IHR-PVS NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP PROGRAM

How the Tripartite organizations engage with countries to implement and sustain One Health
Q1. What is the National Bridging Workshop Program?

It is a Tripartite (WHO, FAO, OIE) Program focusing on National Bridging Workshops (NBW) and their follow-up in countries. An NBW is a three-day workshop which brings together 60-90 national stakeholders from the animal health and the human health services from national, regional and local levels, as well as representatives of other relevant sectors (environment, wildlife, media, police, etc.). The bridging of WHO IHR (International Health Regulations) and OIE PVS (Performance of Veterinary Services) Pathway allows the sectors to strengthen their collaboration at the human-animal interface while improving their compliance to international standards and regulations.

A 5-minute video explaining the concept of NBWs is available at www.bit.ly/NBWVideo.

The NBW uses a robust process, built around group exercises, simulation scenarios, discussions and innovative facilitation tools to make it as participatory and interactive as possible.

Q2. What are the key outputs of an NBW?

**KEY OUTPUTS**

- A diagnosis of current strengths and weaknesses in the coordination between animal and human health services for 15 technical area that are key for the prevention, detection and response to health events at the human-animal interface.

- **NBW Roadmap:** a harmonized, actionable and realistic joint roadmap of activities that the country develops and will implement to improve the multisectoral collaboration.

Q3. Follow-up: What comes after an NBW?

The NBW creates a unique momentum between the human health and animal health sectors. Following-up on the NBW Roadmap is a cornerstone of the Tripartite’s strategy to build collaborative capacities in countries and to support them in complying with IHR and OIE standards. The follow-up relies on four pillars:

1. The recruitment of a national **NBW Catalyst:** a One Health expert who provides technical support for the follow-up and the implementation of the NBW Roadmap activities.

2. The monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the roadmap activities, identification of bottlenecks, and updating of the roadmap in NBW Follow-up Meetings.

3. Technical and when possible **Financial support** from the Tripartite for the implementation of NBW Roadmap activities. Tripartite Operational Tools are also proposed to address specific needs.

4. The establishment of a **Community of Practice** consisting of Regional NBW Coordinators and NBW Catalysts from around the world to share and discuss experiences, good practices, challenges and more.
THE WORKSHOP IS DIVIDED INTO SEVEN SESSIONS AND FOLLOWS A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH WHERE THE RESULTS OF EACH SESSION FEED INTO THE FOLLOWING SESSION:

SESSION 1: Setting the scene (One Health concept, examples of successful interactions).
SESSION 2: Participants are divided into working groups and each group is given a different disease outbreak simulation scenario. The objective is to identify strengths and weaknesses in the current collaboration for 15 key technical areas.
SESSION 3: Using results from session 2, technical area working groups are made. Participants use the reports of the IHR and PVS assessments to extract the information relevant for their technical area.
SESSION 4: Each group identifies key joint objectives and activities to strengthen the collaboration between the two sectors.
SESSION 5: NBW Catalyst: A One Health expert recruited at the national level to provide technical support, suggest operational tools and organize events for the follow-up and the implementation of the NBW Roadmap.
SESSION 6: A world café exercise and a prioritization vote are conducted to finalize the roadmap.
SESSION 7: Discussion on the way forward and on the implementation of the joint roadmap.

THE FOLLOW-UP PHASE IS BASED ON FOUR KEY PILLARS TO SUPPORT COUNTRIES IN THE CONCRETE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NBW ROADMAP:

POST-NBW MEETINGS: Every 1-2 years, to evaluate the implementation of the NBW Roadmap activities, identify bottlenecks and needed support, and update the roadmap, using specific follow-up material and tools.
TRIPARTITE SUPPORT: Technical (and when possible, financial) support from the Tripartite organizations for the implementation of NBW Roadmap activities, including through guidelines and operational tools to address specific needs.
NBW COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: A community of practice with national NBW Catalysts from around the world and NBW regional coordinators, to share experiences, good practices and challenges through an online forum and regular reunions.
Q4. My country wishes to embark in the NBW Program. What should I do?

Please officially contact your WHO country office, FAO country office or OIE regional representation to express your interest. The three organizations will then jointly initiate the preparation process in close collaboration with relevant national counterparts in the animal health and human health sectors.

Q5. How can I get more information?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.bit.ly/NBWVideo">www.bit.ly/NBWVideo</a></td>
<td>5-minute introduction video to NBWs</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.bit.ly/NBMWMethod">www.bit.ly/NBMWMethod</a></td>
<td>4-minute video on the NBW method describing the 7 sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.bit.ly/NBWProgram">www.bit.ly/NBWProgram</a></td>
<td>30-minute overview of the whole program (IHR, PVS, NBW method, roll-out and follow-up)</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.bit.ly/NBWTanzania">www.bit.ly/NBWTanzania</a></td>
<td>3-minute video of the NBW organized in Tanzania</td>
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Contact points

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- **98.4%** of participants say the NBW has a positive impact on their multisectoral collaboration
- **99.7%** of participants recommend the NBW to other countries

(post-NBW evaluations from 32 countries)