

The 7th Strategic Plan of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) provides the OIE's strategic direction summarised in five objectives (Fig. 1), all strongly aligned with the Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBADs) programme.

Our mission of global improvement of animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health requires investment in Veterinary Services. Epidemiology and economics are natural partners in this mission, providing the connection between life sciences and social sciences that is necessary to design and deliver comprehensive and sustainable evidence-based policy and results-based programmes.

OIE's digital transformation within our work programmes

A digital transformation is underway in the OIE. This involves infrastructure and architecture, workflows and efficiency, stewardship competencies and governance policies. But for our scientific work programmes, we also recognise it is fundamentally about our data management approach. We have established objectives that apply across all workstreams (Fig. 2). As a normative body, we use the cycle of standards development and implementation as the foundation for understanding our work (Fig. 3). At each step in this cycle we have important functions that generate data, typically through collecting information from our Members, but also through monitoring and evaluation activities in our programmes. The [OIE Observatory](#) introduces the conceptual 'standards monitoring framework', mapping our data-generating activities to our international standards, and ultimately to our core mandate (Fig. 4). An ambitious but realistic vision has been established that will see all our workstreams connected through our core referential data (standards, countries, diseases). An open-access principle will ensure this data is available to the global community. The resulting analysis and insights will help drive improvements and investment.

GBADs connection to OIE data and workstreams

Countries and diseases will also be core data within GBADs. GBADs will draw incidence and prevalence data on diseases from [OIE-WAHIS](#). Country Veterinary Service capability reported in OIE-WAHIS and performance derived from OIE PVS Pathway reports will inform estimation of actual and utopian scenarios during the definition of the [animal health loss envelope](#) [1]. GBADs estimates of losses attributable to diseases in production systems in countries will contribute to business cases for Veterinary Services' investment in PVS Gap Analyses. The GBADs data and system will become a critical tool in prioritisation and decision-making for investment in livestock systems, and monitoring performance of those systems in response to investments. GBADs economic data is a natural partner to OIE's epidemiological data.

Interdisciplinary scientific expertise and partnerships to serve our Members

There are currently over 300 [OIE Reference Centres \(Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres\)](#) hosted by our Members, committed to scientific collaboration to improve animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health worldwide. The OIE is working to improve connections and collaborations through the establishment of disease (Reference Laboratory) and thematic (Collaborating Centre) networks. The broad network of GBADs partners connects significant new capability to this system, and will enhance interdisciplinary scientific capacity. We look forward to the establishment of a core of OIE Collaborating Centres in Animal Health Economics as a long-term goal.



Fig. 1. The OIE's 7th Strategic Plan 2021–2025: summary of the five core objectives



Fig. 2. As part of OIE's Digital Transformation, a set of core principles has been established for the data management approach in all science and technical workstreams



Fig. 3. Using the OIE Standards Development and Implementation Cycle to identify and link functions and activities, as the basis for a comprehensive workflow supporting business processes



Fig. 4. The OIE Observatory Standards Monitoring Framework: linking OIE standards to data sources to monitor implementation

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PERSPECTIVES

OIE ACTIONS

Linking GBADs to the OIE's 7th Strategic Plan and digital transformation strategy

SUMMARY

Interdisciplinary science, digital transformation, meeting Members needs, partnerships, and measuring performance: the GBADs programme is strongly linked to all five strategic objectives from the OIE's 7th Strategic Plan. At the heart of OIE's digital strategy is developing our data management approach in all workstreams, and our data governance practices as an organisation, to ensure we are fit for purpose as the steward of the global public good data with which our Members entrust us.

KEYWORDS

#animal health, #data management, #digital technology, #Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBADs), #OIE Strategic Plan, #reference centre, #World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

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