Providing a new generation of methodologies and tools for cost-effective risk-based animal health surveillance systems for the benefit of livestock producers, decision makers and consumers

**THE NEED**

- Increase in the occurrence of emerging diseases and the spread of exotic ones along with increasing levels of endemic and food-borne diseases require earlier, better and safer surveillance
- Improved protection of human health requires more effective linking of animal and human health surveillance systems as well as adoption of interdisciplinary approaches
- Financial constraints and public spending cuts have limited investments in surveillance of animal disease, while governments are constrained by cross-compliance and equivalence issues in relation to surveillance strategy design
- Efficient and practical solutions taking advantage of novel scientific methodologies, as well as integration of epidemiological approaches with socio-economic and qualitative methods are urgently needed

**THE STRATEGY**

- Establishing a multi-disciplinary consortium of veterinarians, epidemiologists and economists
- Using applied experience in design and implementation of animal health surveillance systems at farm, regional, national and international levels
- Involving business partners with applied expertise in animal health surveillance and the early adoption and translation of new technology to guarantee data access to ensure the development of practical solutions
- Collaborating with key stakeholders such as veterinary administrations and Chief Veterinary Offices of different countries to ensure policy relevance

**THE GOAL**

- Detection of incursion of exotic, new (emerging) and re-emerging diseases
- Declaration of freedom from specified diseases and infections
- Monitoring of endemic diseases by case detection and disease frequency estimation

RISKSUR will generate structured and transparent decision support tools that are based on validated scientific methods which will for the first time provide decision makers with objective mechanisms for informing surveillance system design that includes cost-effectiveness calculations

**www.fp7-risksur.eu**
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