Coordination / Communication Mechanisms and Tools

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J. Seetahal, P. Alfonso, K., Georges, E. Etter, S. Baugh, Dane Hartley
Y. Gutierrez, S Veira, A. De San Mateo.

Reminder – 2020 Meetings recommendations

XV SC Meeting Recommendations, 6 May 2020

- To **establish communication and coordination mechanisms in the region /** CaribVET seen by CAHFSA and CARICOM Secretariat to be an overarching institution in the Caribbean.
- The **Communications WG will play a leading role** in pulling the activity together and will get support from CAHFSA and CARICOM and some other SC members.

XX CCVO Meeting, 4 June 2020

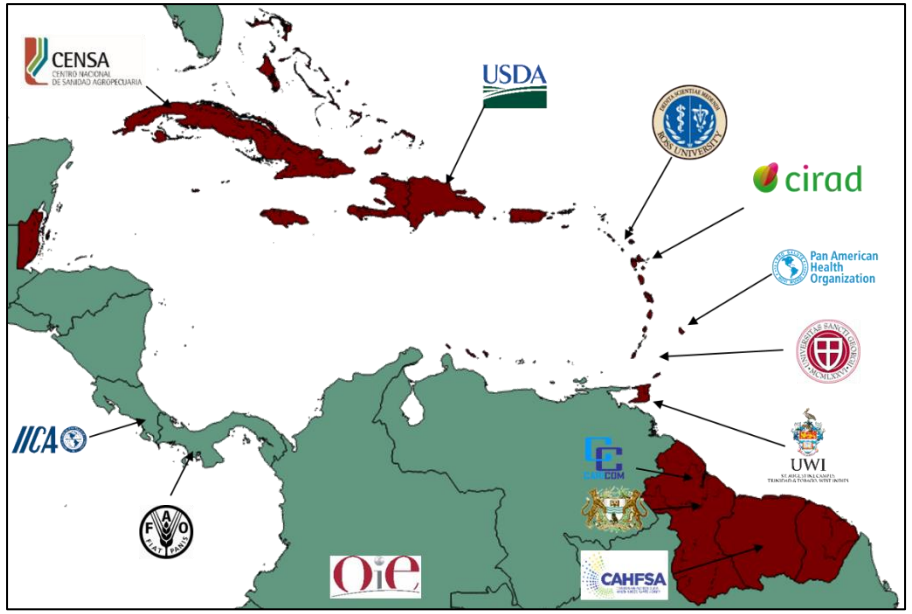
- Recognise the important and **essential role of CaribVET in strengthening the coordination of ASF emergency preparedness and response programmes** in the Caribbean
- Support **CaribVET to strengthen and formalise a shared communication and coordination strategy and mechanisms with other organisations to be more comprehensive and efficient in outreach**

Coordination Committee & Communications WG

- October 2020: The CC working on the coordination mechanisms/tools, Application: ASF, J. Pradel: leader
- March 2021: Application to Soufrière Volcano eruption – Preparedness and Response.

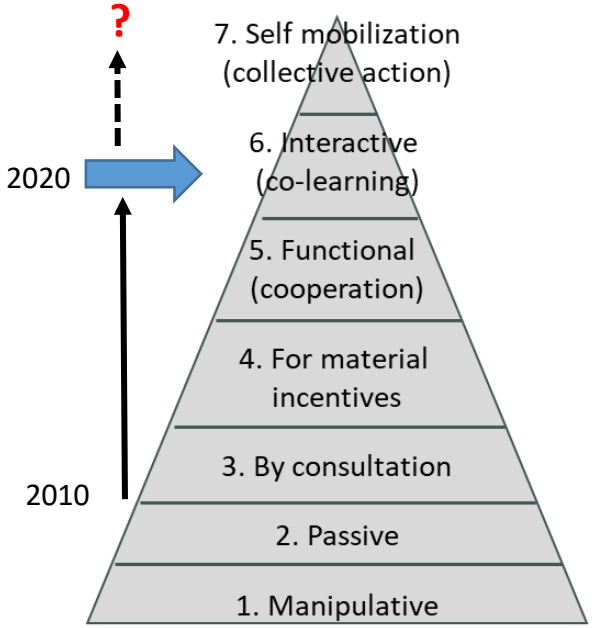
CaribVET : an evolving, highly collaborative & polycentric network

