# WORKSHOP REPORT European Partnership AH&W SRIA Workshop

Thematic Support Team | 10 November 2022





European Animal Health & Welfare Research COLLABORATIVE WORKING GROUP





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## Preamble

The Workshop on the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare (AH&W) and its Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) was held online on 10 November 2022. **111 participants from 23 different EU and non-EU countries** were registered. Participants included SCAR Collaborative Working Group on Animal Health & Welfare (CWG AH&W) members and observers, candidate beneficiaries and related authorities for this partnership, relevant H2020 project coordinators, European Commission representatives and several other key stakeholders.

The contribution of the participants to the workshop was essential in the co-creation process of building the Partnership on Animal Health & Welfare and amending its Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). It represented a unique event of the CWG AH&W, enhancing the debate on AH&W in Europe, and thus the implementation of the working group goals, at both international and national levels.

This workshop aimed to present the actual version of the draft SRIA and to discuss expected results and outcomes, based on key Research & Innovation needs. Following this workshop, an amended AH&W SRIA will be developed and widely distributed for broad consultation until the beginning of 2023.

The workshop was organised by the drafting team of the EUP AH&W SRIA from the Collaborative Working Group of the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) with the technical support of the SCAR Support Team (SST). The agenda of the workshop can be found in Annex 1.

The meeting has been recorded for reporting purposes only.

## Session 1 - Introduction

In the Introduction part, Hein Imberechts, Coordinator of the AH&W CWG of the SCAR, welcomed the participants to the workshop. He presented the house rules for the day and the different categories of participants invited to the workshop (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Part of the participants to the WS (screenshot from the Introduction session led by Hein Imberechts).





Hein Imberechts presented the main objectives of the workshop:

- To inform AH&W authorities, funding organisations and research-performing organisations (RPOs) about the EUP AH&W latest developments.
- To get the audience engaged in the co-creation process that is needed to build the AH&W Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) and the EUP AH&W proposal.
- To amend the current version of the draft SRIA in a way that it is better aligned with the interest of both the beneficiaries and the stakeholders, i.e.
  - Make sure that the most appropriate instruments (i.e. external open or internal research calls, reference and integrative actions and joint activities) will be used to address the research and other needs,
  - **Select specific areas of work** that meet the ambition of most beneficiaries and that optimally gain the stakeholders' interest,
  - **Identify the expected outcomes and impacts** of the EUP AH&W that are **best aligned** with the stakeholders' strategy.

The participants received the links to the <u>draft SRIA</u>, which will be amended based on the discussion gathered during the current workshop. Hein Imberechts presented the agenda of the day, with the first informative part about the state of play of the SRIA, with time for discussions through Q&A sessions. He indicated that during the breakout sessions, broad areas of work would be addressed to check if they are meeting the needs of the EUP beneficiaries.

In Breakout Sessions 1 (BO1), where candidate partners of the Partnership were the target audience, the aim is to know from the participants how to use the instruments available and implement them to meet their needs. There are several instruments like external open calls, joint activities, etc. The objectives have to be translated into the right instrument to be achieved.

In Breakout Session 2 (BO2), which focused on the stakeholders and international policymakers, the discussion will be led through the EUP expected outcomes, and what are the expected results and potential impacts of the Partnership activities.

After the presentation of the WS agenda, Hein Imberechts gave the floor to **Jean-Charles Cavitte**, from DG AGRI (European Commission) to introduce the European Partnership (EUP) on AH&W with the basic feature and state of play of the EUP process.





# Introduction to EUP AH&W: basic features and state of play of the EUP process

Jean-Charles Cavitte shortly introduced himself, i.e. as an expert working in the EC, DG AGRI, Unit F.2, dealing with Research and Innovation (R&I). He is supporting the preparation of the EUP from the EC point of view.

His session offered insights into the EUP process, and the requirements from Horizon Europe (HE) that led through the SRIA (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. Screenshot of the presentation of Jean-Charles Cavitte, from DG AGRI (European Commission).

This co-funded partnership is under the Horizon Programme co-funded actions, where countries and organisations in those countries contribute to R&I activities, with results to be delivered, and commitment of the contributors either in cash or in kind. These are HE requirements.

Transparency and openness of the EUP are requested within the programme. There is a need to have a level of consultation among stakeholders to prepare the partnership: this workshop is part of this process. All partnerships under HE must create an agenda, with smart and measurable objectives.

There is no template approach to developing SRIAs but there are obligatory elements to include:

- Well-developed intervention logic
- Monitoring framework for assessing progress towards the objectives, including Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Identification of other EUPs with which to establish a formal and regular collaboration, as well as synergies with other EU, national or regional initiatives
- Plans for updating the SRIA, as this is set for at least 7 years.

The structure and frame of the SRIA otherwise are relatively free to build on. The <u>dossier</u> of the EUP is available and it includes already elements regarding this.

Jean-Charles Cavitte offered also an overview of the timeline of the EUP AH&W (see next page Fig. 3).







Fig. 3. Timeline for the European Partnership Animal Health and Welfare (EUP AH&W). The arrow shows the time of the current workshop.

The Horizon Europe Work Programme should be approved and published by the end of November 2022. There might be a pre-publication of the pre-Programme in the coming weeks.

Regarding the SRIA itself, there is a planned open consultation that should take place between the end of the year 2022 and the beginning of 2023. The SRIA is an important document that has to be endorsed by the future Consortium within its application. The SRIA should be finalised before the application process, so most probably in February or March 2023.

For successful applications from Consortia, the grant agreement should be signed within the next 8 months after the closing deadline, meaning by the end of 2023.





There has been a request to Member States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC) to provide their potential commitments for each HE Partnerships. Most of the MS and some AC and candidate AC did reply (state of play end of October 2022) and most of them are interested in the process.

For the moment Indication of the resources available is a total of €277 million, whose eligibility must be assessed, with the following distribution:

- €150 million in-kind;
- €127 million cash.

Some indications were given about the overall potential resources, knowing that the EC part will be subject to the Work Programme approval:

- Planned co-funding rate to partnership: 50% (based on EC call)
- ✓ Planned max total EU contribution for the whole duration €180 million
- Potential EUP AH&W budget including EU contribution, for the whole duration: €360 million (i.e. entities in EUP AH&W will need to have €360 m eligible costs to 'exhaust' the EU contribution)
- Planned successive EC commitments: €20 million in 2023; €40 million in 2024; future commitments will be published in the next work-programmes.

Jean-Charles Cavitte mentioned a questionnaire that was sent to more than 200 country contacts and interested parties in July 2022, to identify entities interested in taking part in the EUP AH&W: 105 responses coming from 26 countries.

### Introduction to the SRIA and its significance

# Presentation of the EUP AH&W and its intervention logic with objectives and Explanation of the role of the SRIA in the EUP AH&W

Hein Imberechts gave insight into the <u>SRIA</u>, which has been developed with the help of stakeholders. The first element presented was the intervention logic of the SRIA, mentioning the specific objectives as key to understanding that this EUP aims to bring together all European actors dealing with AH&W (Fig. 4).







