



The One Health Platform in Cameroon

**Dr Jean-Marc Kameni Feussom^{1,2}, Dr Ngong Crystella Cha-ah², Mme Elisabeth Dibongue²,
Dr Conrad Ntoh Nkuo², Dr Gonné Garga^{1,2}**

¹ Department of Veterinary Services (DSV), Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINEPIA)

² National Program for the Prevention and Fight against Emerging and Re-emerging Zoonoses (PNPLZER), One Health Platform

3-5 April 2023

Maison de la Chimie, Paris, France



Plan

- Context
- Zoonoses Program, Cameroon One Health Platform
- One Health Platform : achievements and impact
- Challenges and perspectives
- Conclusion

Context

475 422 Km²

Human population : 27 744 989 hab.(est.)

Livestock population (Cattle : 6 millions, Small ruminants, 9 millions, Pig : 3,5 millions, ..)

Protected Areas, Wildlife, Biological Diversity and Agroecological Areas.



Context

Results of assessments (WHO - PVS, WHO - IHR, International Environmental Conventions)



OMS, RSI,
JEE, 2017



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

PVS PATHWAY EVOLUTION
*adapting for an even brighter future of
improving animal health and welfare globally*



Environmental and Biosafety
Conventions



Cameroon
2006, 2011, 2022



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

Context

National focus

Vision 2025

NDS 30,

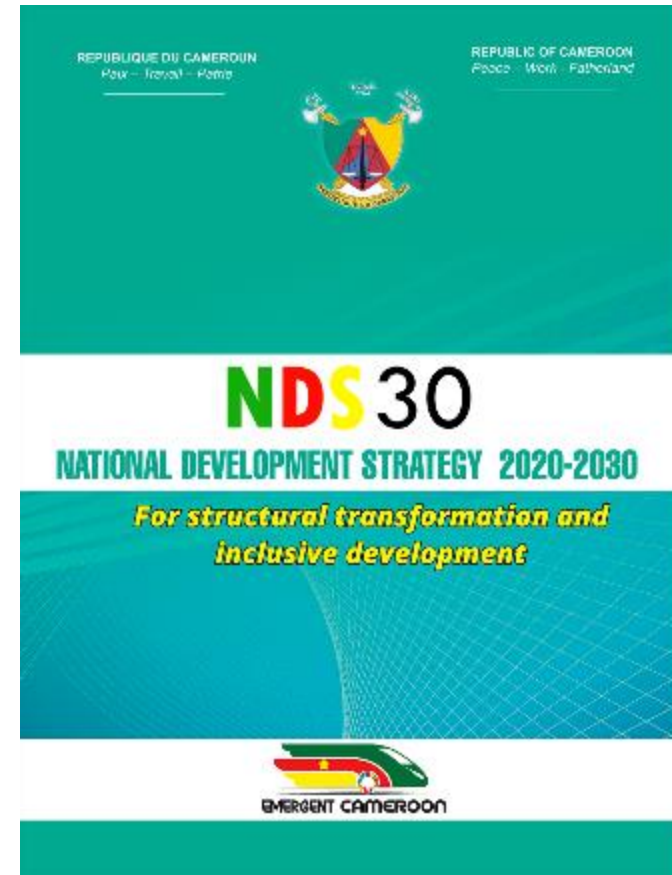
Strategies and sub-strategies,

National policies

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN



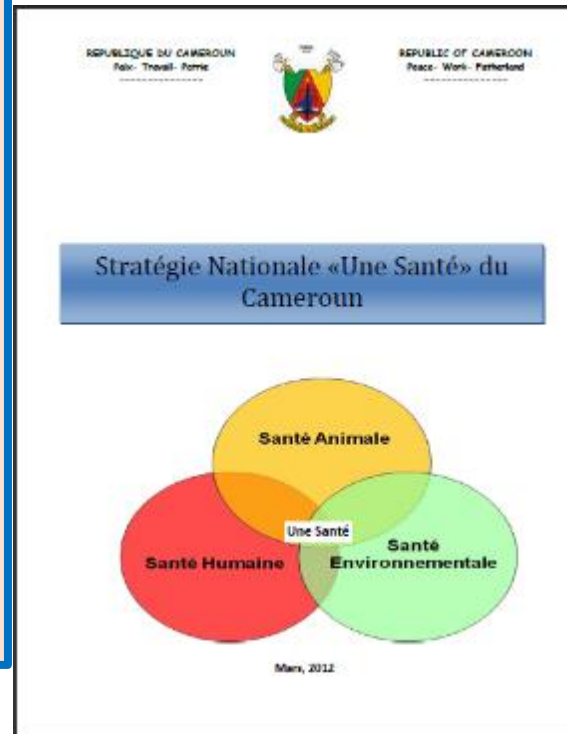
CAMEROUN :VISION 2035



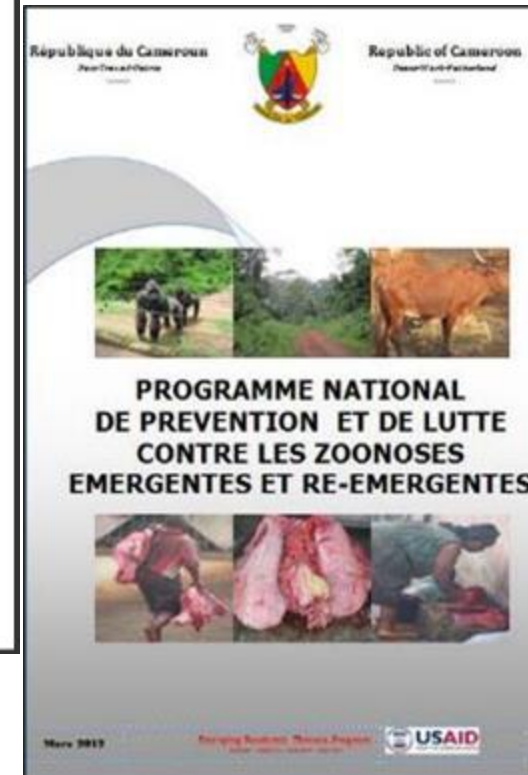
Zoonoses Program, Cameroon One Health Platform

- PM's decree on the creation, organisation and functioning of the Zoonoses Programme, april 2014
- Mandate
 - Article 3
