

HUMAN-ANIMAL-ENVIRONMENT INTERFACE

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Produced by the Human-Animal-Environment Interface Team



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UZBEKISTAN HOSTS JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP ON ZOONOTIC DISEASES

On 22-24 January 2025, a Joint Risk Assessment (JRA) workshop on priority zoonotic diseases was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The workshop trained government officials from health, veterinary, and environmental health sectors in conducting JRAs using the One Health approach. Participants focused on assessing the risks of salmonellosis and brucellosis, mapping transmission pathways, formulating risk assessment questions, and evaluating disease likelihood and impact. The workshop proposed risk management strategies, including risk communication and policy recommendations. Key recommendations include continued technical support for JRA institutionalization and integrating risk assessments into national disease preparedness efforts.



WHO, Uzbekistan, 23 January 2025

STRENGTHENING SIS OT IMPLEMENTATION IN COTE D'IVOIRE: WAHO SUPPORTS "ONE HEALTH" PLATFORM

From 3 to 7 February, 2025, Grand-Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire, hosted a workshop by the One Health platform to implement the Surveillance and Information Sharing Operational Tool (SIS OT). The initiative aims to enhance cross-sectoral information sharing, foster multisectoral collaboration, and strengthen capacities to manage health threats. Over 80 participants from various sectors and organizations, including WAHO (West African Health Organization), attended, making Côte d'Ivoire the sixth ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) country to adopt SIS OT after Sierra Leone, Mali, Senegal, Guinea, and Nigeria.

Key challenges identified included the lack of policies, data-sharing platforms, coordinated surveillance, leadership alignment, and resource mobilization. Dr. Virgil LOKOSSOU reaffirmed WAHO's support for deploying One Health tools, while Djénéba OUATTARA emphasized the initiative's role in health security and collaboration. The workshop resulted in a plan for improved surveillance and a framework for structured information sharing.





Ivory Coast, 7 February 2025

TOWARD THE ONE HEALTH OPERATIONALIZATION: NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP IN LYBIA

The National IHR-PVS Bridging Workshop (NBW) was held from 23 to 26 February 2025 in Tripoli, bringing together 70 participants from key national One Health institutions including representatives from both central and decentralized levels. The primary objective of the workshop was to create an opportunity for the human, animal, and environment sectors to assess their current collaboration gaps in critical technical areas and to develop a unified One Health roadmap aim at enhancing coordination and strengthening the surveillance of zoonotic diseases and health threats at Human-Animal-Environment interface.

The One Health roadmap developed during the workshop will serve as a cornerstone document, essential for shaping the One Health strategy in Libya to effectively address the interconnected health challenges and threats at the Human-Animal-Environment nexus.

In parallel with the NBW, a situation analysis was conducted by the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) in collaboration with WHO Libya to identify opportunities for reinforcing integrated One Health surveillance of vector-borne and zoonotic disease in Libya.





Asma Saidouni, Tripoli, Lybia

STRENGTHENING ONE HEALTH WORKFORCE IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Capacitating One Health in Eastern and Southern Africa (COHESA) project, in collaboration with the Quadripartite (FAO, UNEP, WHO, and WOAH), organized a joint training in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 17 to 21 March 2025. The training aimed to equip participants with key resources, tools, and methodologies to strengthen One Health workforce capacity in 12 Eastern and Southern Africa countries (Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe). Academia and government representatives explored the databases of the Workforce Development Operational Tool (WFD OT) and the Global One Health Search Tool (GOHST). They also learned how to use the Monitoring and Evaluation Operational Tool (M&E OT) to measure the progress and impact of their One Health initiatives.





Tieble Traore, WHO, Ethiopia, 18 March 2025

BHUTAN STRENGTHENING ITS PREPAREDNESS FOR POTENTIAL H5N1 PANDEMIC: MULTISECTORAL TABLE-TOP SIMULATION EXERCISE (TTX)

Bhutan conducted a table-top simulation exercise (TTX) from 27 to 29 January 2025 in Phuentsholing to enhance pandemic preparedness and response capacity. Organized by the Bhutan One Health Secretariat, the TTX involved key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health (Department of Public Health, Royal Center for Disease Control, and others), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Office of the Prime Minister, Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences, and institutions like the WHO, UNDP, Bhutan Red Cross Society, and Royal Bhutan Police. The WHO Country Office in Bhutan and WHO Regional Office in New Delhi provided technical support for the workshop, which engaged 57 participants from governmental and nongovernmental agencies.

The workshop aimed to assess preparedness for zoonotic diseases of pandemic potential, identify challenges, and develop action plans based on lessons from COVID-19. Using a fictional H5N1 mutant strain outbreak scenario, the TTX emphasized aligning incident command structures, improving One Health collaboration, and establishing a wildlife disease surveillance system. Recommendations included sustaining simulation exercises to maintain competencies, securing funding for One Health activities, and developing emergency wildlife disease response plans to better prepare for future pandemics.





Sithar Dorjee, Bhutan, 27-29 January 2025

BHUTAN FORMALIZES TRAINING OF FRESH MEDICAL DOCTORS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF PRORITIZED ZOONOTIC DISEASES

Bhutan conducted a training-of-trainers (TOT) workshop on managing prioritized zoonotic diseases from 10 to 14 March, 2025, in Phuentsholing. Organized by the Zoonotic Diseases Program under the Department of Public Health (DOPH), Ministry of Health, the TOT received technical support from the WHO Country Office Bhutan and WHO SEARO, New Delhi. Six experts from Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Thailand facilitated the workshop.

The participants included medical specialists, General Medical Officers (GDMO), laboratory officers, epidemiologists, faculty from the Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences (KGUMSB), and Zoonoses Program Officers—22 participants in total. The workshop aimed to train master trainers to educate newly recruited medical doctors on zoonotic disease prevention, diagnosis, and clinical management, along with outbreak response.

The training covered topics such as emerging infectious diseases, outbreak investigation, public health surveillance, and clinical management approaches for diseases like encephalitis, viral hepatitis, and foodborne illnesses. Delivered through structured lectures, quizzes, and case discussions, the workshop was highly appreciated. Bhutan plans to implement annual face-to-face training sessions and develop an online training module for broader access via KGUMSB's OpenKGUMSB learning platform. The training module is endorsed by the Bhutan Medical Council.





Sithar Dorjee, Bhutan, 10-14 March 2025

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED TO DATE

60

64

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RESPONSE AND

PREPAREDNESS

WORKSHOPS

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