

17th Conference of the Regional
Commission for the Middle East
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 1-5 October 2023

TECHNICAL ITEM I: One Health: Coordination, Communication and Cooperation Between Veterinary, Public Health and Environmental Protection Services

Members of the One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)

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Dr. Salama Almuhairi



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE



Presentation structure

Technical Item I was selected by the Regional Commission.

Prepare in-depth analysis and develop recommendation:

- to be adopted by the Regional Commission
- to be presented to the World Assembly for endorsement
- to set the basis for the workplan of WOA and its Members.

One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)





List of content

- One Health Milestones
- Unifying concepts
- One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA)
- Survey development for in-depth situational analysis
- Survey findings and outcomes
- Key Challenges and Achievements for One Health Multisector Coordination
- The need for International Technical Support
- Conclusions



One Health Milestones



Before March 2020

Tripartite worked together for decades to address risks at the human-animal-environment interface.

March 2020

COVID 19 Pandemic

Nov 2020

The One Health High-Level Expert Panel was proposed by France, with Germany's support, and was officially announced at the Paris Peace Forum

Feb 2021

Tripartite executive board call upon **UNEP to join Tripartite (Joint vision on One Health Implementation)**

March 2021

Following the Twenty-seventh Tripartite Annual Executive Meeting, the Tripartite and UNEP agreed to jointly develop a strategy and action plan to prevent future pandemics through the One Health approach

May 2021

Following the Paris Peace Forum, the quadripartite established the interdisciplinary **One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)**

June 2021

G7 Summit emphasized one health as a global public health priority and a major principle to help fight Covid 19 and future pandemics

Oct 2021

G20 Finance Ministers echoed the **priority given to One Health** in their own declaration

Nov-Dec 2021

World Health Assembly calling for One Health as a guiding principle to reform global public health.

Dec 2021

A joint press release on **One Health New Definition**

March 2022

Twenty-eighth Tripartite Annual Executive Meeting, quadripartite signed (MoU) to reflect a change with UNEP as an equal partner

May 2022

Regional Commission recommendation during the 89th General Assembly for Technical Item I: One Health: coordination, communication and cooperation

Oct 2022

One health joint plan of action (2022-2026) was released





**One Health
Definition**

Spillover Drivers

**One Health
Surveillance**

**One Health
Prevention
concept**

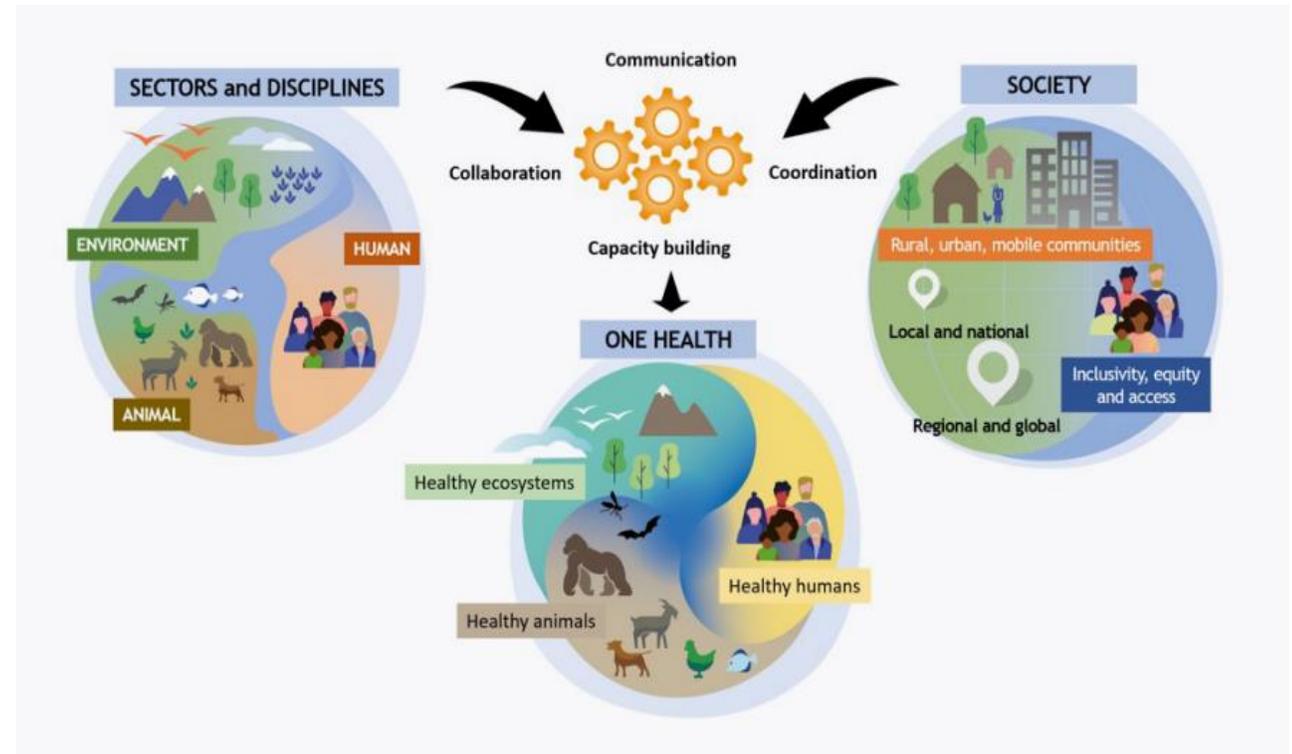
**One health toolbox
(Inventory of one
health tools)**

One Health Definition

One Health is an **integrated, unifying** approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of humans, animals, plants and ecosystems. It recognizes the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are **closely linked and interdependent**.

The approach mobilizes multiple sectors, **disciplines and communities** at varying levels of society to work together to foster well-being and tackle threats to health and ecosystems, while addressing the collective need for clean water, energy and air, safe and nutritious food, taking action on climate change, and contributing to sustainable development.

Source: ONE HEALTH HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT PANEL





Underlying principles of One Health

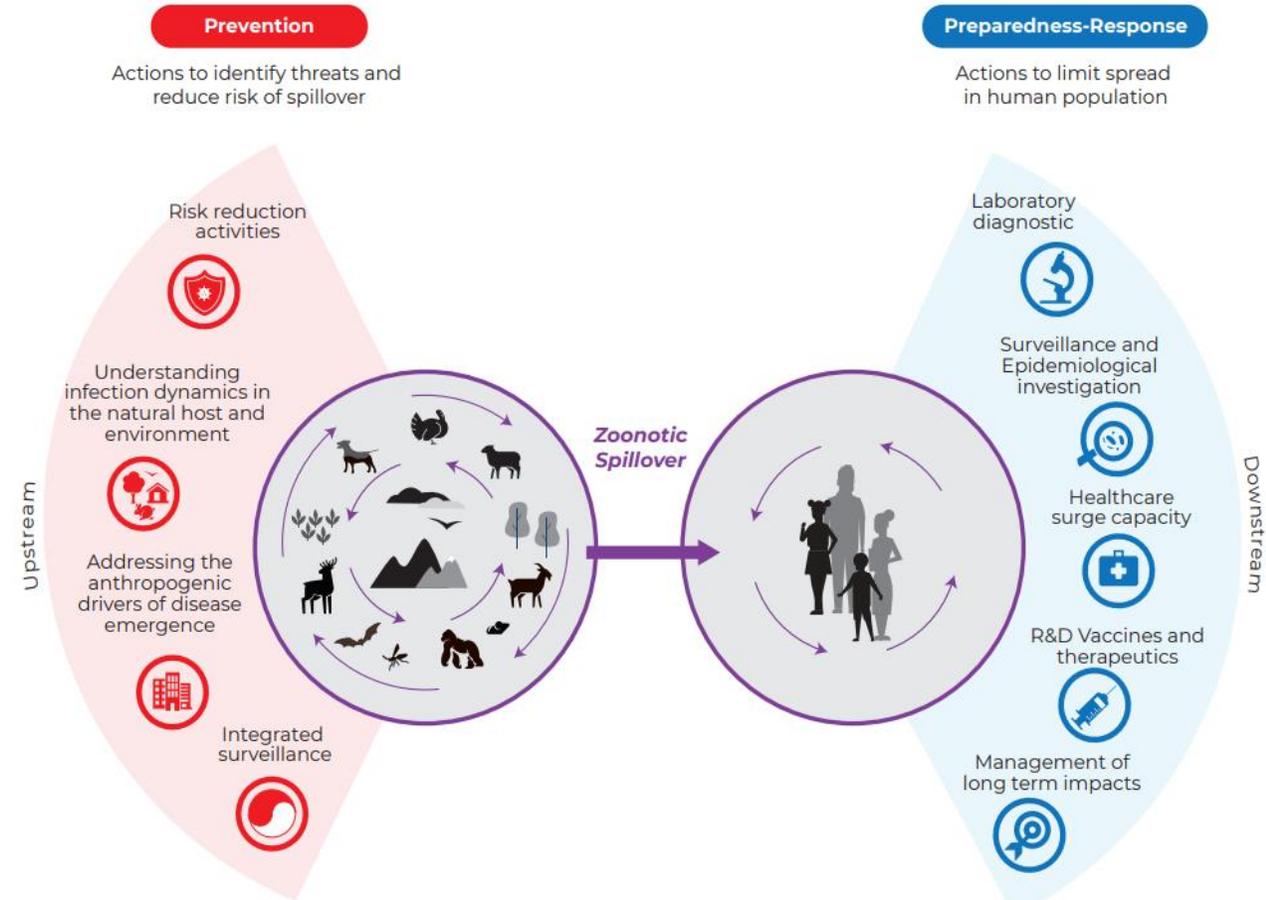
1. **Equity** between sectors and disciplines.
2. Sociopolitical **parity** (the doctrine that all people are equal and deserve equal rights and opportunities) and inclusion and engagement of communities and marginalized voices.
3. Socioecological **equilibrium** that seeks a harmonious balance between human—animal-environment interaction and acknowledging the importance of biodiversity, access to sufficient space and resources, and the intrinsic value of all living things within the ecosystem.
4. **Stewardship** and the responsibility of humans to adopt sustainable solutions that recognize the importance of animal welfare and the integrity of the whole ecosystem, thus securing the well-being of current and future generations
5. **Trans disciplinaryity** and multisectoral collaboration which includes all relevant disciplines, both modern and traditional forms of knowledge and a broad representative array of perspectives.

Primary prevention (Upstream):

- Prevention of spillover is preventing a pathogen from transferring from animals to humans.
- Addressing drivers of pathogen spillover at the human-animal environment interface to minimize the risk of human infection by zoonotic pathogens, including interventions such as vaccines.

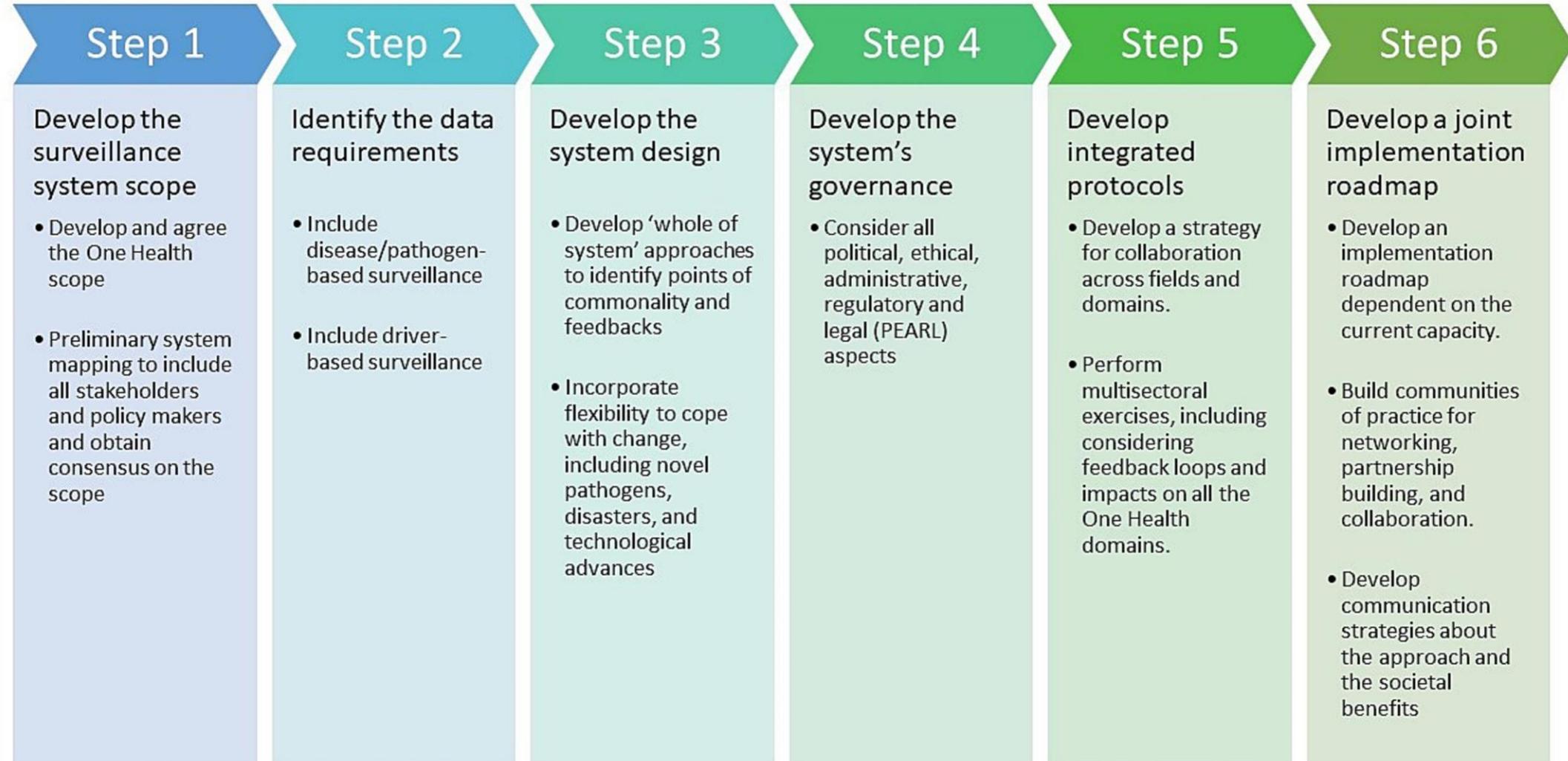
Secondary prevention (Downstream/infection containment):

- Prevention of small localized disease outbreaks from spreading and developing into an epidemic or pandemic.
- Interventions such as early detection, vaccines, improved health systems, drug therapy, and implementation of sanitary measures.





