



# 18<sup>th</sup> Conference for Regional Commission of the Middle East the 24-28 November 2025

*Larnaca, Cyprus*

## One Health in Action

**Regional level & National level**

Dr Fayçal Meziani

WOAH RRME Technical Expert



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Eastern Mediterranean



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

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# One Health in Action

## Regional level

**WOAH** & the Quadripartite



# FAO Regional Conference NERC 36

Jan 2022



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# 69th Session of the Regional Committee for WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region

October 2022



## First high-level regional quadripartite One Health meeting

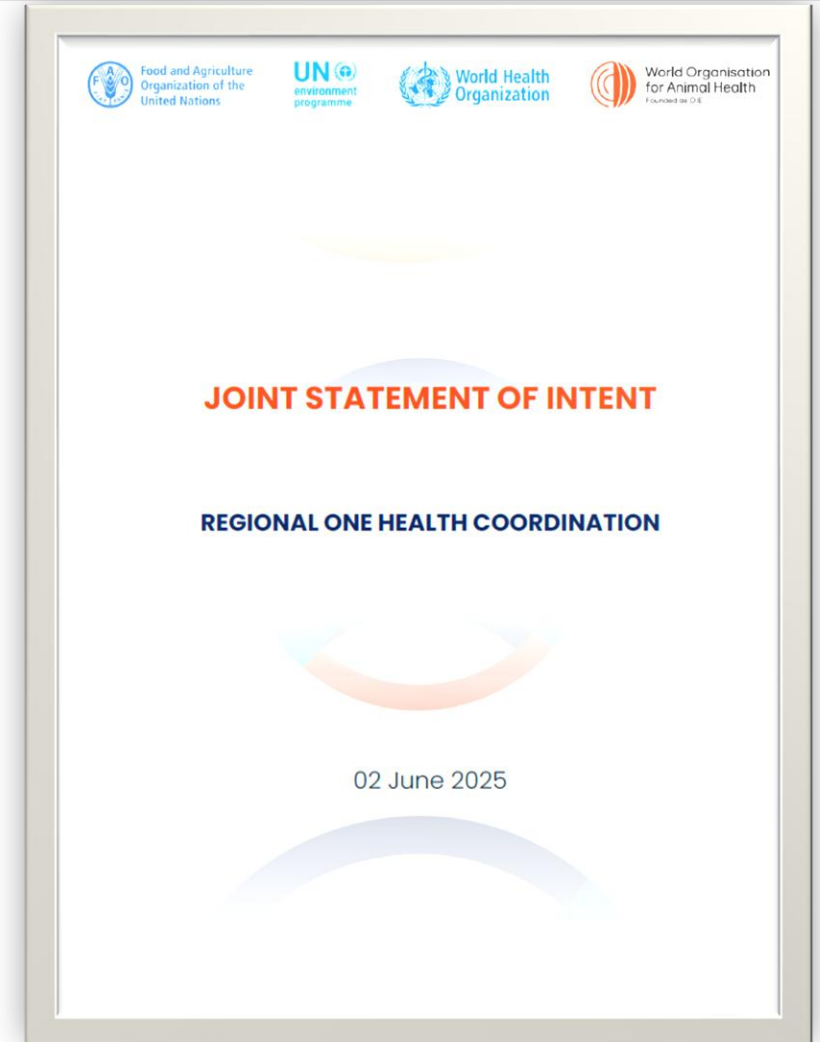
Muscat, May 2023

### Main recommendations

- Establish a regional mechanism to bring together all relevant stakeholder networks, institutes, main civil society organizations, etc
- Develop a regional QPT action plan
- Provide resources and technical support to countries to adapt and implement One Health plans
- Develop a standardized One Health training package for roll out in countries in collaboration with universities and technical institutions.
- conduct a One Health meeting annually to review progress and accelerate the implementation of regional One Health activities



# Regional One Health Mechanism and action plan 2025-2027







Regional leaders unite to strengthen One Health approach in historic agreement



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**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025**  
**Endorsement of the Joint Statement of Commitment among the  
Regional Directors/ Representatives of the Quadripartite**



