While the need for effective animal health surveillance is widely recognised for diseases management, most veterinary services are facing significant budget constraints. There is a real need to develop cost-effective surveillance systems. To ensure quality of these systems, there is a further need to design comprehensive, timely, effective and affordable evaluation frameworks. Depending on epidemiological, sociological and economic factors, animal diseases surveillance systems can be complex, likewise the choice of attributes to describe them and therefore the choice of methods and tools to evaluate them. Participatory approaches could provide the framework needed to tackle that complexity with sufficient flexibility.

**OBJECTIVES**

**MAIN OBJECTIVE**
Identifying important attributes of surveillance systems for which the use of participatory methods could be an efficient complement or substitute to conventional approaches.

**OTHER OBJECTIVES**
- Describing evaluation frameworks used in animal and public health
- Describing the rationale behind the attributes and the tools selected
- Assessing the adequacy between evaluation goals and conventional methods
- Identifying gaps or strengths in evaluation methods and tools
- Assessing the needs for improvement or development of innovative frameworks/tools

**METHOD**

**STEP 1**
Identification of the available methods, frameworks, guidelines and tools for the evaluation of surveillance systems

**STEP 2**
Description of the frameworks, guidelines and tools in terms of:
- Objectives
- Inputs and outputs
- Link between inputs and outputs
- Characteristics of the framework which are often rather or required
- Methods and tools used/proposed for their characterization

**STEP 3**
Identification of the attributes for which participatory methods could be applied

**STEP 4**
Description of the participatory approaches which could be applied and their interest compared to more conventional methods

**STEP 5**
Identification of the needs for improvement or development of innovative tools and development of new evaluation guidelines (refining process)

**STEP 6**
Participatory mapping

---

**TOOLS FOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM EVALUATION**

- Reviewing the need for participatory approaches

---

**PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attributes</th>
<th>COSTS</th>
<th>ACCEPTABILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frameworks / guidelines / tools</td>
<td>SERVAL¹, HSCC², OASIS³</td>
<td>SERVAL¹, HSCC², OASIS³, WHO⁴, CDC⁵</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative importance in the evaluation</td>
<td>Needed to assess the economic attributes (e.g. the cost-benefits)</td>
<td>One of the most important attribute (CDC): efficiency of surveillance systems greatly dependent on stakeholders’ engagement and participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tools / methods proposed for the assessment</td>
<td>List of fixed/variable costs</td>
<td>Factors likely to influence participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimation of the costs</td>
<td>Points of interaction between network and participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Distribution among stakeholders</td>
<td>Closed ended questionnaires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– Closed ended questionnaires</td>
<td>Review of surveillance reports forms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limits</td>
<td>Difficulty to collect valuable information when asking directly to stakeholders about costs</td>
<td>Limited information collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Qualitative approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Possible negative approach to stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest of participatory approaches</td>
<td>Use of direct methods and triangulation to assess economic reality of stakeholders</td>
<td>Collection of social/cultural information to assess stakeholders constraints/ beliefs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Direct involvement of stakeholders in the system and in the evaluation process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Semi-quantitative approaches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

1. Servitude (PubliMark framework); HSCC; OASIS. A new generic framework for the evaluation of animal health surveillance, 2013.

Participatory approaches could lead to a better structuring of the system and to the improvement of stakeholders’ adherence to the surveillance network. Moreover, some essential information are not always easy to collect and/or quantify (e.g. benefits quantification, target population, time between detection and reporting, etc.). The comparison of information obtained from multiple informants using a variety of participatory techniques could facilitate the assessment of some attributes.