

# HUMAN-ANIMAL INTERFACE

## NEWSLETTER | NOV-DEC 2023



### NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP NETWORK REUNION 2023



Carmen Alfonso-Dilley, Türkiye, 2023

From 12 to 14 December 2023, colleagues from all three levels of the One Health Quadripartite gathered in Istanbul, Türkiye, for the second in-person National Bridging Workshop (NBW) Network Reunion. The COVID-19 pandemic profoundly changed the One Health landscape, resulting in increased interest and recognition of the benefits of multisectoral

coordination to safeguard global health security.

With over 50 NBWs conducted worldwide, participants from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) shared their experiences and views for the scope of the NBW program during the meeting.

Despite differing experiences, the three days of lively discussion highlighted the closeness of the relationship between all levels of the four organizations and the strength of the NBW program in promoting multisectoral collaboration to address zoonotic pathogens at the human-animal-environment interface.

### HENIPAVIRUS JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP IN MANILA

Following the recent outbreak of Nipah virus in India, the Philippine inter-agency committee on zoonosis conducted a Joint Risk Assessment (JRA) for Henipaviruses to provide general risk mitigation options and consider enhanced protection of at-risk farmers, workers, and communities. A workshop facilitated by the Quadripartite Organizations (FAO/UNEP/WHO/WOAH) was held from 28 to 30 November 2023 in Manila, Philippines, and followed the steps of the [Joint Risk Assessment Operational Tool](#) of the [Tripartite Zoonosis Guide](#).

The only documented Nipah virus outbreak in the country was in 2014 which involved infected horses, but remained inconclusive regarding the original virus source. Jointly, relevant Philippine institutions and ministries from the human, animal and environment sector assessed the likelihood and impact of different future scenarios in the country and explored risk management options. Another major outcome of the workshop was the identification of data needs for future assessments.



WHO, Philippines, 2023



WHO, Philippines, 2023

#### ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

##### NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP NETWORK REUNION

Türkiye

##### JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT

##### OPERATIONAL TOOL

Benin, Iraq, Philippines, Zambia

##### WORKSHOP ON SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF VIRUSES WITH EPIDEMIC AND PANDEMIC POTENTIAL

Türkiye

##### NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOPS

Somalia, Tunisia

##### MULTI-SECTORAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

Türkiye

##### SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SHARING OPERATIONAL TOOL

Mali

## STRENGTHENING MULTI-SECTORAL COORDINATION MECHANISM FOR ONE HEALTH



Tunc Ozceberm, Türkiye, 2023

The Workshop for Strengthening the Multi Sectoral Coordination Mechanism with One Health Approach was jointly organized by FAO, UNEP, WHO, and WOAHA on 14 to 15 December 2023 in Ankara, Türkiye to establish a platform that supports the cooperation and coordination of relevant sectors to promote the One Health approach worldwide.

Consisting of two intricately designed sessions, the workshop brought together a diverse group of experts from different

fields, covering human, animal and plant health, as well as coordination and software modeling.

This workshop crossed national boundaries, attracting participants from Ministries, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies. The comprehensive report of the meeting is expected to be published soon, outlining a strategic plan to strengthen our national health apparatus to serve as an influential resource in guiding future initiatives for a robust and interconnected health infrastructure.

Further resources: <https://bit.ly/OneHealthResources>

## JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP HELD IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

On 5 to 8 December 2023 a JRAOT workshop was held in Lusaka, Zambia for training and operationalization of the JRA process. Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) in collaboration with the UN Quadripartite (FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAHA) and UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) held the workshop with 55 participants from the Ministries of Health, Livestock and Fisheries, Green Economy and Environment, Department of National Parks and Wildlife, Local Government and Rural development, ZNPHI in collaboration, the UN Quadripartite, the Universities, Africa Center for Disease Control, UKHSA and other OH partners.

Over four days the participants worked together to (i) build capacity of OH stakeholders in Zambia to apply the standardized 10-step process of joint risk

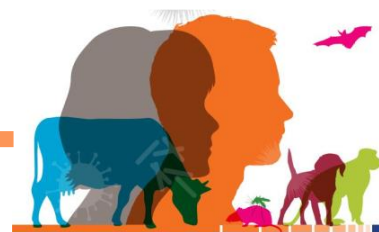


Raymond Hamoonga, Zambia, 2023



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assessments for priority endemic and emerging major challenges, and gaps in controlling major challenges, and gaps in controlling the priority zoonosis Rabies, Anthrax and Zoonotic Avian Influenza in Zambia from a One Health multi-sectoral perspective, and (iii) recommend approaches for control of the above three diseases and to reach multi-sectoral consensus on the achievable management options and communication messages around priority zoonotic events taking all stakeholder concerns into consideration.



