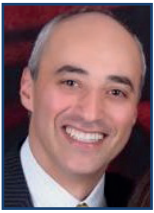


NEWSLETTER No 8 / 2015

Challenges and Opportunities in the Use of EAH in Latin America and the Caribbean



The Americas is an important source of animal source foods with the production of meat that extends to beef, poultry and pork, and in some countries significant levels of activity in farmed fish (aquaculture).

These forms of production are of great importance in Latin America and the Caribbean and have an impact on food security, regional and international trade. Much of the production involves smallholder and family farming systems, where agriculture is critical for subsistence, food security and income. This raises issues in how to link the people involved in these small-scale systems to the markets in the most efficient and equitable manner.

This regional context provides a basis for the four strategic objectives of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture which are: improvements in productivity and competitiveness; rural development and human welfare improvement; adaptation of agriculture to climate change; and general contributions of agriculture to food security. In combination these objectives are aimed at achieving competitive and sustainable agricultural systems that create opportunities for the rural people in the Americas.

IICA see animal health as having an important role in achieving its strategic objectives, and involves itself in animal health programmes that minimise the negative impacts of disease on production systems and the reduction of public health impacts of zoonotic and food borne diseases. Such programmes are linked to the structure of the food system – the production and the associated value chains – and the local, national and international markets they serve. Animal health status underpins the production of animal source foods and the safety of these

foods in order to have sustainable systems which have access to international markets.

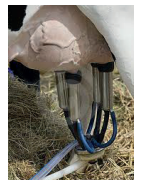
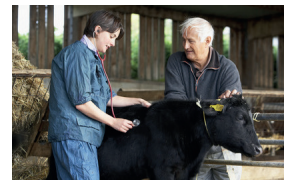
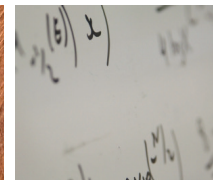
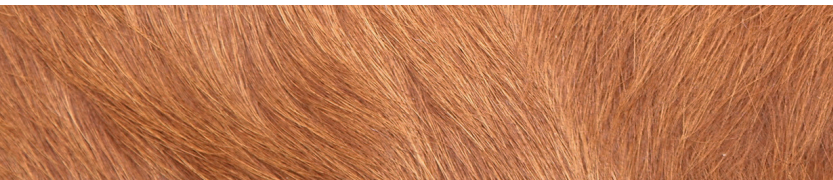
These animal source food systems are complex in nature involving a wide range of people working and generating their livelihoods from the point of production through to consumers. Similarly the animal health and food safety programmes are also complex and have people working throughout the food system. These specialists provide animal health and food safety services and products at local, national and international levels and work for public and private organisations.

Given this complex social and economic context it would be anticipated that economics of animal health needs to be carried out simultaneously and parallel with the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of animal health programmes. In this sense, economics would be used in all stages, applications and the development interventions with three main aspects highlighted. First the evaluation of the economic impact of animal diseases; secondly ex ante and ex post evaluation of animal health interventions and thirdly, the development of an understanding of how the socio-economic context determines the relevance of the health or disease problem.

Despite the recognition of the need for economics within animal health and food safety programmes, its application is limited in Latin America and the Caribbean. This raises the issue of a need to strengthen the animal health and food safety programmes through improving human capacity in the use and application of economics in animal health. In turn this requires education that demonstrates the value of the use and application economics to animal health issues. This is a major challenge and requires teamwork between international organisations, governments, academia and the private sector.

This is not an official position of the IICA.

Jaime Romero
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on
Agriculture (IICA)



Content

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- 2 Decision Making Using EAH
- 3 Workshop in France
- 4 Network for Evaluation of One Health
- 5 NEAT Third Annual Meeting
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1 „One Size Doesn't Fit All“

Highlights of EAH seminar in Finland

Last October the Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists (NJF), NEAT and MTT Agrifood Research Finland (now part of Luke - Natural Resources Institute Finland) organised a two-day seminar on Economics of Animal Health and Welfare in Hämeenlinna, Finland.