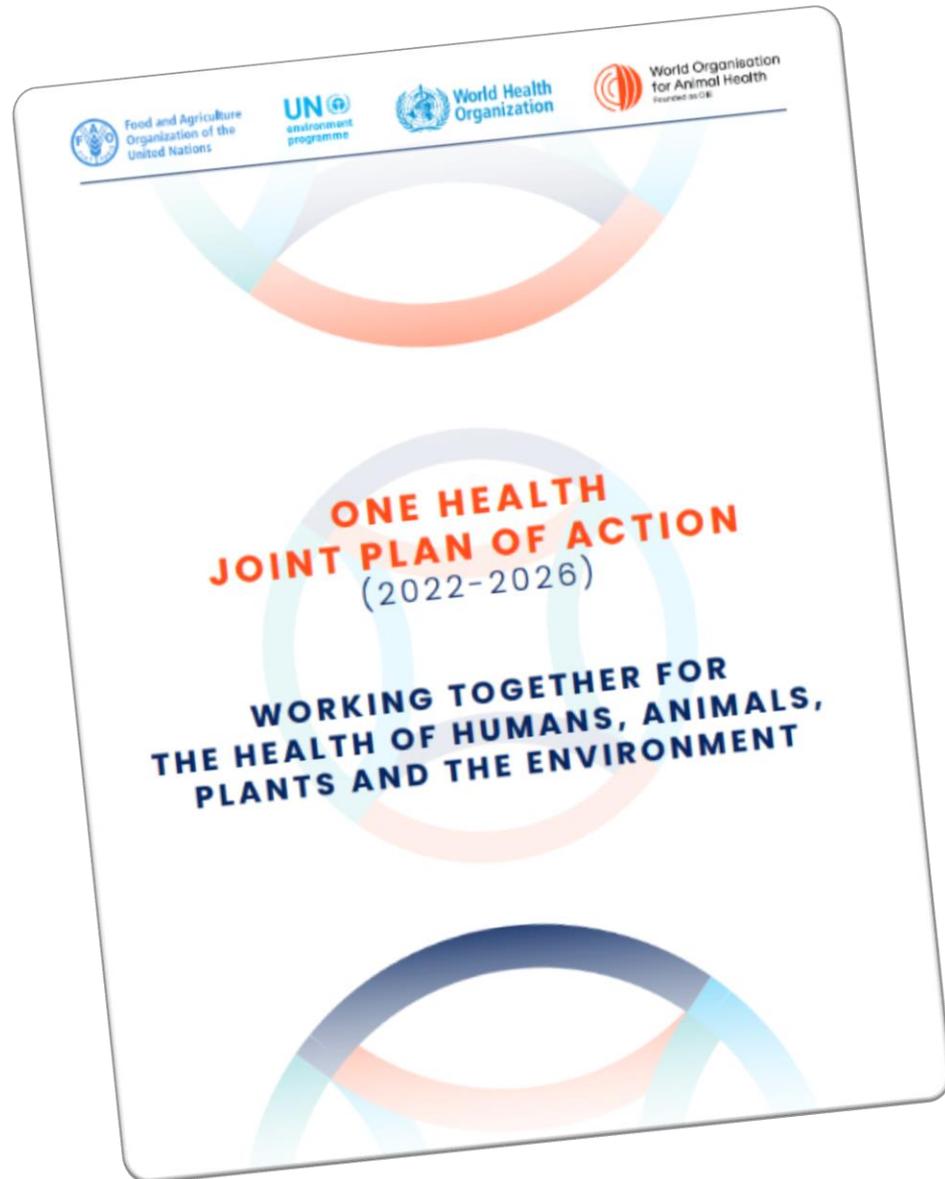
Developing One Health surveillance systems



Source: ONE HEALTH HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT PANEL



One Health Joint Plan of Action



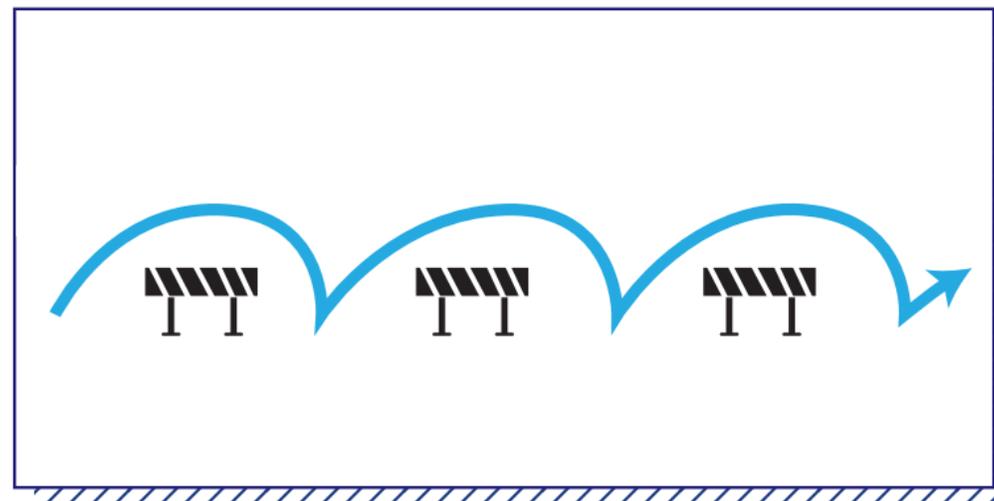
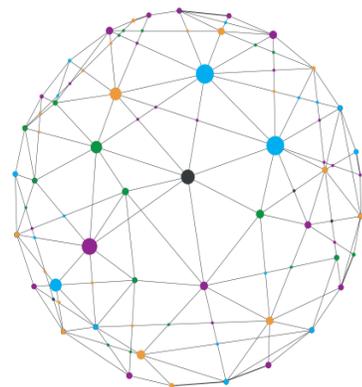
- Provide a framework for action and propose a set of activities to advance and sustainably scale up One Health.
- Help set national targets and priorities across the sectors for the development and implementation of One Health legislation, initiatives and programs.
- Identify and advise on synergies and overlaps, and support coordination.
- Mobilize and make better use of resources across sectors, disciplines and stakeholders.
- Strengthen collaboration, communication, capacity building and coordination



Theory of Change for One Health



GLOBAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL, and LOCAL INITIATIVES



- **Understanding the problem statement:**

- ✓ Societal challenges
- ✓ Animal health challenges
- ✓ Environmental challenges

- **Recognizing the ecosystem of actors:**

The complex institutional architecture of One Health actors and initiatives.

- **Recognizing barriers**

- Socio-political context
- Stakeholders influence
- Legal frameworks
- Communication/cooperation
- community inclusion.
- OH curricula and competency
- Self interest
- Evidences

- **Recognizing enablers**

Political will and financing collaboration and harmonization
Equity and empowers stakeholders
Learning, innovation, and adaptation
Disseminate One Health approaches



One Health Joint Plan of Action

AT1: Enhancing OH capacities to strengthen health systems

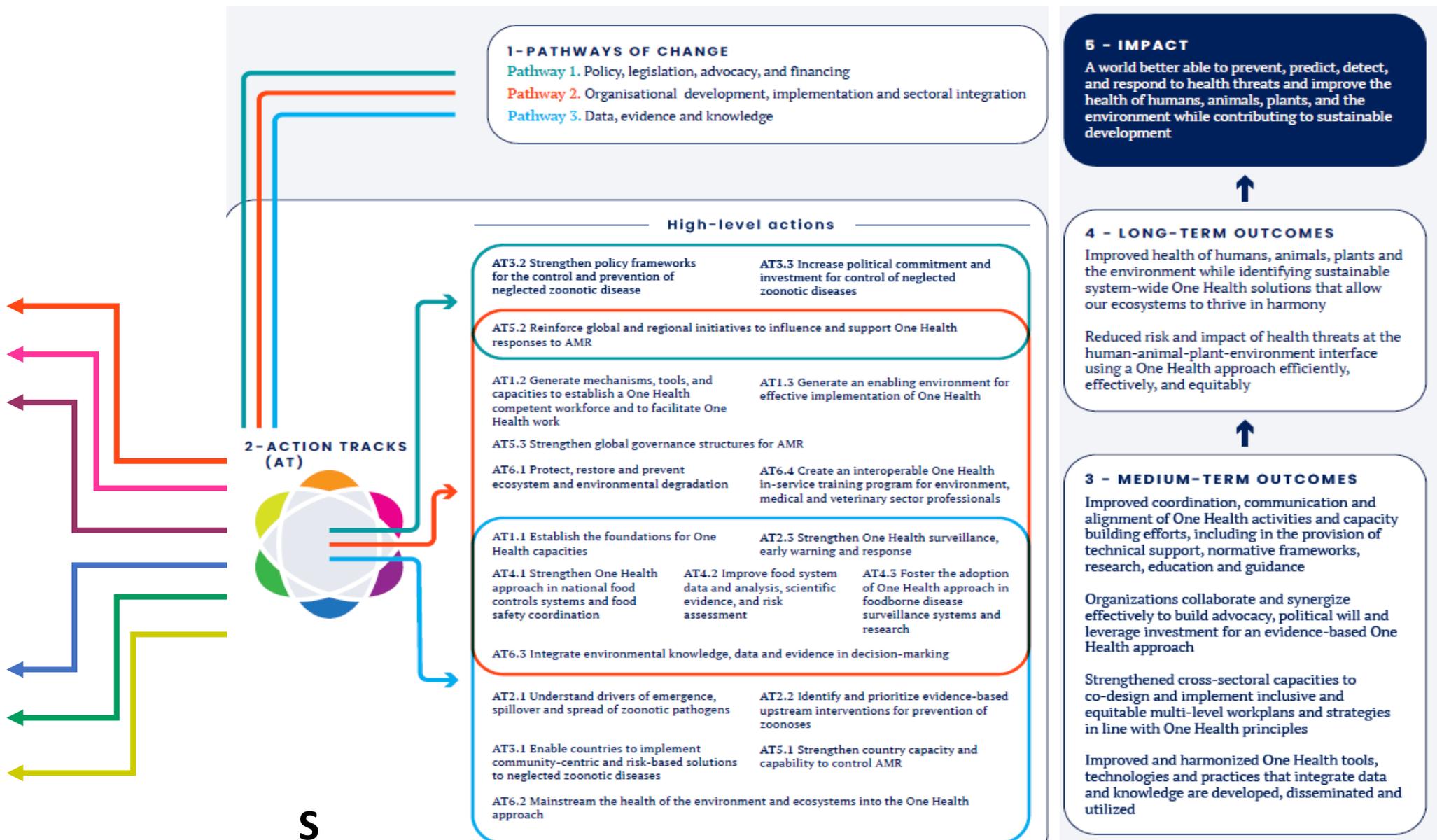
AT2: Reducing the risks from emerging & re-emerging zoonotic epidemics & pandemics

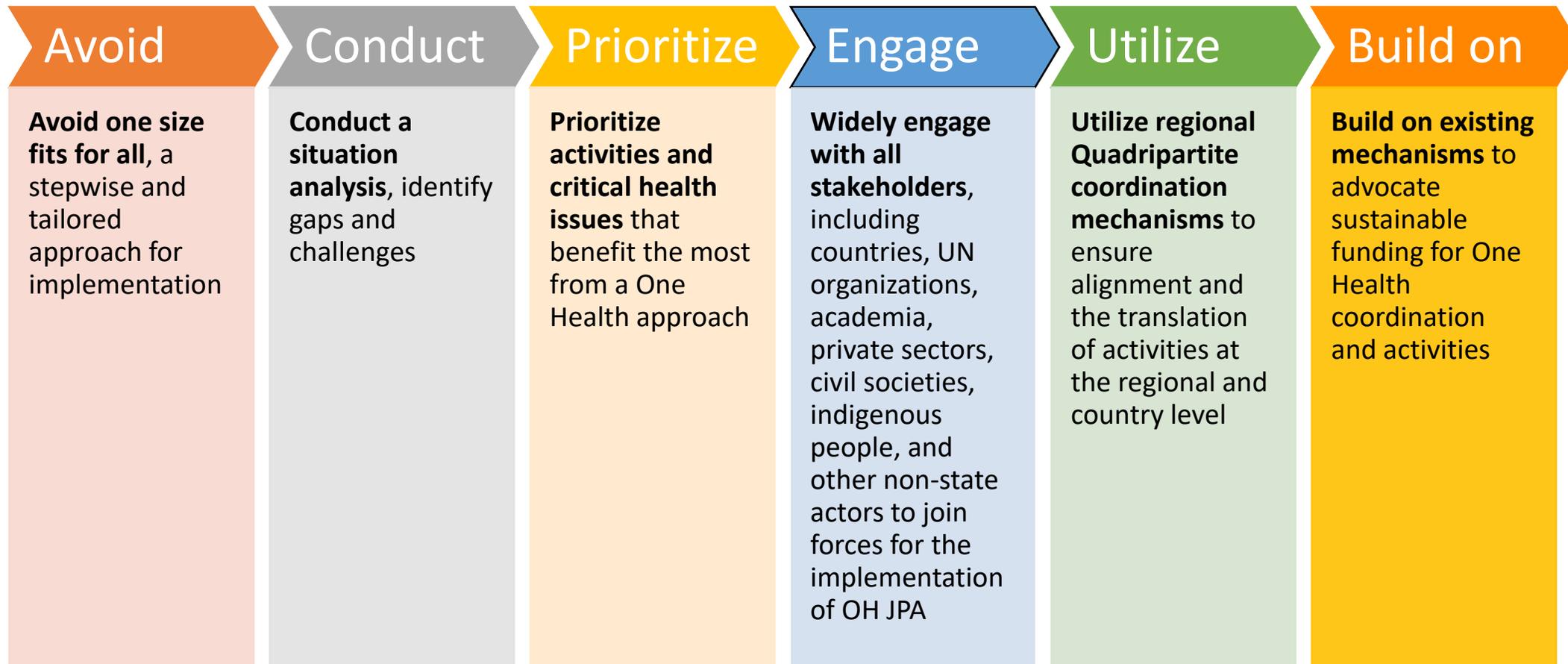
AT3: Controlling & eliminating zoonotic, neglected tropical & vector-borne diseases

AT4: Strengthening the assessment, management & communication of food safety risks

AT5: Curbing the silent pandemic of AMR

AT6: Integrating the Environment into OH







Rationale

Regional Commission recommendation during the 89th General Assembly held in May 2022:

Technical Item I: One Health: coordination, communication and cooperation between Veterinary, Public Health and Environmental Protection Services.

