Social network analysis on innovative governance arrangements for the control of bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis in Brazil

Todeschini, B., Heineck, A., Almeida, J., Groff, A., Machado, G. and Corbellini, L.

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply–MAPA, Brazil,
2. UNIVATES, Brazil,
3. Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Agribusiness–SEAPA/RS, Brazil,
4. Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul–UFRGS, Brazil;
lgcorbellini@hotmail.com

The aim of this paper is to analyze the governance arrangements (GA) developed in 2009 in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, which supported a unique performance of the National Program for the Control of Bovine Brucellosis and Tuberculosis (PNCEBT) by targeting the eradication of those diseases in six selected municipalities on the claim of veterinary public health. Documents related to the GA established in the county of Arroio do Meio were studied, as well as data on diagnostic tests performed in the county. Each participant institution and their responsibilities were arranged into a Social Network Analysis (SNA) scheme, which considered their sectors (public/private), administrative levels (local/state/national) and power branch (executive/legislative/judicial). The SNA showed the public sector having more activities to perform, while private sector players were especially important on raising awareness and bridging the distinct levels of command. Beyond that, all the deeds were performed in a complementary way by the actors, being the GA able to tackle all the strategies predicted by the PNCEBT. The tests performed on the county showed evolution of 1.748% (n=85,617) on the number of tested animal and of 1.912% (n=5,546) on the tested holdings, when comparing a two-year period before and after the launching of the GA. Results demonstrate that the proposed structure of analysis is valuable when planning animal health programs, in order to build commitment of stakeholders and prevent omissions or overlapping of duties. Besides that, it can promote collaborative approaches to address the limits inherent to the jurisdiction of each player in order to bring synergy and efficiency to the project, stimulating adhesion and curbing evaders.