

# HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERFACE

## NEWSLETTER | AUG-OCT 2023



World Health  
Organization

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONAL TOOL EXPERT  
CONSULTATION



Monica Mac Dougall, Switzerland, 2023

From September 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> 2023, the World Health Organization (WHO) hosted the Workforce Development Operational Tool (WFD OT) Expert Consultation at WHO Headquarters. The objectives of this meeting were to review the draft WFD OT approach and technical materials and align them to other Tripartite workforce initiatives.

One Health experts from WHO, World Organisation for Animal Health, Food and Agriculture Organization, United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Unlimit Health reviewed the current progress of the WFD OT and recommended next steps for the tool's development. These included refining the tool's materials and conducting more pilot workshops in different regions, the next of which is set to take place in Kazakhstan next year.

For many of the advisory group members, it was the first-time meeting each other in person, making the experience all the more enriching and stimulating.

MULTISECTORAL  
COORDINATION MECHANISM  
OPERATIONAL TOOL

The [Multisectoral, Coordination Mechanisms](#) OT workshop took place from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan.

Participants from nine government agencies attended the workshop and discussed nine priority elements in the development of their action plan to establish a national level One Health coordination mechanism.

Additionally, participants provided very valuable feedback on how to improve the OT process for future workshops.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
OPERATIONAL TOOL  
PILOT

The second pilot of the WFD OT was held in Tirana, Albania on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. Thirty-one participants were engaged from the national, sub-national, and local levels.

The pilot highlighted the need for more advocacy for the engagement of environment and wildlife professionals in future workshops. It was agreed during the WFD OT Expert Consultation that WHO would engage in advocacy activities to ensure this improved involvement.



Zulajka Anvarbekova, Kyrgyzstan, 2023



Ermela Rexhvelaj, Albania, 2023

### ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT  
OPERATIONAL TOOL  
EXPERT  
CONSULTATION

Switzerland

MULTISECTORAL  
COORDINATION  
MECHANISM  
OPERATIONAL TOOL

Kyrgyzstan

WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT  
OPERATIONAL TOOL  
PILOT

Albania

NATIONAL BRIDGING  
WORKSHOPS

Lao People's  
Democratic Republic,  
Viet Nam, Cambodia,  
South Africa, Lebanon

RESPONSE AND  
PREPAREDNESS  
WORKSHOP

Albania Pilot,  
OpenWHO launch

JOINT RISK  
ASSESSMENT  
OPERATIONAL TOOL

Ukraine

R&D BLUEPRINT  
MEETING

The Third Research and  
Innovation Forum

SURVEILLANCE AND  
INFORMATION  
SHARING SYSTEM

Sierra Leone

## NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOPS

Between August and October 2023, [National Bridging Workshops](#) (NBWs) were conducted in five countries: Lao People's Democratic Republic, Viet Nam, Cambodia, South Africa, and Lebanon.

The workshop in Cambodia marked the 50<sup>th</sup> NBW worldwide, and the 4<sup>th</sup> in the Western Pacific Region.

All three NBWs held in the Western Pacific were attended by UNEP representatives for the first time ever. Their active participation in the NBWs is reflecting the increased involvement of UNEP in the implementation of the Quatripartite Action plan, Action Track 1. UNEP's environmental perspective and expertise will enhance the NBW programme.



Jessica Kayamari Lopes, Cambodia, 2023

From the 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> September, both the One Health NBW and a workshop to revise the One Health Framework for South Africa took place in Johannesburg. Participants from the human, animal, environmental and wildlife sectors were present, as were other key stakeholders.

The South African NBW was the 23<sup>rd</sup> workshop held in the African Region, making it the WHO Region with the most NBWs to date. The European Region is next with nine NBWs, followed by the South East Asia Region with six, and Eastern Mediterranean Region with five.

From the 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2023, the One Health NBW of Lebanon was held in Beirut. The Workshop was hosted at the kind invitation of the Government of Lebanon and was attended by 69 participants from key national institutions for One Health with representatives from national, provincial, and local district levels.



Guillaume Belot, Lebanon, 2023

## JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT



Ong-orn Prasamphanich, Ukraine, 2023

The [Joint Risk Assessment OT](#) workshop took place in Bukovel, Ukraine, between the 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2023. As requested by the tool's methodology, four priority zoonotic diseases were identified by national facilitators for use during the workshop.