Recognition	Charter	Recognition OIE, CIRAD	Enlarged Coordination Unit	Economic evaluation	Evaluations	Legal Status	Regional Recognition coordinating role	Enhanced structuration
2006	2010	2012	2012	2016	2016-2017	2020	2020	2021



Continuous Growing Members' Participation:

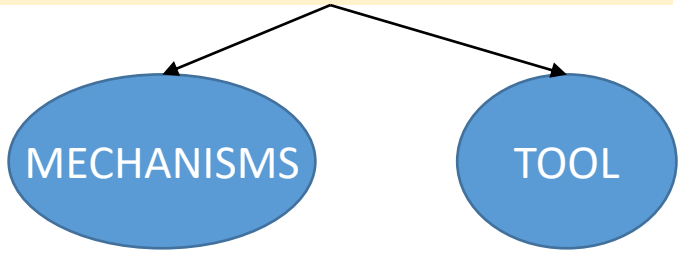
- Coordination, facilitation (CC) Since 2012
- Decision making (SC) Since 2018
- Network Management Since 2021



Types of community participation
Pretty 1994 & Cornwall 1996

Need an enabling environment to allow OPERATIONAL WORK:

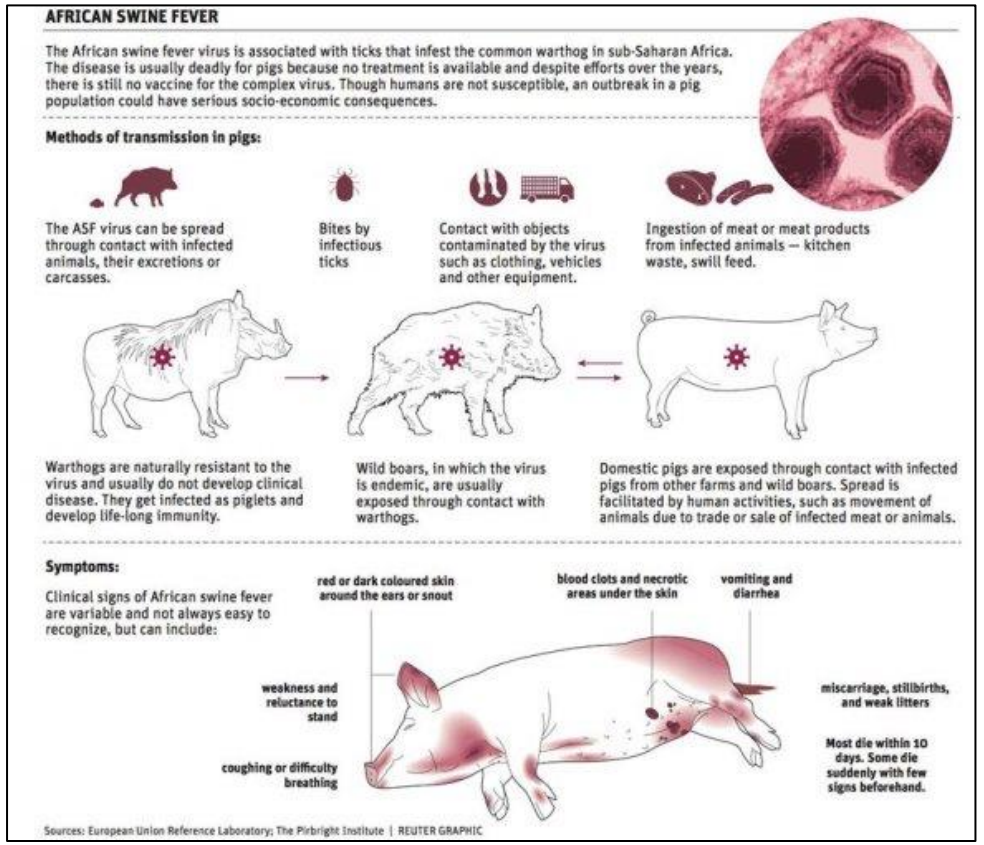
+ efficient & + effective collaborative work