# OH governance structure at regional level

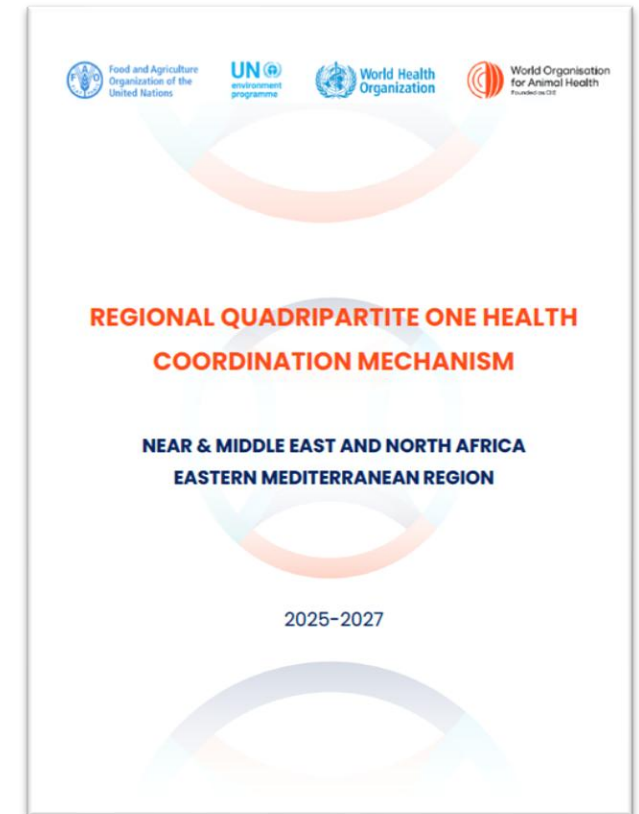
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## QPT :

- **FAO (RNE & SNE & SNG)**
- **WHO (EMRO)**
- **UNEP (ROWA & ROA)**
- **WOAH (RR-ME & SRR-AG & SRR-NA)**

## Regional Organizations: Potential for Future Collaboration :

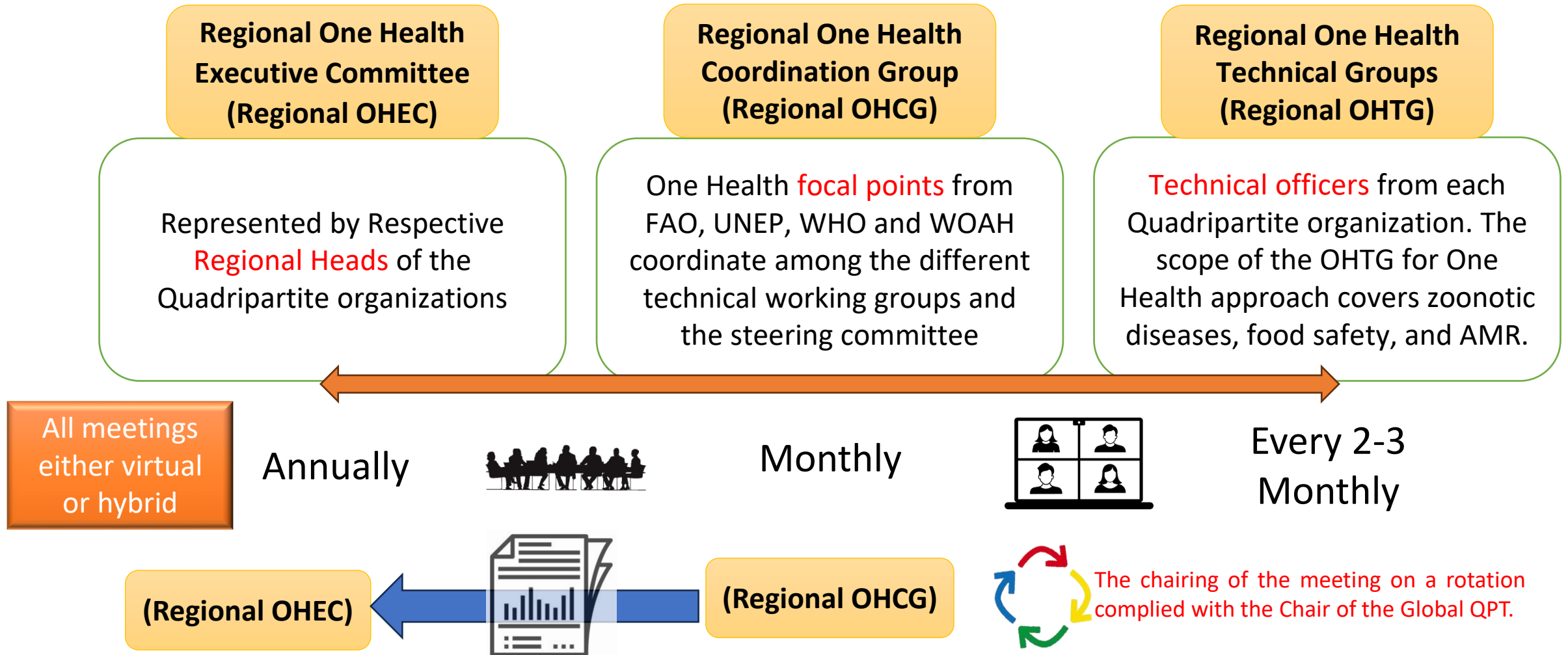
- League of Arab States
- Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
- Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)
- Regional Centers of Excellence (ICARDA?) / Universities/ research institute (to be identified)
- AOAD
- CAMENET
- ...