DRIVERS	<u>Societal</u> : New Vulnerable sector with a societal recognition to be oppor	echnological: technologies and innovation tunities, but need ercome-practical locks	impact of <u>Ec</u> oge, chemical Return or nants incl. be en bials to be stimul	<u>Political</u> : Animal health, welfare and food regulations at EU level, Tripartite Action Plan AMR, Green Deal, new CAP, etc. enforce rigid restrictions	
GEN OBJ.	To better control animal i reinforce the prepare			ace animal welfare at the ound of animal production	
SPECIFIC OBJ.	To facilitate the cooperation between all relevant actors on animal health and welfare	<b>To boost research</b> and increase evidence-base to develop products and tools for AH&W	To enhance cross-sector collaboration in a One Health-One Welfare perspective To strengthen the dissemination and uptake of outputs		
OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	Surveillance systems for animal health and welfare Diagnostic procedures and tools for monitoring of animal health	Is for and alert tools to fight ring communi- animal nal cation to infectious	Guidelines and prototype solutions to advance animal welfare Interven- tions and treatments against animal infectious diseases	Vaccines, adjuvants and immuno- modulators Vaccines, interven- tions and treatments Vaccines, interven- tions and treatments	
IMPACT	<ul> <li>Scientific:</li> <li>Improved coordination of all actors in animal heal and welfare, public health and the environment</li> <li>Increased investments in research and innovation infrastructures, education and training, and servic animal health and welfare</li> <li>State-of-art science to improve animal health and welfare, and protect public health</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved protection of public healt reduce inappropriate use of traditio</li> <li>Improved preparedness of all actors</li> </ul>	ves of related political priorities h by capacity to reduce zoonoses and nal antimicrobials and stakeholders and provision of to manage their activities in a way to mal production by better addressing	<ul> <li>Economical / Technological</li> <li>Contribute to a more healthy, sustainable and resilient livestock and aquaculture sector</li> <li>Create a more dynamic animal healthcare industry</li> <li>Protect economic viability of livestock and aquaculture farming systems</li> <li>Uptake by all actors of tools and methods to prevent and control animal infectious diseases and strengthen animal welfare</li> </ul>	

Fig. 4. Intervention logic of the EUP AH&W.





PE Operational objectives OO1. To design and harmonize surveillance and monitoring systems for animal health and welfare. CWG AH & W • OO2. To develop diagnostic procedures, methodologies and tools to support the toring of animal health • OO3. To develop procedures, methodologies and tools to support the monitoring of al welfare OO4. To adapt risk assessment and alert communication to the new needs in animal health and welfare 005. To develop guidelines and preventive **tools** to fight against **anin** diseases on farm and during transport. 4 people entered the waiting room View 🛃 o 🖽 🥶 💽 🚍 e x 💼 S 

Based on the specific objectives, Operational Objectives (OO) have been drafted (Fig. 5).

#### Fig. 5. Operational Objectives of SRIA.

The strategic document SRIA will be updated over time and will be the basis for all activities, both research and other activities.

There will be two types of research calls: on the one hand external open calls for which funders provide the cash budget and in which mainly external research-performing organisations as well as private partners can participate, and on the other hand, internal calls that will be funded by in-kind budget provided by the internal research-performing organisations themselves as well as by the EU budget. Integrative and reference activities (like capacity building, emergency management, etc.) and general joint activities will also be developed. There is a need to find a balance between research and other types of activities to cover all operational objectives in alignment with the available cash and in-kind budget. All these activities will deliver results, which will conduct in some effects/outcomes that can be taken up to finally gain impact.

The mixed scenario of the Partnership was presented, as follows:

- Research activities will be performed both through external open and internal calls, in addition to activities performed internally
- External open R&I calls:
  - They are aiming at generating knowledge, possibly by including private partners and/or external research centres in the research activities. This could be used to bring in new technologies for health diagnostics, welfare assessment or vaccine development; facilitate uptake by industry; or, add specific expertise that is not available in the partnership Consortium.
  - These would be organised by Funding Organisations (so-called cash funding; EC cofunding as financial support to third parties).
  - These calls should concern all infectious diseases and animal welfare issues and would address both basic and applied research.





- Internal R&I calls:
  - They aim to reinforce cooperation among research centres, reference laboratories/centres (i.e. RPO), with specific mandates and expertise (e.g. regulated diseases and AMR; reference activities), or special experimental facilities; mainly integrative research; policy-driven research, including animal welfare.
  - These calls should be limited to RPOs members of the partnership. Eligible costs are funded through in-kind funding from these RPOs and with EU co-funding.
- In addition to these research activities, other internal activities are needed, i.e. reference, integrative and other joint activities to make the network stronger.

Hein Imberechts opened then the floor for questions that were asked in the chat.

#### **Questions and Answers**

**Question (Q):** The funding from the commission will be  $\leq 20$  million for 2023 but the Partnership really starts in 2024 due to the time needed for the Consortium agreement adoption, review by the Commission, etc. The only money spent in 2023 will be for coordination. If it is the case, would the  $\leq 20$  million not be too much for the first year? (risk of underspending?)

**Answer (A):** the activities funded with the 2023 commitment can last for the number of months/years the consortium decides on. This amount is a commitment, not an expense. This is to be developed for the length of the partnership. This is not an issue to have a lower amount for 2023 than for the rest.

*Q*: 1) What are the criteria that the submitted Partnership proposal will be launched/successful at the end? 2) Is there any information regarding a conflict of interest considering if we work on the proposal and later apply for money?

Another question linked to this issue: taking into account the reluctance from the EC to have RPOs as members (that will also apply in the external open calls), internal calls may be tricky, no? What kind of firewall are you intending to implement?

*A*: 1) Those partnerships are supposed to contribute to European policies like Farm to Fork strategy, Animal Welfare regulatory framework and Antimicrobial Resistance regulation. Three evaluation criteria are usually used and refer to excellence, impact and implementation. They are adapted to the requirements/features of partnerships established in the HE provisions. We will have to see how to apply these criteria to the EUP AH&W partnership. They will be publicly available.

2) The EC (DG RTD) will provide a document giving guidelines on how to deal with conflict of interest, and it should be possible that the internal RPOs will be able to join external calls, subject to an appropriate firewall to avoid conflict of interest. There is another EUP (Water4All) that also has RPOs in the consortium, able to take part in external open calls while undertaking internal activities. They succeeded in putting up appropriate firewalls.

Hein Imberechts underlined that this workshop is dealing with the EUP AH&W SRIA and the time today is aiming to move forward with the assessment of the actual draft SRIA. There are still discussions on the conflict of interest aspect but this is not the topic of today.





**Q**: I am still having some issues related to the general objectives, especially in the AH section. I'm good with the control of infections and preparedness; it's important. I'm a bit lacking the bigger perspective of prevention. Control and preparedness are part of prevention. The Operational Objective of prevention is nicely explained, but it should come before as an overall objective.

*A*: Prevention activities like vaccines will be developed. There are also a lot of things for biosecurity in the SRIA already. Prevention is not clearly indicated as a keyword, but it is there. This is a good remark to consider and that could improve the draft SRIA.

Hein Imberechts closed the Q&A session and gave the floor to **Marina Bagni**, from the Italian Health Ministry for the next presentation.

## Methodology of the SRIA and process, brief feedback from the preworkshop expert consultation

Marina Bagni shortly introduced herself as a representative of the Ministry of Health, Italy and a member of the SRIA Working Group. Her talk aimed to present the methodology used for the SRIA building process.

In her presentation, Marina Bagni indicated that the essence of that methodology was the participatory approach and several steps to come today with a draft SRIA for the EUP AH&W (Fig. 6).

