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One Health in Kenya

Kenya has developed a comprehensive One Health strategic plan to guide the country's activities until 2025. The country's One Health baseline study, conducted by the Kenya Multiplier, was based on a desktop review, key informant interviews, and a focus group discussion. The results revealed that multiple stakeholders in Kenya are working on some aspects of One Health. However, they operate in silos, mostly in the veterinary and biomedical sciences. Based on the findings, the Kenya Multiplier has initiated activities to increase awareness and integrate One Health into Kenya's activities, from education to disease response.

Activities implemented under COHESA-Kenya in 2023

Cohesa Kenya implements multiple activities in the different work packages. The following are completed activities.

W1-Baseline

- Case study on the One Health landscape in Kenya submitted to CABI's curated collection of practical, educational case studies demonstrating **One Health** in practice.

W2- Promoting national and regional OH collaboration and governance

- Engaged a consultant to support the training of County One Health Units (COHUs) in 10 (of the 47) counties in Kenya
- Fully integrated the government into COHESA's activities through the Zoonotic Disease Unit.
- Initiated seminar series on public engagement on One Health.
- Submitted a proposal for the Epidemic Science Leadership & Innovation Networks (EPSILON) call from the Science Foundation Africa in collaboration with other COHESA countries in East Africa.

W3- Education

- Engaged a curriculum specialist to integrate One Health into the education system.
- Submitted a grant application to the Bill and Melinda Gates application in joint with The University of Nairobi, Kenya's Zoonotic Disease Unit (ZDU), VSF North America and ILRI to educate farmers on disease surveillance.

W4- Adopting One Health Solutions

- Sent out applications for Sandpit, from which 18 teams were shortlisted

Captioned activity photo (high resolution)



Planning meeting between the multiplier and the Ministry of Health (Zoonotic Disease) in Kenya in April 2022

Key findings/lessons/opportunities

- There is a lack of awareness of One Health in key departments and sectors in Kenya that would implement the approach.
- The baseline study showed the environmental sector is the most notably non-engaged despite being one of the defining arms of One Health.

Planned activities (2024-2025)

Following lessons learnt from the baseline and the one-year operation, Cohesa Kenya will strategically engage in advocacy and education activities in 2024.

W2- Promoting national and regional OH collaboration and governance

- Documenting the impact of the training of the County One Health Units through the engaged consultant.
- Continued seminar series on public engagement on One Health.
- Intensified One Health storytelling through social and mainstream media.

W3- Education

- Planned a workshop with the private sector for advocacy on their participation.

W4- Adopting One Health Solutions

- Selection of one team to be funded from the 18 that were shortlisted for the sandpit

Consortium