# Structure of the regional One Health Mechanism

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# Regional QPT OH Action Plan 2025-2027

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## Purpose

To advance the OH implementation at regional and national level, to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats at the human-animal-environment interface using the One Health approach through collaborative efforts.

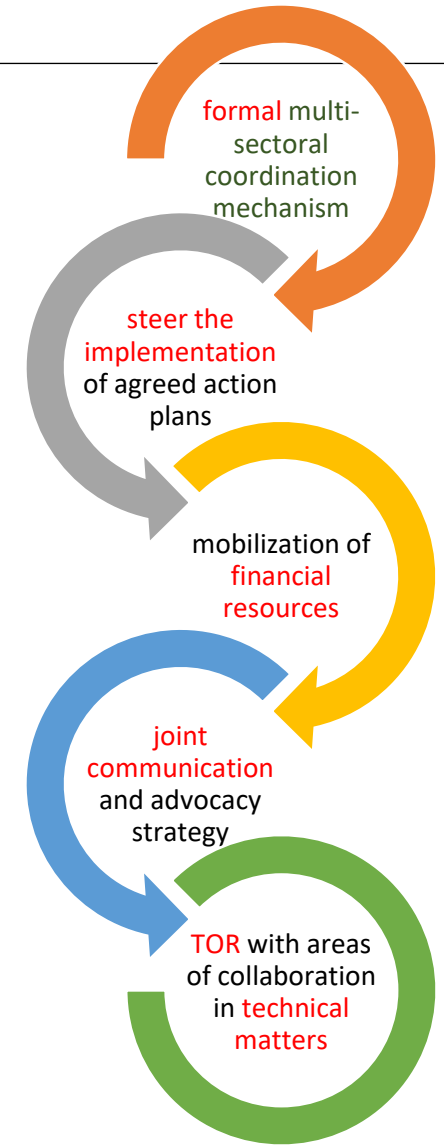
### ONE HEALTH REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

| Activities   | Sub-Activities   | Leading org.       | Contributing org.       | 2025 |    |    |    | 2026 |    |    |    | 2027 |    |    |    |
|--|--|--------------------|-------------------------|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|
|  |  |                    |                         | Q1   | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1   | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1   | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Outcome 3: Improved Joint Practices and Data Integration   |  |                    |                         |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Improved the OH joint practices and actions at national and regional level using various tools and technology that integrate data and knowledge, enhancing surveillance, response, and prevention efforts across sectors |  |                    |                         |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |
| Output 3.1 - Enhanced institutional surveillance, early warning, risk assessment, preparedness, and response to health threats risks at human-animal-  | Establish or strengthen a One Health multi-sectoral coordinated surveillance and information sharing (SIS) system for zoonotic diseases* | WHO<br>WOAH<br>FAO | Other QPT organizations |      |    |    |    | ✓    |    | ✓  | ✓  |      | ✓  | ✓  |    |
|  | Strengthen the role of Agriculture and Fisheries in OH structure   | FAO                | Other QPT organizations |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    | ✓    | ✓  |    |    |
|  | Support countries in   |                    |                         |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |      |    |    |    |