Priority application: Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

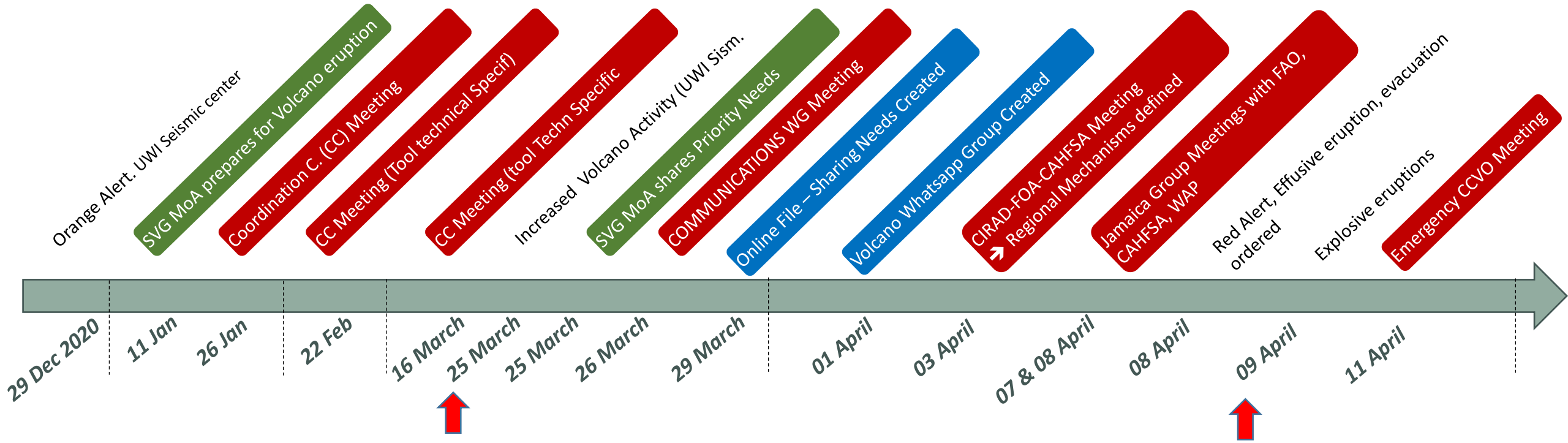
Natural Disaster

Disease outbreak



Case Study: Soufrière Eruption, preparation & response

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS



Volcano Reponse Group (whatsapp): 33 participants from 8 countries and 20 organisations
Online Sharing needs File (Google Sheet): Link here

Proposed Mechanism Disaster Preparedness & reponse – Who is involved and Main steps?

Objectives:

1. Share OFFICIAL, RELEVANT and UPDATED information with a large audience, following AGREED MECHANISMS
2. Help Affected countries GET best and timely support
3. Help members willing to assist to PROVIDE best support.
4. Foster synergies, share experience, avoid duplication

