

# Developing a stakeholder map for biosecurity at a national level

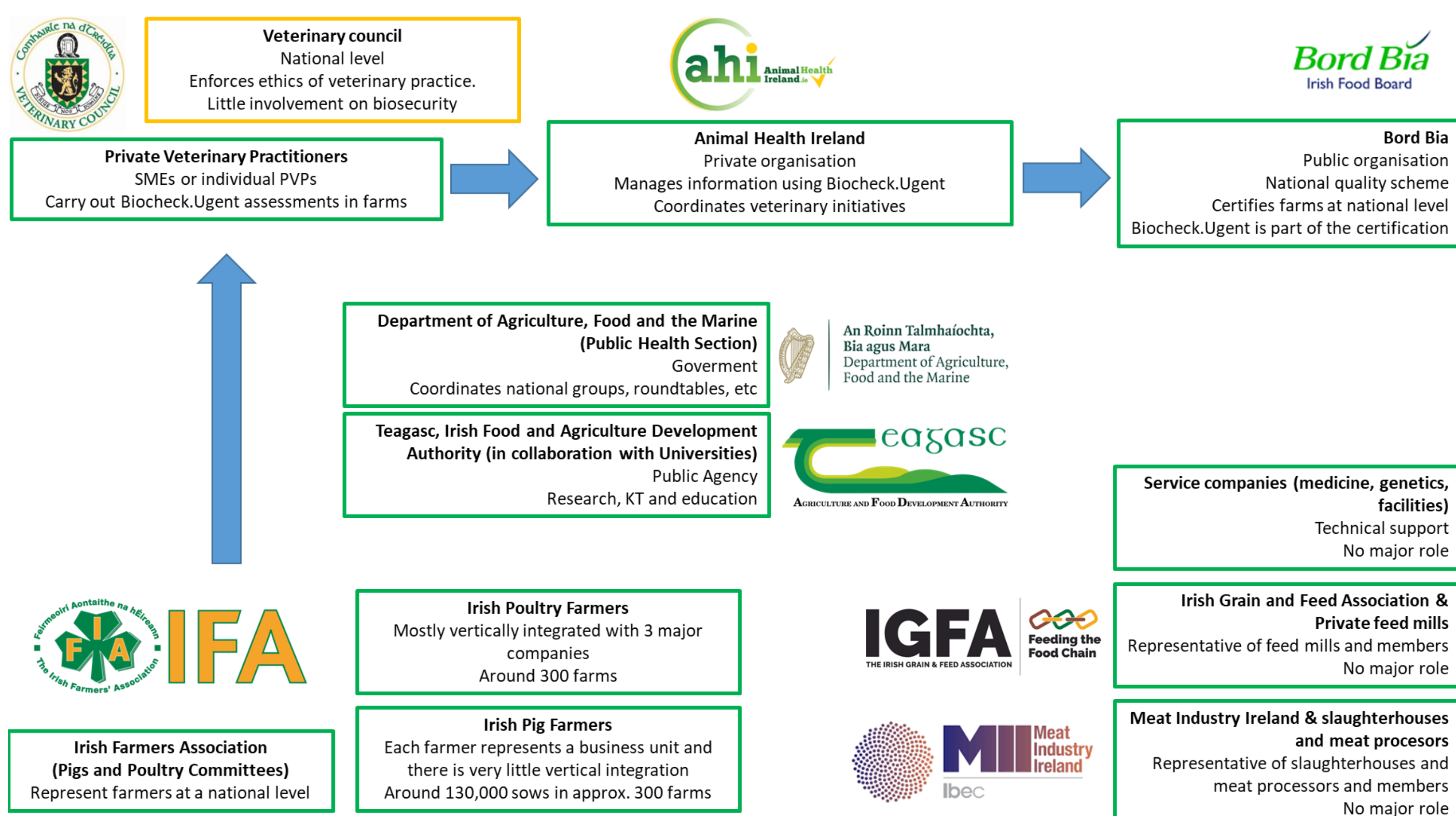
As part of WP1 (Multi-actor approach) BIOSECURE mapped the stakeholders in each one of the countries involved in the project (T1.1). The objective of the mapping exercise was to identify and profile stakeholders relevant to BIOSECURE activities and to develop a project repository of stakeholders for the partners to use it for engagement at different points of the project.

The first step of the process is the identification of the national network facilitators. This figure is key because of language, knowledge and trust barriers.

The coordinator of the mapping should provide a basic format for the identification of the stakeholder and description of their interactions. There are different formats available for this. In the case of BIOSECURE, open canvas descriptions (figure below) and 2D graphs (interest and influence on biosecurity implementation in this case) were used to graphically describe the stakeholders and their interactions in each country.

Due to the multidisciplinary nature of the project and the differences between countries, the knowledge that the network facilitators have of their countries will vary. This is a limitation of the process and need to be clearly stated. The description of the stakeholders, their interest and influence on biosecurity implementation can be further described by using approaches like focus groups. This approach was not carried out in the case of BIOSECURE but there are good examples like the one developed by project ROADMAP on antimicrobial use in animals.

The stakeholder maps developed at the start of BIOSECURE showed a very similar structure in most countries with different levels of interest and influence between countries. Mapping stakeholders at the start of a project like BIOSECURE is a very helpful exercise to describe the possibilities for involvement of stakeholders, to identify barriers like survey fatigue or GDPR and to define the knowledge and engagement of the partners with their national structures.



Stakeholder mapping is not just a list of stakeholders to contact when information is needed but it also:

- helps to understand the structure of biosecurity implementation in each country
- Allows to identify barriers for biosecurity implementation
- Shows the level of understanding of the national stakeholders by the network facilitators

[www.biosecure.eu](http://www.biosecure.eu)



Funded by the European Union

Views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor REA can be held responsible for them.