

# HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERFACE

## NEWSLETTER | OCT-DEC 2024



### JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT OPERATIONAL TOOL WORKSHOP IN KAZAKHSTAN

In November 2024, regional specialists from public health, animal health, environmental health and emergency sectors gathered in Astana, Kazakhstan, to get acquainted with the Joint Risk Assessment (JRA) Operational Tool, prepared by One Health Tripartite experts from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

Focusing on the primary objective of the workshop, participants actively engaged in working group discussions after dividing into a rabies and anthrax team, the two diseases selected for this exercise.

Prior to the main workshop, colleagues from the engaged ministries (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Emergencies, Ministry of Ecology and Natural resources) met to establish a JRA Steering Committee and familiarized themselves with the roles of facilitators for group work.

Over the next three days, technical teams, together with members of the newly formed Steering Committee, brainstormed risk questions related to the selected diseases, developing potential risk pathways, risk management strategies, and communication options.

In addition, participants had the opportunity to broaden their professional networks and expressed enthusiasm for continuing collaboration on other One Health-related topics.



Zhaniya Khairova – WHO Kazakhstan, Kazakhstan, 2024

### SUB-REGIONAL CROSS-BORDER SIMULATION EXERCISE IN ZAMBIA

In November 2024, a cross-border simulation exercise and policy roundtable took place in Livingstone, Zambia, involving Angola, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The exercise was sparked by the 2023 opening of the Kazungula Bridge, linking Zambia and Botswana, which could impact both human and wildlife movement in the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area.

The event aimed to strengthen regional coordination for handling complex One Health emergencies, such as droughts,

transboundary animal diseases, and public health crises.

Key discussions between participants from public health, livestock, wildlife, and environmental sectors focused on improving multi-sectoral collaboration across countries to address health security at the human-animal-environment interface. The exercise culminated in the formation of a steering committee to explore on enhancing cross-border coordination, data sharing, and response strategies to strengthen regional preparedness for future crises.

#### ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

**COORDINATED INVESTIGATION AND RESPONSE OF EXPERT CONSULTATION**  
Switzerland

**GLOBAL CONGRESS ON POPULATION, HEALTH, AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE**  
Egypt

**JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT OF**  
Kazakhstan

**NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP**  
Malaysia

**ONE HEALTH BASICS COURSE LAUNCH**

**ONE HEALTH APPROACH LAUNCH**  
Libya

**SUB-REGIONAL CROSS-BORDER SIMULATION EXERCISE**  
Zambia

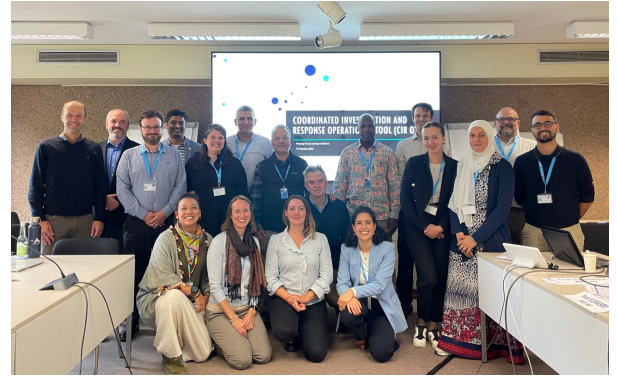
**SUB-REGIONAL ONE HEALTH COLLABORATIVE SURVEILLANCE WORKSHOP**  
Kazakhstan

#### REGIONAL FOCAL POINTS

- **AFRO:** Tieble Traoré
- **AMRO:** Tamara Mancero
- **EMRO:** Heba Mahrous
- **EURO:** Peter Hoejskov
- **SEARO:** Gyanendra Gongal
- **WPRO:** Jessica Kayamori Lopes

## COORDINATED INVESTIGATION AND RESPONSE OPERATIONAL TOOL EXPERT CONSULTATION

Between 7 and 9 October 2024, the Coordinated Investigation and Response Operational Tool (CIR OT) Expert Consultation was held in Geneva, Switzerland. Experts from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) gathered to finalize the technical content of the CIR OT. As part of the stepwise approach for improving health security at the human-animal-environment interface, this forthcoming



Cheng Liang, Switzerland, 2024

tool will support countries in developing a joint national framework for a coordinated investigation of, and response to, zoonotic disease outbreaks. Building on participants' diverse expertise and insights from pilot workshops, discussions refined the tool's scope and content, focusing on its practical relevance for countries.