The objective of this workshop is to train participants to understand the steps in Joint Risk Assessment and foster autonomous use of the tool. Participants were split into four groups, one for each disease, and remained in these groups for the entire workshop.



Oleh Matsko, Ukraine, 2023

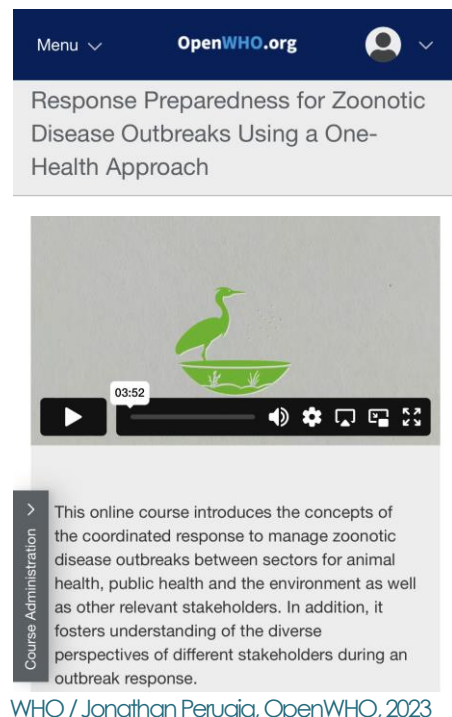
Participants went through the steps of risk framing, identifying risk pathways, formulating risk questions, characterising risk, and identifying risk management and communication options for their selected disease.

They also discussed how to advocate for the use of the Joint Risk Assessment methodology in Ukraine.





## RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP OPENWHO LAUNCH



Menu ▾ OpenWHO.org ▾

Response Preparedness for Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks Using a One-Health Approach

03:52

Course Administration

This online course introduces the concepts of the coordinated response to manage zoonotic disease outbreaks between sectors for animal health, public health and the environment as well as other relevant stakeholders. In addition, it fosters understanding of the diverse perspectives of different stakeholders during an outbreak response.

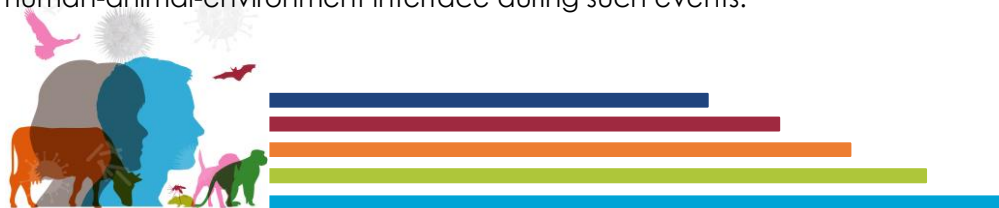
WHO / Jonathan Perugia, OpenWHO, 2023

The Coordinated Investigation and Response OT is currently being developed by the Quadripartite to support countries to operationalise national joint outbreak investigation and response procedures. As part of this process, the [Response Preparedness workshop](#) was developed to focus specifically on national joint zoonotic disease outbreak response capacity.

For the Response Preparedness workshop, [an online course](#) (to be completed prior to the workshop) was developed to familiarise participants with the programme and provide a basis for discussion during the workshop.

Due to popular demand and positive feedback from users, the course was released to the public on OpenWHO in October 2023.

The course details the perspectives of animal and public health services to foster a better understanding of the diverse perspectives of stakeholders during the response to a zoonotic disease outbreak. Example scenarios are provided to participants for them to reflect on the coordination needed at the human-animal-environment interface during such events.



The WHO Human-Animal Interface team and colleagues in Regional Offices are proud to present the first edition of the Human-Animal Interface Newsletter.

You can find this, and all future editions, on [our website](#).

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues and peers.

We look forward to seeing you in the next edition.

## ACTIVITIES COMPLETED TO DATE

52

NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOPS

45

JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOPS

9

MULTISECTORAL COORDINATION MECHANISM WORKSHOPS

8

SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM WORKSHOPS

5

REPREP WORKSHOPS

2

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

1

MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORKSHOPS

