

**10th GFTADs RSC for Africa**  
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Lidewij Wiersma  
**FAO OFFLU Focal Point**



# What is OFFLU?

- OFFLU is a **global, open network of expertise to support and coordinate global efforts to prevent, detect and control important influenza subtypes in animals**
- Established in 2005 jointly by FAO and OIE

Covers a **range of disciplines** including

- Diagnostics
- Classic and molecular epidemiology
- Virology
- Animal production
- Vaccinology
- Veterinary medicine

Comprised of **world-class experts** from

- OIE and FAO Reference and Collaborating Centres
- Diagnostic and research facilities



# OFFLU's Vision

To provide **early recognition and characterisation of emerging influenza viral strains in animal populations**, and **effective management** of known infections, thereby

- better managing the risk to human health
- supporting global food security
- improving health and welfare of domestic and wild animals

# OFFLU's Objectives

- Share technical **advice, training and expertise** with international organisations and member countries
- **Exchange scientific data and biological materials, to analyse data, and to share information** with the scientific community and policy makers
- Collaborate with WHO on animal-human interface related issues, including pandemic preparedness through informing **vaccine strain selection**
- **Highlight influenza surveillance and research needs**, promote and co-ordinate their development



# Technical Activities

- Avian influenza
- Swine influenza
- OFFLU collaboration with WHO to inform human influenza vaccine composition
- Equine Influenza
- Influenza in Wildlife
- Epidemiology
- Socioeconomics
- Other (e.g. proficiency testing to build and maintain diagnostic capacity)

# WHO Influenza Vaccine Composition Meeting

- Crucial Tripartite/OFFLU activity
- Informs pandemic preparedness for zoonotic influenza viruses of (potential) public health concern
- (Confidential) data sharing essential for success!



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization





Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?

For more information:  
[secretariat@offlu.org](mailto:secretariat@offlu.org)  
[www.offlu.org](http://www.offlu.org)