- Placed under the authority of the PM and the supervision of the SG/PM
- Promote the " One Health " concept through a multisector and multi-disciplinary approach

Institutional basis



2012



PREFACE

Emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases diagnosed across the globe during the past few years and above have been overwhelmingly (75%) zoonotic i.e. diseases transmissible from animals to man and vice versa. For example between 2004 through 2012 several emerging or re-emerging zoonotic diseases such as Anthrax, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1, Pandemic Flu (A-H1N1-2009), Rabies and Tuberculosis have been diagnosed in Cameroon.

The Government of Cameroon, conscious of the potential negative impacts of such diseases on animal, human and environmental health, food security as well as on the socio-economic advancement of the country, by Prime Ministerial Act N°010/PM of 28th April 2013, put in place an ad hoc committee charged with the elaboration of the National Program for the Prevention and fight against Emerging and Re-emerging Zoonoses (NPPFERZ).

Under the auspices of the Minister of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industry (MINEPIA), in collaboration with experts from other Ministerial Departments namely, Forestry / Wildlife, Environment, Public Health, Scientific Research, Agriculture, Tourism, Territorial Administration / De-centralisation, Economy, Plan / Regional Development, Finance, Communication, Higher Education, technical and financial support from RESPOND – USAID, other stakeholders, the guidance of two consultants and by a multi-disciplinary / multi-sector approach the ad hoc committee was charged with the elaboration of the Program.