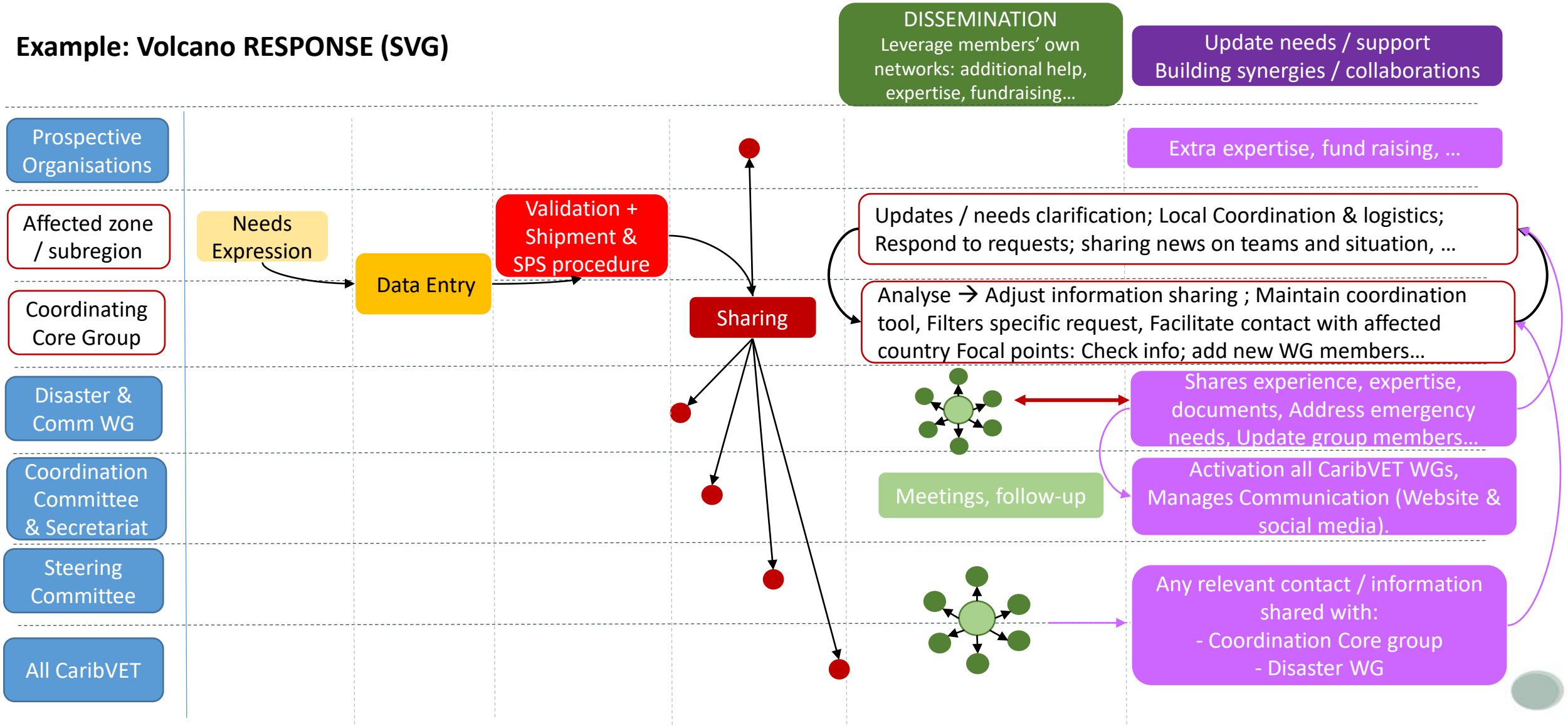
Main Groups (in addition of SC & CC)	**WHO**
Disaster Coordination « CORE GROUP »	**5:** CAHFSA, FAO, CIRAD, comm WG Chair, Epigroup/DRRM Chair
Affected / at Risk Zone / Subregion	**2: CVO of affected country + sub-regional coordinator**
Disaster Preparedness / response WG	**> 12**: active persons with expertise, experience, interest
Prospective Organisations	> 4: CDEMA, WAP, Red Cross, OIRSA, …

Example: Volcano Preparedness - SHARING needs

Main STEPS	**WHO**
1. Needs Expression	• **Affected Country / At risk**, shared with DRRM Core Group
2. Data Entry	• Affected Country / At risk • Or DRRM Core Group
3. Validation	• Affected Country / At risk
< 12h	
4. Sharing Widely	• DRRM Core Group

Proposed Mechanism – Who is doing What, When?

Example: Volcano RESPONSE (SVG)



