


Emergency preparedness for aquatic disease outbreaks



© Collage, GoodStudio/Shutterstock (modified image); Image by Freepik

This course provides an overview of disease in aquatic organisms. In doing so, it highlights the importance of preparedness for effective prevention, management and control of disease in aquatic organisms. The course introduces the role of disease outbreak investigation and diagnostics for aquatic disease using a 12-point checklist for active surveillance of disease in aquatic organisms as well as contingency planning for mass mortality events in aquatic populations.

 3 hours and 25 minutes

You will learn about

- The basic concepts regarding diseases of aquatic organisms as well as potential causes contributing to disease outbreaks.
- A stepwise approach to conducting a disease outbreak investigation.
- Identifying and diagnosing the causative agents of an infectious disease.
- Surveillance of aquatic diseases using a 12-point checklist.
- Developing effective contingency plans that align with a country's aquatic species production situation prior to a disease outbreak.

Digital badge



Who is the course for?

This e-learning course will help those directly and indirectly involved in the aquaculture sector to understand the impact of disease in aquatic organisms and the importance of disease outbreak investigation, including:

- Authorities and government officers.
- Aquatic health specialists.
- Academics and researchers.
- Actors in the aquaculture value chain.

Key partners

The course has been designed and developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad).

FAO elearning Academy



This course is available through the FAO elearning Academy.

Please visit the Academy and browse our extensive catalogue in multiple languages. Register once to access hundreds of titles.

All courses are available as a global public good for free.

How to access the course

1. Go to the e-learning Academy: elearning.fao.org
2. Register and log-in with your user name and password



© FAO, 2025
CD4126ENV1/02.25

[😊] Registration is fast and easy