<ul> <li>Resultion</li> <li>Resultion</li> <li>Resultion</li> <li>Resultion</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process</li> <li>Result of</li></ul>	Zoom Meeting	You are viewing Marina Bagni, MoH's screen View Options - — — — X
Consultation 4: Open Consultation		ent of a Working Group in charge of the SRIA process on of R&I priorities through a desk study oritization of the identified research and innovation needs on 1: Industry Sector "the SRIA on 2: EUP AH&W Experts on 3: Workshop
Umwe Stop Video Security Participants Chat Stare Screen Reard Breaked Rooms Reactions Apple 2 of a 1980 words to the freedom on these Screenbulky mediges	Unmute Stop Video Page 8 of 9 1990 words []2 English (Linked States)	Specify     Participants     Chat     Share Screen     Record     Ereakout Rooms     Reactions     Apr       11.25-12.30     Breakouts     Admit     View       a March & Admit     View       a March & Admit     View

Fig. 6. Presentation of the methodology of SRIA by Marina Bagni.

#### Step 1:

It started with the establishment of a Working Group (WG) in charge of the SRIA process, with two main teams: one for animal health and one for animal welfare.

#### Step 2: Identification of R&I priorities through a desk study

This desk study has been carried out in 2 phases.

Phase A: Compilation of existing strategic documents on animal health and welfare (autumn 2021)

The WG, in collaboration with representatives from other European initiatives, generated a list of 43 pieces of literature related to animal health and welfare Research and Innovation (R&I). The documents were selected based on their relevance and focus on international priorities (EU or global), as opposed to





regional/national priorities or personal opinions, with a particular emphasis on reports produced by EU institutions or international bodies and advisory groups.

Phase B: Literature review and identification of research and innovation needs.

During this phase, the WG reviewed the collected literature, distilling R&I needs. An Excel spreadsheet tool was developed to capture the research needs identified, track sources and produce the first quantitative data.

# Step 3: Online prioritisation of the identified research and innovation needs (Spring 2022)

A survey was used to consult European animal health and welfare experts on the research needs highlighted through the previously explained desk study. A broad range of experts from different AH and AW-related fields were invited to prioritise the identified R&I needs within the thematic categories identified in the desk study and in the Operational Objectives (OOs) from the dossier.

**460 invitations were sent**. Respondents were asked to score each research need for importance, on a 1 to 7 Likert scale, and urgency, on a 1 to 3 scale. Respondents were allowed to answer "I don't know" or skip questions entirely and to offer written comments and suggest additional research priority gaps, for consideration in the final analysis of the survey. More than 200 people responded to the survey with good distribution in terms of geography and sectors.

The results of the survey were analysed using MS Office Excel<sup>®</sup>. "I don't know" responses and skipped questions were ignored during the analysis and are not counted for statistical purposes. Expert comments in open questions were considered qualitative data. For the multiple choice questions, a mean was applied as a statistical indicator, separately for importance and urgency. Bessel correction was applied to estimate the sample standard deviation.

#### Step 4: Early stakeholder consultation (Focus Group)

To develop the SRIA in an open and participatory manner, the WG planned to consult a broad set of stakeholders to make the agenda more responsive to their needs and ensure their interest and commitment. The majority of respondents to the survey were researchers from academia and research centres, the next step was fundamental to seek input from industries and EU associations in the following sectors:

- High-tech,
- Diagnostics industry,
- Vaccine and treatment.
- Farmers associations,
- Livestock associations,
- Animal welfare associations
- 💋 NGOs.

Two online Focus Group meetings were organised to solicit the perspectives of these stakeholders on the most important and urgent animal health and welfare R&I priorities identified by the survey. The WG identified and invited <u>approximately 70 contacts</u>, with 45 participants accepting the invitation.





The aims of both Focus Groups were to:

- Share the prioritisation of research needs identified by the survey of experts from academia/research institutes;
- Take into account the perspectives of industry and associations, review the prioritisation regarding importance and urgency and potential uptake within the framework of EUP AH&W;
- To investigate/ solicit interest in possible partnership cooperation and joint working in the areas of mutual interest.

#### Step 5: Drafting the SRIA

An advanced draft of SRIA was produced end of September 2022. An online consultation of scientific experts has been set for October 2022 to gather their feedback on this draft.

#### The main amendments coming from the expert's consultation regarded:

- Request for clarification on methodology
- Rephrasing of R&I needs
- Specific suggestions on Actions (better description or integration)
- Better and more balanced alignment between AH and AW
- Suggestions for specific work area
- General indication of overlapping and repetitions.

The SRIA will be amended according to the experts' remarks and will also include the feedback from today's workshop.

#### **Questions and Answers**

*Comment:* Not sufficient Animal Welfare was included at the beginning of SRIA and that area has now grown. Welfare will be an indicator of animal health. Good welfare can also prevent health issues through e.g. reduced stress levels in combination with increased resilience to health challenges. This further supports a balanced approach of both health and welfare, in combination with each other.

*A*: We are aiming for a good balance in the research activities in the SRIA among animal health and welfare. These 2 elements will be very strictly connected, as is underlined in the Operational Objectives. Hein Imberechts announced that after this workshop, the same questions that are raised in the WS will be included in an online questionnaire that will be sent out also to all people who were invited. Hence, all will have the opportunity to react to those questions. Preferentially, we want only one response per organisation/entity. Please interact and coordinate with your colleagues to fill in this questionnaire.

*Q*: How about including social scientists? Scientists with expertise in communication, behavioural science, and policy change scientists would be of significant added value. It is important to bring these social scientists on board right from the start and not to bring in the concept of social sciences as an "add-on".

*A:* Social sciences are definitively included, especially for joint activities. We are very pleased that social sciences are on board.

*Q:* Looking at the slide that summarises the expertise of the invited experts, I see a very broad spectrum of expertise. However, I do not see animal breeding: have you involved any animal breeders?

*A*: Yes, one Focus Group dealt with AH and the other on AW. Breeder associations were present too. In one of the Operational Objectives, breeding, as well as feeding, is well identified, and it is foreseen to have activities on this as well.

*Q*: Is there any grouping that we have consulted with and we have yet to contact?





*A:* We have consulted many stakeholders and we hope to involve even more. We hope to have more suggestions from this workshop and the open consultation later, so the SRIA is a dynamic document until the moment of its submission.

*Q*: Concern: I have not been involved in the previous steps of SRIA, how can I catch up?

*A*: In the Partnership, external open calls will be organised, and universities (as well as private partners) can apply for those calls. RPO also can be part of the EUP as a member, depending on some criteria and conditions (for instance, participate in internal research and other activities to strengthen preparedness among partners, provide about 50% co-funding to these activities, and accept the firewall for being able to take part in the external open calls).

Some AH&W scientists may not have been involved until now. Each country was invited to identify a national contact person who could attend the many preparatory meetings of the EUP. We also invited the CWG AHW members. In the governance of the Consortium, as explained in the Partnership dossier, we support the establishment of national mirror groups to coordinate AH&W activities between stakeholders, RPOs, FO, livestock sectors, etc., where they can filter ideas to bring in the future partnership. Some countries have those groups in place, but not all (yet).

*Remark from a participant:* EU Technology platforms are key players representing the research sector and <u>FABRE TP</u> does this job for research in animal genetics. FABRE has the added value to coordinate feedback from the sector.

## Session 2: Breakout sessions

### Introduction to the Breakout session

Hein Imberechts presented the process for the Breakout sessions (BO). There were two BO sessions organised. The first one (BO1) was dedicated to candidate beneficiaries that can be partners in the partnership, and the second one (BO2) was to the candidate stakeholders.

#### First breakout session: member's view

The BO1 aimed to:

- Inform the audience about the planned actions and related research and other needs that are described in the SRIA so far, and the possible instruments to implement them, i.e. external or internal calls, reference and integrative actions, and other joint activities,
- Discuss with the audience whether a selection of broad areas of work for AH&W research and other needs meet their ambition and should be highlighted in the SRIA,
- For a selected number of 'research and other needs, **consult** the audience on determining the most appropriate instrument to realise them.

The BO1 had three subgroups to make the discussion process easier:

- Subgroup Surveillance and Diagnostics (SG1)
- Subgroup Farm management (SG2)
- Subgroup Treatment & Vaccines (SG3)





For all the SGs of the BO1, first of all, some broad areas of work were introduced to reflect on how the EUP will contribute to the following domains:

- One Health approach,
- 💋 🛛 Big data
- Social science.

Those 3 topics are common to all subgroups and even with the breakout session 2. Besides the common topics, there will be some other topics, more specific to the different subgroups.

Regarding the second part of the discussion, the process was to classify research and other needs (described in the draft SRIA) into categories:

#### External open research

• To generate new knowledge, to allow, including external RPO and/or private partners, to bring in new technologies and additional expertise that is not available in the partnership consortium, and to facilitate uptake by industry.

#### Internal research

 Research for which the technologies and expertise are available within the consortium; to reinforce the cooperation among the partners, to strengthen their tasks for the authorities through setting up integrative research calls: capacity building, data sharing and risk assessment; policy-driven research ('preparedness').

#### Reference and Integrative actions

• All non-research actions (dealing with reference tasks or not) that support cooperation between partners to strengthen their duties to the authorities.

#### Joint activity

• Thematic networking, education & training (summer schools, workshops, PhD, etc.), support regulatory processes, etc.

#### Second breakout session: stakeholders' view

This BO aimed to:

- Inform the audience that the EUP AH&W will deliver practical and relevant outcomes that can be taken up by the stakeholders, and that the Partnership will create expected impacts in line with the stakeholders' strategy,
- Discuss with the audience whether a selection of broad areas of work for AH&W research and other needs meet their ambition, and should be highlighted in the SRIA,
- Consult the audience to determine the level of feasibility and alignment of the proposed selection of outcomes with the stakeholders' strategy,
- Allow open questions.

The first part of the discussion was linked to the broad areas of work, similar to BO1. The second and third parts were to score strategic needs regarding their **added value** to the stakeholders' strategy and then their **feasibility** under the EUP AH&W. There were five large domains (for which expected outcomes were shown):

- Surveillance
- Diagnostics
- Risk Assessment
- Intervention, Treatments & Vaccines
- Social sciences





Finally, the last part of the discussion was based on open questions.

Once these explanations were given, the groups were split up into the different BO rooms according to the categories of the participants.

## Session 3: Conclusions and Next steps

Hein Imberechts introduced the workshop session, asking the four rapporteurs to report back on the discussion carried out in breakouts.

# BO1 SG1: Florence Tardy (Rapporteur) - Subgroup Surveillance and Diagnostics

# Part 1: Assess how the EUP AH&W will contribute to a selection of broad areas of work

#### One Health Approach

According to the opinion of the participants of the BO, there would be an important contribution from the EUP AH&W regarding the One Health approach like:

- Harmonisation of surveillance approach and tools for diagnostics
- Provide indicators and markers for anticipating potential species barrier jumps
- Need to consider diseases that are symptomatic in animals but can cause clinical signs in humans (and vice versa)
- One health movement started around 10 years ago and fully takes into account the social part of the animal-human interaction, hence also includes AW as well as AH.
- Need for a definition that takes into account the ENVIRONMENT (see a potential suggestion under the link <u>One Health: A new definition for a sustainable and healthy future | PLOS</u> <u>Pathogens</u>).



As indicated in the screenshot above, the One Health approach was one of the most consensual aspects.





#### Big Data:

Regarding the Big Data aspect, there were more divergent opinions about the extent to which the EUP AH&W will contribute:

- Participants indicated the need to work on a consensual definition of what is Big Data<sup>1</sup> (see a suggestion under the link <u>What is your definition of Big Data? Researchers' understanding of the phenomenon of the decade | PLOS ONE</u>)
- There is a need to:
  - o Define ownership of the data versus open sharing within the future Consortium
  - Identify the types of Big Data that will be considered: genomic, clinical, epidemiological data, data linked with climate...
- EUP will generate a lot of data, so it might be difficult to agglomerate them without biases. As a consequence, there will be work to be done on the quality of the data and its harmonisation.
- There will be the question of storage facilities: there might be a need to outsource data management because of the amount of data generated through the EUP AH&W knowing that national data are already difficult to manage.



#### Social Sciences

Regarding the topic of the Social Sciences, there were more divergent opinions about the extent to which the EUP AH&W can contribute.

Participants pointed out that different disciplines within social sciences have to be considered. Here are the main points exchanged within the group:

- Social sciences might be plural as they include several disciplines
- There are questions about the economics for AH&W and the cost of diagnostics
- Citizen science can be part of the EUP AH&W
- Relevance in sustainability:
  - o Consumers' willingness to pay for AW improvements,
  - Incentives and barriers to adopting innovations and practices such as welfare labelling schemes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Suggestion of definition for Big Data: *Researchers' understanding of the phenomenon of the decade*. Maddalena Favaretto, Eva De Clercq, Chrisophe Olivier Schneble, Bernice Simone Elger - Institute for Biomedical Ethics, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland





- There is a need to integrate social scientists from the beginning of the process
- Social sciences might be more important for control policies (vaccines, culling, etc...) than for surveillance and diagnostics.



#### AH & AW continuum

Regarding the aspect of the AH&W continuum, it was agreed that it is an important expectation from the EUP:

- AH&W continuum is an important expectation from EUP AH&W. In the end, it will be a good way to assess the success of the partnership.
- A better balance between AH and AW is needed: there is currently an imbalance with health issues dominating the SRIA.
- There is a need to share a common terminology (monitoring/surveillance and assessment/ diagnostics).
- There is today a difference in development in AH and AW: on issues such as EU-wide monitoring, AW has a lot to catch up from AH. The partnership is a good opportunity in this sense.

### Part 2: Classify a selection of 'Research & other needs' of the SRIA in categories

For some of the topics, participants tended to cluster 'needs' around the same types of calls, i.e. internal and external calls, but for others, the distribution of the preferences was more heterogeneous. The participants discussed a lot about aspects of welfare assessment. It was included in the "Need" linked to Field diagnostics.

#### Global preparedness for EID

The preferences were equally distributed for External calls and the category External and Internal calls. It was discussed that the spreading of particular methods in different countries not applying those tests yet could be covered by internal calls, while the R&D part can be oriented more on the external part. A participant gave examples of exotic diseases (or with an exotic component) for which external research calls are necessary. Another participant replied that some research that has an exotic component needs external partners. For instance, some pathogens requiring a high Biosafety Level can only be handled in specialised external laboratories.

#### Wildlife watch (pathogen detections) for early warning

Most of the votes went to the following categories: External calls, Internal calls, and the category Integrative activity. It was discussed that integrative activity is necessary to evaluate wildlife, but it is also important to have external partners, e.g. for surveillance. The fact was highlighted that the European





Wildlife Association already established a network and set up a recommended list for diseases already present in wildlife. It was also mentioned that different categories of professionals may contribute to the sampling, but will not be partners (such as hunters).

#### Integrated big data (genomic, clinical and epidemiological data)

It was discussed that some reference institutes can gather together and work with big data, but some smaller ones are lacking specialists (need for networking and sharing facilities). It was concluded that, because the Big Data concept was perceived differently by different people, most of the votes went to External research calls. One participant indicated that, in some countries, big data specialists are part of different structures than veterinary ones, certainly not partners of the EU AH&W and hence the need for external calls. It has been suggested that consortiums may form/receive their own specialists in the future.

#### AMR surveillance for veterinary pathogens

One participant commented that most of the national reference laboratories are responsible for AMR surveillance (hence internal).

#### Understanding host-pathogen interactions

It was discussed that this is an area of basic research where young researchers may be involved and trained through the partnership network. Internal calls and Joint action categories were preferred by the participants.

#### Development of diagnosis tools in both vectors and animal hosts

It was discussed that External calls are necessary, as institutes or the private sector should be involved in developing tools/technologies for diagnosis. Consortiums made of researchers/specialists focused on animal biology might lack certain competencies. Nonetheless, when it comes to testing new tools, this will be done within the consortium (internal calls).

In the wrap-up part of the BO, the importance of training and networking to share knowledge within the Consortium was highly stressed for the Joint activities. Here are the main remarks made by the participants:

- This exercise was considered quite difficult
- Each type of activity cannot be exclusive
- There is a need to keep the concept of innovation in the keywords, meaning that each time there is a need for innovation, there is a need for external partners (industries or other competencies/expertise)
- Each 'Research & other need' has to be better defined as currently there are several questions in one 'need'
- For more basic research, there should be also actions dedicated to training young researchers
- Joint Actions might also be considered as a tool to link to other EUPs.

					Choi	ce		
	Research and other needs	Ext call	Int call	Ext or Int call	Referen ce activity	Integrative activity	Joint action	No suggesti on
1	Global preparedness for EID (emerging inf dis)	6	3	6	2	3	4	1
2	Wildlife watch (pathogen detections) for early warning	6	5	3	3	5	0	0





		Choice						
	Research and other needs	Ext call	Int call	Ext or Int call	Referen ce activity	Integrative activity	Joint action	No suggesti on
3	Integrated big data (genomic, clinical and epidemiological data)	7	3	3	1	5	5	0
4	AMR surveillance for veterinary pathogens	3	3	4	8	1	1	2
5	Understanding host- pathogen interactions	4	6	5	0	0	6	0
6	Development of diagnostic tools in both vectors and animal hosts	6	1	8	5	0	2	0

## BO1 SG2: Kristian Møller (Rapporteur) - Subgroup Farm management

# Part 1: Assess how the EUP AH&W will contribute to a selection of broad areas of work

The participants agreed that the Mentimeter tool was good to start more detailed discussions.

For the three broad areas, the information on the group activity revealed the following aspects:

One Health: The answers were distributed around the highest level of agreement by most of the participants. It was discussed whether there are more aspects than One Health that will be addressed by the Partnership. One participant indicated that attention should be paid to all the components of One Health when asking about rating. The idea of including the environment in the One Health approach was lively discussed and agreed upon.



Big Data: The topic was discussed from the perspective of the importance of preventing diseases in animals and the breeding sectors. It was mentioned that, in addition to the FAIR approach, the importance of GDPR issues should be considered in terms of usage of data (use, security, sharing,





already available data). The question was raised of how we can implement Big Data in research and business.

Social Sciences: The topic triggered a lot of discussion among the participants. One participant suggested that the input that specific disciplines, e.g. sociology, can bring to the Partnership should be specified, and therefore not include all the disciplines. It was discussed that Social Sciences can be used as instruments in specific objectives, but this does not mean that it is not involved in all the objectives.

Social Science should not be used only for research aspects, but also for communication, and partners having this expertise should be invited to take part.



For the other topics presented in the first part, i.e. resilience: the ability of animals to withstand pathogens, participants expressed high variability in their answers. The participants indicated the need for a systemic approach to resilience and more clear definitions of some elements related to resilience. The importance of the climate change factor was mentioned too.







One participant mentioned that genetic resistance to pathogens is only a part of the holistic approach to AH&W. She considered that it is not correct that genetic resistance should be a separate action, but it should rather be included/related to other actions and objectives. Also, it was stated that there is a need for research in animal breeding related to and connecting AH with AW.









Another participant indicated that there are still a lot of gaps in the genetic applied research in animal breeding. e.g. providing fresh semen to farmers. The need for more fundamental and applied research in the genetics of animal breeding.



The topic of Living labs was lively discussed. How important are living labs for the validation of prevention and control measures regarding animal health, welfare, emissions etc.? One participant indicated the need for chains of stakeholders when discussing the importance of Living Labs. Other participants pointed out that Living Labs is a complex concept and it is difficult to score its importance without clear definitions. Generally, the need for Living Labs for research as well as training purposes was acknowledged.







### Part 2 - Classify a selection of 'Research & other needs' of the SRIA in categories

#### Tools for stress

Participants pointed toward the description of Action 4, OO3, commenting that some aspects can be added to it.

Another participant asked for a comprehensive explanation of the meaning of External Calls and Internal Calls. A question that occurred was whether the External Calls are organised by the Partnership. The rapporteur explained the importance of considering the expressed need for internal or for external experts.

Another participant stated that in case the Consortium becomes very large, probably most expertise will be covered by the members, thus favouring Internal Calls.

#### Animal-based measures

Participants commented that even though there are many tools to measure and manage animal stress, there is a need for research to validate their use in External and Internal Calls.

#### Develop disease and welfare models that include climate change, biodiversity, changing vector habitats

Participants commented that in Internal and External Calls, one can find diverse expertise on specific aspects (technical needs etc.).

#### Strategies to reduce AMU

The important roles of stakeholders were discussed, not only to focus on research related to behaviour change but also on how to reduce the usage and the impact on AMR.

#### Interaction between feed and immunity

Participants indicated that there is a need for research on probiotics, prebiotics etc., to certify scientifically the usage of one product over another. They pointed toward the existence of a low number of probiotics and prebiotics in the animal market.

#### Appropriate breeding goals that consider the welfare

Participants commented on the appropriate breeding goals, asking how we define the phenotypes and how we assess the breeding goals. E.g., to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, what traits do we consider measurable variables? Discussions emerged on the importance of cooperation between genetic





experts and people that are skilled in animal welfare, and who can help in identifying which traits are important for improvement.

#### Establish Social Science studies along the production chain

One participant indicated that there are many social sciences studies on aspects of the production chain, but not on clear rules and procedures.

Another participant stated that it is about the socio-economical market, so the problem is that people are asking for more AW, but are not always willing to invest in implementing procedures for achieving it.

A question occurred on how can research bridge the gap between consumers, producers and researchers. The idea of One Consumer is not a functional one in this regard. Internal Calls would help address these issues.

#### Tradeoffs between sustainability and Animal Welfare

Participants did mention that there is a lot of research on this need, i.e. the three pillars of sustainability. AW is integrated into models addressing social welfare and sustainability.

It was discussed that it is not always about a tradeoff, but rather a problem of mentality. Participants agreed that External and Internal Calls are inclusive solutions to address the tradeoffs. The last comment was about the need for a systemic approach.

