

## **DRAFT DELIBERATIVE**

### **Concept Note: Circumpolar Table Top Exercise (TTX)**

**Time Frame: 01-03 February 2017 (3 days)**

**Location: Anchorage, AK (host institution TBC)**

#### What is a TTX?

In a TTX, stakeholders are assembled in a common space and presented with a hypothetical One Health scenario, such as a disease outbreak that has implications for humans and animals, a wildfire, or a mass die-off of wildlife. Stakeholders – who are selected to represent a diversity of backgrounds, disciplines, sectors, and levels of governance – are then asked to formulate a system-based response plan. For example, they may be asked who they would communicate with, what tasks they would undertake and in which sequence, etc. One or more master trainers guides the process and ensures that there is space for everyone to participate.

#### Why are TTXs helpful?

TTXs are a critical tool for understanding and strengthening how people from different sectors work together on problems of human, animal, plant, and environmental health. The exercises are also designed to build a network of trained participants who can effectively address One Health challenges locally, nationally, and regionally – and who are certified as trainers to run TTXs in their home communities. While several TTX tools exist, the One Health Systems Mapping and Analysis Resource Toolkit (OH-SMART) is proven and has been used in the United States and internationally to strengthen coordination between potential partners.<sup>1</sup> More information on OH-SMART - including a video demonstration - is available here:

<http://foodprotection.umn.edu/one-health-smart>

#### Who Should Participate in a TTX?

TTXs only work if participation is diverse – with participation from all Arctic states, Permanent Participant organizations, and levels of governance (community leaders, local governments, state/provincial governments, national governments, civil society). Arctic Council observers are also welcome. Some stakeholders that may find the activity valuable include:

- Traditional and Local Knowledge Holders, including youth and elders
- Physicians or emergency responders
- Public health or community health practitioners (e.g., health department employees)
- Veterinarians
- Environmental regulators
- Managers of land, sea, and/or air resources
- People engaged in hunting, trapping, fishing, or animal husbandry
- Climatologists and meteorologists
- People engaged in international trade, commerce, or diplomacy

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<sup>1</sup> This tool was created by the University of Minnesota, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture; it has been implemented nationally and sub-nationally, both in the United States and around the world.

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### Inputs Required For Conducting a TTX

Five basic ingredients make a TTX work:

1. A host, to provide the venue and associated materials such as white boards
2. A coordinator, to identify participants and arrange the delegation's travel, share local/regional context , and prepare meeting materials
3. Two or more master trainers, to facilitate the activity
4. A funder, to provide financial support
5. Participants with 2-4 days availability

### Expected Outputs

Deliverables from the TTX include:

- A flow chart, showing how the participants respond to the hypothetical scenario
- A written summary of the meeting, including a description of the gaps/bottlenecks identified via the flow chart, and a list of the ideas participants developed to address them
- A set of participants who possess trainer certification, and who are equipped to conduct TTXs using the OH-SMART method in their home communities

### Anticipated Outcomes/Vision

- Participants can articulate gaps/bottlenecks in the One Health process that are relevant to their own contexts, and consider strategies for overcoming these challenges
- Capacity is in place for TTXs and real-time One Health projects in Arctic communities
- International and interdisciplinary networks of One Health scientists and practitioners strengthen and expand
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) begin to develop for on-going cooperation between relevant institutions
- One Health leaders (a.k.a., “focal points” or “hubs”) emerge
- Potential avenues for future Arctic One Health collaboration are identified