



Food Security & Veterinary Services

15 – 19 March 2027
Lisbon (Portugal)



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Introduction:

The Food Security and Veterinary Services course equips professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand and address the complex issues surrounding food security and the role of veterinary services. As global populations grow and environmental challenges intensify, ensuring a stable and safe food supply becomes increasingly critical. Veterinary professionals play a pivotal role in safeguarding animal health, which directly impacts human health and food security.

This Food Security and Veterinary Services program delves into the interconnections between animal health, food safety, and public health, emphasizing the importance of a One Health approach. Participants will explore global food systems, risk management strategies, and the regulatory frameworks that govern food safety. Attendees will contribute effectively to enhancing food security through veterinary services.

Targeted Groups:

This Food Security and Veterinary Services training targets professionals seeking specialized knowledge and skills:

- Veterinarians working in the public health and food safety sectors.
- Veterinary technicians involved in food animal production.
- Public health officials focusing on zoonotic diseases.
- Policy makers in the agriculture and food security domains.
- Researchers studying the intersection of animal health and food systems.
- NGO personnel working on food security projects.
- Students pursuing careers in veterinary public health.

Course Objectives:

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Food Security and Veterinary Services course:

- Understand the principles of food security and its global challenges.
- Analyze the role of veterinary services in ensuring food safety.
- Evaluate the impact of animal health on public health outcomes.
- Apply risk management strategies to mitigate foodborne diseases.
- Interpret international food safety regulations and standards.
- Develop strategies for surveillance and monitoring of food safety.
- Collaborate across sectors to promote a One Health approach.
- Communicate effectively with stakeholders on food security issues.
- Implement best practices in veterinary public health.
- Contribute to policy development aimed at enhancing food security.

Targeted Competencies:

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Food Security and Veterinary Services program:

- Proficiency in assessing food security challenges.
- Ability to identify and manage food safety risks.
- Skills in applying veterinary knowledge to public health issues.
- Competence in interpreting and applying food safety regulations.
- Capability to design and implement surveillance systems.
- Expertise in promoting intersectoral collaboration for food security.
- Aptitude for effective communication with diverse stakeholders.
- Understanding of policy frameworks related to food security.
- Knowledge of ethical considerations in food safety practices.
- Commitment to continuous professional development in veterinary public health.

Studying Scenarios:

In this Food Security and Veterinary Services training, participants will develop their skills through the analysis of the following scenarios:

- Outbreak of a zoonotic disease affecting livestock and its impact on food supply.
- Implementation of a national surveillance system for foodborne pathogens.
- Evaluation of a food safety regulation in response to an international trade dispute.
- Development of a public health campaign to address antimicrobial resistance.
- Assessment of the effectiveness of a One Health approach in disease control.
- Analysis of a case study on food security in a resource-limited setting.
- Simulation of a crisis management response to a food safety emergency.
- Review of a policy document aimed at improving food security.
- Discussion of Ethical Dilemmas in Veterinary Public Health Interventions.
- Design of a community engagement strategy for food safety education.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Introduction to Food Security and Veterinary Services:

- Definition and dimensions of food security.
- The role of veterinary services in food security.
- Global challenges affecting food security.
- The concept of One Health and its relevance.
- Interconnections between animal health and human health.
- Impact of Climate Change on Food Systems.
- Economic factors influencing food security.
- Social determinants of food access.

Unit 2: Veterinary Public Health and Food Safety:

- Principles of veterinary public health.
- Foodborne diseases and their control.
- Surveillance systems for food safety.
- Risk assessment and management strategies.
- Food safety regulations and standards.
- Role of veterinarians in outbreak investigations.
- Antimicrobial resistance and its implications.
- Ethical considerations in food safety practices.

Unit 3: Global Food Systems and Veterinary Interventions:

- Overview of global food production systems.
- Veterinary interventions in food animal production.
- Disease prevention and control measures.
- Animal welfare considerations.
- Sustainable practices in food production.
- Trade and Its Impact on Food Security.
- International food safety standards.
- Case studies of veterinary interventions in food systems.

Unit 4: Policy, Regulation, and Food Security:

- Role of policy in shaping food security outcomes.
- Development and implementation of food safety regulations.
- International agreements and their impact.
- Advocacy for food security policies.
- Stakeholder engagement in policy development.
- Monitoring and evaluation of policies.
- Challenges in policy enforcement.
- Ethical issues in policy decisions.

Unit 5: Practical Applications and Future Directions:

- Designing a food safety program.
- Implementing a surveillance system.
- Crisis management in food safety emergencies.
- Community education and engagement strategies.
- Research trends in veterinary public health.
- Innovations in food security practices.
- Career opportunities in food security and veterinary services.
- Continuous professional development.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways:

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of the critical role veterinary services play in ensuring food security. Participants will contribute effectively to global efforts in safeguarding food systems.