Research and other needs (Short names)	Choices							
	Ext call	Int call	Ext or Int call	Reference activity	Integrative activity	Joint action	No suggestion	
OO3: Tools for measuring animal stress	5	2	6	2	0	0	0	
OO3: Refinement of animal-based measures	1	4	3	1	0	0	4	
OO5: Develop disease and welfare models	3	2	3	2	2	0	2	
OO5: Develop strategies to reduce antimicrobial and anthelmintic use	2	3	2	3	1	1	0	
OO5: Interaction between feed, and development of immunity	1	2	4	0	2	1	0	
OO6: Appropriate breeding goals that	2	2	1	4	1	0	0	





consider welfare implications							
OO10: Establish social science studies along the production chain	6	1	5	3	0	0	0
OO10: Tradeoffs between sustainability and animal welfare	1	2	8	1	0	0	0

### BO1 SG3: Sven Arnouts (rapporteur) - Subgroup Treatment & Vaccines

## Part 1: Assess how the EUP AH&W will contribute to a selection of broad areas of work

The rapporteur indicated that the group was engaged in lively discussions and plenty of suggestions emerged.

For the three broad areas, the information on the group activity reveals the following aspects:

#### One Health:

There was quite a consensus among the participants. There was a question as to see if they should score only regarding the Treatment & vaccines or for the whole EUP. It was agreed to broaden it for the whole EUP.

The impact on the environment should not be forgotten and included in the EUP, and there should be a good connection with AMR Partnership and the biodiversity one (BIODIVERSA+).



#### Big Data:

It was discussed that Big Data is important for observations of animal behaviour if any health problems are present, early diagnosis, genetic background etc. It was suggested that Genome editing might be a direction in T&V prevention.





Also, it was commented that Big Data from slaughterhouses and the transport of animals could help to monitor surveillance of animal diseases: this has to be questioned. A participant suggested that Big Data should be included as a tool, not as a goal.

Special attention should be paid to AMR in a broad sense (antibiotics, antiparasitics and antifungals) and the cautious use of antimicrobials for humans and animals.

The need for close collaboration and frequent consultation of EUP with groups working on human infectious diseases was suggested: e.g. information on targets for therapeutics or vaccines on pathogens that can emerge and cross-species.

A participant brought into the discussion the bioinformatics pipelines for analysis of microbiome and pathogen data generated by 16s rRNA gene and metagenomics sequencing.

The facilitator summarised the following aspects:

- The EUP is an important environment to bring all this data together
- Animal behaviour and precision farming
- Changes in the host after treatment/vaccination (omics)
- Include data from transport and slaughterhouses.



#### Social Sciences:

Sven Arnouts mentioned a remark regarding the motivation of the participants and the lower scores in this section: Big data and One Health were more important aspects to them. The interaction with and communication with stakeholders including the primary sector (farmers and veterinarians) and citizens/consumers was discussed, to facilitate the implementation of next-generation vaccines/treatments and farming practices to improve animal welfare.

Sven Arnouts summarised the following aspects:

- Social Sciences should also include an economic aspect that will influence the human behaviour of the farmers (acceptance).
- Food security is an important aspect to which Social Sciences could contribute (Europe should become more independent)
- Education is very important (e.g. acceptance by citizens of GMO vaccines).







### Part 2: Classify a selection of 'Research & other needs' of the SRIA in categories

Sven Arnouts introduced the Operational Objectives and activities between the following categories:

- Discover
- 💋 Validate
- 💋 Uptake

#### Host-pathogen interactions (triangle pathogen-microbiome-host)

The reactions of the participants were that this need is relatively difficult to score because it is a broad topic (e.g. host-pathogen interactions).

#### Mechanisms of antiparasitic, antifungal, and antiviral resistance

Participants explained that this is an important area to work on. However, it may be under-researched at the moment and thus a joint activity might be needed to map this research landscape in preparation for a later call on this topic.

#### Impact of reduced AM use on Animal Welfare

Participants commented that the category External or Internal Research Calls was preferentially voted on because the need is based on an integrative approach. It would be better to research it through a collaborative Internal and External approach. Collaboration with industry is an example of an External Call.

#### 3R for testing the efficacy and safety of new antimicrobial treatments

The facilitator asked why so many External or Internal Research Calls have been voted for this need. The participants discussed that it is probably because it is not known what skills and capabilities will be available in the consortium. In case the internal expertise and/or research infrastructure are not available in the Consortium, one should go for External Calls.

#### Proof of concept studies (up to TRL4) for novel antimicrobial treatments

The most voted category was External or Internal Research Calls. No specific comments were offered in this regard.

#### A better understanding of (mucosal) immunity, especially in newborns

The category of External or Internal research Calls was the preferred one here, too.





#### Transmission of pathogens between host species including wildlife

The category of External or Internal Research Calls was voted on, as well as the Internal calls. It was commented that if a key area of expertise is internal, that one should be put in value. EU reference laboratories already are doing much research, so that is why no Reference activity has been mentioned. This is an important topic and research needs to be put into the Partnership.

#### Vaccine platforms and expression systems

It was commented that the Reference activities calls were preferred because of various possible collaborations in the field, and because of the platforms which are already well functioning. "We better work with those instead of researching them by ourselves". Another comment was that mainly industries developed platforms like that. It is already a kind of standard. The vaccine platforms are related to veterinary medicine, not specifically to health law.

#### Pilot farms to evaluate the effect of vaccines on health and welfare

One of the participants mentioned that he was aware of the pilot farms.

#### Preparation of guidelines for registration of alternatives to antibiotics

The preferred category was Joint action, but no specific comments or questions appeared in relation to this category.

In the wrap-up part of the BO, it was concluded that:

- For certain needs it might be interesting to switch from Joint actions to Internal Calls and Externals Calls (or vice versa) throughout the total term of the EUP AH&W;
- Standardisation of assays: materials should be an important integrative/reference activity for several "research needs";
- "Transmission of pathogens between host species and between wild and farmed animals" is so important that sufficient know-how/expertise on this topic should be in the EUP AH&W;
- Preparation of regulatory guidelines (e.g. alternatives to antibiotics) is an internal activity (reference, integrative, joint);
- There is a need to already prepare these regulatory guidelines in the EUP, as they are very important to take up.

Research and other needs	Choice								
(Short names)	Ext call	Int call	Ext or Int call	Reference activity	Integrative activity	Joint action	No suggestion		
1. Host-pathogen interactions (triangle pathogen-microbiome-host)	4	2	2	0	0	3	1		
2. Mechanisms of antiparasitic, antifungal, and antiviral resistance	3	3	3	1	0	5	1		
3. Impact of reduced AM use on animal welfare	0	0	6	0	1	4	0		
4. 3R for testing efficacy and safety of new antimicrobial treatments	0	0	7	1	1	3	2		





5. Proof of concept studies (up to TRL4) for novel antimicrobial treatments	2	1	5	2	0	0	0
6. a Better understanding of (mucosal) immunity, especially in newborns	2	0	6	0	0	0	0
7. Transmission of pathogens between host species including wildlife	1	3	5	0	0	0	0
8. Vaccine platforms and expression systems	0	0	6	2	1	1	1
9. Potency tests that support 3R	1	0	6	4	0	0	0
10. Pilot farms to evaluate the effect of vaccines on health and welfare	2	0	5	0	0	0	0
11. Preparation of guidelines for registration of alternatives to antibiotics	0	0	0	2	2	4	1

## BO2: Carlo Corradini (rapporteur)

# Part 1 - Assess how the EUP AH&W will contribute to a selection of broad areas of work that are of major interest to the AH&W stakeholders

Different organisations were involved. The facilitator opened the discussion with some questions about broad areas of work.

#### One Health:

No questions or comments appeared regarding the One Health concept.