Objectives

- To assess the implementation of OH coordination, communication and cooperation.
- To explore regional gaps, strengths and opportunities for improvement in OH implementation
- To outline recommendations for national action potential support from WOAHA and partners.
- To seek opportunities for prioritisation and resource mobilization
- To identify success stories in the Region
- To enable an interactive discussion among participants during the 17th Conference of the Regional Commission

Implementation

- Two experts designed the survey:
 - Dr Elmobashar Farag
 - Dr Salama Almuhaire
- Survey was constructed based on the 3 pathways of change and underlying domains
- Responses were sought from WOAHA Delegates in the Middle East region



Survey design and structure



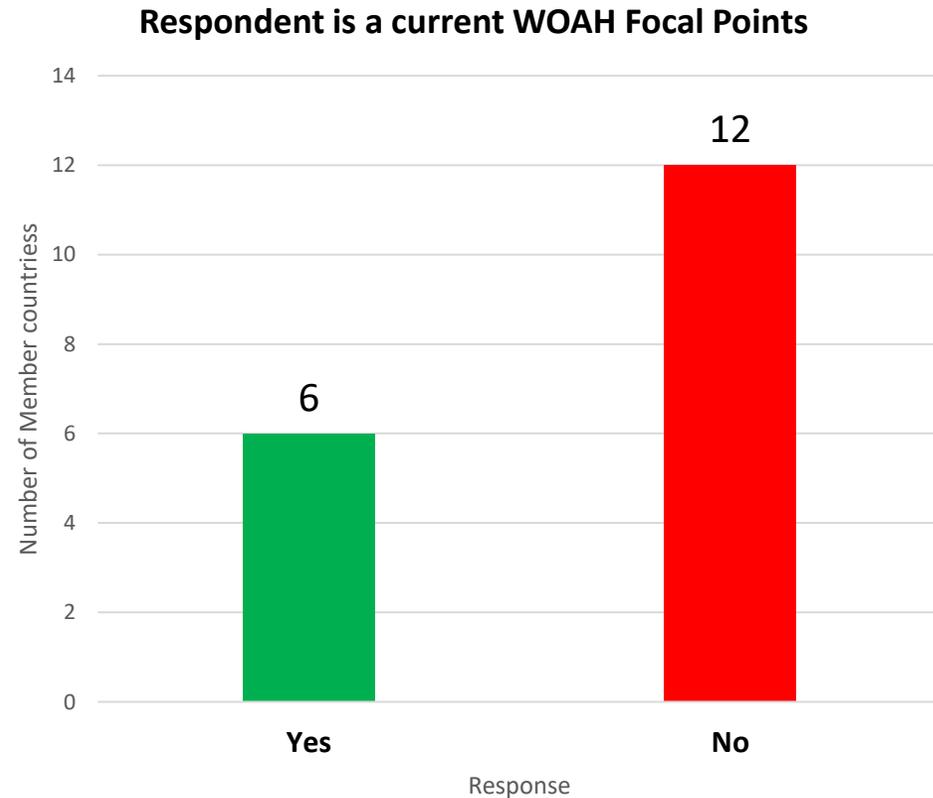
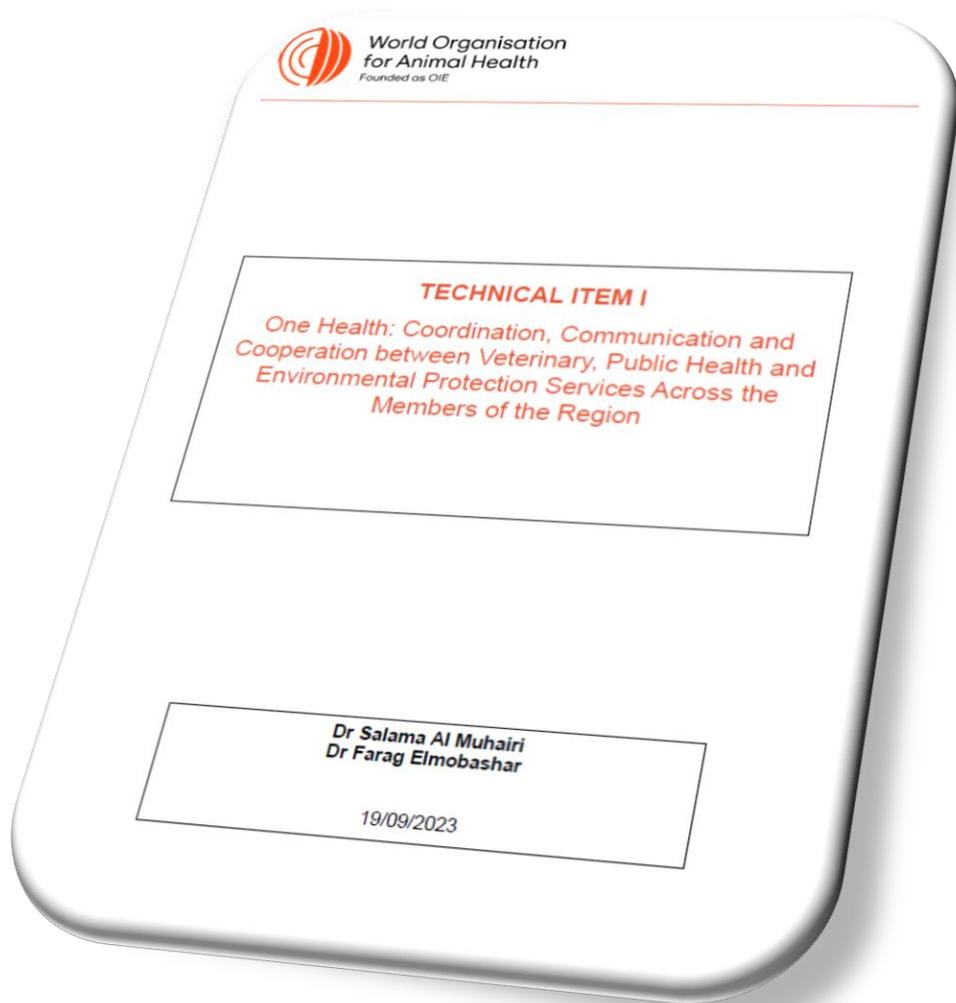
3 Pathways

12 Domains

14 Domain Specific questions

3 Cross cutting questions

- 2 months exercise
- Responses received from 18 Member countries
- No responses received from Djibouti and Iran
- A report was developed and published on 19/09/23





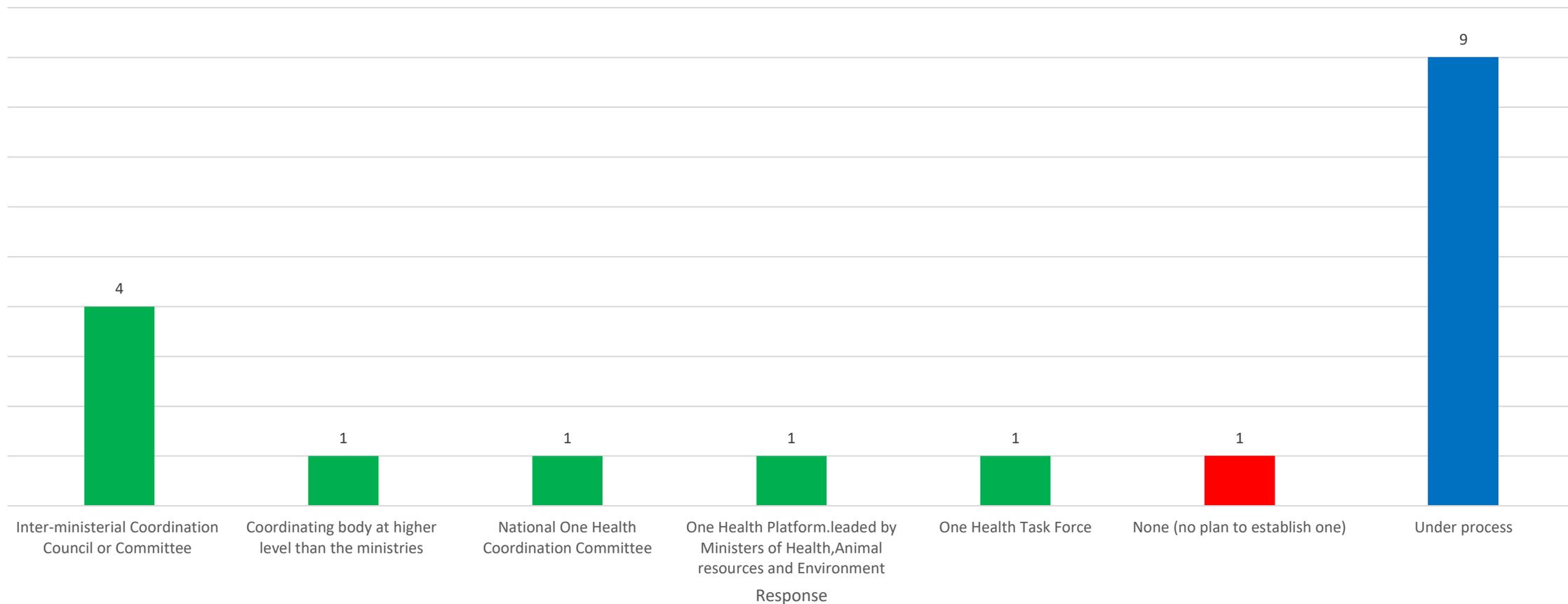
Survey Responses

Pathway 1: Governance, policy, legislation, financing, and advocacy	Domain 1.1: Governance and Leadership	1.1.1. Is there a designated One Health coordinating body or mechanism in place?
	Domain 1.2: Coordination for OH Policy and legal framework (legislation) development	1.2.1. Is there an active effort to coordinate policy and legal framework development between sectors? 1.2.2. Is there high-level political support and engagement for One Health initiatives?
	Domain 1.3: Funding and resource allocation for One Health Multisector Coordination in Country	1.3.1. Is there dedicated funding allocated for One Health multisector coordination activities? 1.3.2. Is there a coordinated mechanism for resource allocation for multisector activities?
	Domain 1.4: Sub-regional, Regional and Global Cooperation	1.4.1. Does the country recognize the importance of sub-regional, regional, and global cooperation to address health challenges that transcend borders?



Domain 1: Governance and Leadership

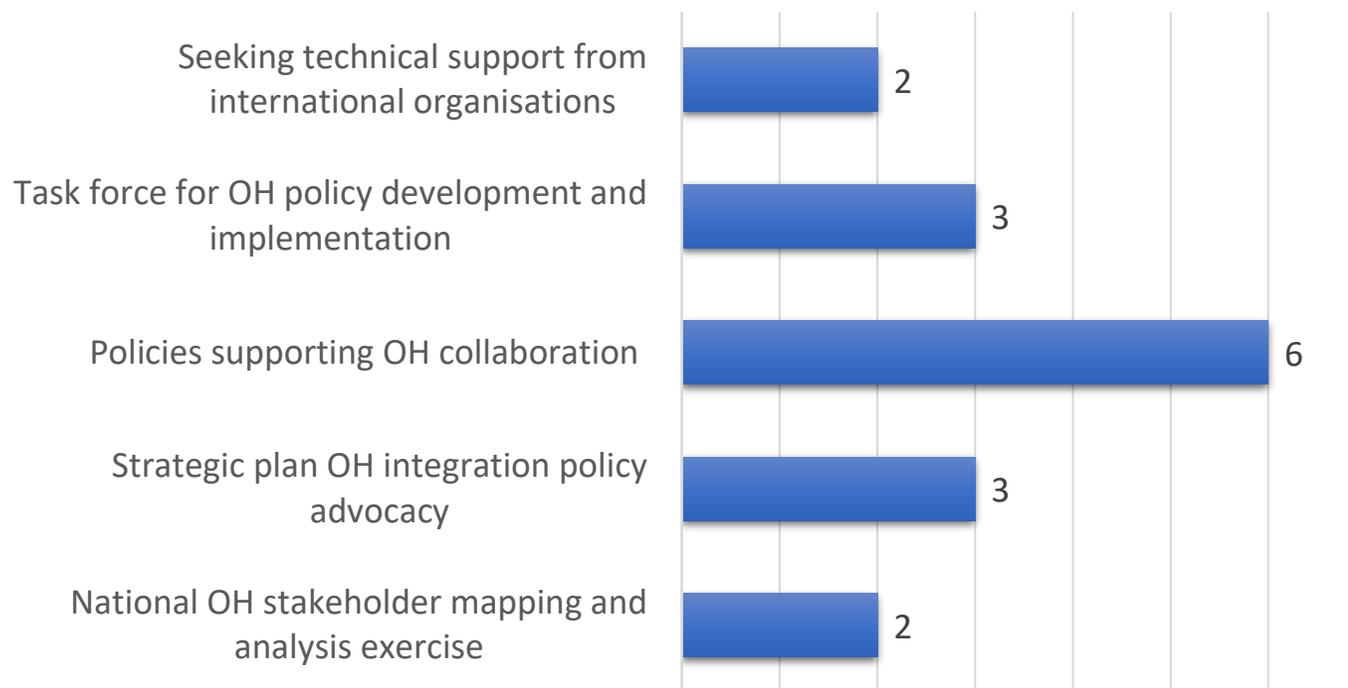
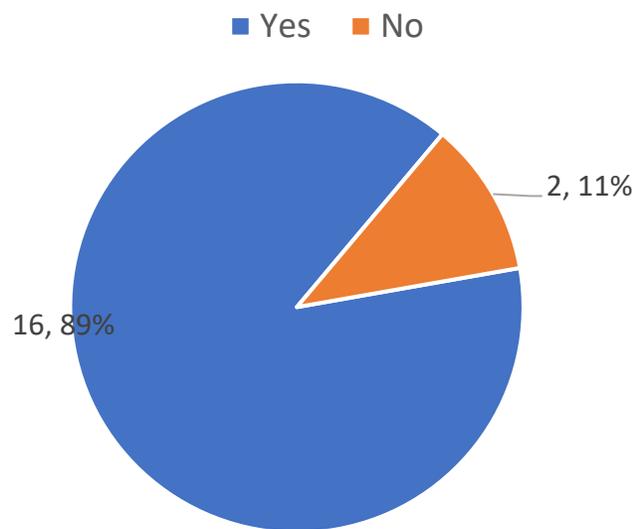
Presence of One Health Coordinating Body or Mechanism