## LIBYA LAUNCHES THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH: "TOGETHER TO PROTECT HEALTH IN LIBYA"

On 3 November 2024, a ceremony co-chaired by HE the Minister of Health, Mr Ramadan Abu Janah, and the World Health Organization (WHO) Representative and Head of Mission in Libya, Dr. Ahmed Zouiten, marked [Libya's adoption of the One Health approach](#).



WHO Libya, Libya, 2024

The initiative was launched in partnership with the Ministry of Health and other One Health stakeholders, including the Ministries of Agriculture, Environment, and Local Government, as well as the Food and Drug Control Centre, the National Centre for Animal Health, and the National Centre for Disease Control. Generous funding from the European Union and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation supported the launch. The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding instituted the One Health governance and coordination mechanism, aiming to establish a common strategy on One Health. This includes a joint work plan to enhance prevention, detection, and response to One Health threats, ultimately enhancing health security across Libya.

## SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON ONE HEALTH COLLABORATIVE SURVEILLANCE

From 22 to 24 October 2024, experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) and World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) teamed up in Almaty, Kazakhstan, to conduct the first Sub-regional workshop on public health and animal health surveillance and control of pathogens with epidemic potential at the human-animal-environment interface.

Approximately 50 participants, from Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan, attended. During the workshop, participants shared their experiences on surveillance and response to food and waterborne diseases, zoonotic diseases, including Avian influenza, at the human-animal-environment interface.

It was also an opportunity for participants to expand their knowledge of collaborative surveillance and how it is linked to the One Health approach.

On the last day, a group discussion on priorities and needs for integrating One Health and collaborative surveillance into National Action Plans for Health Security (NAPHS), took place.

A follow-up call between country teams is planned, following the workshop, to discuss progress and other next steps.



Nurdaulet Burlibayev, Kazakhstan, 2024

## BUILDING BRIDGES FOR ONE HEALTH: MALAYSIA CONDUCTS NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP TO ENHANCE ONE HEALTH SYNERGY

Malaysia conducted a [National Bridging Workshop](#) (NBW) between 13 to 15 November in Putrajaya. The Disease Control Division of Public Health of the Ministry of Health (Malaysia), Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) Malaysia of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, and the Asia Pacific Regional Quadripartite organizations (FAO, UNEP, WHO, WOA) jointly organized the workshop.

Its main objectives were to enhance understanding and application of the One Health approach, review current collaboration gaps, and develop a joint One Health roadmap to strengthen synergy among key sectors in Malaysia.



Sithar Darjee, Malaysia, 2024

The workshop engaged 134 participants from key national One Health institutions across all three administrative levels, employing interactive and structured methods, including scenario-based exercises, videos, and facilitation tools.

The workshop identified critical multisectoral collaboration gaps in addressing emerging infectious diseases, zoonoses, AMR, food safety, and environmental health. Key actions identified and included in the roadmap were establishing a formal One Health governance structure, establishing multisectoral technical groups for various shared health threats and joint activities, integrating environmental considerations into One Health activities, and harmonizing procedures related to joint One Health activities, including improving timely data and information sharing between sectors.

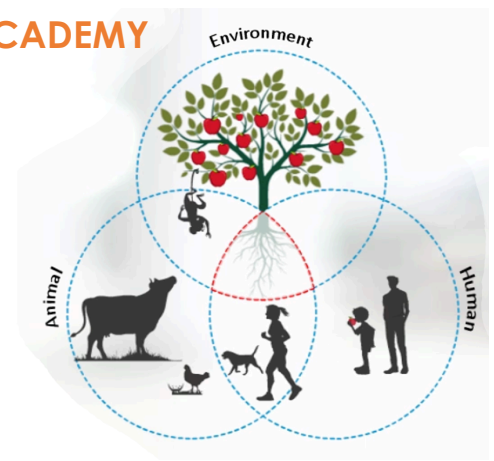
## ONE HEALTH BASICS COURSE LAUNCH ON THE WHO ACADEMY

In December 2024, the Human-Animal Interface team launched the *One Health: Basics of multisectoral collaboration* at the human-animal-environment interface course on the WHO Academy website.

The [WHO Academy](#) was inaugurated, in Lyon, France, on 17 December 2024, and aims to provide online and in person access to free quality learning.