#### Big data:

It was discussed that Big Data is important in light of integrated and effective surveillance programmes, but analysis of the data set, in terms of informing on capability, can be challenging. A participant commented that one can hope that this EUP will help the development of tools to make Big Data more useful. Big Data starts to be interesting when we have access to it, from weather sensors etc. Of course, if we have a lot of data, we need to know how to use them. Another participant mentioned that in the past there were a lot of EU programmes and calls dedicated to the use of Big Data. In some countries, there are difficulties with cooperation between organisations. A participant explained that Big Data is important and therefore he gave a high score. Big Data is an example of where alignment of European Partnerships is going to be important. It was discussed that the EUP through networking or External Call may be a tool to progress in this area.



#### Social sciences:

Participants discussed hard lessons learnt during the COVID Crisis and the importance of the science of communication. The example of COVID is still very alive. Jean-Charles Cavitte mentioned the potential of the EUP Capacity building. Data collection, and measuring the burden of disease and practices may be important in that domain.







#### New treatments and interventions:

One participant explained the low score that she gave because she analysed it from the wildlife perspective. Jean-Charles Cavitte raised that it would be a success to find approaches to manage the connection and actions taken on wildlife that does not jeopardise biodiversity.



### **Part 2: Score strategic needs according to their value to the stakeholders' strategies** *Surveillance*



The results indicated consensual high scores for all the aspects related to this topic.





Risk assessment



The highest scores appeared for the dimension of adapting and developing new methodologies to integrate and harmonise genomic surveillance data.

We need more information about circular and alternative systems. It was commented that there are experts already being prepared, but there is more need for risk assessment in conventional farming systems. These are good needs for the EUP, i.e. to give space for risk assessment, and strategic activities, and have more knowledge of circular and alternative farming systems.

It was pointed out that the EUP could contribute to providing improved tools for risk assessment to authorities.

Diagnostics







All the aspects had consensual high levels of agreement.

One of the participants indicated that some outcomes here are sometimes a summary of some activities in the SRIA. The granularity is not totally harmonised in the questions.

Intervention and treatments & vaccines

Basic r	esearch and transl	ational studies	8	
		d mathematical mod atment and immunol		
Improv treatm		ss for novel and inn	wative vaccines	and

All the dimensions were scored as highly important.

Some stakeholders would have a lot of interest in this. Basic science might not be where to put money but is still important as such.

Another participant commented that many groups in the EU and the world are working on genetic resistance to diseases. There is a need to think about basic research and applied research and their connection with the breeders.

One question was: basic research is certainly important but is it really a focus of this EUP, or would it be better funded by other EC/RTD tools?

The answer was that an interesting feature of the EUP is that hopefully basic or applied research will be performed. Actions will be done within key research centres in the partnerships, but also through funders who will organise external calls funding transnational projects. Universities can be part of these calls.

Plenty of organisations are working on vaccines, and there is a lot to do on the genome of viruses before working on applied research for some diseases. EUP can connect to entities that are doing this fundamental research.







All the dimensions had high consensual scores.

There was a question related to the 2<sup>nd</sup> point: would that be just combating information or being more effective in our communication and the way to influence the decision-making process? The way the expected outcomes are written comes from previous consultations and if they need rewording, suggestions are welcome. For the exercise here, only actions and activities that could be implemented in the first and second years of the partnership were mentioned.

## Part 3: Score strategic needs according to their feasibility in the framework of the EUP AH&W

The experts were elicited to express their points of view regarding the feasibility of the expected outcomes

#### Surveillance







It is quite well understood that impact is more long-term, more general and harder to define KPI about it. Measurable criteria and KPIs will be more for expected outcomes, in some cases quantitative, qualitative or semi-qualitative.



Risk assessment is usually addressed by different departments in the Ministries of most of the EU countries. There is a good chance to start the process of discussion between the different units, but feasibility will then be in 2 steps.

There was some scepticism regarding the feasibility of such actions as they are linked to very delicate topics. The simplification of the topic was a bit challenged.

#### Diagnostics



There is a difference between a biomarker that is well-identified or a biomarker that has a diagnostic value, being validated. Here, a biomarker is something that has clinical use.





One of the participants mentioned that diagnostics is a word to take very broadly. This corresponds to some Operational Objectives of the SRIA. If you want biomarkers to be useful for diagnostics, they have to be validated. In practical terms, only a few of them could be used. We need indicators and tools that have to be validated and maybe harmonised through the EUP.

It was concluded that the EUP could foster both activities, for more basic research, validation and dissemination of clinical tools.

Intervention and treatments & vaccines



Discussions were around the topics of new molecules and therapeutic potential use in veterinary medicine. It should be clear that the development of new molecules/treatments has to be authorised for the market and companies usually do This. It is also a question of budget.

It was indicated that there will be public research but also activities involving the private sector, up to certain Technology Readiness Levels (TRL).

Many molecules are used for humans and not for animals. Various experts expressed this need after our consultation, but feasibility is another question.

The regulatory background was discussed: there are a lot of regulatory hurdles, increasing the risk for new molecules to be brought to the market.

One participant commented on the possibility that the EUP could lead towards new molecules and therapeutics: e.g., the potential use of alternatives to antibiotics.

Framing on new molecules and therapeutic is the aim, but it could send the wrong signal as well. We are not aiming for new antibiotics, but more preventive care would be a very important point to consider.

In the EUP, it is possible to promote a better connection between competitive and non-competitive research. All the strategic initiatives are described in the PAHW dossier and will improve the research producer and regulatory organisation to facilitate the process. This is quite complex, but it should really help.





Social sciences



Discussions revolved around the role of Social Sciences in the regulatory process and the need to foster a common way of discussion between science-based organisations and regulatory organisations.

One participant mentioned that risk assessment and risk management can be seen as very ambitious goals. It is possible to involve non-scientist stakeholders within the EUP to write its communication strategy. There is a need to keep in the loop the organisations like regulatory ones and private ones. This could be the first time that we have the possibility with the EC to address this kind of stakeholder in a strategy, as they were involved from the beginning.

One of the participants commented on the best way to organise the interaction between research actors (present in the Consortium or in the open calls) and users and stakeholders, including policymakers. If we have this kind of structured interaction upstream, it will probably have more impact. EUP can play a role in research and the interaction between different types of stakeholders.

### Part 4: Open questions

According to your perception, is the added value of the partnership clear and well communicated? (Yes/No question)

Yes	No
13	1

Do you think that the delineation between the scope of the partnership and that of other initiatives at the national and EU levels (and the potential for synergies) is feasible? (Yes/No question)

Yes	No				
13	1				

The participant who answered no, mentioned that AH&W is such a broad topic that it will have some overlap regarding the other partnerships and this is not a bad thing. Having that bit of boundaries that allows cooperation with others is good.

Considering that the partnership ideally follows a Europe-wide approach, do you see possible alignment between the assessment and the situation in your country? (Yes/No question)

Yes	No
10	1





In case of negative answers, it was discussed that there is still national production of data that are not harmonised at the EU level. Harmonisation is possible but will require a lot of internal work.

#### **Open Answers**

In which specific area(s) of work is your organisation/authority more active/interested and what could you provide? (Ranking, 3 options per person)

Data & knowledge sharing	9
Technologies	8
Training and mobility	7
Policy compliance	5
Standardisation	5
Regulatory aspects	4
Infrastructures	2
Products-service offerings	2
Intellectual property rights	1
None of the above	0

Do you foresee any additional outcome that could be expected and would be important to consider?