# Operational objectives

- Implement a comprehensive regional mechanism
- Efficiently and effectively use the OH approach in the prevention and control of health threats at the human-animal-environment interface
- Promote the use of technology and tools for joint OH practices, enhancing data integration and information-sharing across sectors





# Regional One Health Platform focused on medium-term outcomes by 2026

## Outcome 1:

- **Regional One Health QPT Coordination Mechanism formalized and sustained**

## Outcome 2:

- **Strengthened National Cross-Sectoral coordination**: Strengthened national cross sectoral capacity for development of OH mechanism and equitable multi-level workplans and strategies in line with OH principles and the OH JPA.

## Outcome 3:

- **Improved Joint Practices and Data Integration**: Improved the OH joint practices and actions at national and regional level using various tools and technology that integrate data and knowledge, enhancing surveillance, response, and prevention efforts across sectors..

# Main OH Regional Achievements

- **Strengthening the Regional Coordination Mechanism**
  - Regular monthly meetings institutionalised.
  - Active participation of all Quadripartite partners (FAO, WHO, WOA, UNEP).
- **Establishment of Regional One Health Technical Working Groups (TWGs)**
  - Three TWGs defined: **Zoonotic Diseases, Food Safety, and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)**.
  - Draft **Terms of Reference (TORs)** developed and refined incorporating:
    - Clear roles and deliverables aligned with the endorsed Regional One Health Mechanism.
    - Balanced representation from **academia, laboratories, and field experts**.
    - Emphasis on **voluntary participation and transparent selection criteria**.
- **Advancing the Regional Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Framework**, incorporates:
  - **Result chain and indicator matrix (2025–2027)**.
  - **Activity monitoring and learning component (MEL)**.

# Main OH Regional Achievements

- **Strengthening National One Health Focal Point Networks**
  - Agreement to establish both **regional and national focal points** to improve coordination, information flow, and visibility of country-level activities.
- **Coordination of Regional and National One Health Activities**
  - Regular updates and mapping of ongoing activities to identify synergies.
  - Proposal to create a **dashboard or newsletter** to enhance visibility of actions at national level.
- **Support to AMR Global Initiatives**
  - Regional input to **Global AMR Stakeholder Mapping** and **Independent Panel on Evidence for Action against AMR (IPEA)**.
  - Follow-up on **AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund proposals** from Egypt and Lebanon.
    - Egypt's proposal expected to be accepted.
    - Lebanon's proposal under revision with FAO/WOAH support.
  - Ensures regional visibility and alignment with the **updated Global AMR Action Plan**.



# Regional OH Coordination Workshop on the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA).

## Manama, Bahrain 14-16 October 2025



The outcomes provide a solid foundation for **the regional roadmap** and for future support from **the Quadripartite and potential donors**, ensuring the collective efforts translate into **coordinated, impactful, and sustainable action** across the MENA region



# One Health in Action

## National level

Examples: UAE, Egypt, Bahrain, KSA, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman



## One Health in Action — United Arab Emirates

**One Health governance:** multisector coordination across health, veterinary, food safety and environment authorities.

**Zoonotic/TAD surveillance:** integrated systems for avian influenza, brucellosis, rabies, foodborne zoonoses, vector-borne threats.

**Veterinary biosecurity & farm systems:** strengthened biosecurity in commercial poultry, dairy and camel sectors.

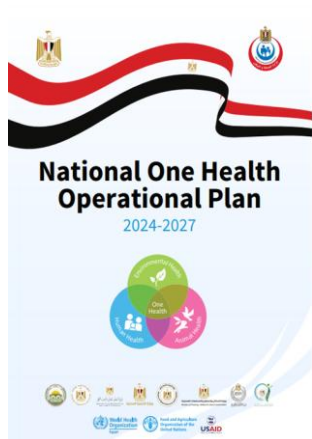
**Laboratory capacity:** accredited public health and veterinary labs providing molecular diagnostics for animal-origin pathogens.

