
- Norway: Den Norske Veterinærforening (DNV)
- Poland: Krajowa Izba Lekarsko-Weterynaryjna (KIL-W)
- Portugal: Ordem dos Médicos Veterinários (OMV)
- Romania: Federation of the trade Unions of Veterinarians in Romania (FSVR)
- Spain: Consejo General de Colegios Veterinarios de España (CGCVE)
- Switzerland: Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Tierärzte/Société des Vétérinaires Suisses (GST/SVS)
- United Kingdom: Association of Government Veterinarians (AGV)

Observer members to EASVO are Bulgaria and Sweden.

Our board for 2021-2023 is:

President: Jane Clark (UK)

Senior Vice President: Romano Zilli (IT)

Vice President: Mark McCarthy (IE)

Secretary General: Ole-Herman Tronerud (NO)

Treasurer: Cornelia Rossi-Broy (DE)

Auditor: Otto Maissen (CH)

Our Mission

EASVO's mission is:

- To promote the role of veterinarians in delivering official tasks on behalf of competent authorities, to the benefit of veterinary public health, public health, animal welfare, the environment and fair trade
- To support policymakers in drafting science and evidence-based policies and regulations
- To advise on the performance of official tasks according to the best practice and multidisciplinary principles (e.g. One Health; Farm to Fork, Green Deal)

Article 2 in the EASVO statutes lay down the aims and objectives of the Association:

2.1 To promote, preserve and protect the proper ethical standards and professional interests of Veterinarians directly employed by the National or Regional Governments of European countries (State Veterinary Officers).

2.2 To represent the views of State Veterinary Officers to the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE), to the institutions of the European Union, National and Regional governments and other organisations.

2.3 To promote professional and fraternal relations between State Veterinary Officers in different countries.

Our Vision

“Ensuring the well-being of humans and animals”

EASVO aims to balance the professional interests of our important part of the veterinary profession engaged in delivering on behalf of the Competent Authorities, applying a sound scientific evidence-based approach to policy-making.

Our Strategy

EASVO will continue to deliver its vision goals by pursuing our new strategy. We have therefore agreed to prioritise three themes to take this forward, each with key objectives and related SMART Action Points for the next three years.

1. Healthy animals – linked to FVEs “PROMOTING ONE HEALTH, ONE WELFARE AND SUSTAINABILITY”

1.1 Importance of the topic

Societal expectations regarding animal husbandry, and their health and welfare are increasing but the cost-of-living crisis, including energy, feed and labour costs have all hit society as a whole and farmers and food business operators are all under immense pressure. Official veterinarians are at the centre of these conflicting positions with their mandate to protect the health and welfare of animals while delivering essential public health outcomes.

EASVO will always use an evidence-based approach when taking positions on initiatives (e.g. EU legislation) and will monitor international initiatives impacting the role of the official veterinarians, contributing to sustainable livestock production and delivering through the lens of “One Health/One Welfare/One World”. Our advocacy for Animal Welfare is vital to our mission.

1.2 Achievements

- A delegate representing EASVO in the FVE’s Food Safety and Sustainability and Animal Welfare Working Groups
- Contributing to the WOAH long-distance transport workshop
- Contributing to the drafting of FVE position papers and publishing them on the EASVO website

1.3 EASVO objectives

- EASVO will contribute to the drafting of FVE position papers and support legislative development to deliver practical and deliverable regulations, to lobby for a harmonised and consistent interpretation, and avoid unintended consequences or breakdown in standards across the system e.g. Biosecurity and Good Farming Practices (GFP), and the development of policies aiming at harmonisation of measures, implementation, and enforcement amongst Member States (MS) and local Competent Authorities (CA)
- EASVO will influence and support the work of the FVE AWWG (nomination of an EASVO member to the group) and the development of FVE position papers
- EASVO will ensure that the role of the official veterinarian is highlighted in the Risk Analysis cycle and in delivering Animal Diseases prevention & control strategies through contributing to the development of relevant FVE position papers and responding to threats to the role of the official veterinarian at EU, national or local levels
- EASVO will aim to influence the publicly funded EU research agenda on animal health and welfare and post-graduate training initiatives on One Health across multiple professions