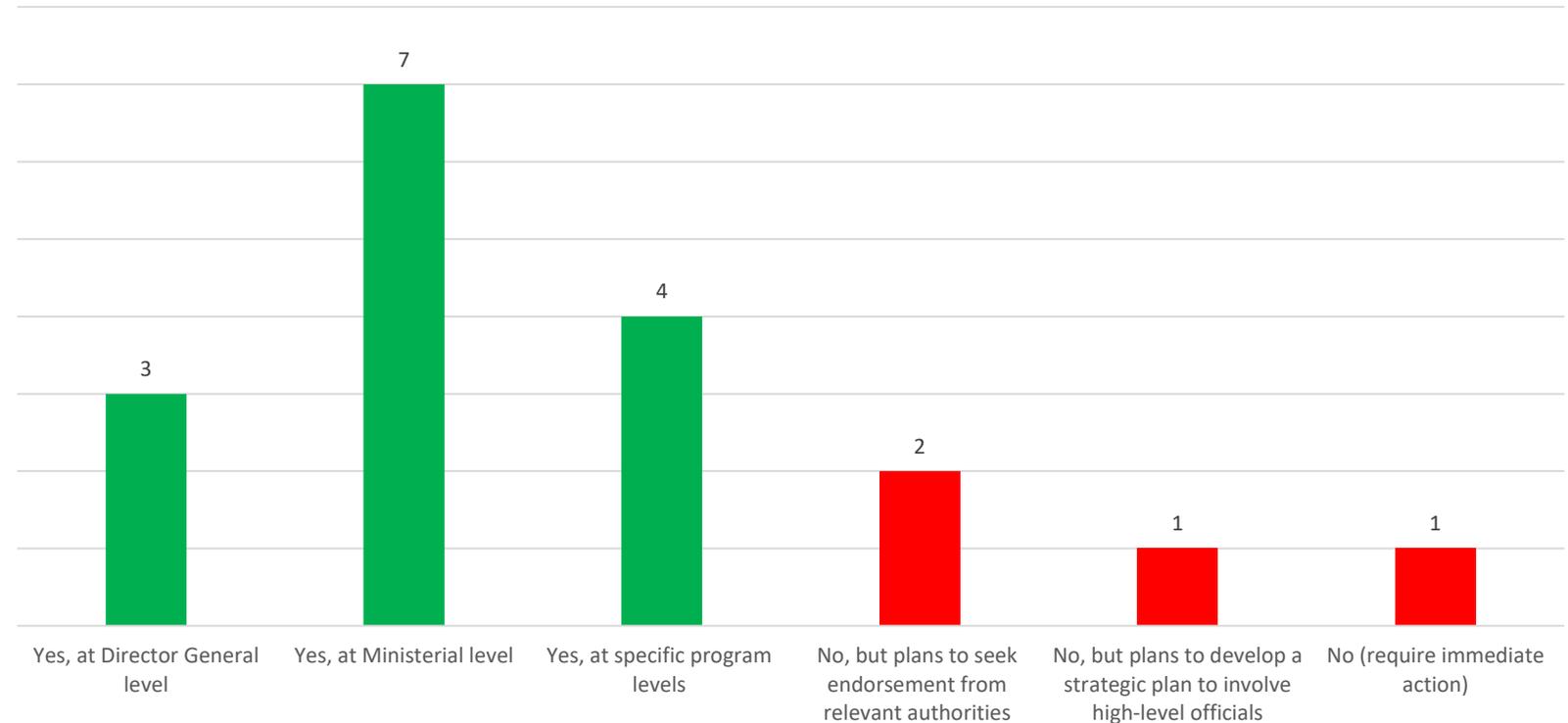
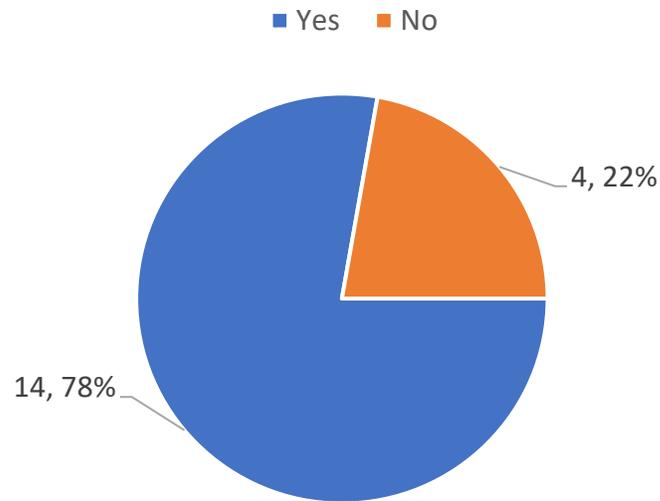
Domain 2: Coordination for OH Policy and legal framework (legislation) development

Coordination for One Health policy and Legal Framework development between sectors



Domain 2: Coordination for OH Policy and legal framework (legislation) development

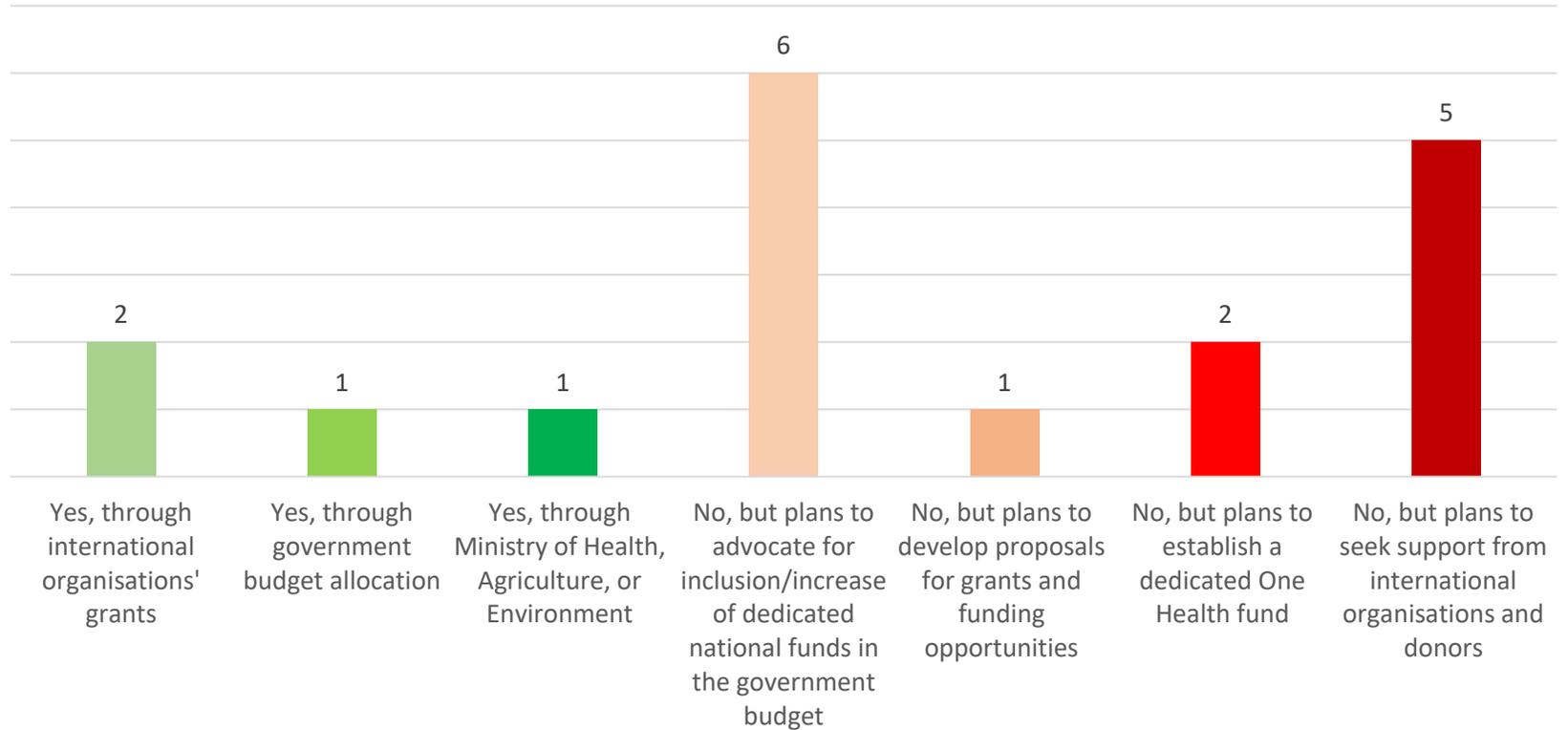
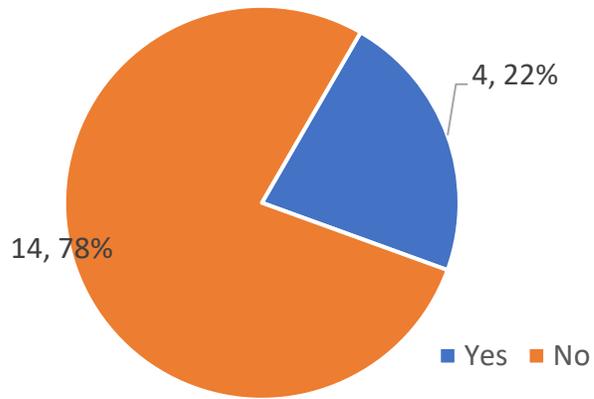
Presence of high – level political support and engagement for One health Initiatives.



Different levels of political support and engagement for One health Initiatives

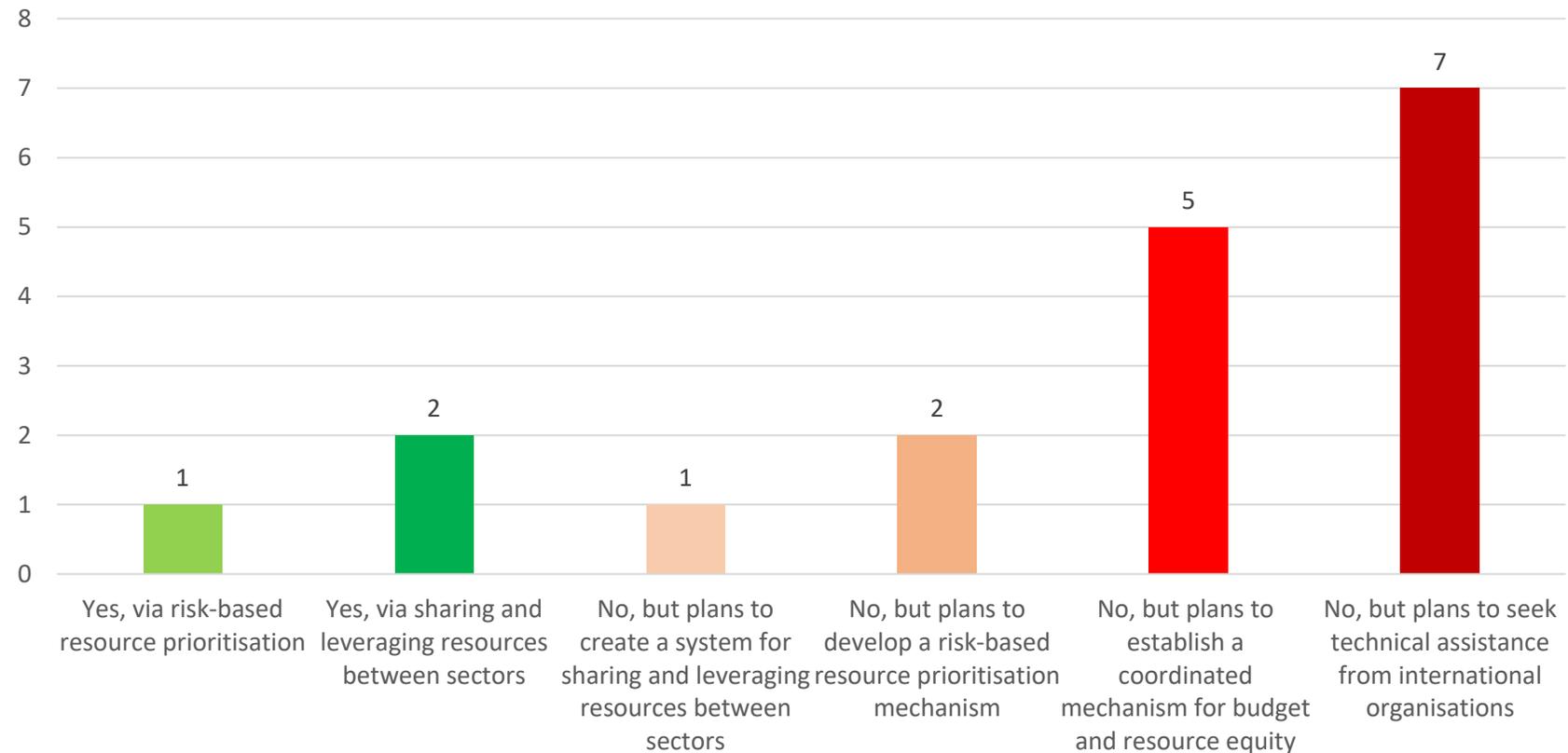
Domain 3: Funding and resource allocation for One Health Multisector Coordination in Country

Sources of dedicated funding allocated for One Health Multisectoral Coordination Activities



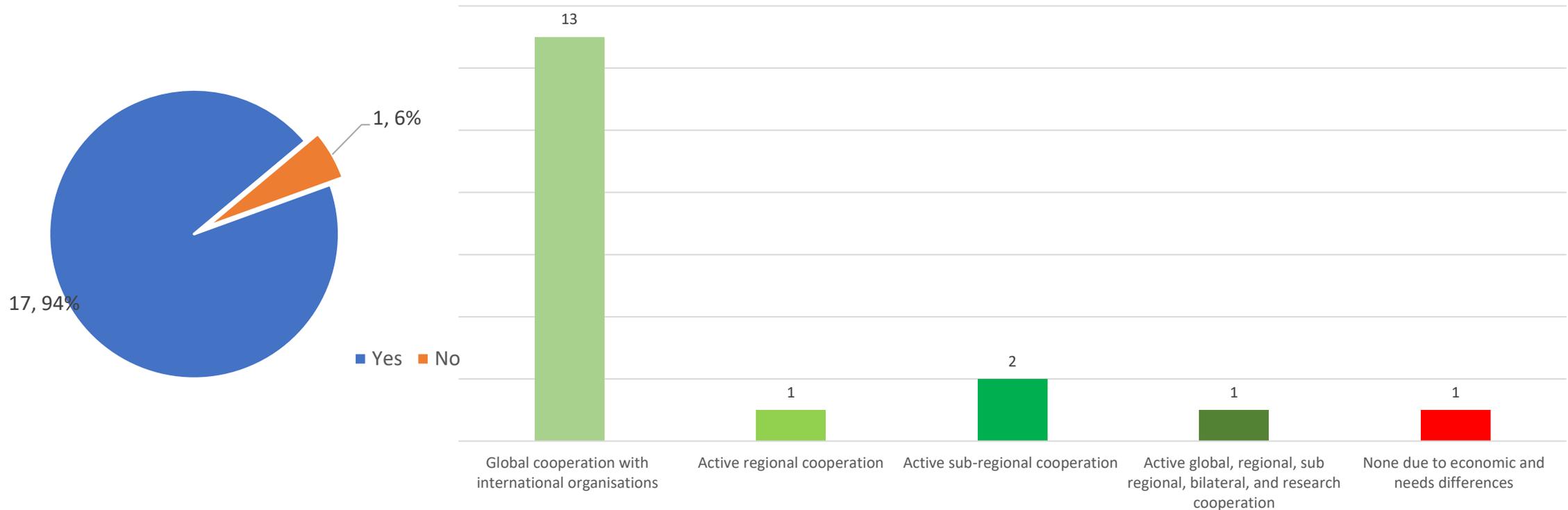
Domain 3: Funding and resource allocation for One Health Multisector Coordination in Country

Coordinated Mechanism for Resource Allocation for Multisectoral Activities



Domain 4: Sub-regional, Regional and Global Cooperation

Recognizing the importance of Cooperation to address Health Challenges that Transends borders.