- Improve concrete OH approach through networking
- Networking
- Wildlife aspects are mentioned on just a few occasions there might be more changes for useful integration and/or overlap with previous EU projects
- Better circular economy
- Ability to tackle global challenges, include with other sectors (development agencies BMGF etc.)
- Effects on climate change
- Improved consumers' awareness of AW
- Harmonisation on the application and implementation of AH protocols and best practice guides in the EU
- Actions toward OH institutionalisation
- Integration of AHW with food systems
- Remove negative press about animal productions
- Improved scientific evidence and methods to characterise the link between antibiotic use and AMR in animals and humans
- Attract investments
- Coordination of research and innovation within Europe and globally
- Better knowledge of host-pathogen interaction especially for transboundary diseases and zoonoses
- Larger geographical implementations
- Genetic resistance to disease and valorisation of native breeds
- Wildlife control and mitigation... (ASF)
- Improve knowledge of the economic impacts of Animal diseases
- Better control of AID which severely impacts the economy.





## The final conclusion of the Workshop

Hein Imberechts took the floor to conclude the workshop and thank all participants, speakers and the supporting team for their input and help. He pointed out that the additional information gathered during this exercise will be translated into an amended SRIA and the results of this workshop will surely help to improve it.

In the wrap-up session of the rapporteurs (see details above), it became clear that many reflections were similar. These exercises in breakout sessions led to useful discussions and a better understanding of the SRIA and the planned activities within the EUP.

This workshop had an educational part, to inform the different participants and to increase awareness about the needs, the broad areas of work (i.e. One Health approach, Big data, Social sciences), and the potential activities. For example, in all the subgroups of BO1 and BO2, One Health was discussed, and it became clear that the One Health principle is understood in different ways by some attendees. Also, many participants recognised that social sciences are essential when dealing with animal health and welfare, for instance when it comes to public opinion and farmer and consumer behaviour in relation to livestock production, transport and slaughter techniques and fisheries.

Participants foresee different types of actions and also interactions with other partnerships. Alignment is not always that easy and is still an expression of a need. Hein Imberechts concluded that, in terms of perceptions of the 'research and other needs' and the proposed activities as presented in the actual SRIA, there was a general agreement. Not too much difference between the groups was identified, meaning that the participants understood the definitions of the areas of work in a similar way.

Regarding the strategy and feasibility, the report from the rapporteur indicated that all scores were relatively high, so, fortunately, what is proposed in the SRIA is in general endorsed by stakeholders. Improved specifications can still be done, but at least this is an acceptable basis.

Stakeholders want to contribute and have suggestions on how to contribute; therefore, the Core Team dealing with the SRIA is looking forward to receiving further details from them.

Hein Imberechts suggested also the following steps after this workshop:

- 1. All people who received an invitation to the workshop will soon get an email containing a link to an online survey. This will be an opportunity to reply to all questions raised, after having read the current SRIA, and add some elements that could have been missed during the Breakout sessions.
- 2. Afterwards, a broader consultation will be organised regarding the AH&W SRIA. This is an important milestone in the process of this partnership and the involvement of its future stakeholders.

Hein Imberechts took the time to mention the Evaluation survey available for participants, to give some feedback and points of improvement on how today's workshop was organised.

He finished his talk by thanking also Sven Arnouts for taking up the huge task of coordinating the future partnership.

Jean-Charles Cavitte added that the results of this workshop belong to the future Consortium. He also warmly thanked all who could contribute to the content, but also the people who supported the organisation of the event.

Hein Imberechts finally concluded that people who feel having the expertise and are willing to contribute to the development of the SRIA and the partnership are welcome to communicate with him via e-mail.





## Annex 1 WORKSHOP to launch the process to develop the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the future European Partnership on Animal Health & Welfare

### Introduction

This workshop is an important step to contribute to the development of the AH&H SRIA that will need to be endorsed by the Partnership consortium. Thus, interested parties (both future members/actors, and key stakeholders) must be involved in the finalisation. After this workshop, the draft SRIA will be amended and a consultation will follow.

### Objectives of the workshop:

- Inform AH&W authorities, funding organisations and research-performing organisations about the EUP AH&W latest developments.
- Get the audience engaged in the co-creation process that is needed to build the AH&W SRIA and the EUP AH&W proposal.
- Amend the current version of the draft SRIA in a way that it is better aligned with the interest of both the beneficiaries and the stakeholders, i.e.
  - make sure that the most appropriate instruments (i.e. external open or internal research calls, reference and integrative actions and joint activities) will be used to address the research and other needs,
  - **select specific areas of work** that meet the ambition of most beneficiaries and that optimally gain the stakeholders' interest,
  - **identify the expected outcomes and impact** of the EUP AH&W that are **best aligned** with the stakeholders' strategy.

The consultation will be extended beyond this workshop.

See detailed agenda on next page.





10 November 2022			
	Session 1 - Introd	uction	
09.00-09.30	Checking in		
09.30-09.35	Welcome and introduction to the meeting and Objectives of the workshop - Hein Imberechts, Coordinator of the AH&W SCAR CWG		
09.35-09.45	Introduction to EUP AH&W: basic features and state of play of the EUP process - Jean- Charles Cavitte, DG AGRI, European Commission		
09.45-10.15	Introduction to the SRIA and its significance - Hein Imberechts, Coordinator of the AH&W SCAR CWG: - Presentation of the EUP AH&W and its intervention logic with objectives - Explanation of the role of the SRIA in the EUP AH&W		
10.15-10.25	Questions and Answers		
10.25-10.45	Methodology of the SRIA and process, brief feedback from the pre-workshop expert consultation - Marina Bagni, Ministry of Health, IT		
10.45-11.00	Questions and Answers		
11.00-11.15	Coffee break		
	Session 2 - Breakout	sessions	
11.15-11.25	Introduction to the breakout sessions: process and aim - Hein Imberechts, Coordinator of the AH&W SCAR CWG:		
11.25-12.30	<ul> <li>Breakout session 1: Members' view</li> <li>Planned activities</li> <li>This Breakout (BO) session will be split into 3 thematic subgroups: <ol> <li>Surveillance and diagnostics</li> <li>Farm practices</li> <li>Treatments and vaccines</li> </ol> </li> <li>Each subgroup will deal with the following aspects: <ul> <li>Part 1: Assess how the EUP AH&amp;W will contribute to a selection of broad areas of work</li> <li>Part 2: Classify a selection of 'Research &amp; other needs' of the SRIA in categories</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Breakout session 2: Stakeholders' view</li> <li>Expected outcomes and impacts</li> <li>This Breakout (BO) session will be split into 2 parallel subgroups:</li> <li>Each subgroup will deal with the following aspects:</li> <li>Part 1: Assess how the EUP AH&amp;W will contribute to a selection of broad areas of work</li> <li>Part 2: Score strategic needs according to their value to the stakeholders' strategies</li> <li>Part 3: Score strategic needs according to their feasibility in the framework of the EUP AH&amp;W</li> <li>Part 4: Open questions</li> </ul>	
12.30-13.30	Lunch break		
13.30-14.30	Continuation Breakout session 1 per subgroup	Continuation Breakout session 2	
14.30-14.45	Wrap-up of main conclusions per Breakout topic		
14.45-15.00	Coffee Break		
	Session 3 - Conclusions a	ind next steps	
15.00-15.30	Wrap-up session to plenary		
15.30-15.45	Comments by participants		
15.45-16.00	<ul> <li>Main conclusions on how to improve the SRIA</li> <li>Next steps</li> <li>Evaluation of the workshop</li> <li>By Hein Imberechts, Coordinator of the AH&amp;W SCAR CWG</li> </ul>		