1.4 Actions for 2022-25

- ✓ EASVO will nominate a delegate for the new term of the FVE AWWG and FS&SWG 2022-2025
- ✓ EASVO will provide input to each FVE position paper and consultation aligned to our objectives in this area

2. Healthy people – linked to FVEs “ONE VETERINARY COMMUNITY - VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY AND REWARDING CAREERS”

2.1 Importance of the topic

EASVO supports the new One Health Quadripartite framework ([WHO](#), [WOAH](#), [UN](#), [FAO](#)) to tackle the challenges at the human, animal, plant and ecosystem interface using a more integrated and coordinated approach. Consequently, the relevance of veterinary public health in European veterinary schools' Evaluation schemes is higher than ever. In addition, the shortage of veterinarians in Europe and worldwide is increasingly challenging. Attraction and retention of official veterinarians are important to EASVO to foster excellent working environments which enable the next generation of professionals to thrive. EASVO will continue to explore and advise on the issues facing official veterinarians including support in decision-making, certification and enforcement, as well as appropriate salary conditions and avoiding conflicts of interest.

The Quadripartite has developed the [One Health Joint Plan of Action](#) (2022-2026) that is built around six interdependent Action Tracks that collectively contribute to achieving sustainable health and food systems, reduced global health threats and improved ecosystem management.

2.2 Achievements

- Regular representative from the World Organisation for Animal Health at the EASVO GA
- Young professional representative at the EASVO GA in June 2022

2.3 EASVO objectives

- EASVO will raise awareness of the role of Official Veterinarians and the different roles and responsibilities of Competent Authorities and Food Business Operators within FVE and through engagement with the FVE Sections – EVERI, UEVH and UEVP
- EASVO will support Continuing Professional Development for Official Veterinarians within a multidisciplinary approach e.g. with bioinformatics; chemists; information technologists, entomologists; food technologists; statisticians
- EASVO will seek to better understand and support occupational well-being of all veterinarians, especially the challenges faced by our members
- EASVO will raise awareness of career opportunities and professional development in state veterinary services within the profession and with students and veterinary school applicants with the aim that careers in veterinary services are attractive and adequately provided with staff and relevant resources

2.4 Action points

- ✓ EASVO will launch a survey of young professionals in 2022
- ✓ EASVO will arrange regular joint sessions with FVE sections in General Assemblies in 2022-2025
- ✓ EASVO will work with FVE – United in Diversity actions on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness in the veterinary profession in 2022-2023

3. Healthy environment – links to FVEs “BEING RECOGNISED AND INFLUENTIAL - EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY”

3.1 Importance of the topic

Our aim is to work to address the threats at the animal-human-ecosystem interface through a strengthened multisectoral One Health approach, highlighting the essential role of veterinarians and particularly official veterinarians as health professionals in delivering animal health, animal welfare and public health outcomes. This can only be effectively achieved through the simultaneous protection of the environment and economic sustainability, supported by improving the availability and use of animal welfare and health data systems generated and accessible by practitioners, domestic and international food business operators and official veterinarians alike to improve the quality and exploitability of collected data.

3.2 Achievements

- A delegate representing EASVO in the FVE Food Safety and Sustainability Working Group
- Input to FVE positions on the development of the Official Controls and Animal Health Regulations
- Contribution to the development of, and publication of, the FVE Sustainable food systems infographics

3.3 Objectives

- EASVO will continue to contribute to supporting the effective and consistent delivery of Official Controls by veterinarians
- EASVO will seek to identify opportunities to influence and analyse the evidence base relied on by state veterinary officers performing activities and engaging with Precision Livestock Farming (including data ownership and the use of sensor-based data)
- EASVO will support and highlight the importance of interoperable digital platforms (e.g. IMSOC) to share data/outcomes from official controls and surveillance based on data (e.g. syndromic surveillance, antimicrobial drug consumption)

3.4 Action points

- ✓ EASVO will seek membership of the new FVE Food Safety and Sustainability Working Group in 2023
- ✓ EASVO will contribute to the development of FVE position papers in this area during 2022-2025
- ✓ EASVO will continue to identify speakers for the General Assembly presentations on this subject – 2022-2025