Different Levels of Active cooperation to Address emerging Pandemics and health Threats



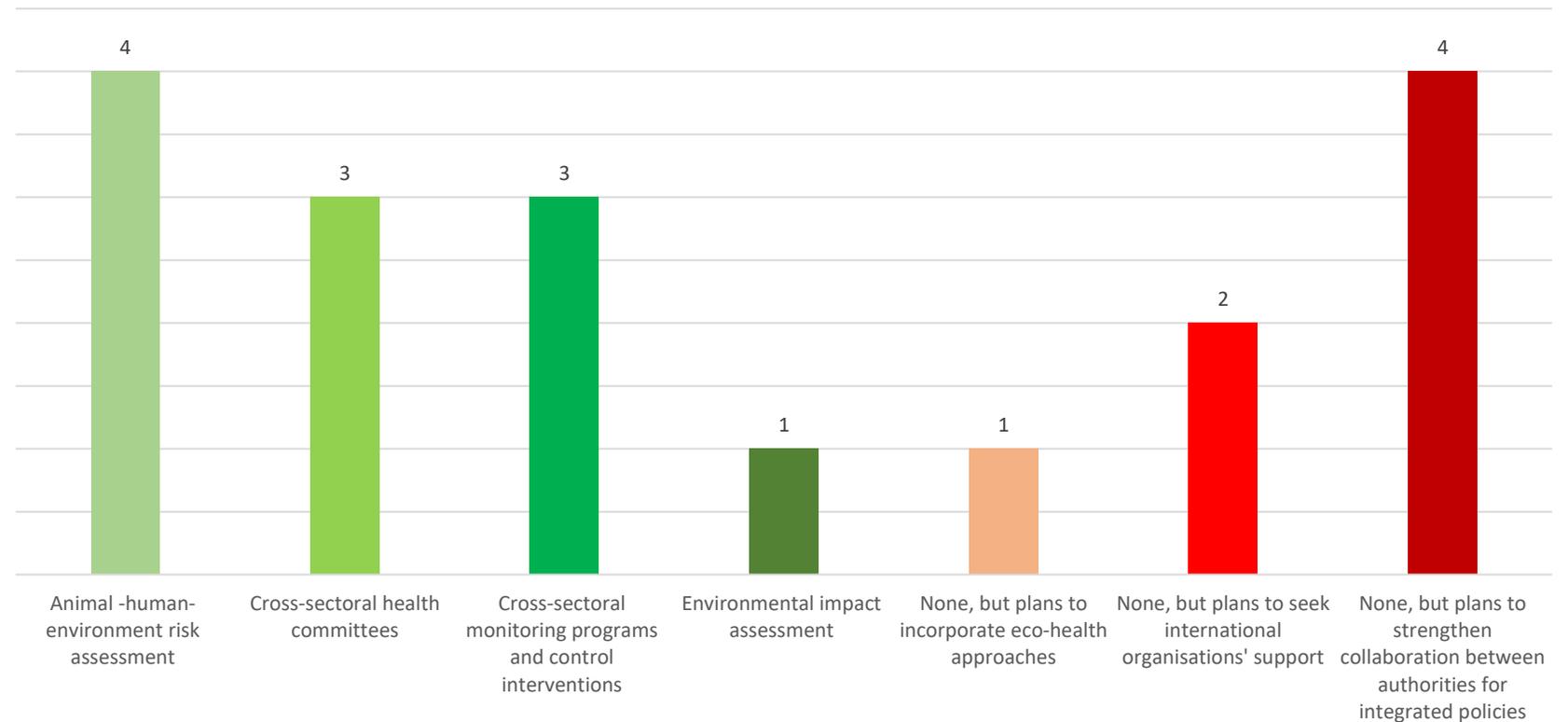
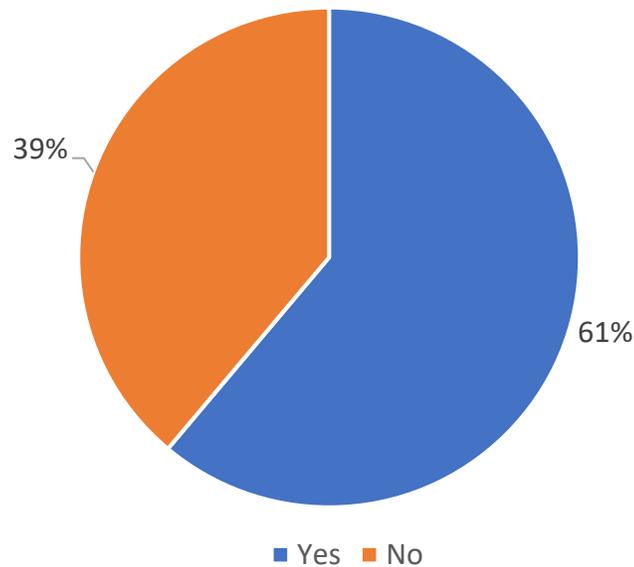
Survey Responses

Pathway 2: Organizational development, implementation, and sectoral integration	Domain 2.1: Environmental Health	2.1.1. Is there a coordination mechanism for the integration of environmental health into animal and human health policies and programs?
	Domain 2.2: Collaboration on Capacity Building and Training	2.2.1. Is there a focus on strengthening the capacity of healthcare professionals, veterinarians, environmentalists, and other stakeholders to collaborate effectively for One Health initiatives?
	Domain 2.3: Coordination on Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities	2.3.1. Are there coordinated efforts to enhance risk communication and raise public awareness about One Health?
	Domain 2.4: Specific programs coordination in planning and implementation.	2.4.1. Zoonotic diseases Vector borne diseases Antimicrobial Resistance Food Safety



Domain 1: Environmental Health

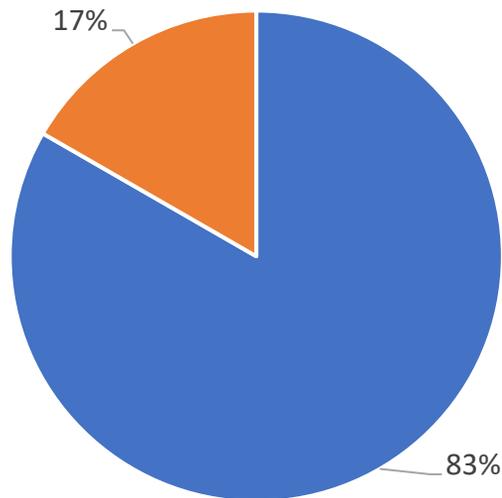
Mechanism of integrating environmental health into animal and human health policies and programs across WOA member countries.



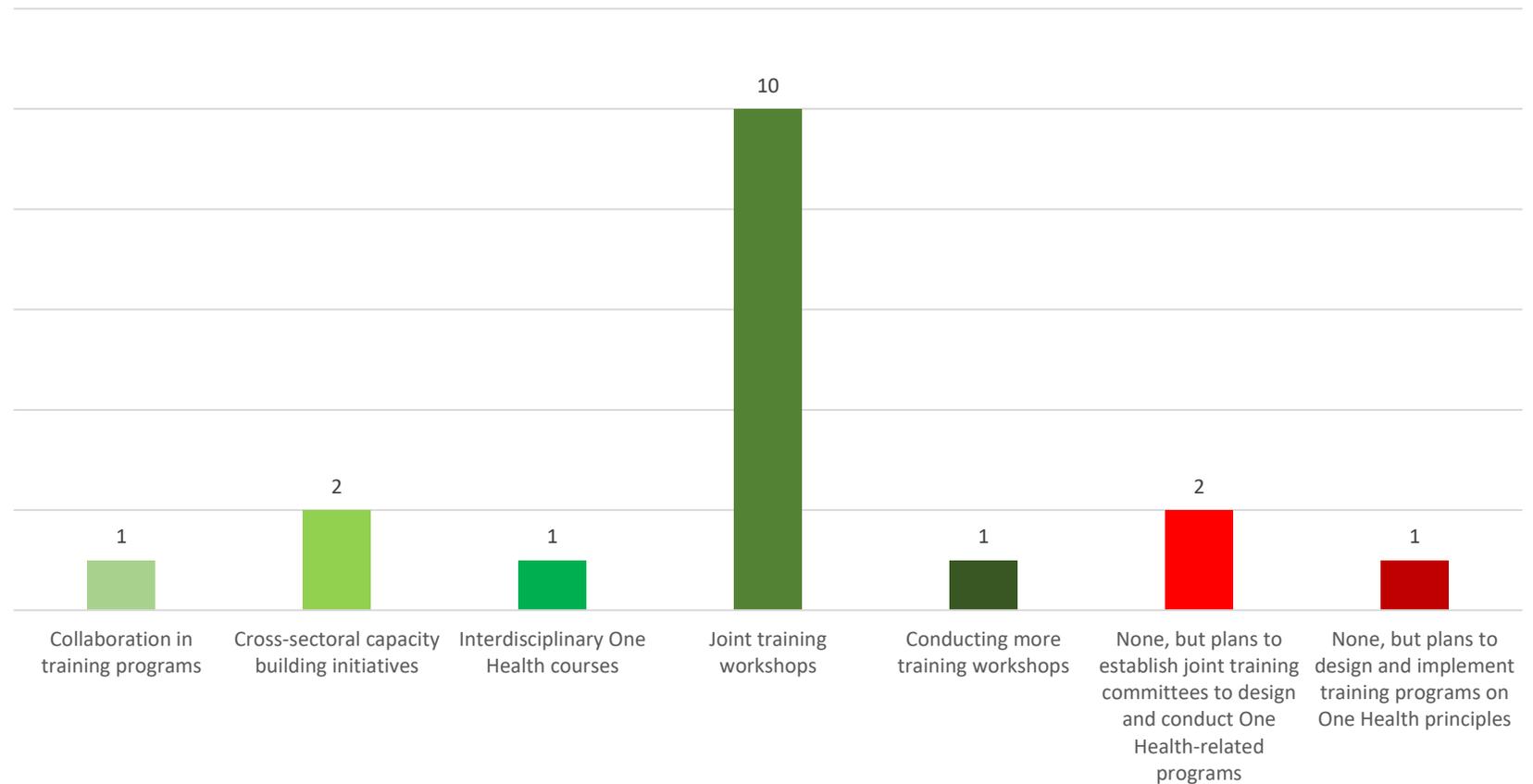


Domain 2: Collaboration on Capacity Building and Training

Mechanism of collaboration towards strengthening One Health capacity across WOA member countries.



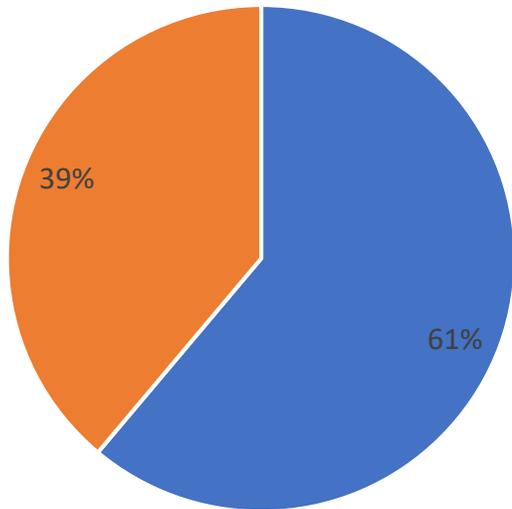
■ Yes ■ No



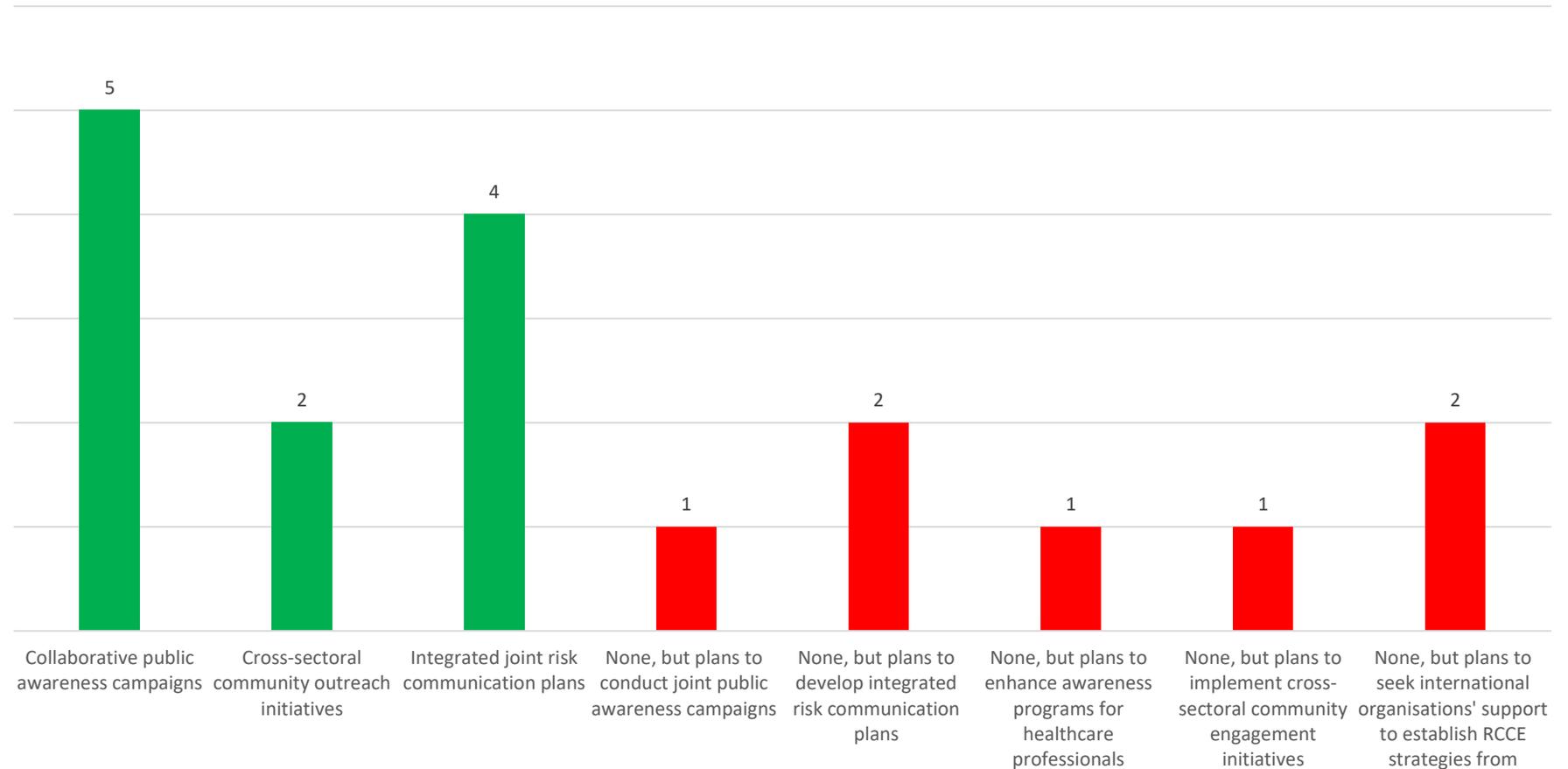


Domain 3: Coordination on Risk Communication and Community Engagement activities

Coordinated efforts to enhance risk communication and raise public awareness about One Health

