FAO in Geneva One Health Dialogue Series

Health Through Healthy Agri-Food Systems

One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that recognizes that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (our ecosystems) are closely linked and inter-dependent. It aims to achieve optimal and sustainable health outcomes for people, animals, and ecosystems. The approach mobilizes multiple sectors, disciplines and communities at all levels of society to work together to tackle threats to health and ecosystems, while addressing our collective needs for healthy food, water, energy and air, taking action on climate change, and promoting sustainable development.



INTRODUCTION

SARS, Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza, Ebola, MERS-CoV and COVID 19 may just be the tip of the iceberg! The world is facing increasing threats from zoonotic diseases and pandemics, as well as antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Three quarters of new and emerging infectious diseases in humans, and approximately 60 percent of all of them, are zoonotic in origin. Unfortunately, we are not making progress on the key drivers of these crises that are climate change, ecosystem degradation, improperly managed intensification of animal production, as well as human encroachment into animal habitat. The risk of outbreak is higher than ever and forceful action at all level is urgently required.

FAO, in partnership with WHO, OIE and UNEP is promoting the use of the One Health Concept at country level to formulate policies and programs and adapt health systems to effectively tackle emerging risk from zoonotic pathogens. The new FAO's Strategic Framework (2022-31) supports the 2030 Agenda through the transformation to more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agri-food systems for better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life, leaving no one behind. Mainstreaming One Health in agri-food systems transformation is also key for the achievement of the Global Biodiversity Agenda and the UN Decade on Ecosystem restoration.

SCOPE

Organized by FAO *in Geneva*, the **One Health Dialogue Series** is undertaken in support of FAO's strategic framework and One Health Program (BP3). It aims to increase awareness on the complexity and magnitude of the issue and ultimately ground policy making at all level in field realities.

The **One Health Dialogue Series** will present important work carried out in Member States with support from FAO and partners, showcase concrete examples of implementation of the One Health approach at the community, national, regional and global levels and discuss challenges faced during their implementation as well as their sustainability.

The **One Health Dialogue Series** will be grouped in action tracks from the OH-Global Plan of Action (OH/GPA) including: (i) Health system strengthening; (ii) Emerging and re-emerging zoonotic epidemics and pandemics; (iii) Neglected/endemic zoonotic diseases; (iv) Food safety hazards; (v) Antimicrobial resistance; and (vi) Environment and Health.

PARTICIPANTS

Permanent representations to the UN in Geneva, Health/Humanitarian/Development partners (WHO, OIE, UNEP, Other UN and international Organizations, NGOs and other partners).

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- The Geneva humanitarian and development community is better sensitized on the magnitude of the zoonotic diseases and AMR related risk as well as on the relevance of the One Health approach as an integral part of food systems transformation in the context of Agenda 2030.
- Policy making is better informed.
- One Health models and good practices are increasingly replicated in countries and regions.
- Investments in One Health systems promoted and increased.
- FAO and partners' roles in One Health issues are better understood and their expertise better used.

ARRANGEMENTS AND FORMAT

Approach:

- Informal: exchanging information, ideas and views without any attributions and reporting.
- Interactive: providing a neutral platform for dialogue and engagement among stakeholders.
- Inspirational: sharing knowledge and ideas for use in policy and negotiations accordingly.

Format (1 to 1.5 hours, monthly):

- 1. Introduction of participants and topic covered Chair/Technical leader (10 minutes)
- 2. Presentation of the topic by speakers (Max. 3) Partners/National counterparts/FAO experts (10 minutes per speaker, max. 30 minutes)
- 3. Open discussion Invited partners/country representatives (country, regional or global level), including Q/A session with participants (max. 45 minutes)
- 4. Wrap up and take home messages or recommendations from the session Chair (5 minutes)

A summary of the session, including presentations and recommendations/conclusions will be published on the FAO in Geneva Website and Twitter account, and via FAO communication channels.

Topics and Speakers:

FAO Geneva, in close coordination with relevant FAO Technical Divisions (CJWZ/NSA, OER, NSP) and Regional Offices will identify potential topics and speakers and participants to provide insights on the specific subject. Ample opportunities will be provided to national counterparts, including government partners, to share their experience.

Potential topics include: Agri-food systems' role and contribution to One Health; One Health initiatives and their contribution to SDG/Agenda 2030; Models and good practices of good governance of One Health at country level; Successful One Health intersectoral collaboration (e.g. AMR National Action); Integrated Surveillance efforts for animal, human and ecosystem health; Behavioral changes at community level in animal and human health practices; Capacity development of One Health workforce; Use of technology for training (e-learning) and surveillance/early warning/response to health threats; Examples of good and sustainable One Health partnerships/collaborations at local level including best practices of One Health, etc.