On this basis and following working field visits to sites within the nation where these diseases have been reported, proposals on how to efficiently and effectively prevent and fight emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases in the country were tabled for evaluation, amendment, adoption and validation.

With the "one health approach" as harbinger, animal stakeholders working in synergy with competent experts from international organizations had to ensure that the development, realization or implementation of validated instruments or solutions are in the letter and spirit of this approach.

Consequently team work in a multi-sectoral, inter-disciplinary manner is the way forward in the surveillance, prevention and fight against these diseases. In other words, it takes into account a holistic and transversal vision that integrates stakeholders of animal, human and environmental health.

We hereby invite all stakeholders involved in this endeavor to and with a spirit of determined collaboration, wholeheartedly engage in resolving this gruesome problem.

Minister of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries: *DF TATA*

Minister of Environment and Protection of Nature: *Antoine M. N. N. N.*

Minister of Public Health: *Antoine M. N. N. N.*

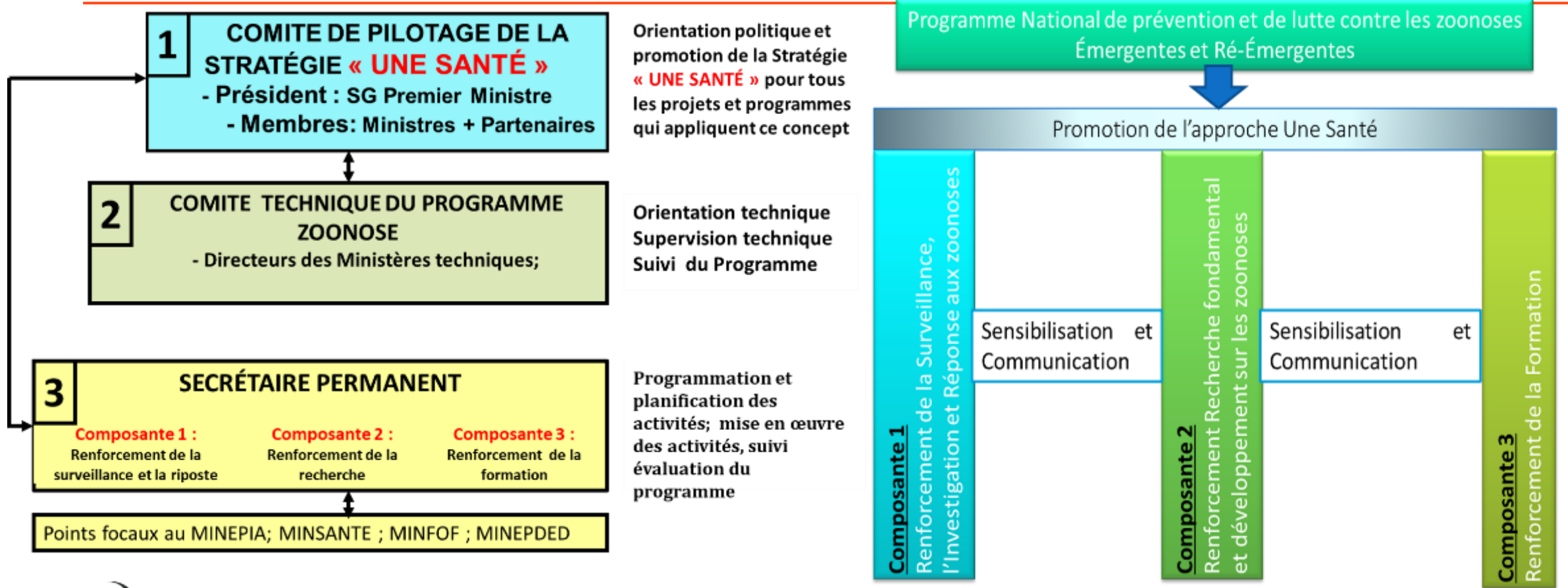
Minister of Forestry and Wildlife: *Antoine M. N. N. N.*

World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

2014



Zoonoses Program, Cameroon One Health Platform



Organisation



One Health Platform : achievements and impact

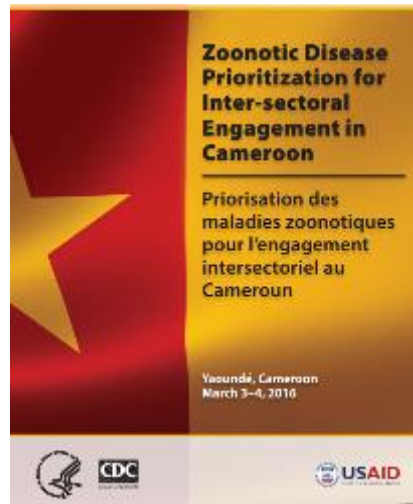


1- PREVENTION AND MITIGATION

- **Prioritisation of zoonotic diseases**
- **Risk Assessment**
- **Epidemiological surveillance**

Prioritisation of zoonotic diseases : 02 exercises

Prioritisation, 2016



- ✓ Rabies
- ✓ Anthrax
- ✓ HPAI
- ✓ Ebola
- ✓ Bovine Tuberculosis



Review of prioritisation 2020

N°	Agro-ecological Zones	Regions	Priority Zoonoses	Other zoonoses
1	Bimodal rainforest zone	CE, SU and ES	M bovine Tuberculosis	Rabies, MPX, HPAI
2	Monomodal rainforest zone	LT, SW	HPAI	Lassa fever, Ebola, Mb Tuberculosis
3	Highlands zone	OU, NW	HPAI	Anthrax, Lassa fever, Mb Tuberculosis ✓
4	High savana zone	AD	M bovine Tuberculosis	Lassa fever ; Trypanosomiasis ; MPX ✓
5	Sudano-sahelian zone	NO, EN	Rabies	Anthrax, Tuberculosis, Lassa fever ✓ Mb fièvre ✓

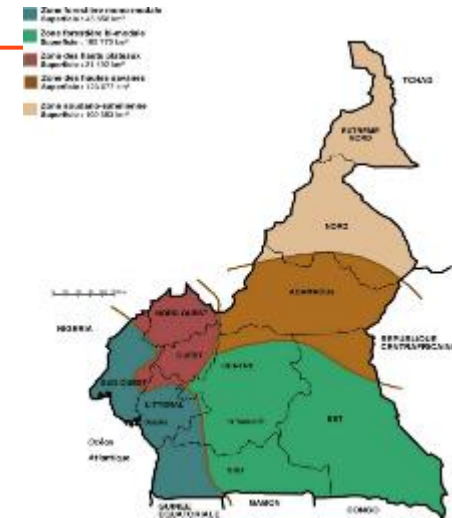
Salmonellosis

Lassa fever

Trypanosomiasis

Monkeypox

Brucellosis



Impacts : Risk better perceived, plans and interventions oriented

02 Joint Risk Assessments conducted

- 01 on the emergence of **monkeypox** in the Centre, South and East regions and the spread of **COVID-19** at the human-animal-environment interface
- 01 on the emergence of **bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis** at the human-animal-environment interface

Conducted by the country's pool of experts



Epidemiological surveillance

- Development of an SOP for multisector surveillance;
- Technical, material and financial support for missions to investigate outbreaks of monkeypox, rabies, anthrax, brucellosis... **on average 5 multisector investigations per year;**



Epidemiological surveillance in protected areas

Capacity building of ecoguards on wildlife monitoring in protected areas; **one training session per year, about 100 ecoguards trained in 4 years**



Rumour Management, strengthening early detection...

