

As part of the RISKSUR project, a decision tree was created to assist with the choice of the evaluation question (the full decision tree diagram is available [here](#)):

eva_q_pathway_13062015.pdf

The following list of questions was arranged in a logical sequence in a decision tree in order to help the evaluator to define the evaluation question.

QUESTION 1: Do you want to evaluate or improve at component or system level

1. **Choose Component:** if your are comparing different surveillance designs (e.g.current versus novel)
2. **Choose System:** if you want to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the whole system (including all components) ; the system approach does not allow to compare 2 or more components

QUESTION 2: Do you want to evaluate or re-design surveillance to improve its performance

1. **Choose Evaluate:**
 1. if you do not know the performances of the component/system and want to assess
 2. if you have different designs and you want to compare their performances
2. **Choose re-design:** if you already know the weakness of the system/components (you have already done an evaluation) and want to make new design before doing the evaluation

QUESTION: Do components to be compared have the same objective

1. **Choose YES:** All the components you are comparing have the same surveillance objectives: e.g. passive and active surveillance components aim to detect cases for control.
2. **Choose NO:** if your components have different objectives: passive aims to detect cases for control; active aims to prove freedom from disease. **NOTE: you can not compare components with different objectives.**

QUESTION: Do components achieve a specified technical effectiveness target

1. **Choose YES:** If you have a set value for effectiveness (e.g. Sensitivity should be at least 85%)
2. **Choose NO** otherwise

QUESTION: Is there a budget constraint

1. **Choose YES:** If you have a maximum budget set for your surveillance (e.g. max 50000 Euros / components /year; or 500000 Euros/component/year)
2. **Choose NO** otherwise

QUESTION: How can you measure benefits

1. **Choose monetary term:** if you can put a value on the benefits (e.g. avoided losses for a value of 40000 USD)
2. **Choose non-monetary terms:** if you can not put a value on the benefits but you can measure them in terms of effectiveness (e.g. the detection of 1 case will improve the social status of the farmer by 10%)
3. **Choose both:** if you want to include both type of benefits in the evaluation (you have the data)

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