**ADAFSA as WOAHA Collaborating Center:** provides advanced diagnostic, research, and training services for camel diseases in the Middle East and globally. It manages the CAMENET with a OH approach

**AMR & food safety:** national AMR plan and coordinated food-chain inspection programs.



## One Health in Action — Egypt



**National One Health platform** connecting Agriculture, Health, Environment and research institutions.

**Strong avian influenza capacity:** extensive surveillance, outbreak response and poultry sector control (H5Nx history).

**TAD & zoonoses surveillance:** long-running systems for brucellosis, rabies, RVF risk monitoring, and foodborne pathogens.

**Laboratory network:** Animal Health Research Institute and national labs performing molecular diagnostics and genotyping. **CLEVB** participate in the WOA program for autogenous vaccines as a solution of AMR

**AMR action:** multisectoral activities including surveillance in livestock and food chains.



## One Health in Action — Bahrain

**Formal One Health coordination across Ministry of Health, Agriculture & Environment authorities.**

**Zoonotic surveillance:** monitoring for Vector borne diseases, avian influenza, Bovine Tuberculosis, brucellosis, rabies, foodborne diseases.

**Laboratory strengthening** veterinary & public health diagnostic capacity and participation in regional networks.

**Integrated food safety:** coordinated inspections and controls for animal-origin foods.

**AMR & preparedness:** national AMR actions plus multisector simulation exercises for zoonotic threats.



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## One Health in Action —Saudi Arabia

**National One Health leadership** linking MoH, MoEWA, SFDA and veterinary services.

**Extensive TAD & zoonoses surveillance:** robust systems for avian influenza, brucellosis, RVF, lumpy skin disease, rabies, and other animal-origin threats.

**Reference lab capacity & genomics:** advanced molecular diagnostics and sustained sequencing/surveillance programs.

**High-risk event preparedness:** One Health planning for livestock supply and markets during Hajj/Umrah.

**AMR & stewardship:** national AMR implementation across human and animal sectors.

**MERS-CoV leadership:** persistent surveillance, national reference lab diagnostics and long-term One Health activities around the camel–human interface.

**AMR committee** with an action plan aligned with the global strategy (Government, Academic and Private Sector)



## One Health in Action — Jordan

**Operational One Health platform linking ministries and research partners.**

**Priority zoonoses & TADs:** active surveillance and control for brucellosis, rabies, avian influenza, leishmaniasis and foodborne pathogens., **anthrax**

**Laboratory & JRA capacity:** national labs upgraded; use of Tripartite Joint Risk Assessment for priority events at Ministries level.

**Targeted control programs:** risk-based brucellosis and rabies vaccination/control strategies.

**MERS-CoV relevance:** focused One Health investigations and molecular diagnosis at the human–camel interface Jordan has been a regional model for One Health MERS field studies.

**AMR:** High level committee to combat AMR (MoH, MoA, MoE)



## One Health in Action — Kuwait

**Multisector coordination via national zoonoses OH committee** (public health, agriculture, environment, food safety, strict controls of importation of domestic animal Products).

**Zoonotic surveillance:** monitoring for HP avian influenza, brucellosis, rabies, Insect-born diseases and foodborne agents; active oversight of imported animals.

**Veterinary & public health labs:** diagnostic capacity (serology, antigen detection and molecular testing) and participation in regional proficiency programs.

**Food safety systems:** strong controls on imports and domestic animal products.

**AMR & emergency readiness:** AMR plan in place; periodic cross-sector preparedness exercises.



## One Health in Action — Qatar

**High-level One Health framework** engaging MoPH, MoA, environment and municipalities developed → Implementation under process

**Zoonotic & TAD surveillance:** active programs for avian influenza, brucellosis, foodborne and vector-borne zoonoses and Digital Traceability

**Laboratory & genomic capability:** sequencing and lab networking for pathogen detection and outbreak investigation.

**AMR & stewardship:** Multisectoral coordination mechanism established and digitalization of AHS including AMR surveillance

**MERS-CoV contribution:** Qatar used One Health for field investigations and data-sharing; notable for research and operational coordination at the animal–human interface.