Studies conducted for the development of an integrated rumour management system (**Cmr One Health Rumour Management System (COHRMS)**)



The screenshot shows the login interface for the Cameroon One Health Rumor Management System (COHRMS). The page is split into a green left section and a blue right section. On the green background, the text reads: "Welcome to Cameroon One Health Rumor Management System". A circular logo with "ONE HEALTH" and "ONE HEALTH DATE" is visible. On the blue background, the text says "Sign in to COH-RMS" and "New Here? Create an account". There are two input fields: "Email" and "Password". A "Login" button is at the bottom. A "Forget Password?" link is next to the password field.



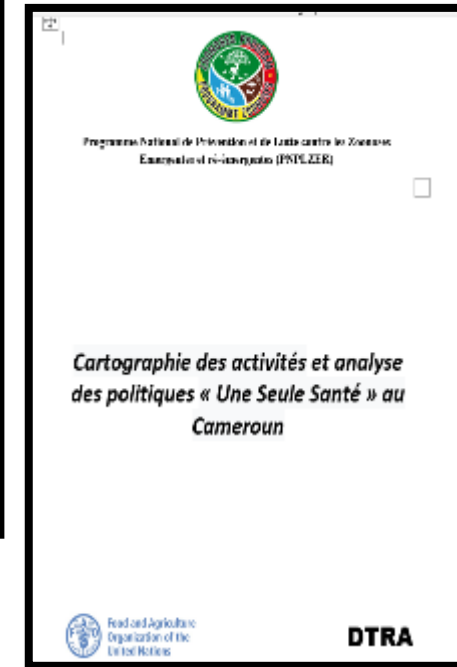
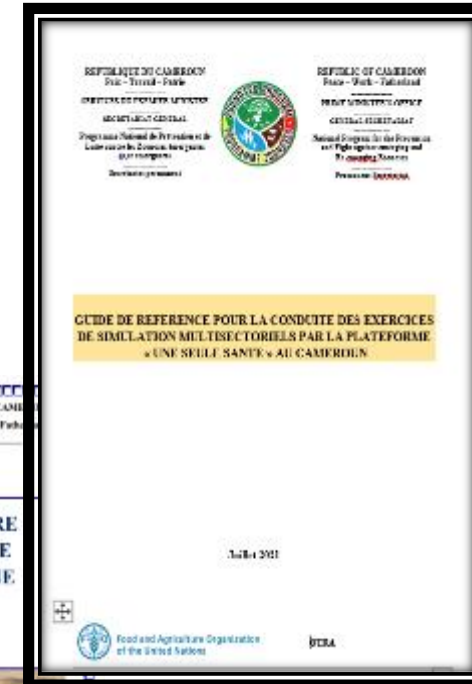
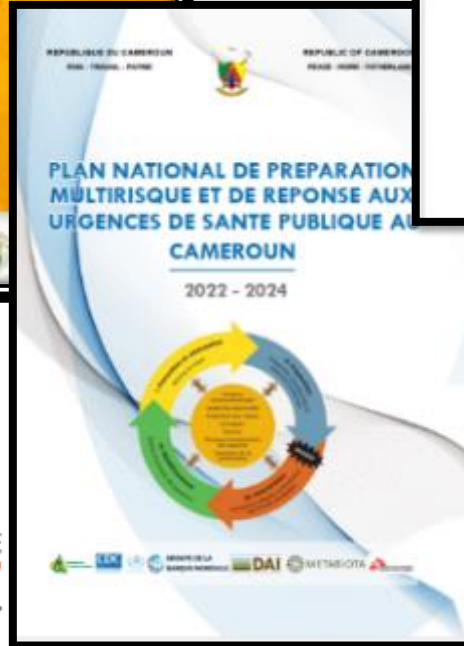
One Health Platform : achievements and impact



2- PREPAREDNESS

- **Plans and procedures**
- **Training**
- **Simulation Exercises**

Development of documents, plans and SOPs



Training (1/2)