Designed for professionals in human health, animal health, and environmental sectors, this course empowers participants with the skills to implement multisectoral activities for managing shared health threats, including zoonotic diseases. By enhancing participants' knowledge on collaborating across disciplines, the course aims to bolster national health systems through a One Health approach.

Enroll [here](#) and learn about the One Health approach to contribute to a healthier, more resilient world.



Global Congress on Population, Health and Development, Egypt, 2024

## GLOBAL CONGRESS ON POPULATION, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN EGYPT

On 24 October 2024, a One Health event titled *Operationalization of the One Health Approach: Successes, Challenges, and Future Directions* took place during the second Global Congress on Population, Health, and Development (Global PHDC) in Cairo, Egypt.

Gathering over 300 attendees from varied disciplines and sectors, this event provided an ideal platform to discuss the future and critical importance of the One Health approach.

The session centered around the operationalization of Egypt's One Health Strategy, addressing cross-sectoral efforts to tackle antimicrobial resistance and the potential for digital transformation in coordinated surveillance, including the use of artificial intelligence. The session was moderated by Dr Noha Farag, and distinguished panelists included his excellency Dr Amr Kandeel, Dr Momtaz Shahin, Dr Julie Sinclair, Dr Heba Mahrous, and Dr David Mugume. In the spirit of the One Health approach, the panelists hailed from a wide array of relevant sectors and organizations, including Egypt's Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, as well as the US Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, and the University of California.

# FEATURED DOCUMENTS

## TWO NEW OPERATIONAL TOOLS OF THE TRIPARTITE ZOOSES GUIDE

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) have jointly launched two operational tools aimed at enhancing a One Health approach to zoonotic disease management.

Developed with inputs from experts from FAO, WHO, WOAH, and other leading institutions worldwide, the tools reflect a collaborative effort to enhance global health security.

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF ZOO NOTIC DISEASES

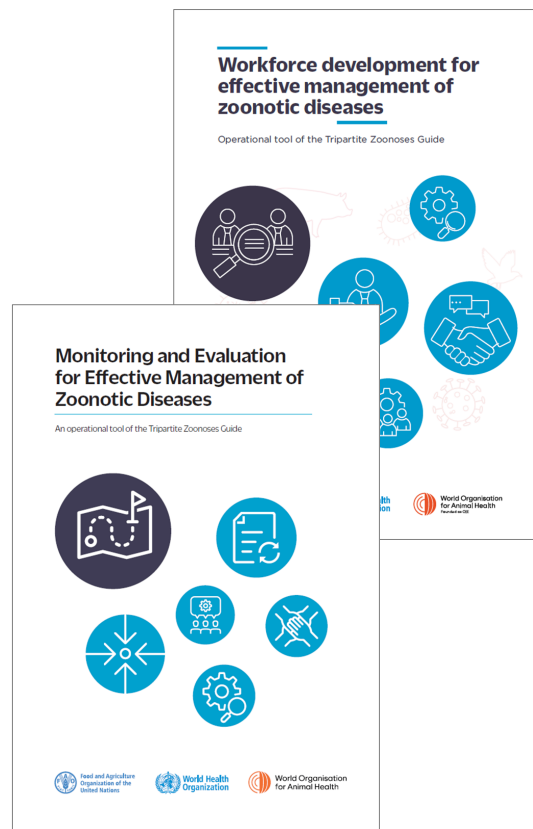
The *Workforce Development Operational Tool* (WFD OT) focusses on strengthening multisectoral workforce competencies and other areas of the enabling environment for managing such diseases at the human-animal-environment interface. This comprehensive guide provides practical steps, resources, and tools to enhance your workforce's capabilities. Outputs of the tool are integrated into existing workforce plans for these to be financed, coordinated, and implemented.

Click [here](#) for more information on the WFD OT.

### MONITORING AND EVALUATION FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF ZOO NOTIC DISEASES

The *Monitoring and Evaluation Operational Tool* (M&E OT) generates evidence for countries to inform more effective decision-making and future planning to address such diseases (and potentially other health threats at the human-animal-environment interface). Collaborative and coordinated monitoring and evaluation processes are essential for the systematic collection, analysis, and use of information and data across sectors.

Click [here](#) for more information about the M&E OT.



## ACTIVITIES COMPLETED TO DATE

**59**

**NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOPS**

**64**

**JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOPS**

**10**

**MULTISECTORAL COORDINATION MECHANISM WORKSHOPS**

**13**

**SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM WORKSHOPS**

**8**

**RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOPS**

**5**

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

**2**

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORKSHOPS**

