

EU HEALTHY GATEWAYS JOINT ACTION
GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 801493

PREPAREDNESS AND ACTION AT POINTS OF ENTRY
(PORTS, AIRPORTS, GROUND CROSSINGS)

INTERIM EVALUATION REPORT

Deliverable D3.1

Version Number 01
October 2019

Work Package 3: Evaluation

Work Package Leader: Ministero della Salute, Italy

Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Italy

The EU HEALTHY GATEWAYS Joint Action has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Third Health Programme (2014-2020).

The content of this document represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA) or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

Content

1	INTRODUCTION	4
2	PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES	4
3	METHOD	4
4	RESULTS INTERNAL EVALUATION	6
4.1	ACTIVITIES EVALUATED FROM 1 ST MAY 2018 TO 31 ST OCTOBER 2019	6
4.1.1	Kick-off meeting. Varna, Bulgaria; June 2018	7
4.1.2	1st General Assembly meeting. Hamburg, Germany; 13 - 14 June 2019	7
4.1.3	Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports". Piraeus, Greece; 12 - 14 March 2019	7
4.1.4	Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at airports". Belgrade, Serbia; 18 – 20 September 2019	7
4.1.5	Webinars.....	7
4.1.6	Interim evaluation 2019.....	8
4.2	DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES.....	9
4.3	INDICATORS.....	16
5	OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS	30

Tables

Table 1: Deliverables' status.

Table 2: Milestones achieved per work package.

Table 3: Process indicators per specific objective of the Joint Action.

Table 4: Output indicators per specific objective of the Joint Action.

Annexes

- Annex 1: Questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the kick-off meeting in Varna, Bulgaria.
- Annex 2: Questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the 1st General Assembly Meeting in Hamburg, Germany.
- Annex 3: Results of the evaluation of the 1st General Assembly Meeting.
- Annex 4: Daily evaluation questionnaire utilized in the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports", in Piraeus, Greece.
- Annex 5: Overall evaluation questionnaire utilized in the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports", in Piraeus, Greece.
- Annex 6: Results of the evaluation of the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports", in Piraeus, Greece.
- Annex 7: Results of the evaluation of the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at airports", in Belgrade, Serbia.
- Annex 8: Questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the webinars carried out in 2018 and 2019.
- Annex 9: Results of the evaluation of the webinars.
- Annex 10: Questionnaire utilized for the Interim Internal Evaluation.
- Annex 11: Results of the Interim Internal Evaluation.



Abbreviations/ definitions

DG SANTE	The Commission's Directorate General for Health and Food Safety
IHR	International Health Regulations
JA	Joint Action
PoE	Point of Entry
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
WHO	World Health Organization

1 INTRODUCTION

This document describes the Interim Evaluation Report (Deliverable D3.1) produced under Work Package 3 - Evaluation of the EU HEALTHY GATEWAYS Joint Action. The EU HEALTHY GATEWAYS Joint Action has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Third Health Programme (2014-2020).

The evaluating period covered in this report is from the 1st May 2018 until 31th October 2019.

2 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the evaluation of this Joint Action is to verify if the project is being implemented as planned.

The objectives of the evaluation are:

- to monitor the Joint Action development
- to contribute to the attainment of Joint Action objectives and to the continuous improvement of the joint action quality
- to assess the Joint Action effectiveness and overall outcome
- assess the Joint Action strengths and weaknesses in relation to opportunities and threats

3 METHOD

The evaluation answers three basic questions:

- progress evaluation: How is the Joint Action progressing in relation to the project objectives and milestones? Is there any unexpected development? ;
- Outcome evaluation: What are the effects of the Joint Action on strengthening national capabilities at point of entry in preventing and combating cross-border health threats from the transport sector? ;
- Impact evaluation: What are the intended, unintended and mid-term effects on controlling health threats at point of entry?



In order to answer the questions and achieve the abovementioned objectives, a descriptive study design was used including an internal and an external evaluation.

Internal evaluation:

The internal evaluation answers the questions in relation to each one of the specific objectives of the Joint Action, by means of progress, output and outcome/impact indicators. It includes surveys with questionnaires at various stages of the joint action and review of reports and other documents on the activities of the Joint Action, to allow progress, output and outcome/impact evaluation.

External evaluation:

The external evaluation has the purpose of identifying and describing strengths and weaknesses of the Joint Action, by means of the SWOT analysis, a strategic planning technique used to help an organization identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats related to a project planning and evaluation. It is a technique intended to identify the internal and external factors that are favourable and unfavourable to achieving project's objectives. In order to ensure further objectivity and rigour, the activity has been subcontracted to an external evaluator. This activity will be conducted after the completion of this report and submitted as a separate report at the end of March 2020.

4 RESULTS INTERNAL EVALUATION

4.1 ACTIVITIES EVALUATED FROM 1ST MAY 2018 TO 31ST OCTOBER 2019

From 1st May 2018 to 31st October 2019 the following activities have been evaluated:

- Kick-off meeting. Varna, Bulgaria; 12 - 13 June 2018
- 1st General Assembly meeting. Hamburg, Germany; 13 - 14 June 2019
- Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports". Piraeus, Greece; 12 - 14 March 2019
- Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at airports". Belgrade, Serbia; 18 – 20 September 2019
- Webinars

Webinar 1: Inspection Grading System. 12 September 2018

Webinar 2: Border health measures to reduce the potential for the introduction or exportation, and spread of public health diseases of international concern. 11 December 2018

Webinar 3: Issues on disinfection and disinfection on aircrafts. 19 March 2019

Webinar 4: Inspection Grading System – an update. 17 April 2019

Webinar 5: Preparing and responding to chemical events at Points of Entry: ports. 28 May 2019

Webinar 6: Preparing and responding to chemical events at Points of Entry: airports. 6 August 2019

Webinar 7: Crossing Borders: Tools and Strategies to Reduce the Risk of Importation and Exportation of Tuberculosis across the U.S. Border. 22 October 2019

Moreover, a questionnaire has been distributed to the consortium members with questions related to coordination and dissemination of activities and the two deliverables listed below.

- D2.1 Leaflet (WP2)
- D2.3 Web-site (WP2)

4.1.1 Kick-off meeting. Varna, Bulgaria; June 2018

The questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the kick-off meeting and its results are shown in **Annex 1**.

Respondents to the questionnaire report a general satisfaction in relation to the contents, the method and the organization of the event, with around 80% of assessment criteria as good or very good.

4.1.2 1st General Assembly meeting. Hamburg, Germany; 13 - 14 June 2019

The questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the 1st General Assembly Meeting is shown in **Annex 2**.

The results of the evaluation show that the meeting was generally/completely successful in achieving its objectives, according to an average of 65% of respondents to the evaluation questionnaire (**Annex 3**).

4.1.3 Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports". Piraeus, Greece; 12 - 14 March 2019

The questionnaires utilized for the evaluation of the course are shown in **Annex 4** and **Annex 5**.

The results of the evaluation are shown in **Annex 6** and highlight positive values, with an average of 80% scoring excellent or good.

4.1.4 Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at airports". Belgrade, Serbia; 18 – 20 September 2019

The questionnaires utilized for the evaluation of the course utilize the same structure and criteria as for the questionnaires.

The results of the evaluation are shown in **Annex 7** and highlight positive values, with an average of 85% scoring excellent or good.

4.1.5 Webinars

A total number of 8 webinars was carried out until 31 October 2019 for a total of about 700 registered participants with a total of 658 views (live and recorded). The questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of each webinar is shown in **Annex 8**. The response rate to the questionnaire was an average of 44% (min. 23% - max. 57%). The overall impression was highly positive: 99.6% of the respondents would recommend the webinar to others. The teaching material was very clear for 87% of the respondents,



the presenter very effective for 99%, the webinar delivery was very easy for 95% and clear to use for 86%.

The detailed results of the evaluation are shown in **Annex 9**.

4.1.6 Interim evaluation 2019

The questionnaire distributed to the work packages leaders for the interim evaluation is shown in **Annex 10** and the detailed results of the evaluation are shown in **Annex 11**.

Overall, the respondents report a high degree of satisfaction for the evaluated issues. The coordination was considered to be very effective/effective and very appropriate/ appropriate by an average of 86% of the respondents (minimum 79% - maximum 92%). The achievement of the project objectives was considered to be in a very high degree by 38% of the respondents and in a high degree by 33% of them. According to 38% of the respondents the dissemination strategy is implemented in a very effective way and for 50% in an effective way to reach the stakeholders.

The deliverables of the WP 2, leaflet (D2.1) and Website (D2.3) were considered to be effective and appropriate in a very high/high degree by an average of 84% (minimum 75% - maximum 88%). Quality and effectiveness of the newsletter was very well/well considered by 92% of the respondents.

4.2 DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

The status of Deliverables and Milestones achieved per work package for the reporting period (month 1 to month 18) is presented in table 1 and table 2, respectively.

Milestones were revised to reflect the latest timetable as this was approved by the steering committee of the joint action and CHAFAA.

Table 1. Deliverables' status.

Deliverable	Description	Month	Status
D1.1	Consortium agreement	1	Delivered
D1.2	Web-based network for points of entry	27	In progress
D2.1	Leaflet	3	Delivered
D2.2	Layman version of the final report	36	In progress
D2.3	Web-site	3	Delivered
D3.1	Interim and final evaluation report	36	In progress
D4.1	Report on the integration in national policies and sustainability	36	In progress
D5.1	State of the art report for ground crossing	21	In progress
D5.2	Strengthening core capacities at ground crossing: best practices on core capacities implementation for event detection, surveillance and management and contingency planning; table top /simulation exercises; tool for contingency plan development and assessment; options for improving the detection and surveillance of public health events	36	In progress
D6.1	Strengthening core capacities at airports: best practices on core capacities implementation for event detection, surveillance and management and contingency planning; table top /simulation exercises; tool for contingency plan development and assessment; options for improving the detection and surveillance of public health events	36	In progress
D7.1	Best practice for inspection auditing and for inspecting conveyances for vectors and guidelines for focused inspections of conveyances in case of outbreaks	23	In progress
D7.2	Strengthening core capacities at ports: best practices on core capacities implementation for event detection, surveillance and management and contingency planning; table top /simulation exercises; tool for	36	In progress

	contingency plan development and assessment; options for improving the detection and surveillance of public health events		
D8.1	Tool to assess chemical preparedness at Ports, Airports and Ground Crossing	36	In progress
D9.1	Web-based training resources catalogue for points of entry including international, EU and national courses	35	In progress
D9.2	SOPs for vector surveillance and control activities at PoE	23	In progress
D9.3	Report from the implementation of the multisectorial table top /simulation exercise at ports at European level	24	In progress
D9.4	Guidelines for intercountry communication and information flow in outbreak investigations and management of public health events	27	In progress

Table 2. Milestones achieved per work package.

Milestone	Title	Month	Status
M 1.1	Management Plan developed	2	Completed
M 1.2	Consortium Agreement signed	2	Completed
M 1.3	Kick-off meeting for Joint Action	2	Completed
M 1.4	Establish information system (web-network) working group	4	Completed
M 1.5	Information system (web-network) working group meeting	2	Completed
M 1.6	Establish the network of professionals	5	Completed
M 1.7	Updated integrated information system (web-network) for points of entry	27	In progress
M 1.8	Support implementation of 1st General Assembly meeting	14	Completed
M 1.9	Support implementation of 2nd General Assembly meeting	35	Pending
M 1.10	Steering Committee meetings	1-18	Completed
M 1.11	Advisory Board meetings	2 and 14	Completed
M 1.12	Work progress monitoring reports produced by the Coordinator	2-18	Completed
M 1.13	Annual review meetings with the Steering Committee	11	Completed

M 1.14	Interim report describing JA implementation & results achieved	18	Completed
M 1.15	Work progress reports submitted by each WP leader to Coordinator monthly	1-18	Completed
M 2.1	Conduct stakeholder analysis	4	Completed
M 2.2	Develop dissemination plan	3	Completed
M 2.3	Develop model national dissemination plan & distribute to partners	3	Completed
M 2.4	Develop web portal	5	Completed
M 2.5	Corporate visual identity (leaflets, banners, logos, PPT & letter templates)	4	Completed
M 2.6	Develop social media & YouTube channels	5	Completed
M 2.7	Develop & disseminate bi-monthly e-newsletters	6-18	Completed
M 2.8	Monitor reports (for national dissemination plans & implementation)	5-16	Completed
M 2.9	Develop final report (Layman version)	36	Pending
M 2.10	Final conference	35	Pending
M 3.1	Establish Evaluation Working Group	4	Completed
M 3.2	Develop evaluation questions	5	Completed
M 3.3	Meeting to design evaluation methods & data collection tools	6	Completed
M 3.4	Develop Evaluation Plan	7	Completed
M 3.5	Conduct External SWOT Analysis	23	In progress
M 3.6	Data Collection & Evaluation Reports	3-36	In progress
M 3.7	Interim Evaluation Report	18	Completed
M 3.8	Final Evaluation Report	36	Pending
M 4.1	Develop sustainability plan	18	Completed
M 4.2	National sustainability plans/actions produced (documents on integration in national policy)	23	In progress
M 4.3	1st General Assembly meeting	14	Completed
M 4.4	Conduct multisectorial table-top exercise at EU-level	25	In progress
M 4.5	Report from conduct of multisectorial table-top exercise at EU-level	27	Pending
M 4.6	Progress reports on implementation of national sustainability plans	14-36	Pending
M 4.7	Draft of documents with recommendations (sustainability activities & by DG SANTE request)	12-35	In progress

M 4.8	Reports from sustainability working group meetings	2-24	In progress
M 4.9	Report from Ministry of Health Site Visits	17-33	In progress
M 4.10	2nd General Assembly meeting	35	Pending
M 5.1	Establish ground crossings working group	5	Completed
M 5.2	Facilitate face-to-face training course <i>Preparedness and response to public health events at ground crossings</i>	29	In progress
M 5.3	Prepare <i>State of the Art</i> Report (parts A, B, C, D, E, F)	21	In progress
M 5.4	Produce technical content for training material (or adopt WHO Learning Package)	24	In progress
M 5.5	Draft tool for contingency plan development/assessment for ground crossings	22	In progress
M 5.6	Pilot-test tool for contingency plan development/assessment for ground crossings (in 2 countries)	23	In progress
M 5.7	Develop version 1 of tool for contingency plan development/assessment for ground crossings (considering pilot-test results)	24	In progress
M 5.8	Develop version 1 of table-top/simulation exercise for ground crossings	22	In progress
M 5.9	Develop model MoU (between competent local authorities for ground crossings)	22	In progress
M 5.10	Conduct 4 table-top/simulation exercises for ground crossings	29	In progress
M 5.11	Produce 4 reports from table-top/simulation exercises for ground crossings	30	In progress
M 5.12	Develop version 2 of table-top/simulation exercise for ground crossings (collecting reports and considering results)	32	In progress
M 6.1	Establish air transport working group	4	Completed
M 6.2	Identify best practices in air transport	24	In progress
M 6.3	Develop SOPs for vector surveillance/control at airports	23	In progress

M 6.4	Develop options for improving detection/surveillance of public health events at airports	31	In progress
M 6.5	Develop version 1 of tool for contingency plan development/assessment for airports	24	In progress
M 6.6	Report on legal framework of countries (contact tracing in air transport for public health events)	20	In progress
M 6.7	Produce technical content for training material (or adopt WHO Learning Package)	15	Completed
M 6.8	Develop model MoU (between competent local authorities for airports)	20	In progress
M 6.9	Pilot-test tool for contingency plan development/assessment for airports (in 2 countries)	26	In progress
M 6.10	Develop version 2 of tool for contingency plan development/assessment for airports	31	In progress
M 6.11	Develop version 1 of table-top/simulation exercise for airports	22	In progress
M 6.12	Produce reports from table-top/simulation exercises for airports	32	In progress
M 6.13	Develop version 2 of table-top/simulation exercise for airports	35	In progress
M 7.1	Establish maritime transport working group	4	Completed
M 7.2	Operate E-learning Platform (based on instructions from WP 7 & WP 9 teams)	3-36	Completed up to M18 and In progress from M19 to M36
M 7.3	Identify best practices in maritime transport	24	In progress
M 7.4	Produce technical content for training material (or adopt WHO Learning Package)	15	Completed
M 7.5	Develop version 1 of table-top/simulation exercise for ports	24	In progress
M 7.6	Develop model MoU (between competent local authorities for ports)	20	In progress
M 7.7	Develop forums (in web portal) for: inspectors of conveyances, depository for table-top/simulation exercises	5-36	Completed up to M18 and In progress from M19 to M36
M 7.8	Develop options for improving detection/surveillance of public health events at ports	31	In progress
M 7.9	Develop version 1 of tool for contingency plan development/assessment for ports	24	In progress

M 7.10	Updated training platform (for vocational training & port health officers)	1-36	Completed up to M18 and In progress from M19 to M36
M 7.11	Develop SOPs for vector surveillance/control at ports	23	In progress
M 7.12	Pilot-test tool for contingency plan development/assessment for ports (in 2 countries)	24	In progress
M 7.13	Develop version 2 of tool for contingency plan development/assessment for ports	28	In progress
M 7.14	Updated integrated information system (web-network) for points of entry	27	In progress
M 7.15	Develop operations manual for web portal	14	Completed
M 7.16	Develop guidelines for inter-country communication & information flow in outbreak investigations and public health event management (with Work Package 9)	21	In progress
M 7.17	Produce reports from table-top/simulation exercises for ports	32	In progress
M 7.18	Produce reports from inspection audits	34	In progress
M 7.19	Develop version 2 of table-top/simulation exercise for ports	35	In progress
M 7.20	Develop annual inspection schedule for passenger ships at EU-level (apply target factor)	36	In progress
M 7.21	Update published list of grade A inspection results in web portal	9-36	Completed up to M18 and In progress from M19 to M36
M 8.1	Develop training materials	10	Completed
M 8.2	Conduct 2 workshops	17	Completed
M 8.3	Identify best practices for chemical threats	18	In progress
M 8.4	Produce guidance document for chemical threats (preparedness & safety)	28	In progress

M 8.5	Develop assessment tool for chemical preparedness	28	In progress
M 9.1	Conduct overview of characteristics of highly effective education & training interventions	11	Completed
M 9.2	Conduct inventory of needs assessment & training objectives (per stakeholder group)	12	Completed
M 9.3	Develop version 1 of tool for countries to assess risk profile for points of entry	28	In progress
M 9.4	Coordinate development of guidelines to improve event detection/surveillance of public health events at ports, airports, ground crossings	31	In progress
M 9.5	Pilot-test tool for countries to assess risk profile for points of entry	30	In progress
M 9.6	Develop multisectorial table-top exercise for national-level	29	In progress
M 9.7	Coordinate development of SOPs for vector surveillance/control at points of entry	23	In progress
M 9.8	Evaluate training materials (in pilots)	29	In progress
M 9.9	Conduct final review of training materials (make adaptations/amendments based on pilots)	29	In progress
M 9.10	Develop version 2 of tool for countries to assess risk profile for points of entry	32	In progress
M 9.11	Develop training materials	29	In progress
M 9.12	Coordinate conduct of 4 Trainings of Trainers' (3-day face-to-face training courses)	30	In progress
M 9.13	Develop 6-month webinar schedules	32	In progress
M 9.14	Develop & conduct table-top/simulation exercises (cooperate with technical teams of Work Packages 5/6/7/8)	32	In progress
M 9.15	Develop web-based training resources catalogue for points of entry	35	In progress

4.3 INDICATORS

The status of process and output indicators used to evaluate the Joint Action activities is presented in **Table 3** and **Table 4**, respectively. Outcome/Impact indicators per specific objective, according to the grant agreement, will be evaluated after month 24.

Indicators were revised to reflect the latest timetable as this was approved by steering committee of the joint action and CHAFAE.

Table 3. Process indicators per specific objective (SO) of the Joint Action.

Process indicators per SO	Description	Target	Level of achievement	Evaluation tool
SO1: To facilitate Member States evaluating and monitoring of core capacities at points of entry by using the existing guidance and tools from international organizations, and according to the International Health Regulations 2005 and Decision No 1082/2013/EU of 22 October 2013, by month 23.				
Inclusion of monitoring of the indicators for PoE in the Sustainability plans of the participating Countries (WHO Joint External Evaluation tool for IHR technical questions PoE.1.4-5, PoE.2.1,2,4,5).	At least 50% of the participating countries in the joint action have included in their national sustainability plans monitoring of the indicators for PoE (WHO Joint External Evaluation tool for IHR technical questions PoE.1.4-5, PoE.2.1,2,4,5) that are relevant to the joint action activities, in cooperation with the authorities of their country that are responsible to monitor core capacities at designated points of entry, by month 22.	50% of countries Month 22	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of the Joint Action
SO2: To put in place a network to communicate and notify rapidly in case of cross-border risks to health, by strengthening inter sectoral and cross sectoral collaboration and using electronic means, supplementing and avoiding overlapping with existing systems, by month 12.				
Development of a web-based network for PoE	A web-based network for PoE has been developed by month 12, considering the lessons learned and	Month 12	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of

	experience from previous EU actions, and considering users' needs			the Joint Action
Access to the web-based network ensured to all designated PoE.	All designated PoE of the joint action participating countries have been given access to the web-based network by month 27.	Month 27 Number of designated PoE at the countries (to be reported and updated by countries)	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of the Joint Action
Access to the web-based network ensured to the national competent authority.	The national competent authority/ies of each participating country has been given access to the web-based network.	26 authorities	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of the Joint Action

SO3: To produce catalogues of tested best practices, guidelines and validated action plans, for the use of the Member States' health authorities to be implemented at operational level through agencies and stakeholders in the field of transport, covering all types of health threats, contingency planning, risk communication and advice for event management, by cooperating with international organisations, competent and other transport authorities, pilot-testing and validating deliverables and taking into consideration lessons learned from previous public health emergencies of international concern, by month 24.				
Inclusion of all types of health threats in the catalogue of best practices, guidelines and validated action plans produced by the joint action.	All types of health threats have been addressed in the catalogues of tested best practices, guidelines and validated action plans produced by the joint action. Events of infectious disease, vectors, threats of environmental origin and chemical agents have been addressed.	All types of threats addressed	Partially achieved In progress For the best practice catalogues the questionnaire and collected data so far addressed all health threats	Questionnaire administered to the Leaders of WP5 ground crossing, WP6 Air transport, WP7 Maritime transport at month 24. Data collected (Month 6 – Month 9) via questionnaire from all consortium on best practices
Engagement of representatives from international organisations, other competent authorities including transport authorities and the industry in the development process of the joint action guidelines.	The working groups responsible to develop the joint action guidelines have engaged in the development process representatives from international organisations, other competent authorities including transport authorities and the industry.	Engagement of multiple sectors	In progress	SOP's for guidance development and working group participants Questionnaire administered to the Leaders of WP5 ground crossing, WP6 Air transport, WP7 Maritime transport at month 24.
70% response rate in surveys for situation analysis at ground crossing	At least 70% response rate in the surveys conducted for situation analysis at ground crossings.	70% response	In progress	Report of the situational analysis.
Incorporation of pilot-testing and validation results into the final	Pilot-testing and validation has taken place and results have been incorporated in	Deliverables tested	In progress	Review of deliverables.

version of the deliverables.	the final version of deliverables.			
Lessons learned from previous public health emergencies of international concern taken into account in the deliverables.	Lessons learned from previous public health emergencies of international concern have been considered when developing the deliverables.	Lessons learned considered from EVD, ZVD	In progress	Review of deliverables.
SO4: To provide capacity building including training on tested best practices, guidelines and validated action plans, at European, country and local level, by month 36, considering the local and national context and ensuring replicability, transferability and sustainability.				
Table top /simulation exercises and training materials for event management delivered for pilot testing by month 15.	First version of table top /simulation exercises and training materials for event management have been delivered for pilot testing by month 22.	Month 22	In progress	Review of work progress report of WP9 and review of training materials.
Reports describing the effectiveness of PoE in responding to public health events at PoE for the Member states that have implemented table top /simulation exercises.	Member states that have implemented table top /simulation exercises have produced reports describing the effectiveness of PoE in responding to public health events at PoE.	23 reports	In progress	Review of reports.
Training materials and table top /simulation exercises finalised by month 36, considering the feedback received by the countries that used the material in implementing training courses and table top /simulation exercise.	Training materials and table top /simulation exercises have been finalised by month 36, by considering the feedback received by the countries that used the material in implementing training courses and table top /simulation exercises.	Month 36	In progress	Review of training materials and review of feedbacks sent on the training materials.

