
Fore-CAN: Foresight for Canadian Animal Health

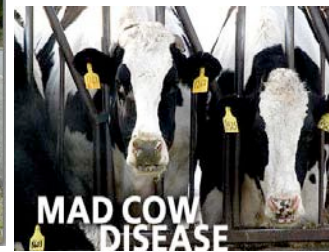
Presentation to PIPSC

Dr. Shane Renwick

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Introduction

Animal Health Risks of the 21st Century



Project Description

Fore-CAN: Foresight for Canadian Animal Health

- 4-year project (2008-2011) funded by the CRTI
- 8 partner organizations (multiple jurisdictions and sectors)

Focal Question:

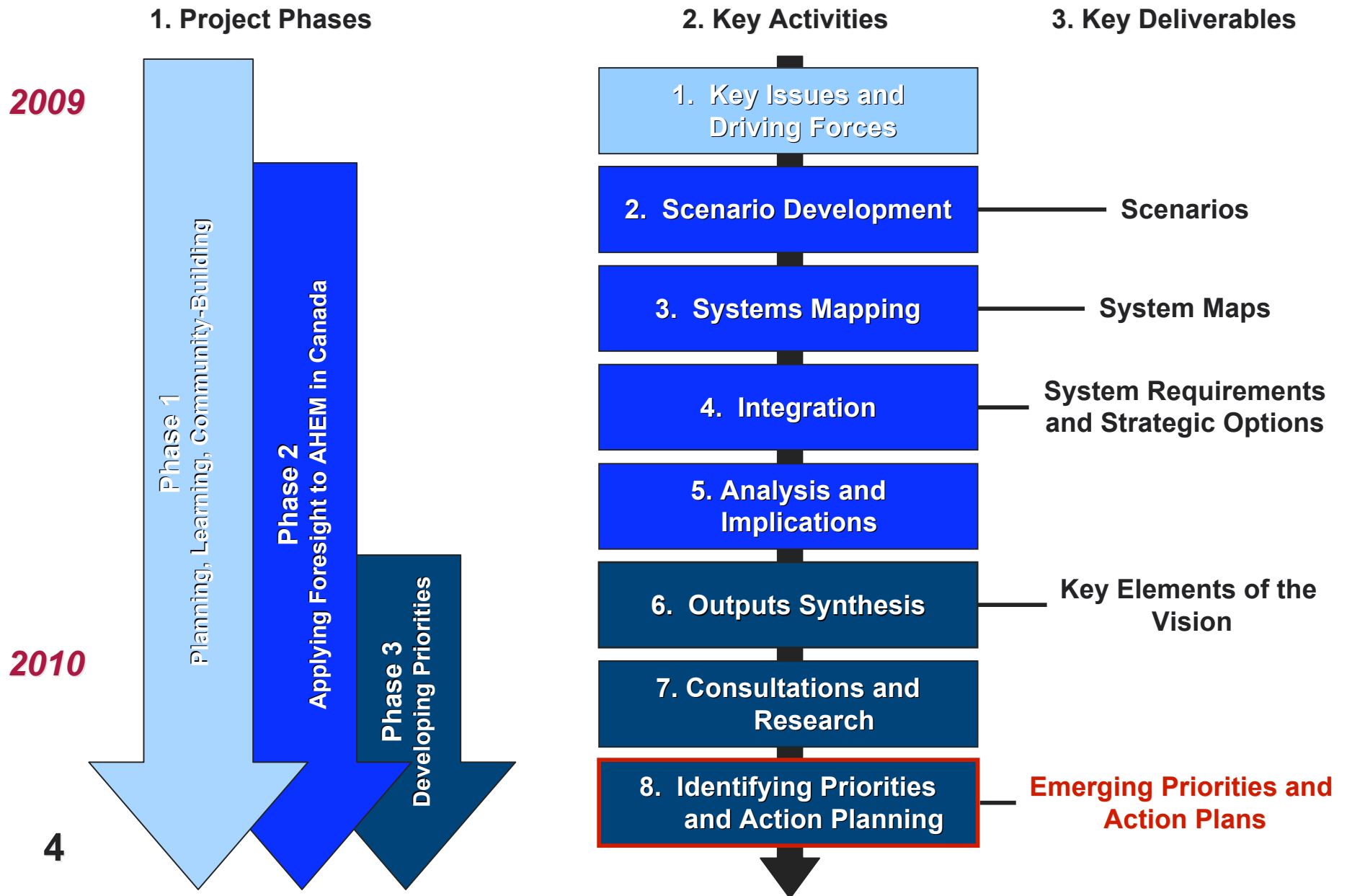
- Looking out to 2020 and beyond, how do we build a more effective, anticipatory and robust Animal Health Emergency Management system in Canada?

Project Objectives:

- Learn about and use **Foresight methods** to anticipate and gain insight into future threats and opportunities;
- Apply this insight to guide planning and investments in **capabilities, capacities and competencies** within the **Animal Health Emergency Management (AHEM)** environment; and
- Share and transfer knowledge.

Project Planning

2009-2010 Iterative Project Activities



Shared Vision...So Far

Animal Health Emergency Management in 2020 +



Key Aspects:

- Currently under collaborative and iterative refinement through foresight;
- Focused on all stages of the Animal Health Emergency Management Cycle;
- Actively engendering trust between stakeholders;
- Revealing emerging priorities required to fulfill the vision.

Achieving the Shared Vision...So Far

Animal Health Emergency Management in 2020 +

2010



2020+



Emerging Priorities:

1. Clarifying roles and responsibilities;
2. Enhance prevention and recovery & renewal;
3. Develop virtual training institute;
4. Enhance surveillance and intelligence functions

Key Elements of the Vision:

1. Effective and collaborative organization and decision-making;
2. Coordinated information-sharing and communications;
3. Skilled, practiced and surge-capable resources;
4. Sound science and emerging technology;
5. Cohesive regulatory, policy and legal framework.

Early Process Insights

Benefits of a Foresight Approach



- **Forces stakeholders to address future challenges collaboratively:**
 - Emphasis on solving future problems as opposed to defending present positions; and
 - Builds trust and collective ownership between a wide range of stakeholder groups.
- **Encourages multi-disciplinary approaches:**
 - Consideration of a wide range of solutions; and
 - Fills information gaps and overcomes siloed approaches.
- **Encourages creative thinking and employment of a long-term perspective:**
 - Encourages stakeholders to think beyond the traditional strategic planning cycle.

Early Insights

Challenges of a Foresight Approach

- **Can be time consuming and logistically difficult:**
 - Multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary groups require dialogue to achieve a common vision and common definitions;
 - Generally agreed that foresight is most effective when conducted in person (geographic / time / cost constraints) from a trust-building perspective
- **Achieving the required level of detail:**
 - Information exchange between disparate groups is often conducted at a high level – difficult to create a common understanding of a complex issue
- **Applying performance metrics:**
 - Measuring the impact of foresight – Behavioural change? Inputs into planning? Foresight into action?

Steps

- Symposium and Workshop:
“Foresight...Insight...Action” (May 11th-12th, 2010)
 - Re-engage the wider AHEM community to:
 - Learn from key domestic and international speakers;
 - Review, assess and validate the foresight findings derived thus far;
 - Develop Vision, Priorities within the context of a direction for action.
 - Speakers include:
 - Dr. Sohail Inayatullah, Futurist 
 - Dr. David Waltner-Toews, University of Guelph 
 - Dr. Norm Willis, Norm Willis p Inc.
 - Dr. Bill Parrish, Defra UK

Questions?



www.forecan-precan.ca