The seminar gathered almost 50 experts from 11 countries to discuss economics applied to animal health and welfare. The presentations provided a wide range of examples on how consumers' preferences, competitiveness of livestock production, legislation and other factors impact animal production.

It was highlighted that there is a discrepancy between consumers and producers in their views regarding animal welfare. Recently new products and concepts which add value and emphasize environment-friendly and animal-friendly production practices have been introduced. However, product price is also important and consumers are not always willing to pay extra costs associated with animal-friendly production.

The presentations showed the importance to understand the diversity of livestock production systems when deciding how to best control animal diseases because one size doesn't fit all. Livestock producers have different preferences and they operate in varying conditions which can

affect how it is optimal to control animal diseases. Competition on livestock markets is also very intensive and from the competitive point of view it may be better to aim at international rather than national standards which may add costs locally. For more information, please contact [Jarkko Niemi](#).



Participants during EAH seminar in Finland

2 Decision Making Using EAH

How EAH can support decision making



Decision making using animal health economics
 “Quantifying Incentive and Behavior”
 家畜衛生経済学による意思決定
 行動経済学による意思決定
 Professor Karl Rich
 Head, Research and Strategy, Lab 863
 Joint Appointment:
 Norwegian University of International Affairs (NUPI)
 Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)
 International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
 International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
 Date: 2015, February 21 (Sat)
 14:00 Opening by Nobuo Nakano
 14:10 Session 1: Socio-economic factors influencing animal health economics
 Ryoko Inoue
 Eiji Kohno
 14:50 Session 2: Decision making using animal health economics
 Prof. Karl Rich
 15:40 General Discussion
 Venue: Room C-201, Rakuno Gakuen University (RGU)
 532 Borinoda Utsunomiya, Ebetsu, 068-8521, Japan
 Tel: 81-15-1168-4162
 Organized by:
 Department of Health and
 Environmental Sciences
 Faculty of Agriculture
 Rakuno Gakuen University
 1-1-1, Borinoda, Utsunomiya, Ebetsu, 068-8521, Japan
 Tel: 81-15-1168-4162
 Sponsored by:
 OIE
 IFPRI
 ILRI

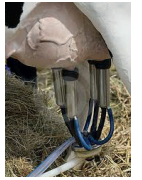
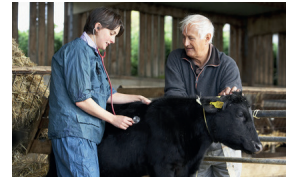
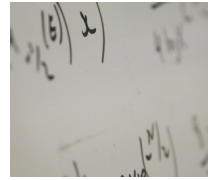
In collaboration with Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine the Rakuno Gakuen University in Japan organised a seminar on “Decision Making Using Economics of Animal Health“. The seminar was held on 21 February 2015 in Ebetsu, Japan.

Professor Karl Rich, NEAT partner and researcher at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) was invited to introduce the NEAT project to the participants and explained how to make decisions when using EAH.

3 Workshop in France

Presentation of NEAT lessons learned

The [2nd Annual Workshop of the Animal Health & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity Network](#) was held in Montpellier, France, on 15 March 2015. It brought together relevant researchers (e.g. animal scientists, veterinary scientists,



epidemiologists, economists, GHG researchers) and research funders from 11 different countries to develop international links, share information on current research and discuss opportunities to build upon this research.

Dr Elizabeth Jackson, Royal Veterinary College, gave a short presentation on the NEAT network with an emphasis on how the lessons of this network can be transferred to the Animal Health & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intensity Network.

In line with the Network's objectives presentations were given on a range of issues from modelling the effects of livestock production on GHG emissions to investigating emerging livestock diseases, such as Schmallenberg and avian influenza, in relation to climate change.

The workshop closed with two very informative group discussions on the data required to address the issue of animal health and GHG emission intensity and the expertise required to progress the issues of animal health and GHG emissions intensity.

The network can be contacted at: animalhealth-network@adas.co.uk and more information is available from [here](#).