S05: To facilitate the Member States implementation of best practice documents provided for coordinating and executing hygiene inspections on conveyances, in order to prevent cross border disease spread and improve compliance with European legislation standards, throughout the duration of the joint action.				
Identification of best practices on hygiene inspections of conveyances and lessons learned from previous EU actions relevant to conveyance inspections.	Best practices on hygiene inspections of conveyances and lessons learned from previous EU actions relevant to conveyance inspections are identified by month 23.	Month 23	Partially Achieved Best practices have been collected via a questionnaire	Work progress report of WP5 ground crossing, WP6 Air transport, WP7 Maritime transport-Review of web-based catalogue of best practices Review of deliverable D 7.1
Development of documents for auditing of hygiene inspections on conveyance, considering the best practices identified and the existing materials and tools developed and implemented in relevant EU actions.	Documents for auditing of hygiene inspections on conveyance developed considering the best practices identified and the existing materials and tools developed and implemented in relevant EU actions, by month 3.	Month 3	Achieved	Work progress report of WP5 ground crossing, WP6 Air transport, WP7 Maritime transport-Standardised forms for inspection audits and review of inspection audit reports

S06: To promote coordinated cross sectoral actions and interoperability of plans to combat all types of health threats, including infectious disease transmission and possible vectors for pathogens on ground transportation, on ships, and in aircraft, throughout the joint action implementation, by involving actors from different sectors and levels (strategic, regulatory, implementation) and by performing table top /simulation exercises.				
Engagement of all actors and stakeholders both from private and public sectors in the design of table top /simulation exercises and in their implementation phase at local, national and EU level.	Table top /simulation exercises have engaged all actors and stakeholders both from private and public sectors in the designing and implementation phase at local, national and EU level.	Actors and stakeholders from public, private sectors at local, national, EU levels	In progress	Work progress report of WP9 training. List of engaged actors
Identification of best practice for vector surveillance at PoE	Best practice for vector surveillance at PoE has been identified by month 23.	Month 23	Partially Achieved	Work progress report of WP5 ground crossing, WP6 Air transport, WP7 Maritime transport. Data collected (Month 6 – Month 9) via questionnaire from all consortium on best practices

S07: To support response to possible future public health emergencies of international concern (implementation of International Health Regulations) upon request from the European Commission, the Health Security Committee and the Member States, and by ensuring coherent implementation of temporary recommendations issued by the WHO and avoiding unnecessary interfering with international transport and trade.				
Response to the request for activating the emergency mode of the action within 36 hours and composition of technical expert ad hoc working group to address any requests.	Response to the request for activating the emergency mode of the action within 36 hours and composition of technical expert ad hoc working group to address any requests.	36 hours	In progress	Review of SOP's for developing guidelines and review of timing of guideline development
Composition of technical expert ad hoc working group.	Composition of technical expert ad hoc working group within 3 days to address any requests from European Commission.	3 days	In progress	Review of SOP's for developing guidelines and review of timing of guideline development
Lessons learned from the activities implemented during the emergency mode operation.	Results of lessons learned from the activities implemented during the emergency mode operation are used to revise the joint action deliverables.	Revision process conducted	In progress	List of the lessons learned and deliverables review

Table 4. Output indicators per specific objective.

Output indicators per SO	Description	Target	Level of achievement	Evaluation tool
SO1: To facilitate Member States evaluating and monitoring of core capacities at points of entry by using the existing guidance and tools from international organizations, and according to the International Health Regulations 2005 and Decision No 1082/2013/EU of 22 October 2013, by month 23.				
Indicators achievement for PoE (WHO Joint External Evaluation tool) updated in the national sustainability plans of Joint Action's partners.	At least 50% of the participating countries in the joint action update the indicators achievement for PoE (WHO Joint External Evaluation tool) in their national sustainability plans, by month 36.	50%of countries Month 36	In progress	Progress reports on implementation of national sustainability plans
National sustainability plans updated with the designated PoE in participating Countries.	At least 60% of the participating countries in the joint action update their national sustainability plans with the designated PoE in their country.	60%of countries	In progress	Progress reports on implementation of national sustainability plans