### NINE LINE MINISTRIES PARTICIPATE IN SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP IN TUNISIA

Between 5 and 7 December 2023, the NBW in Tunisia was attended by 93 participants from national, provincial, and local district levels from nine different ministries across the human, animal, wildlife, and environment health sectors. During the workshop, participants used the International Health Regulations Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (IHR-MEF) for the human health sector, and the Performance of Veterinary Service (PVS) Pathway for the animal health sector, to identify collaboration gaps and develop a joint roadmap of corrective measures.

The main outcomes of this process were the diagnosis of the strengths and weaknesses in national intersectoral collaboration and the development of a joint roadmap. The identified four objectives and 30 activities are primarily aimed at strengthening coordination, field investigation and response, communication, and surveillance of health threats at the human-animal- environment interface.



Asma Saïdouni, Tunisia, 2023

### NATIONAL BRIDGING ROADMAP FOLLOW-UP AND JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOPS IN BENIN



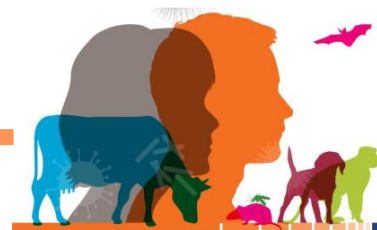
Benin Ministry of Health, Benin, 2023

In 2019, Benin has conducted the NBW during which national participants developed a joint roadmap, made of 15 objectives and 45 activities to be implemented to strengthen the coordination, collaboration, and communication to effectively address health threats at the human-animal-environment interface. Initially over 80% of these activities were planned to be implemented before 2022 using the fund provided under the Regional Disease Surveillance Systems Enhancement (REDISSE) project. In this regard, a follow up workshop was organized in Benin on 20 to 24 November 2023 to update the roadmap and identify the bottleneck and propose solutions to

bolster the implementation of high impact activities. Following extensive group work and plenary discussion, participants concluded that of the 45 activities planned, only six have been fully implemented, 11 are in progress and 28 have not been carried out. Participants agreed to align these activities with the recommendations in the new 2023 Joint External Evaluation (JEE) report and to develop/update the new National Plan for Health Security (NAPHS).



Tieble Traore, Benin, 2023



## WORKSHOP ON PUBLIC AND ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF VIRUSES WITH EPIDEMIC AND PANDEMIC POTENTIAL IN ISTANBUL

On 28 to 30 November 2023, WHO EURO in cooperation with UNEP and WOAHP conducted the Joint sub-regional workshop on public and animal health surveillance and control of viruses with epidemic and pandemic potential at the human-animal interface in Istanbul, Türkiye.



WHO, Türkiye, 2023

The workshop brought together experts from public health, animal health, and environmental sectors from the Western Balkans, Moldova and Türkiye to strengthen public surveillance and control of viruses with epidemic potential at this interface. The discussions and presentations emphasized the urgent need to adopt a unified One Health approach to address complex zoonotic disease threats in the European Region. During the sub-regional workshop, participants and observers identified existing capacity gaps and priority actions needed to enhance their capacities to detect and respond to influenza and SARS-CoV-2 events at the human-animal-environment interface. Concrete follow-up plans were developed, with countries and area seeking technical support during the implementation phase. The workshop laid the groundwork for ongoing regional cooperation in proactively monitoring and mitigating unpredictable zoonotic disease risks to human, animal, and ecosystem health.

## TRIPARTITE JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT IN IRAQ



WHO, Iraq, 2023

The JRA workshop in Iraq was held in Baghdad from 26 to 28 December 2023 as a collaborative effort between the WHO Regional office, WHO country office and the national ministries of public health, animal health and environment. During the workshop, 39 staff from the national and subnational offices responsible for animal health, public health, and the environment learned about and practiced using the JRA tool for assessing risks associated with Brucellosis, Rabies and CCHF using real data, and facilitated by the WHO regional staff (One Health and Food safety technical officers).

The workshop and the JRA tool received very positive feedback, with participants from national and subnational levels agreeing on the JRA's usefulness into their work. Discussions on managing future JRAs as well as on One Health coordination in general were held. Feedback on the tool and the workshop was collected and useful information was gained which will allow the tool and workshop to be improved in the future.

## ACTIVITIES COMPLETED TO DATE

54

NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOPS

49

JOINT RISK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOPS

9

MULTISECTORAL COORDINATION MECHANISM WORKSHOPS

9

SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM WORKSHOPS

5

REPREP WORKSHOPS

2

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

1

MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORKSHOPS

