



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# Webinar introducing the **OUTbreak COSTing Tool (OutCosT)**

Virtual via Zoom

6 April 2022

*Concept note and Agenda*



## Concept note: Introducing OutCosT (FAO OUTbreak COSTing Tool)

### BACKGROUND

Animal diseases come with important socioeconomic consequences at the farm, subnational, national and regional levels. Understanding the costs of animal disease outbreaks and related control measures is essential for efficient resource allocation, advocacy and resource mobilization, and economic evaluations.

[OutCosT](#) is a new FAO spreadsheet-based tool to evaluate the direct cost of disease outbreaks and their control, whether actual epidemics or hypothetical scenarios. This means that the tool allows calculating retrospectively and quite precisely the cost of an outbreak/epidemic, but also to estimate the potential cost of future outbreaks and to simulate the cost related to alternative management strategies. The tool has been validated with data from four countries in three continents.

The tool calculates the costs of 112 different items, broken down by farm type and by who assumes the cost (whether veterinary services, farmers or other stakeholders): Direct cost of the disease and control measures in affected farms; Cost of the measures in neighbour and contact farms; Prevention and surveillance activities in non-affected farms and wildlife; and Awareness and training campaigns. The OutCosT tool also allows users to evaluate qualitatively other important aspects related to the epidemics, such as the impact on human health, the environment, animal welfare, socio-economic vulnerability, trading and political response.

In addition, the first training on the use of OutCosT, which will become an FAO corporate tool, will take place online as three half-day sessions over the week of 25-29 April 2022 through the Virtual Learning Centre (VLC). The objective is to train a pool of experts who can then be certified in applying the tool.

### EVENT

**Objective:** This webinar will introduce the new FAO OUTbreak COSTing Tool, OutCosT, thus allowing participants to understand the tool, its potential to support country authorities, and the resources and time needed for its implementation. In addition, it will provide the necessary background information to decide who should enroll in the upcoming training on the use of OutCosT that will take place as three half-day sessions over the week of 25-29 April 2022.

**Date and Time:** 6 April 2022, 9:30 AM CET (60 minutes)

**Format:** Presentation followed by Q&A session, held virtually via Zoom.

**Presenters:** Daniel Beltrán-Alcrudo (FAO REU), Jordi Casal (Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Spain) and Damian Tago Pacheco (FAO RAP)

**Participants:** FAO staff with veterinary or economics background from NSAH, Regional Offices, ECTAD, CJWZ and CFI

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Time	Topics	Speakers
9:30 - 9:35	Welcome & introduction to the event	Madhur Dhingra (FAO)
9:35 – 10:00	Introducing OutCosT	Daniel Beltrán-Alcrudo (FAO REU), Jordi Casal (UAB) and Damian TagoPacheco (FAO RAP)
10:00 – 10:25	Moderated discussion and Q&A session	<i>Moderator:</i> Daniel Beltrán-Alcrudo (FAO REU)
10:25-10:30	Wrap up and thanks	Daniel Beltrán-Alcrudo (FAO REU)