Workshop Participants in France

4 Network for Evaluation of One Health

One Health approach to tackle new challenges



The increasing impact of infectious diseases, malnutrition, antimicrobial resistance and climate change on human health and well-being

has prompted the scientific community and decision makers to apply One Health approaches to tackle these challenges in an interdisciplinary way.

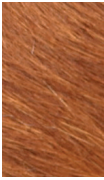
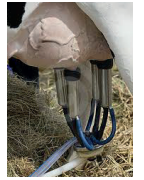
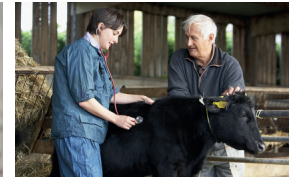
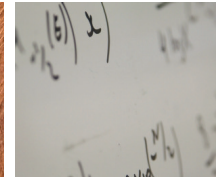
However, no standardised methodology exists for systematic evaluation of One Health initiatives and they are only few studies that measure the added value of One Health. Therefore policy makers have insufficient evidence for making decisions on new policies and allocation of resources for a wider One Health approach.

To address this gap, a Network for Evaluation of One Health (NEOH) has been created. NEOH is funded by the EU COST programme and aims to enable future quantitative evaluations and to further the evidence base of One Health activities by delivering:

- A science-based evaluation protocol for One Health activities
- Coordination of evaluations of existing One Health initiatives
- A networked community of experts collaborating to further the evidence base
- Researchers trained in performing evaluations of One Health activities.

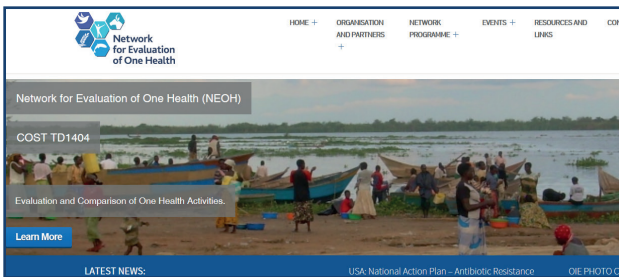
NEOH includes partners from all over Europe and associated partner countries from other parts of the world working together in four working groups.

The first activity focuses on an evaluation protocol and guidelines, which will then be applied to case studies and the results be analysed in a



meta-analysis. The activities of the network include regular meetings, training schools, short term scientific missions, workshops and dissemination activities.

The network is open for anybody to join with an interest in evaluation and/or One Health aspects. For more information please visit the [NEOH website](#) or contact the chair of the project, [Barbara Haesler](#).



NEOH project website

5 NEAT Third Annual Meeting

Final partner meeting in Italy

The third and final annual NEAT meeting is approaching soon and will take place in Cesenatico (close to Bologna), Italy from 7-8 September 2015.

Please make sure to book your hotel accommodation now. Early September is still holiday time in Italy and it might be difficult to find adequate room availabilities in the coming months.

More detailed information on accommodation and travel arrangements (by plane, by car or train) can be found [here](#).



Last NEAT meeting in Wageningen, The Netherlands

6 Events

Relevant conferences



The 5th Annual Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health ([LCIRAH](#)) Conference will be held at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, from 3-4 June 2015. The registration is now open, for more information click [here](#).



The International Food and Agribusiness Management Association ([IFAMA](#)) is kicking off the **Become the Solution: Food Security 2015** initiative during the 25th annual IFAMA conference in Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA from 14-17 June 2015. For more information on the programme, please contact [Page Buchanan](#).



The early bird booking ends 1 May 2015. Make sure to register early enough for the 20th International Farm Management Association ([IFMA](#)) Congress taking place in Québec, Canada from 12-17 July 2015. Click [here](#) to get more information.



The International Association of Agricultural Economists ([IAAE](#)) Triennial Conference deals with the theme *Agriculture in an Interconnected World* to capture the adoption of new communication technologies. The conference will be held in Milan, Italy from 8-14 August 2015. Please check the website [here](#).

More conferences interesting for our NEAT network can be found at the [NEAT events](#) website.