

## Veterinary services and territorial risk analysis for disaster reduction in animal health

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Transboundary emerging and reemerging diseases, climate change and other disaster situations are among the threats for animal health and welfare, as well as veterinary public health. The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), by the warning of the increasing frequency of such situations, has highlighted the need of a rapid and opportune intervention of the Veterinary Services (VS) in effective disaster risk reduction and management. Actions, materials and human resources should be based on risk analysis (RA) in the occurrence of disaster situations in each territory. Cuba has an increasing and effective experience on disaster situations since many years ago. So, the territorial risk analysis methodology applied in Cuba for animal epizootic diseases since the 90s was updated, following the international statements of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), taking into account the current guidelines developed by the Cuban Environmental Agency (AMA), which coordinates the multisectoral and multidisciplinary expertise. This work shows methodological base of the new territorial risk analysis for the productive animal species and wildlife and its strategic application in Cuba. Peril characterization has been considered due to the probability affectation by the pathogens identified as potential biological threats, its sceneries in each territory and many factors which determine the vulnerability (physical, functional, ecological and social) of animal population to face epizootic disease threats. RA is developed at municipality and provincial level by a group of specialists from different sectors belonging to each territory. There are results included in the territorial disaster reduction plan and there is an adequate communication with the respective Government for the economic support through the budget of each sector engaged. The methodology developed, together with its application strategy; contribute to the effective participation of the VS and the stakeholder's engagement in the risk reduction of animal diseases and other risks disaster, as a paramount goal for facing the future challenges.