

ONE HEALTH HUB

Locations Worldwide

Dates 01/04/2024 - 31/03/2027

Summary

The One Health Hub is a knowledge, evidence, and learning platform that promotes a cross-sectoral One Health agenda encompassing human, animal, plant, and ecosystem health. It identifies gaps in knowledge, analyses evidence, and helps to shape policies for a more interconnected approach to health. The platform works with global and regional organizations to help mainstream a One Health approach in sustainable development. It also supports global development initiatives by helping them to embed One Health thinking in their programming. The One Health Hub is managed by CABI with funding from UK International Development from the UK government.

The problem

Today's world faces a wide variety of health challenges. The multifaceted, complex nature of these threats means that they cannot be approached from a purely medical, veterinary, plant or ecological viewpoint. Instead, collaborative, multi-sector approaches that cut across human, ecosystem, animal and plant health are essential to ensuring that responses to health hazards are both sustainable and effective.

In the past two decades, One Health has emerged as a compelling framework for improving the health of people, animals, plants, and ecosystems. In contrast to human-centric paradigms of health, One Health is based on the assumption that the health of humans, animals, plants, and the wider environment is closely linked and inter-dependent. This interdependency means that no single discipline or sector can tackle threats to health in isolation. Advocates of the concept argue that removing the barriers which divide disciplines and sectors and moving away from siloed methods are pivotal to achieving a "whole of society" approach to health. Communication, coordination, collaboration and capacity-building across multiple sectors, disciplines, government departments and international organizations is seen as essential to optimizing health security across One Health's domains.

However, there have been numerous difficulties translating One Health from ideas into practice, and many barriers still exist to operationalizing the concept effectively. Moreover, there are numerous knowledge gaps in One Health research even while One Health continues to gather significant momentum and

gain popularity across the globe.

What we are doing

The One Health Hub is a responsive knowledge and learning platform that informs a cross-sectoral One Health agenda encompassing human, animal, plant, and environment health within FCDO animal and plant health grants. To date, the One Health Hub has identified One Health research gaps and carried out synthesis of evidence on key topics such as zoonoses that can inform research and policy decision-making within FCDO programmes as well as in the global One Health community.

The project's work is organised around two complementary streams:

1. **Research Roadmap** – identifying and prioritising key One Health evidence gaps and research opportunities to inform future investments, strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration and guide the development of a strategic One Health research agenda
2. **One Health in Practice** – supporting the operationalisation of One Health approaches by identifying practical mechanisms, tools and learning opportunities that enable integration across sectors and disciplines, and translating evidence into policy and programme action.

Zoonoses is a spotlight topic within the project, providing a focus for evidence synthesis, knowledge sharing and stakeholder engagement to support improved understanding, prevention and management of diseases that occur at the human-animal-ecosystem interface.

Results so far

In the first two years of implementation, One Health Hub deliverables have included:

- A bibliometric analysis(opens in new tab) to map research around the action tracks in the Joint Plan of Action (JPA). The analysis established which low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) participate in One Health research, existing areas of research focus and how this has changed over time. Topic modelling was used to map publications against the six JPA action tracks as well as against disciplines.
- A systematic evidence map(opens in new tab) of research on emerging zoonotic diseases to identify the research landscape on factors influencing the emergence of zoonotic disease and an accompanying evidence note which synthesises evidence on the drivers, impacts and prevention of zoonotic diseases, and explores how a One Health approach can strengthen preparedness, surveillance and response.
- A horizon scanning exercise(opens in new tab) to identify future needs in One Health research and prioritize areas for further investigation to inform a research roadmap. The horizon scanning involved over 400 stakeholders from human, animal, plant and ecosystem health disciplines, ranking critical One Health issues by impact and novelty.
- Practical case studies that show how One Health approaches are being applied in real-world contexts, often amplifying practice-based experience by supporting contributors to translate lived experience into clear, structured One Health narratives,
- Evidence briefs and policy-relevant publications advocating for the integration of plant health into One Health, highlighting its importance for food security, biodiversity, climate resilience and the management of cross-sectoral health risks.

Donors

UK International Development from the UK government

CABI Project Manager

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https://www.cabi.org/what-we-do/cabi-projects/