The experience of the Veterinary Services of Italy in disaster management

15thJPC/REMESA 2017
Amman (Jordan), 20 – 22 November
The Italian Civil Protection system

The **Civil Protection Department** has been grounded in the offices of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers since **1982**

*It has a guiding role*, in agreement with regional and local governments, of projects and activities for **the prevention, forecast and monitoring of risks and intervention procedures** that are common to the whole system.

In the **event of large-scale catastrophes** (State of emergency declaration by the Council of Ministers) **which must be tackled by extraordinary means and powers**, the CP Dept. activates the **Direction of Command and Control (DiComaC)** and establishes **Operating Centers at municipal and inter-municipal level**, that are located in the disaster-stricken areas and operate under the control of Majors and Prefectures.
The supporting functions

F 1 - Technical and planning
F 2 - Public health, social and veterinary assistance
F 3 - Mass-media and information
F 4 - Volunteers
F 5 - Materials and means
F 6 - Transport, traffic and road conditions
F 7 - Telecommunications
F 8 - Essential services
F 9 - Census damage to persons and property
F 10 - Operational structures
F 11 - Local authorities
F 12 - Hazardous Materials
F 13 - Assistance to the population
F 14 - Coordination of operational centers
Amatrice, 24 August 2016
Following to the first phase of the relief efforts, which were dedicated to the search and rescue of people, an **Interregional Technical Committee (CTI)** was established in agreement between the **Ministry of Health**, the **National Civil Protection Department** and the **Ministry of Agriculture food and forestry policies**.
Thanks to the **IUVENE Information System**, linked to the **National Veterinary Information System**, it has been possible to manage all urgent help requests and prioritize the veterinary interventions, to record the information, to provide real-time data access, and to produce reporting maps and GIS layers.
Civil Protection Department

DiComaC

F 2 - Public health, social and veterinary assistance

CTI
DGSAN + DIPEISR
Regional VSs + IIZZSS
IUVENE

MoH

MoA

Lazio
Gruppo Regione Umbria

Umbria

Marche
PF VeSA

Abruzzo
Tavolo di coordinamento delle emergenze zootecniche e veterinarie

Local Health Units

Operating Centers at municipal and inter-municipal level

State of emergency declaration
Continuous Improvement

IDENTIFY the NEED
CORRECTIVE ACTION
EVALUATE
PLANNING
RESOURCING
TRAINING & EDUCATION

Exercise Management Model

Incident
140 Municipalities in 4 regions
60,000 residents (almost 30,000 evacuated)
more than 25,000 farms
Animal feed demand: 292
Technical-logistic problem reporting: 91
Collapsed barns and animal feed demand: 85
Demand of health care interventions or medicinal products: 48
Collapsed barn: 40
Collapsed barn and dead animals: 36
Donation of food, animal products, materials and structures: 31
Foster care or adoption availability: 29
Sighting/finding of stray animals: 17
Information request: 15
Request for recovery of lost animals: 13
Request for recovery of dead animals: 12
Collapsed barn and animals in danger (free animals): 12
Isolated barn (out of area): 9
Willingness to volunteer: 9
Collapsed barn and wounded animals: 5
Collapsed barn, wounded animals and feed demand: 4
Collapsed barn, electricity absence and dead animals: 3
Electricity absence: 3
Collapsed barn and electricity absence: 3
Cash donations: 2
Collapsed barn and animals in danger (free animals): 2
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Another lesson learned...

- A centralized Disaster Management Centre to collect and analyse data and information, prioritize actions, ensure evidence-based decisions, coordinate the VSSs activities at regional/local level;
- **Horizontal and vertical coordination/communication** within and between the different actors and CAs, including NGOs and the private sector;
- **Risk based, flexible contingency plans and SOPs** for a common management structure and terminology, systematic reporting, monitoring and assessment of the progresses;
- **Short command chain, clear roles and responsibilities, proper administrative provisions** to ensure effectiveness/efficiency;
- **Key staff to be trained to carry out their duties** within the contingency plans, exercising and public awareness programs;
- **Two way communication between highest operational level right down to the “front-line”** - rapid feedback of information;
- The «human factor» is fundamental during non-epidemic emergency management and community engagement is essential, “listen and learn” from the people.