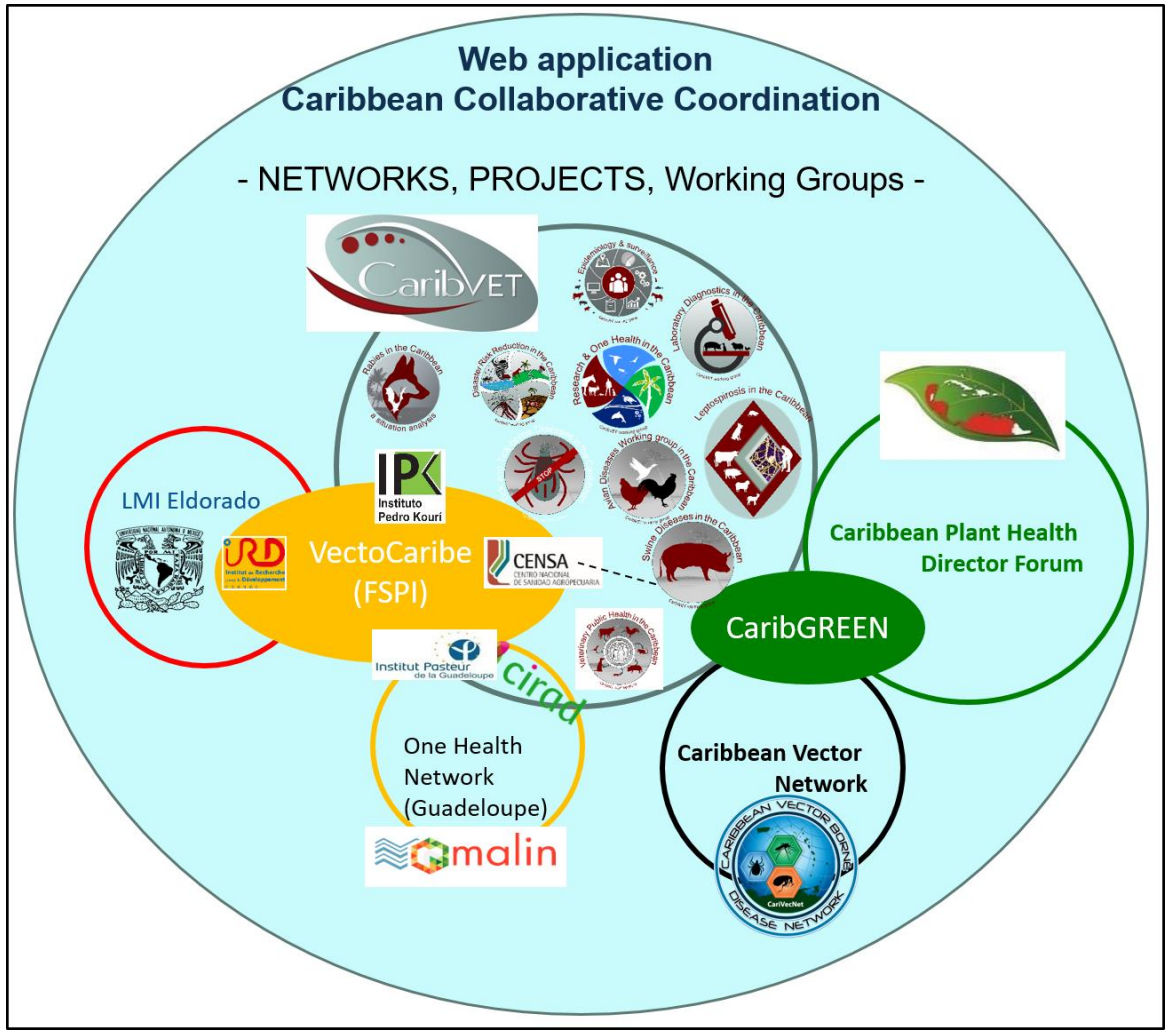
Proposed Mechanisms - key attributes for operational collaborations

A complex Operation that run smoothly despite the nb of persons involved

- **Trust**, **history of collaborations, Friendship and Strong commitment**
- **New** persons/groups were (very) **easily integrated** (based on interest, willingness to assist, experience… Ex Jamaica Group
- **Community of practice, roles and responsibilities established** even if freshly formalized
  ➔ **NO overlap/duplication** between groups: Coord Comm, Disaster Core Group, Disaster Response group, Comm WG, SC group…
  ➔ **Some synergies / complementaries** could be organized
- **Capitalization** on years of previous works and **learning from past experience** (Maria/Irma…).
- Experience: a **new Tool** to share more easily needs / offers (Google Sheet - TEMPORARY) – Work efficiency.

- Important to keep: **The Core Group (CAHFSA / FAO / CIRAD + WG chairs - Comm & Epi/DRRM)**
  ➔ close communication/strategize, anticipation, debriefings…

« Too Cool » - Web application (under development)



Why a new tool?

To support the development of regional collaborations

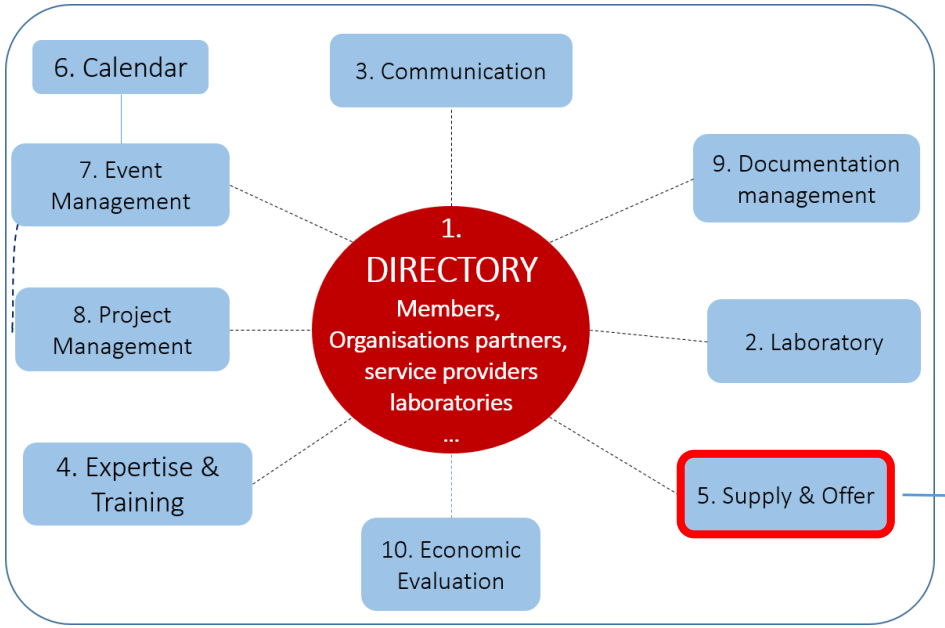
- **SHARE more easily with other members**
- **Increase the efficiency of collaborations**
- Facilitate **links/synergies between projects / network / WG** aligned with the regional strategy
- **Integrate information** from local to regional level
- **Involve partners, members and stakeholders much more easily**

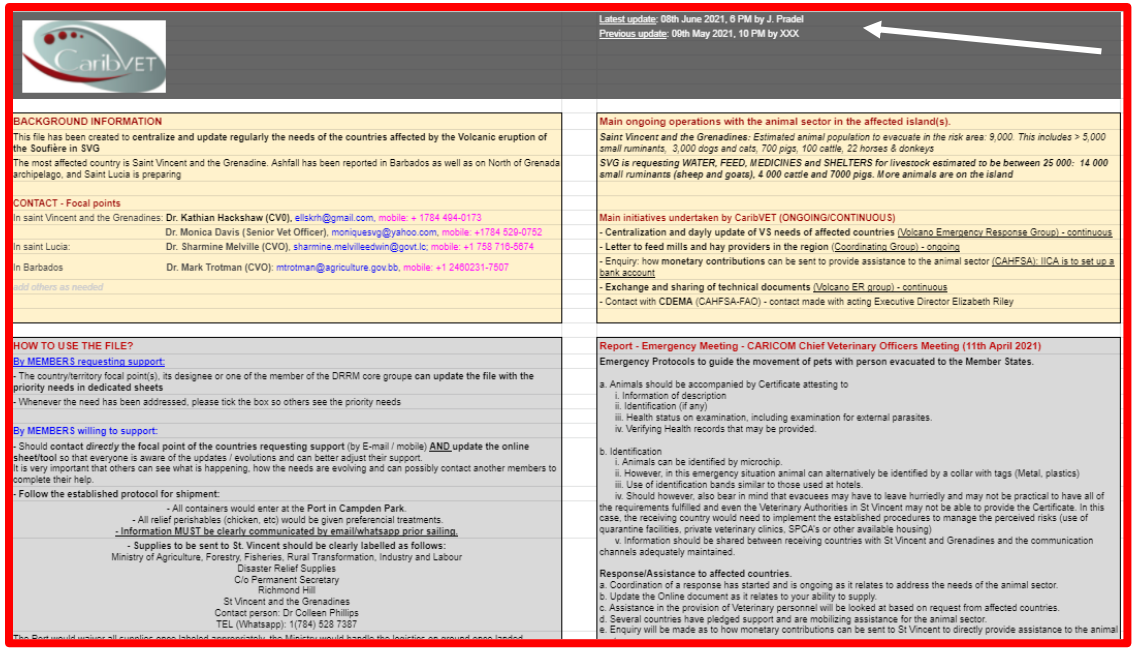
Eventually:

- Support the **polycentric* development** of regional networks
- Build up an **institutional memory**

Applications:
Any Interdisciplinary and multisectoral network

* CaribVET activities led by a variety of organisations: UWI, USDA, FAO, CIRAD, PAHO, CENSA, IICA, OIE, …

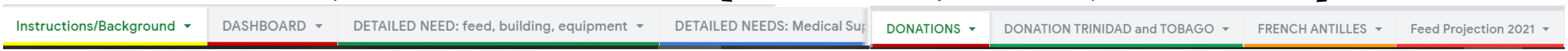




Latest update
Latest contributor

Google Sheet
SVG response

Various sections to share specific information.



