Network for Evaluation of One Health

cost EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

NEOH STSM to meet Working Group 1 leaders, evaluation experts and collaborators to conceptualise contributions to the NEOH handbook

REFERENCE: Short Term Scientific Mission, COST TD1404 NEOH

Beneficiary

Full name of grantee: Barbara Haesler
Current position (e.g. PhD student, Post doc, Senior Scientist): Lecturer in Agrihealth
Affiliation: Royal Veterinary College, Veterinary Epidemiology, Economics and Public Health Group, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Hatfield AL9 7TA,
Country: United Kingdom

Host

Host 1:

Name of Host: Jakob Zinsstag
Current position (e.g. PhD student, Post doc, Senior Scientist): Professor in Epidemiology and Public Health
Affiliation: Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Socinstrasse 57, Postfach, CH-4002 Basel
Country: Switzerland

Host 2:

Name of Host: Paul Torgerson
Current position (e.g. PhD student, Post doc, Senior Scientist): Professor in Veterinary Epidemiology
Affiliation: University of Zurich, Vetsuisse Faculty, Winterthurerstrasse 270, CH-8057 Zürich
Country: Switzerland

Period: from *Day-Month-Year* to *Day-Month-Year*
21 May 2015 to 30 May 2015

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1. Purpose of the visit

This STSM served to work on the content of Chapters 3 and 4 in the NEOH evaluation handbook. The aim was to visit NEOH collaborators who are also working on contributions to the handbook for evaluation of One Health to agree on the key characteristics of the proposed One Health evaluation framework and to ensure that the conceptual framework led by Dr. Ruegg (Chapter 3) and the evaluation protocol led by myself (Chapter 4) are well aligned. Another aim was to seek the opinion and input of other people with experience in One Health and/or evaluation.

The objectives were to present the draft outline for an evaluation protocol for One Health to collaborators and specialists from various instiutions who have relevant One Health and/or evaluation experience and get their feedback and input and discuss the development of the evaluation protocol.

2. Description of the work carried out

I had several meetings with Prof. Jakob Zinsstag from the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and Dr Simon Ruegg from the University of Zurich to discuss the following topics: 1) The need for evaluation of One Health; 2) the overall structure of the evaluation handbook and its content; 3) core characteristics of One Health; 4) the challenge for evaluation resulting from different levels of complexity in One Health; and 5) how One Health initiatives could be classified to enable general evaluation guidance.

Moreover, I met the following people in Basel, Fribourg and Bern with the following purposes:

- Dr Mirko Winkler, a specialist on health impact assessment and quantitative impact assessment to discuss the key differences between the two approaches and how they may be useful.
- Dr Marlène Läubli Loud, evaluator, to talk about evaluation appraoches for large-scale programmes.
- Dr Laura Falzon, chapter collaborator, to discuss the usefulness of process evaluation.
- Prof Katharina Staerk, a specialist on Veterinary Public Health with expertise in evaluation of animal health projects and programmes, to discuss the application of evaluation approaches to One Health.

In between these meetings I read literature recommended by the people I had met, in particular publications on the evaluation of complex systems and One Health characteristics.
The activities led to an iterative process of consultation, reflection and development. As an activity on the side we also refined the programme and planned the activities for the NEOH WG1 meeting and Training School taking place in Romania in June 2015.

3. Description of the main results obtained

The STSM has facilitated a common understanding of how Chapters 3 and 4 could be structured and which elements of evaluation need to be emphasised. Consensus was achieved regarding the necessity of classifying One Health initiatives according to their complexity and relate them to the suitability and potential limitations of different evaluation approaches (process evaluation, impact evaluation, non-linear impact assessment, etc.). A table was drafted with the following nodes: type of One Health initiative, number of people involved, number of stakeholders, geographical extension, disciplines involved, financial scheme, and time scope as a basis to define a complexity score that would categorise a One Health initiative into simple, complicated, complex, and highly complex. A first proposal was drafted for linking the different evaluation types to the complexity category.

4. Future collaboration with host institution (if applicable)

The development of the handbook for evaluation of One Health in Working Group (WG) 1 is a continuous ongoing and long-term process that will require regular interaction and collaboration with the Working Group 1 leaders and the chapter collaborators. Moreover, other people I met indicated that they are happy to be consulted with questions and act as advisors in the development of Chapter 4 for the handbook. I am planning to ask them for feedback on specific questions that arise when drafting the relevant chapters.

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5. Projected publications resulting or anticipated to result from the STSM

The activities are an important part of the development of Chapters 3 and 4 of the handbook for evaluation of One Health and contribute to the foundation for the successful implementation of the Action.

6. Confirmation by the host of the successful execution of the mission

The mission was carried out as planned and has resulted in substantial process in the conceptualisation of Chapters 3 and 4.

7. Financial summary

Expenses	Total expenses in EUR	% covered by NEOH grant (EUR)
Travel	260 EUR	50% (130 EUR)
Accommodation	520 EUR	41% (214 EUR)
Consumables (food, local travel, book)	626 EUR	64% (400 EUR)
Total	**1100 EUR**	**100% (744 EUR)**

The costs for consumables were high, because of travelling various times by public transport between Basel (Host 1), Zurich (Host 2) as well as Bern and Fribourg to meet various people. Moreover, I decided to buy the book "One Health- The theory and practice of integrated approaches".

8. Other comments (if any)

I would like to thank all collaborators and experts for their willingness to make time to meet me and for fruitful and productive discussions and to the NEOH Action for funding this STSM.

Signatures

Date (25 June 2015)

Grantee

Host 1 (Jakob Zinsstag)

Host 2 (Paul Torgerson)