SO2: To put in place a network to communicate and notify rapidly in case of cross-border risks to health, by strengthening inter sectoral and cross sectoral collaboration and using electronic means, supplementing and avoiding overlapping with existing systems, by month 12.				
Use of the communication network by designated PoE.	At least one user per each designated PoE of 70% of the participating countries has used the communication network.	70%of countries One user per designated PoE	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of the Joint Action Review of the users of the communication network
Degree of satisfaction with the functionality of the communication network.	At least 70% of the users of the different components of the network are satisfied with the functionality.	70%of users	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of the Joint Action
SO3: To produce catalogues of tested best practices, guidelines and validated action plans, for the use of the Member States' health authorities to be implemented at operational level through agencies and stakeholders in the field of transport, covering all types of health threats, contingency planning, risk communication and advice for event management, by cooperating with international organisations, competent and other transport authorities, pilot-testing and validating deliverables and taking into consideration lessons learned from previous public health emergencies of international concern, by month 24.				
Identification of best practices for event management, contingency planning, vector surveillance and risk communication at PoE.	Best practices for event management, contingency planning, vector surveillance and risk communication at PoE have been identified by month 9.	Month 9	Achieved The questionnaire and collected data so far addressed all health threats	Data collected (Month 6 – Month 9) via questionnaire from all consortium on best practices

SO4: To provide capacity building including training on tested best practices, guidelines and validated action plans, at European, country and local level, by month 36, considering the local and national context and ensuring replicability, transferability and sustainability.				
Participation in face-to-face training course and degree of satisfaction.	<p>At least 70% of the participating countries in the joint action have participated in the face-to-face training courses implemented at European level and 80% of them found that the courses meet their needs.</p>	<p>70% of the participating countries</p> <p>80% satisfied</p>	<p>In progress</p> <p>70% of EU participating countries in the Course on <i>Preparedness and response to public health events at ports</i> (Piraeus, March 2019), with an average of 92% of respondents very satisfied or satisfied with the training and for 97% meeting training needs</p> <p>74% of EU countries participating in the Course on <i>Preparedness and response to public health events at airports</i> (Belgrade, September 2019), with an average of 87% of respondents very satisfied or satisfied with the training and for 65% meeting training needs.</p>	<p>Attendance list to the courses</p> <p>Questionnaires of training activities</p>
Implementation of at least one training course for PoE at national level.	<p>At least 70% of the participating countries have implemented one training course for all types of PoE at national level.</p>	<p>70% of the participating countries</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Attendance list to the courses.</p>
Participation of all designated PoE in the national training	<p>All designated PoE of the country participating in</p>	<p>Designated PoE</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Attendance list to the</p>

course	the face – to – face training courses for PoE conducted at national level.	per country		courses
Use of the tool for contingency plan development and assessment by participating countries.	At least 70% of the participating countries have used the tool for contingency plan development and assessment and then have implemented table top /simulation exercises at the designated PoE in their country.	70%of the participating countries	In progress	Review of the users of the tool Attendanc e list to the table top /simulation exercises the designate d PoE in their country.
Participation in one table top /simulation exercise at international level.	At least 70% of the participating countries in the joint action have participated in one table top /simulation exercise at international level.	70%of the participating countries	In progress	Attendanc e list to the table top /simulation exercises at internatio nal level.
Incorporation of the training courses and table top /simulation exercises in national plans/ framework for national dissemination and sustainability	At least 70% of the participating countries in the joint action have incorporated the training courses and table top /simulation exercises in their national plans/ framework and update the national dissemination and sustainability plans.	70%of the participating countries	In progress	Review of national dissemination and sustainability plans of the participating countries in the joint action and the dissemination and sustainability monitoring reports.
S05: To facilitate the Member States implementation of best practice documents provided for coordinating and executing hygiene inspections on conveyances, in order to prevent				

cross border disease spread and improve compliance with European legislation standards, throughout the duration of the joint action.				
Production and implementation of annual plans of passenger ships inspection	Annual plans of passenger ships inspection coordination are produced and implemented by at least 70% of the participating countries.	70% of the participating countries	In progress	Review of annual inspection plan
Schedule of inspections to inland navigation	At least 20% of inspections are scheduled to inland navigation vessels and ferries sailing on international voyage.	20% of inspections	In progress For 2018 Partially achieved: 15% (7 out of 47) For 2019 partially achieved: 11% (10 out of 87) Justification for not achieving the target: The total number of inspections was doubled and the denominator was higher than the initial estimations	Review of annual inspection plan
Auditing of inspections.	Auditing of inspection practices according to the agreed guidelines for executing hygiene inspections on ships has taken place in at least 15 of inspections conducted annually.	15 inspections annually audited	In progress For 2018 – Partially achieved: auditing of 12 inspections Justification for not achieving the target: Cancellation of inspections and therefore the audits due to weather conditions and due to lower level of river water For 2019: Achieved: 20 audits were conducted	Review of annual auditing plan
Satisfactory results of auditing results of inspection practices.	Auditing results of inspection practices are satisfactory in at least 80% of inspections of	80% of inspections	Achieved 90% of audit results are satisfactory	Review of standardised forms for inspection

	passenger ships.			audits
SO6: To promote coordinated cross sectoral actions and interoperability of plans to combat all types of health threats, including infectious disease transmission and possible vectors for pathogens on ground transportation, on ships, and in aircraft, throughout the joint action implementation, by involving actors from different sectors and levels (strategic, regulatory, implementation) and by performing table top /simulation exercises.				
Satisfaction with the outcomes of the table top /simulation exercise conducted at EU level.	At least 70% of participants in the table top /simulation exercise conducted at EU level are satisfied with the outcomes of the exercise.	70%of participants	In progress	Review of evaluation questionnaire of table top/simulation exercise
Completeness of table top /simulation exercise reports in relation to roles and responsibilities and the feedback from all participating stakeholders and recommendations for improvements.	Reports from the table top /simulation exercises include the roles and responsibilities and the feedback from all participating stakeholders and recommendations for improvements.	Reports content complete	In progress	Reports review

S07: To support response to possible future public health emergencies of international concern (implementation of International Health Regulations) upon request from the European Commission, the Health Security Committee and the Member States, and by ensuring coherent implementation of temporary recommendations issued by the WHO and avoiding unnecessary interfering with international transport and trade.				
Completeness of response rate to all requests from European Commission.	Technical expert ad hoc working group reply to all requests from European Commission, using existing evidence.	Replies to all requests Evidence based replies	In progress	Review of the replies and guidelines produced
Perceived effectiveness of the dissemination and communication plans.	Evaluation of the joint action shows that at least 70% of the responders are satisfied and declare that the dissemination and communication plans were used effectively so that the information for coherent implementation of temporary recommendations issued by the WHO reaches the stakeholders responsible to implement such measures.	70% of the responders	In progress	Questionnaire administered to the partners of the Joint Action

5 OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

The indicators and milestones of the joint action were successfully achieved in accordance with the revised timetable of the joint action. The adjustments made to the delivery date of some milestones did not affect any other activities. The evaluation of the activities carried out in the Joint Action (meetings, training courses, coordination and dissemination) highlight a very high degree of satisfaction from the participants, rating around 80-90% as excellent/good as far as their technical contents, quality, effectiveness and organizational aspects are concerned. An area for improvement may be represented by the response rate to the evaluation questionnaires that does not reach 100% of the participants. The external evaluation will be able to collect the information to have a complete view of strengths and weaknesses of the joint action, external criticalities and opportunities offered by the environment.

References

1. Wholey JS, Hatry HP, Newcomer KE (Eds) (2004). Handbook of Practical Program Evaluation (2nd Ed). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
2. CDC (1999). Framework for Program Evaluation in Public Health. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr4811a1.htm>, last access December 21, 2018.
3. World Health Organization (2018). WHO Joint External Evaluation tool. Available at: https://www.who.int/ihr/publications/WHO_HSE_GCR_2018_2/en/, last access October 21, 2019.
4. Armstrong M. A handbook of Human Resource Management Practice (10th edition) 2006, Kogan Page, London ISBN 0-7494-4631-5.
5. Zarinpoush, F. (2006). Project evaluation guide for non profit organisations. Fundamental methods and steps for conducting project evaluation. Ottawa: Imagine Canada
6. World Health Organization (2010). Evaluating Training in WHO. Available at: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/70552/WHO_HSE_GIP_ITP_2011.2_eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y, last access December 21, 2018.
7. Kirkpatrick, Donald L. Evaluating Training Programs: the Four Levels. San Francisco: Emeryville, CA:Berrett-Koehler ; Publishers Group West [distributor], 1994.
8. CIPD (2015). SWOT analysis, available at: <https://www.cipd.co.uk/knowledge/strategy/organisational-development/swot-analysis-factsheet>, last access December 21, 2018.
9. SWOT Analysis: Discover New Opportunities, Manage and Eliminate Threats. Available at: https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newTMC_05.htm, last access December 21, 2018.

ANNEXES

Please click on the link below to download the Annexes listed below:

https://www.healthygateways.eu/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=-rRXwl_cxPg%3d&portalid=0

username: **pracss**

password: **gt54A1!**

Annex 1: Questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the kick-off meeting in Varna, Bulgaria.

Annex 2: Questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the 1st General Assembly Meeting in Hamburg, Germany.

Annex 3: Results of the evaluation of the 1st General Assembly Meeting.

Annex 4: Daily evaluation questionnaire utilized in the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports", in Piraeus, Greece.

Annex 5: Overall evaluation questionnaire utilized in the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports", in Piraeus, Greece.

Annex 6: Results of the evaluation of the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at ports", in Piraeus, Greece.

Annex 7: Results of the evaluation of the Training of the trainers' course "Preparedness and response to public health events at airports", in Belgrade, Serbia.

Annex 8: Questionnaire utilized for the evaluation of the webinars carried out in 2018 and 2019.

Annex 9: Results of the evaluation of the webinars.

Annex 10: Questionnaire utilized for the Interim Internal Evaluation.

Annex 11: Results of the Interim Internal Evaluation.