One Health Joint Plan of Action

Working together for the health of humans, animals, plants and the environment

Leveraging the role of the Quadripartite collaboration

INTRODUCTION

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) - collectively called the Quadripartite – collaborate to drive change and transformations required to mitigate the impact of current and future health challenges at the human-animal-plant-environment interface at global, regional, and country levels. Responding to international requests to prevent future zoonotic pandemics and to promote health sustainably through the One Health approach, the Quadripartite have developed the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022-2026) (OH JPA).

The OH JPA outlines the commitment of the four organizations to collectively advocate and support the implementation of One Health. It builds on, complements, and adds value to existing global and regional One Health and coordination initiatives aiming at strengthening capacity to address complex multidimensional health risks with more resilient health systems at global, regional and national levels.

The OH JPA adopts a broad perspective of One Health integrating a system-based approach to support the health of humans, animals, plants and the environment, while identifying and addressing the underlying factors to disease emergence, spread and persistence, and the complex economic, social and environmental determinants of health. By integrating the environmental dimension towards a more extended understanding of disease emergence and spread, as well as the role of ecosystems in disease regulation, the One Health approach is more comprehensive. It can thereby help to address the underlying drivers of disease emergence and ill-health, improve disease prevention and preparedness, mitigate the impacts of health risks and threats, implement sustainable solutions, and promote health for all holistically in the long term.

RAISING THE BAR – ONE HEALTH JOINT PLAN OF ACTION (OH JPA)

The desired impact of the OH JPA is a world better able to prevent, predict, detect, and respond to health threats and improve the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment while contributing to sustainable development. The OH JPA aims to work towards this vision in the following way:

- Provide a framework for action and propose a set of activities the four organizations can offer together to advance and sustainably scale up One Health.
- Provide upstream policy and legislation advice and technical assistance, to help set national targets and priorities across the sectors for the development and implementation of One Health legislation, initiatives and programmes.

- Take stock of existing cross-sectoral global and regional initiatives around One Health, identify and advise on synergies and overlaps, and support coordination.
- Mobilize and make better use of resources across sectors, disciplines, and stakeholders.
- The OH JPA is guided by a Theory of Change and makes use of One Health principles to strengthen collaboration, communication, capacity building, and coordination equally across all sectors responsible for addressing health concerns at the human-animal-plant-environment interface.

The OH JPA is built around six interdependent Action Tracks that collectively contribute to achieving sustainable health and food systems, reduced global health threats and improved ecosystem management:



Each Action Track consists of a set of Actions with specific activities, deliverables, and a timeline to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Provide adequate guidance and tools for effective implementation of multisectoral approaches in promoting the health of humans, animals, plants, and ecosystems and preventing and managing risks at the human-animal-plant-environment interface
- ii. Reduce the risk and minimize local and global impacts of zoonotic epidemics and pandemics, through understanding the linkages and drivers of emergence and spillover, adopting upstream prevention, and strengthening One Health surveillance, early warning, and response systems

- iii. Reduce the burden of endemic zoonotic, neglected tropical and vector-borne diseases by supporting countries to implement community-centric, risk-based solutions, strengthening policy and legal frameworks from local to global level and across sectors, and increasing political commitment and investment.
- iv. Promote awareness, policy changes and action coordination among stakeholders to ensure that humans, animals and ecosystems achieve health - and remain in that state in their interactions with and along the food supply chain
- v. Take joint actions to preserve antimicrobial efficacy and ensure sustainable and equitable access to antimicrobials for responsible and prudent use in human, animal and plant health.
- vi. Protect and restore biodiversity, prevent the degradation of ecosystems and the wider environment to jointly support the health of people, animals, plants and ecosystems underpinning sustainable development.

Finally, the OH JPA promotes the adoption of cross-cutting principles including systems thinking, advocacy, Public-Private Partnerships, governance, institutional and legal frameworks, and traditional knowledge of local and indigenous communities to build connections across the six action tracks and look at shared underlying issues.