Themes	Targets attained	Perception of impact/results
One Health approach and health security	30 Senators	- Advocacy to improve legislation - Orientation of funding
	200 staff of sector ministries at central and deconcentrated levels in 5 years	- Strengthening multisectoral collaboration – Creation of Regional OH groups
	18 Civil Society Organisations	-Appropriation of the OH approach
Epidemiological Surveillance	100 eco-guards in 4 years	Early detection and reporting of zoonotic diseases in protected areas



Training (2/2)

Themes	Target attained	Perception of impact/results
Risk Communication and Community Engagement	30 staff of ministries at the central level	-Appropriation of the OH approach
	20 media actors	-Appropriation of the approach, stakes and networking
	20 public health communicators	-Appropriation of the approach, stakes and networking
	35 persons representing 18 Civil Society Organisations	- Community engagement
Emergency management (IMS and PHEOC)	30 staffs from partner ministries at the national level	-Appropriation of the IMS



Success story with CSOs

3 trained CSOs developed action plans for community based actions in response to Covid 19:

- Dialogue with communities on immunization
- Sensitization on barrier measures, with emphasis on hand washing
- Detecting rumours on Covid 19
- Adopting healthy behaviours to prevent zoonotic diseases
- Food safety



CSO OH network created



Simulation Exercises

- 01 functional multi-sector case management exercise on Ebola (Women's AFCON 2016)
- 01 multi-sector (tabletop) exercise for zoonotic disease outbreak management, with the involvement of the private sector and the civil society



One Health Platform : achievements and impact



3- RESPONSE

- **Coordination**
- **Technical and material support**
- **Infrastructure**

Multi-sector management of monkeypox cases



Photo 1: les points focaux One Health + GVC

Photo: les points focaux One Health + l'équipe du sanctuaire



- Funding of multi sector investigations
- Production and distribution of sensitization tools
- Prompt response



Multi-sector management of HPAI/ H5N1 (2016, 2022)

Multi-sector interventions

- Joint press release
- Joint press conferences
- Sharing of reports between the two ministries
- Laboratory surveillance network, joint investigations

- Prompt responses
- Shared response efforts
- Material support
- Shared expertise
- Consistency in crisis communication



One Health Platform : achievements and impact



4- COMMUNICATION

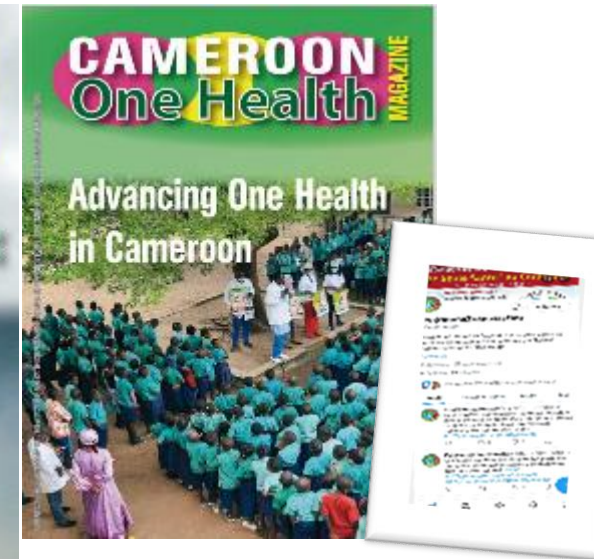
Communication (1/2)

- Established a **working group** on risk communication and community engagement
- Sensitization of about **1500 people at risk** through specific campaigns,
- the celebration of World Days (Zoonoses, Rabies, OH, AMR)



Communication (2/2)

- Strengthening of digital communication (website, twitter account, facebook account...)
- Development of an annual One Health Magazine and a quarterly newsletter



Challenges and perspectives

During the Evaluation of the One Health Platform with the One Health Monitoring Tool, gaps were identified in certain domains, and we look forward to fill those gaps.