A SUPPORTING infrastructure for the teams to work more efficiently and effectively together

- The tool will **NOT replace analysis and decision making**
- The tool will **NOT do our work.**

  ➔ **It will automatize repeated tasks, help us get organized and save time!**

Relying on CaribVET established rules: USERS and RIGHTS | Regional Mechanisms

<u>Ongoing development</u>
Tool release: August 2021
Pilot & training: End 2021

QUESTIONS to the CaribVET SC

1. **Regional Mechanisms (applied to natural disaster Response…)**
   - ✓ **A Key Recommendation:** whenever you have an information relevant for the network: Share it with the CaribVET SC Whatsapp Group or the Coordination Committee /
   - ✓ Comments on the mechanisms for « natural disaster reponse » case study:
     1. **Other mechanisms to take into consideration?**
     2. **Communication between the regional and subregional level** (to ease the communication with the affected country and their natural neighbors?)
        - **Ex: for CARICOM and Caricom Associate Members ➔ CAHFSA**
        - **For a French Territory ➔ A. De San Mateo (officially recognized by French MOA as the coordinator for French territories for CaribVET**
        - **Who are the natural « coordinator » for the US territories? Dutch territories? for the DR / Cuba? …**
   - ✓ **Recommend develop Other regional mechanisms applied to :**
     1. **other DRRM phases: prevention, preparedness, Recovery**
     2. **disease outbreak / major exotic disease introduction (ASF)**
2. **Online Tool – Support REQUESTED / OFFERED**
   - ✓ **Comment on its usefulness?**
   - ✓ Areas of improvements, desired functionalities?

Thank you !

Users and user rights

Users' :

- **Not only Assistant** or dedicated persons, or coordinators

Users' Profiles

- **Manager**: Administrator, network coordinator(s)
- **Collaborator**: Project Coordinator, Working Group chair/co-chair
- **Contributor**: WP leader, Sub-working Group leaders, activity leader
- **Members**: Participants in Network/Project/WG/activities /laboratories
- **Visitors**: Not participating directly in activities but interested or potential stakeholder (high level, civil society, public/private organisation, funding partners, service providers, others).

Managers:

- **Access all components, modules, functionalities and content**.
- Can **create, read, modify and delete content** of the network/associated projects/WG/activities.

Collaborators:

- Same as Manager for their **projects/WG** only.
- **CANNOT delete** content created by other collaborators / managers.
- Can delete content created by contributors and members.

Contributors:

- Same as Manager for their **workpackage / subgroup / activity** they are in charge of.
- They can create content but cannot modify/delete content created by other contributors/collaborators/manager.

Members:

- They access to all components but have **limited rights on modules and functionalities**.
- They access to **a personal space** where they **can edit, create modify their information.** They can suggest deletion.
- They can create, modify and delete their data.
- They can access to the directory and use search functions.

Visitors:

- Can access to publically available information. They cannot add, edit or delete content.
- Can contact the admin teams of a specific project/network, they can make requests through the system, and subscribe to newsletter or to RSS feed.

Methods used: addressing problems & successes of complex collaborations

- Lessons-learned of years collaborative experience in the Caribbean
  - Regional health network, regional or local project, scientific, capacity building or technical projects
  - « Problems » with the implementation of activities making collaborative work not efficient / effective nor responsive in the following contexts:
    - Projects coordination, collaboration, facilitation: VEP, Epigenesis, OHOLOC, SPS, ResisT, Domotick, …
    - WGs activities (Epi, Lab, Avian Diseases, Vector & Vector-Borne in particular)
    - Chairing the CaribVET Coordination Unit (2012-2020)
    - Organization of annual SC meetings and joint events (side scientific conferences, workshop involving up to 6 partners)
    - Emergency preparedness (HPAI, PED, Tropical storms)
    - Simulation exercices, emergency situation
    - Regional Trainings (IATA, emergency preparedness, Risk mapping, CaribPrepVet, …)
    - Organisation of regional surveys (Rabies, HPAI diagnostic capacities, T&TBD surveillance, …)
- Other sources:
  - Recommendations of WG, projects, SC meetings
  - Problem solving workshop (CIRAD-USDA, 2018): Sharing concerns, areas of improvements, ideas, …
  - Feedbacks on the use of a variety of collaborative tools implemented in the meantime
  - Side meetings around beaches, beers or night markets!