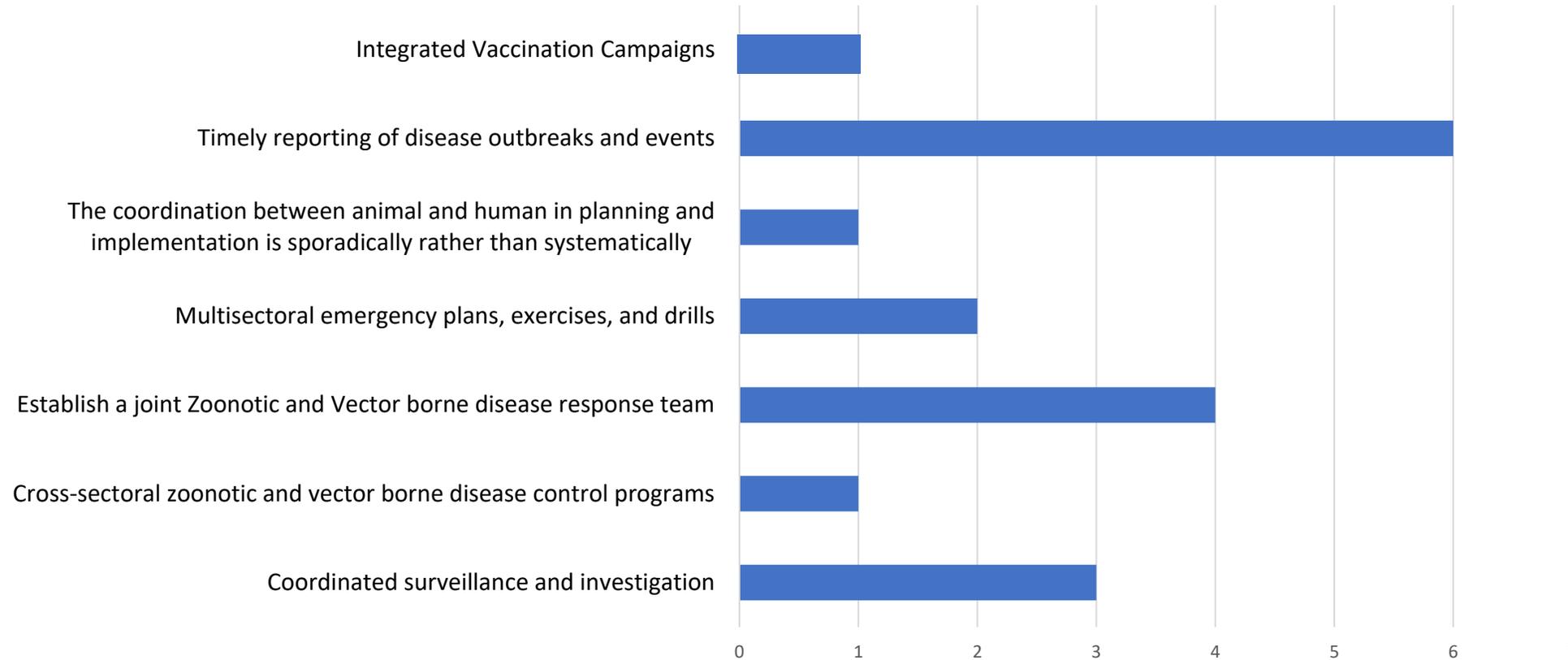


■ Yes ■ No





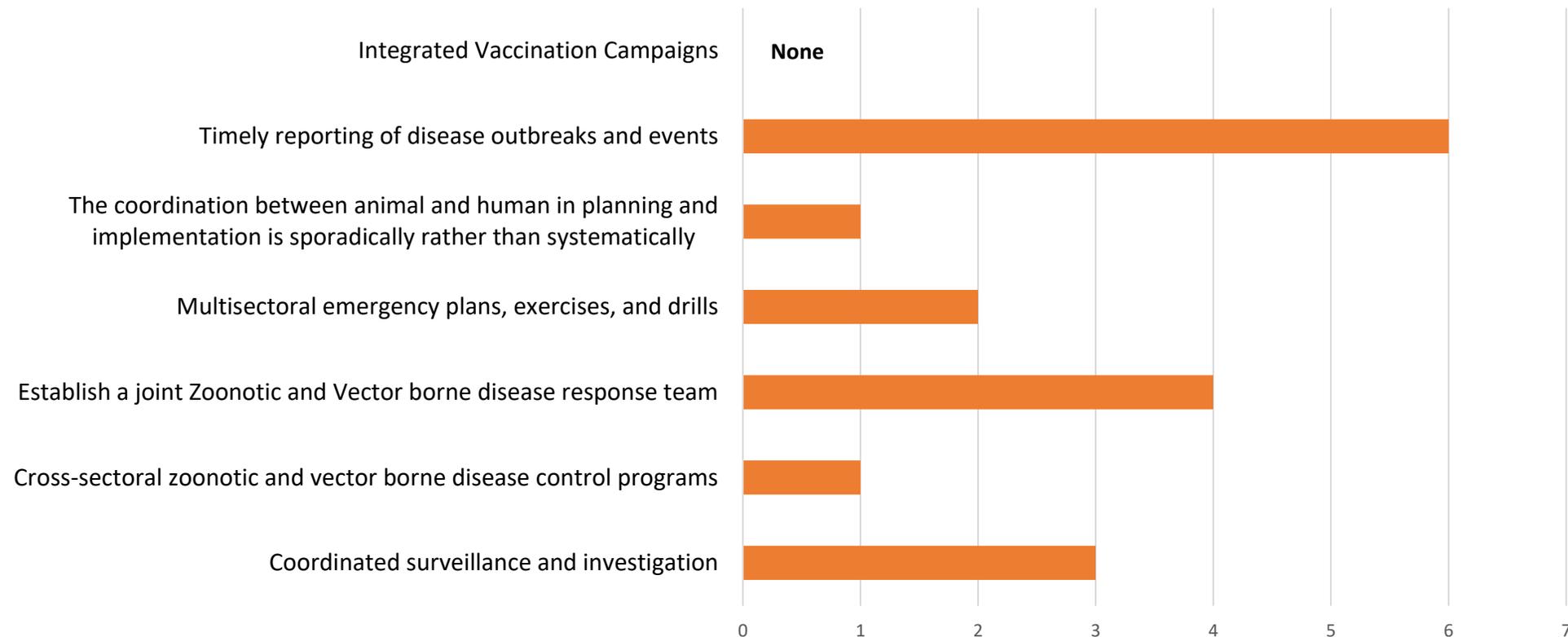
Domain 4: Specific programs coordination in planning and implementation (Zoonotic Diseases)



Areas in Zoonotic Diseases that have a sustainable coordination mechanism across the animal, human, and environmental health sectors



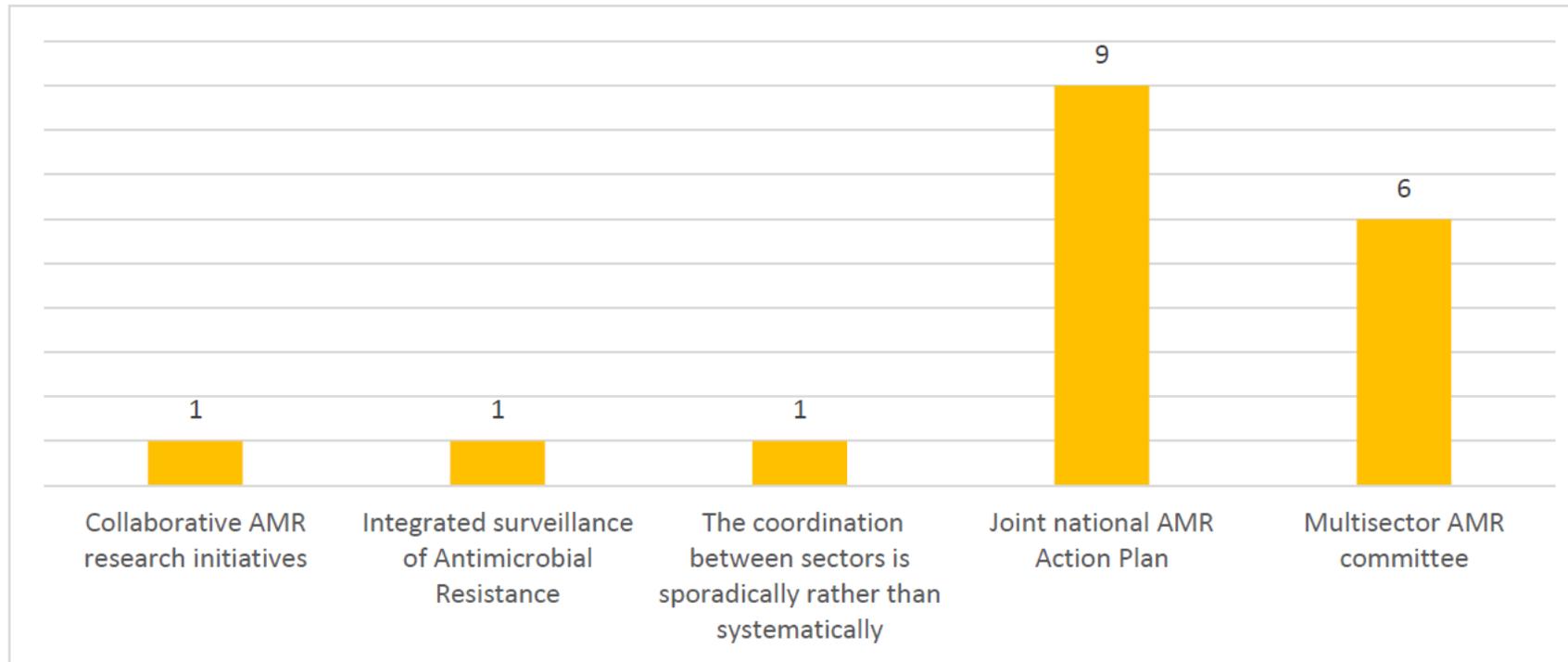
Domain 4: Specific programs coordination in planning and implementation (Vector-Borne Diseases)



Areas in Vector-Borne Diseases that have a sustainable coordination mechanism across the animal, human, and environmental health sectors

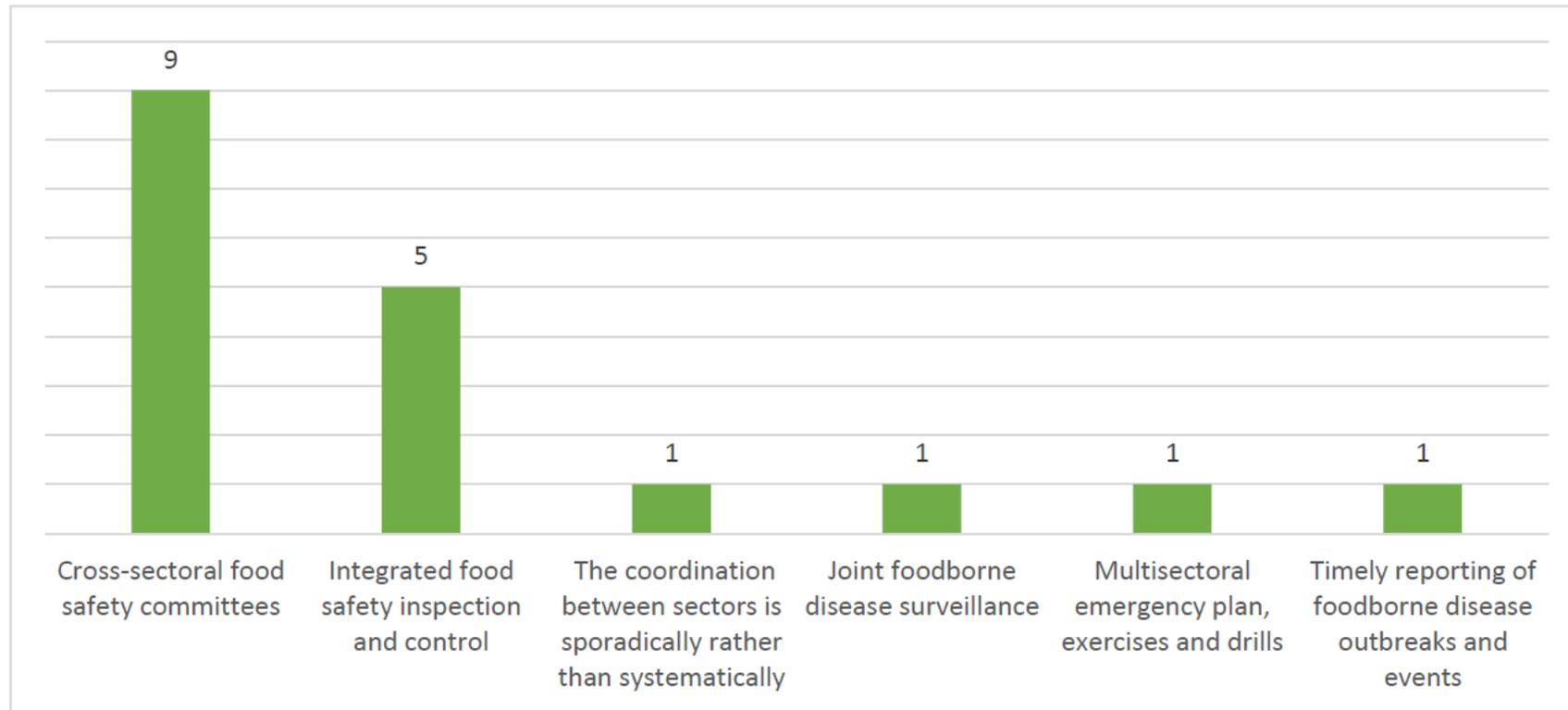


Domain 4: Specific programs coordination in planning and implementation (Antimicrobial resistance)