Follow also the recommendation of alignment with the "One Health" quadripartite action plan

Challenges and perspectives

- Sustainable financing of the program and the contribution of the sectors and partners involved
- The true operationalization of the "One Health" approach at the deconcentrated level (Regions, Departments, Arrondissements or Communes);
- This platform should take into account other public health issues such as antimicrobial resistance, food safety, etc.

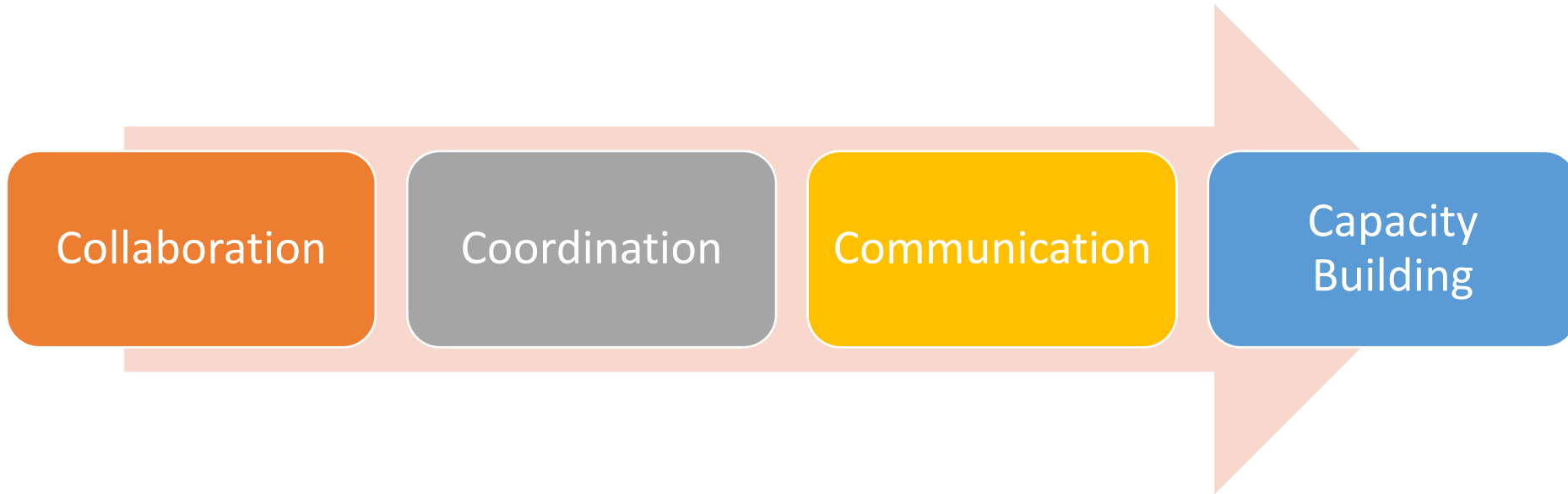
Challenges and perspectives

- Operationalization of the One Health Summer Institute
- Establish an integrated mechanism for collecting and sharing data on priority zoonoses and other zoonotic threats
- Operationalisation of the rumour management system
- Organisation of a National One Health Conference (World One Health Day)

Challenges and perspectives

- Development of a One Health training manual and a One Health toolkit
- Support for the strengthening of the technical capacities of laboratories for the diagnosis of priority zoonoses
- Support for the operationalisation of the One Health CSO network (ROOHCAM)
- Support for the development of the animal health EOC

Conclusion





Thank you

**Dr Jean-Marc Kameni Feussom^{1,2}, Dr Ngong Crystella Cha-ah², Mme Elisabeth Dibongue²,
Dr Conrad Ntoh Nkuo², Dr Gonné Garga^{1,2}**

¹ Department of Veterinary Services (DSV), Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINEPIA)

² National Program for the Prevention and Fight against Emerging and Re-emerging Zoonoses (PNPLZER), One Health Platform

Email : mfeussom@gmail.com / mfeussom@yahoo.fr

This event is supported by funding from:



Canada