## Oman — One Health in Action

**Functional multisector One Health coordination** (Health, Agriculture & Fisheries, Environment).

**Zoonotic & TAD surveillance:** RVF preparedness, avian influenza surveillance, brucellosis and rabies monitoring; foodborne pathogen surveillance.

**Laboratory system:** Central Public Health Laboratory & Veterinary Research Center with molecular diagnostics and specimen referral capacity.

**AMR plan:** national AMR activities including animal sector (TrACSS reporting).

### Projects:

- Early Warning Diseases System based on the OH approach
- Vector born diseases regulatory framework







- **Common Regional Strengths**
- **The Middle East has built a solid foundation for One Health**, with most countries operating mechanisms that connect human, animal, and environmental health sectors.
- **Levels of formalisation** differ significantly (stronger in GCC + Egypt + Jordan; emerging or fragmented in Iraq, Yemen, Syria, Lebanon).
- **Zoonotic and TAD surveillance exists across the region**, with better structure in GCC and Egypt; more variable in conflict-affected countries.
- **Laboratory diagnostic capacity for core zoonotic pathogens** (HPAI, brucellosis, rabies) **is widely available**, though advanced molecular/genomic capacity is concentrated in UAE, KSA, Qatar, Egypt.
- **AMR National Action Plans exist in nearly all Middle Eastern countries**, but implementation depth ranges from advanced (GCC, Egypt, Jordan) to early stage (Iraq, Yemen, Syria).
- **Field epidemiology/veterinary workforce programs operate or are developing across the region** (FETP/VET-FETP support is widespread).





### Overall Positive Perspective

- ✓ Every Middle Eastern country has valuable experience in zoonotic disease management.
- ✓ The region shows strong political commitment to improve One Health under WHO–FAO–WOAH–UNEP frameworks.
- ✓ Growing collaboration across GCC, Levant, and North Africa creates a unique opportunity for shared leadership and collective progress.
- ✓ The Middle East is uniquely positioned to lead One Health innovation globally with strong foundational systems, rich technical expertise, and growing regional cooperation.
- ✓ By building on existing strengths and expanding partnerships, the region can achieve a fully integrated, resilient, and forward-looking One Health ecosystem that benefits all countries.





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**How Can We Inspire and Accelerate One Health Leadership Across the Region (s)?**



### 1. Build a Regional One Health Knowledge Network

Leverage existing strong systems (GCC + Egypt + Jordan) to share tools, SOPs, protocols and innovations with the whole region.

Establish a **regional learning hub** for zoonotic diseases and TADs.

### 2. Develop a Harmonised Zoonotic Surveillance Space

Gradually align surveillance indicators for key diseases (HPAI, brucellosis, rabies, RVF, LSD).

Promote **win-win collaboration** and regional dashboards as capacity grows.

### 3. Strengthen Laboratory Collaboration Through a Tiered Network

Use advanced labs (KSA, UAE, Qatar, Egypt) as **reference and training centres**.

Support other countries through phased upgrades, PT schemes and mentorship.

### 4. Expand Regional Joint Risk Assessment Capacity

Scale Jordan's and Qatar's expertise to create **multisector JRA teams** across the region.

Encourage simulation exercises to build trust, speed and coordination

**Regional OH  
Collaborating Center?**



### 5. Enhance AMR Prevention Through Regional Alignment

Share antimicrobial stewardship models from GCC.

Develop a **Middle East AMR indicator set** for human, animal and food sectors.

### 6. Promote Cross-Border Preparedness and Safe Animal Movement

Strengthen coordination between ministries for transboundary animal diseases.

Create harmonized animal health certificates and collaborative contingency plans.

### 7. GCC One Health Excellence Index (OHEI)



A Regional Driver of Healthy Competition and Continuous Improvement

Motivation. Creates a regional race to the top in One Health implementation.

### 8. WOAHA Middle East One Health Leadership Award

Recognising Excellence in Regional One Health Governance  
Motivation







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Thank you!

12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France

T. +33 (0)1 44 15 19 49

F. +33 (0)1 42 67 09 87

woah@woah.org

www.woah.org

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