Areas in Antimicrobial resistance that have a sustainable coordination mechanism across sectors

Domain 4: Specific programs coordination in planning and implementation (Food Safety)



Areas in Food Safety that have a sustainable coordination mechanism across sectors



Pathway 3: Data, evidence, information systems, and knowledge exchange

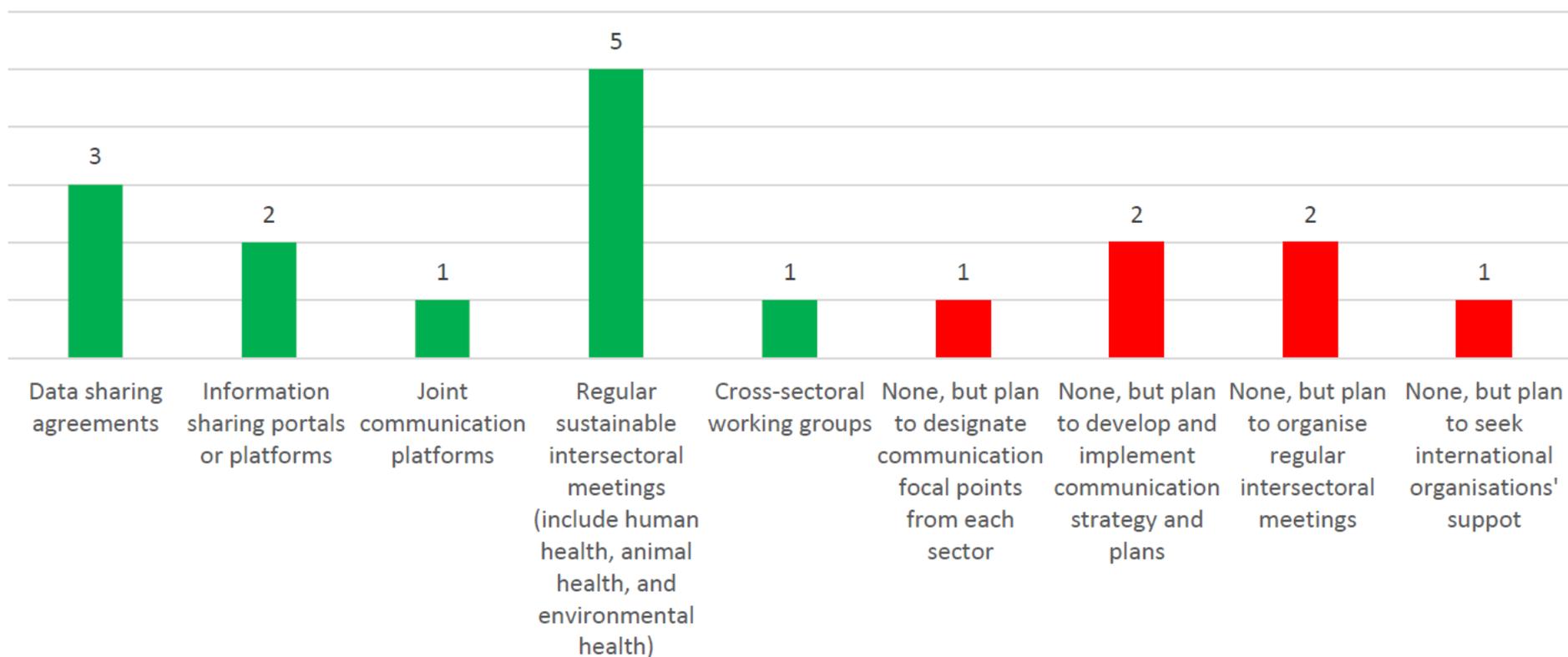
Pathway 3: Data, evidence, information systems, and knowledge exchange	Domain 3.1: Communication and Information Sharing	3.1.1. Is there a sustainable and effective communication channel between different sectors involved in One Health?
	Domain 3.2: Surveillance and Early Warning Systems Coordination	3.2.1. Are surveillance systems integrated and/or sustainably coordinated across human, animal, and environmental health sectors?
	Domain 3.3: Research collaboration, innovation, knowledge sharing and expertise exchange.	3.3.1. Is there ongoing coordinated research on One Health?
	Domain 3.4: Coordinated Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for One Health	3.4.1. Is there a system in place to sustainably monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of One Health multisector activities implementation and coordination and identify the needs?



Pathway 3: Data, evidence, information systems, and knowledge exchange

Domain 1: Communication and Information Sharing

Types of sustainable communication and information sharing channels between different sectors of One Health.

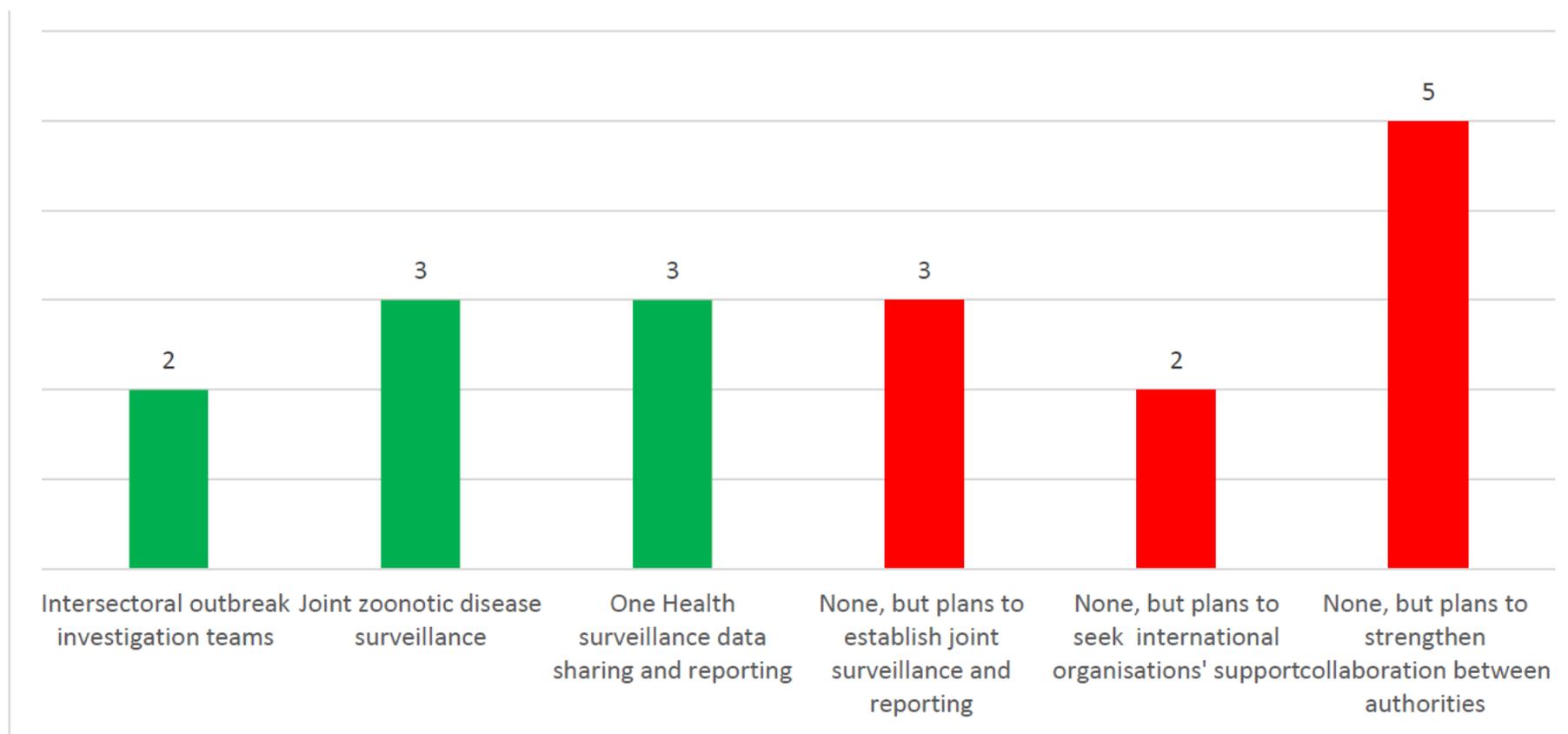




Pathway 3: Data, evidence, information systems, and knowledge exchange

Domain 2: Surveillance and Early Warning Systems Coordination

Mechanisms for integrated surveillance systems across the different sectors of One Health

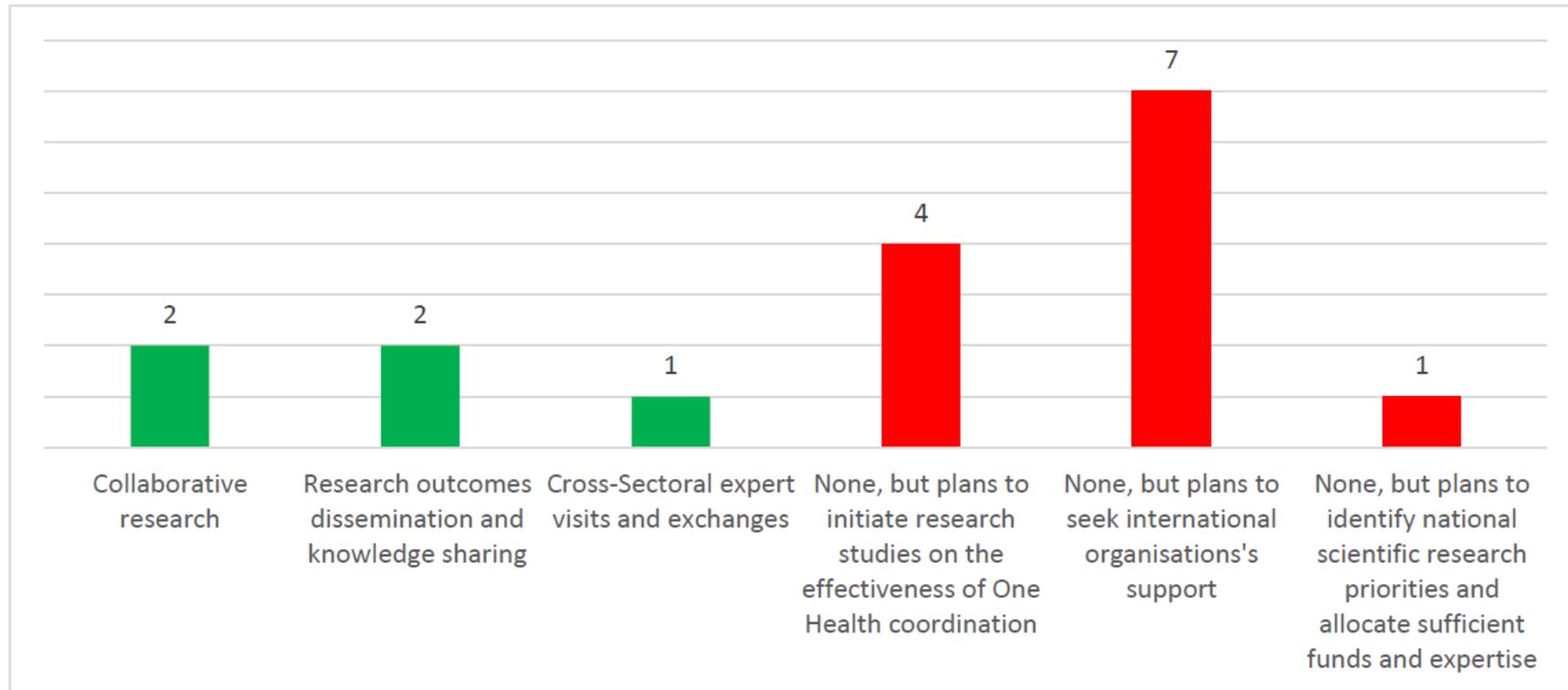




Pathway 3: Data, evidence, information systems, and knowledge exchange

Domain 3: Research collaboration, innovation, knowledge sharing and expertise exchange.

Mechanisms of coordinated research on One Health

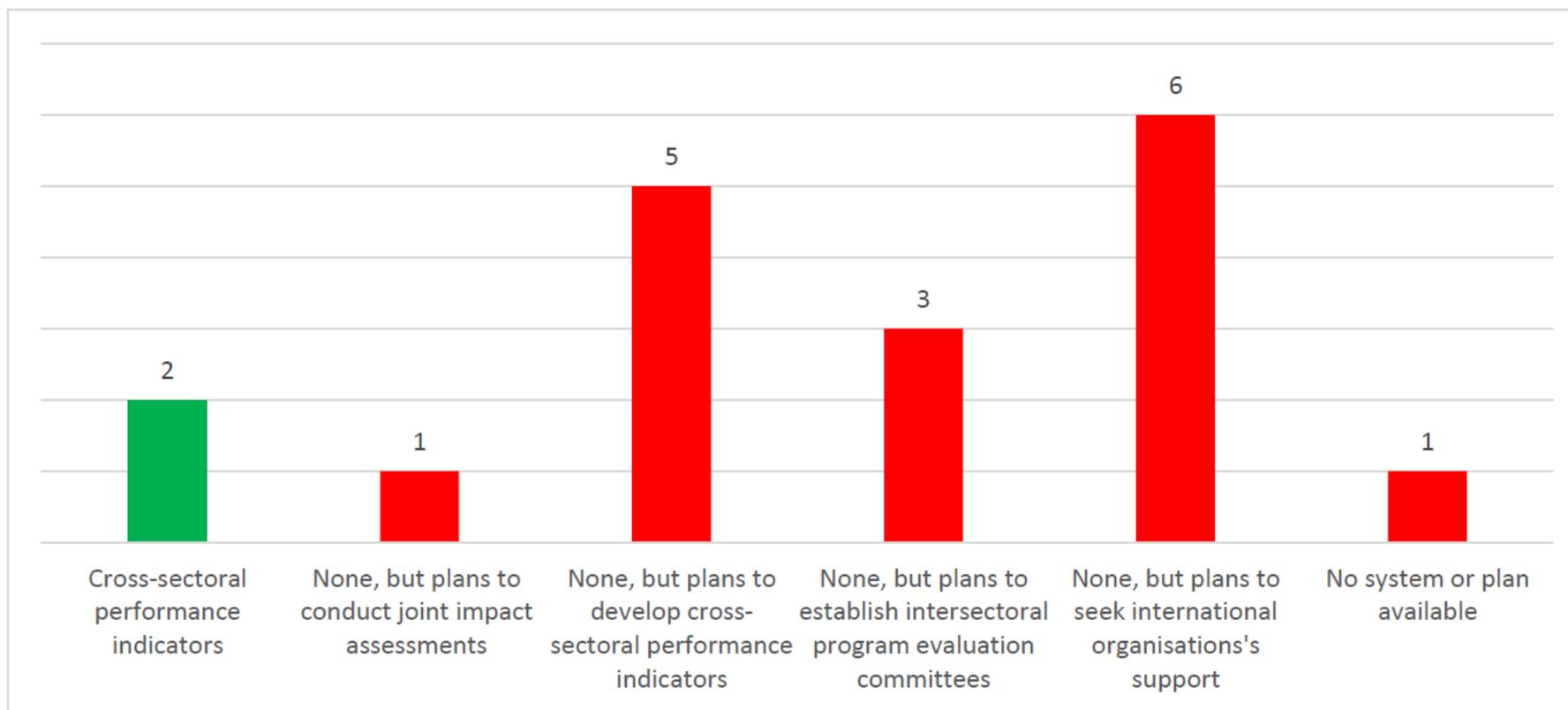




Pathway 3: Data, evidence, information systems, and knowledge exchange

Domain 4: Coordinated Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism for One Health

M&E systems on effectiveness of One Health multisectoral activities across WOAHA Members





Yes Vs No

There are existing efforts, capacities, plans and willingness to establish and enhance One Health coordination,

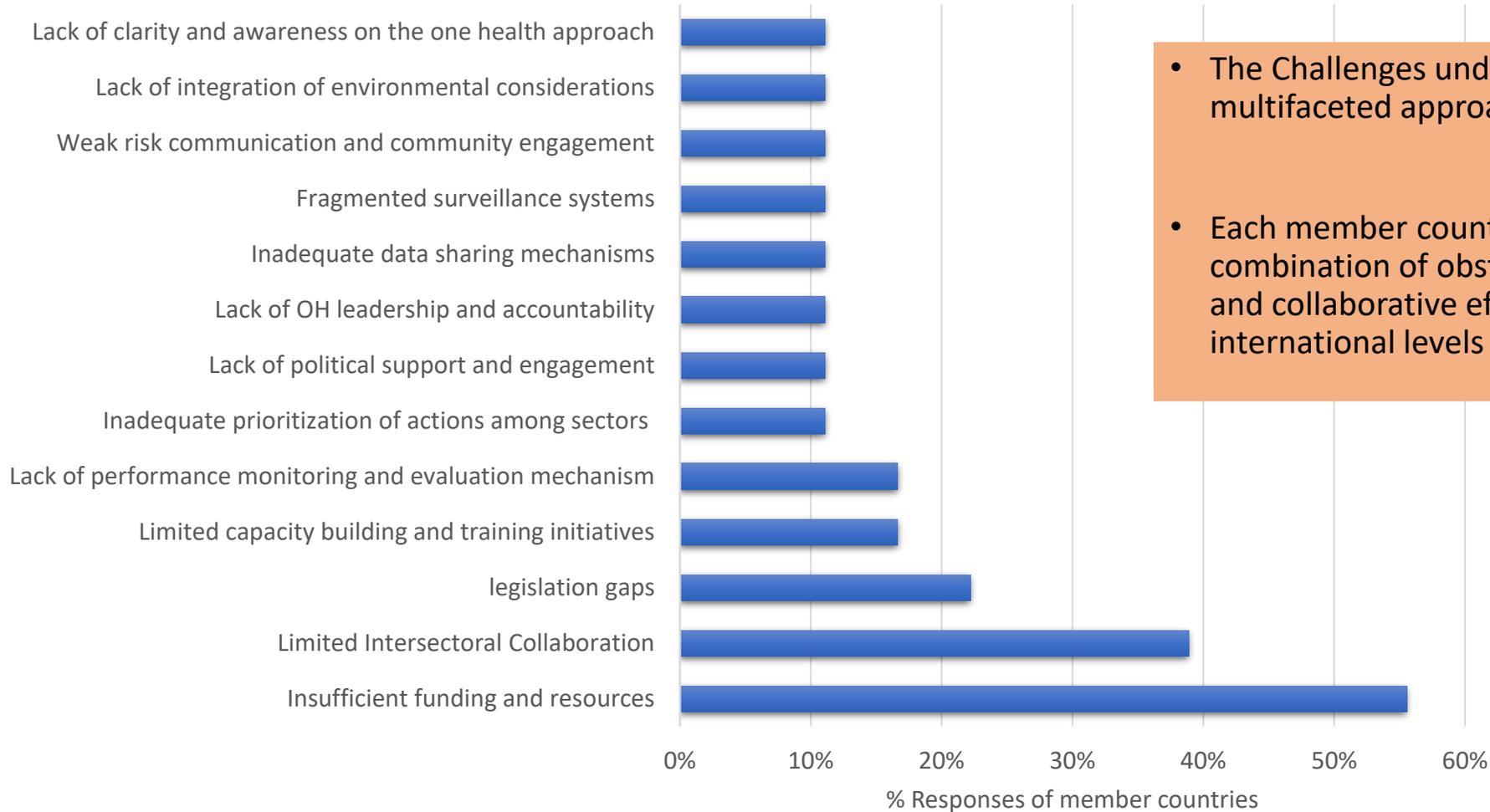
however,

there are challenges yet to be addressed



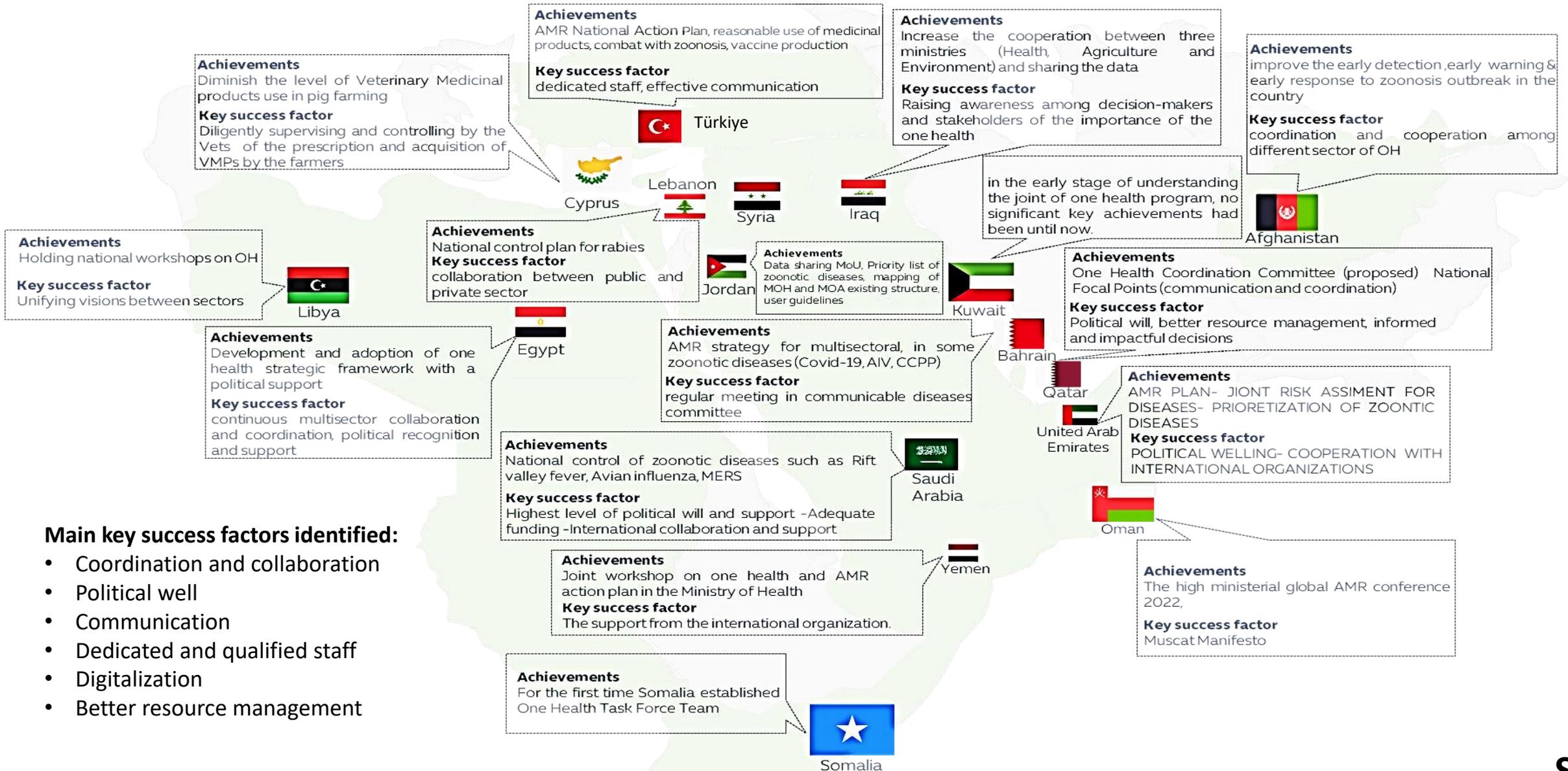


Key Challenges for One Health Multisector Coordination



- The Challenges underscore the necessity for a multifaceted approach
- Each member country may face a unique combination of obstacles → tailored strategies and collaborative efforts at the national and international levels

key Achievements and Success Factors (per Member country)



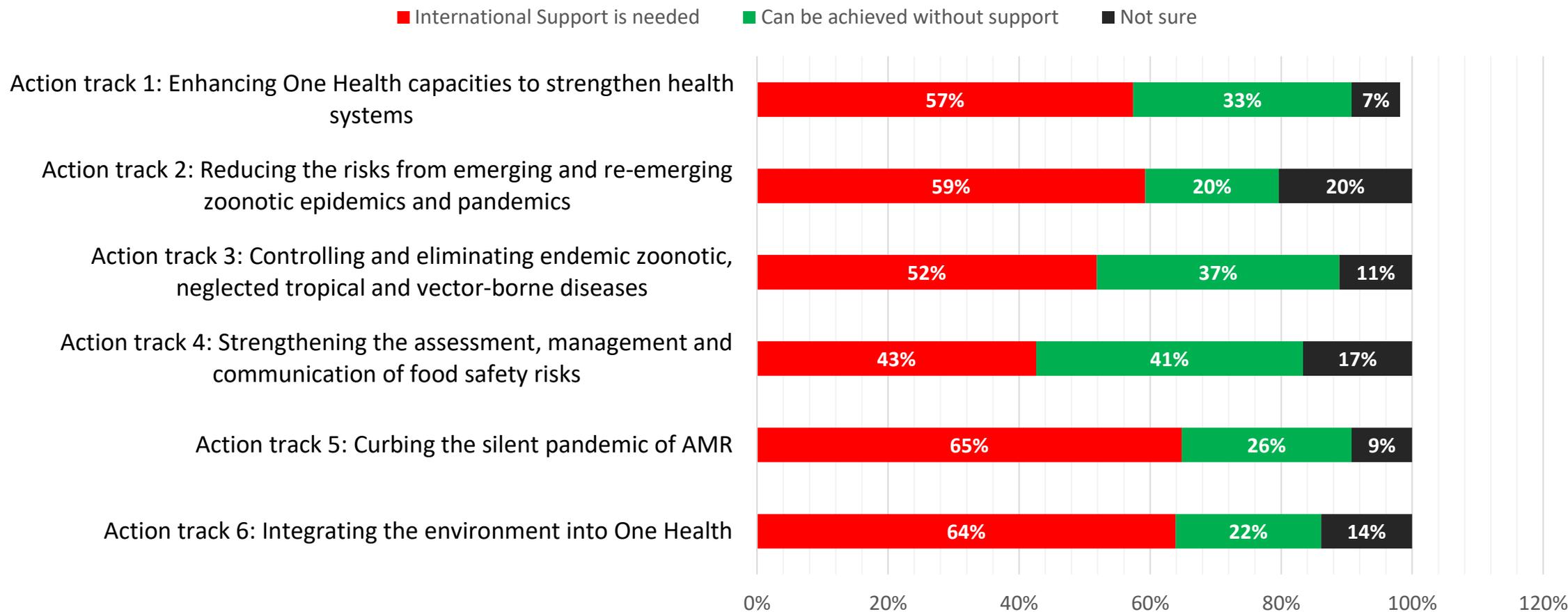
Main key success factors identified:

- Coordination and collaboration
- Political well
- Communication
- Dedicated and qualified staff
- Digitalization
- Better resource management



Need for International Technical Support (as per the OHJPA Action Tracks)

Technical support from the quadripartite is needed in all action items, with some variations observed between action items





Pathway 1

1. Prioritize allocation of sufficient funding and resources to support One Health coordination activities.

2. Address legislative gaps to ensure a solid legal foundation for One Health coordination.

3. Recognize the importance of global cooperation in addressing health challenges that transcend borders.

4. Continue efforts to integrate environmental health considerations into animal and human health policies and programs.

5. Promote awareness of the One Health approach among policymakers, healthcare leaders, and the public.



Pathway 2

6. Invest in capacity building and training initiatives.

7. Establish comprehensive and coordinated monitoring and evaluation mechanisms

8. Improve Risk Communication and Community Engagement strategies on One Health Issues

9. Ensure risk-based prioritization of actions highlighted in the OH JPA and improve awareness and communication strategies for effective implementation

10. Encourage and facilitate collaboration between human health, animal health, and environmental health sectors.



Pathway 2

11. Promote collaborative research, innovation, knowledge sharing, and expertise exchange.

12. Ensure the sustainability of communication and information sharing channels between sectors.

13. Encourage harmonized sub-regional and regional collaborations for providing technical support, knowledge and expertise sharing.

We thank the contributions of the Member Countries Delegates, focal points and all who participated in completing the survey

Many thanks to the support received from WOA:

Dr. Chadia Wannous, One Health Global Coordinator

Ms. Melis Nurkan Jeandesboz, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Nathaly Monsalve, Regional activities coordination manager



Thank you

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