



# 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

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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



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



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

October 2022



# First high-level regional quadripartite One Health meeting

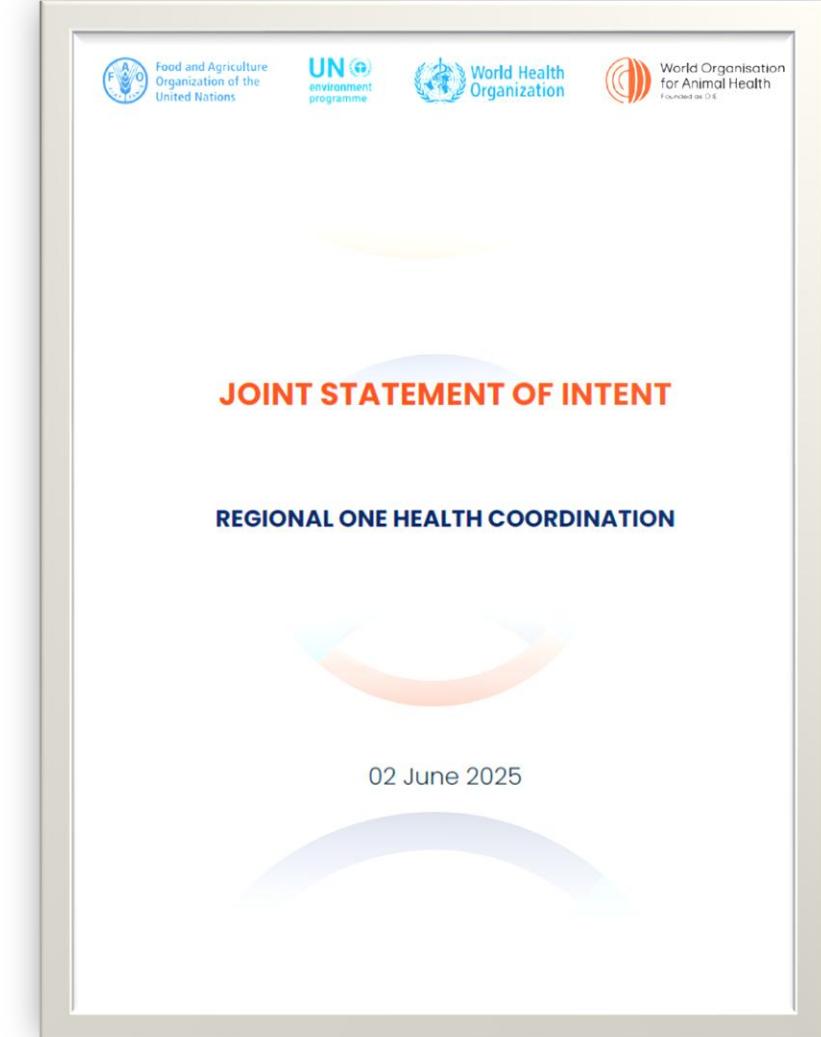
Muscat, May 2023

## 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**

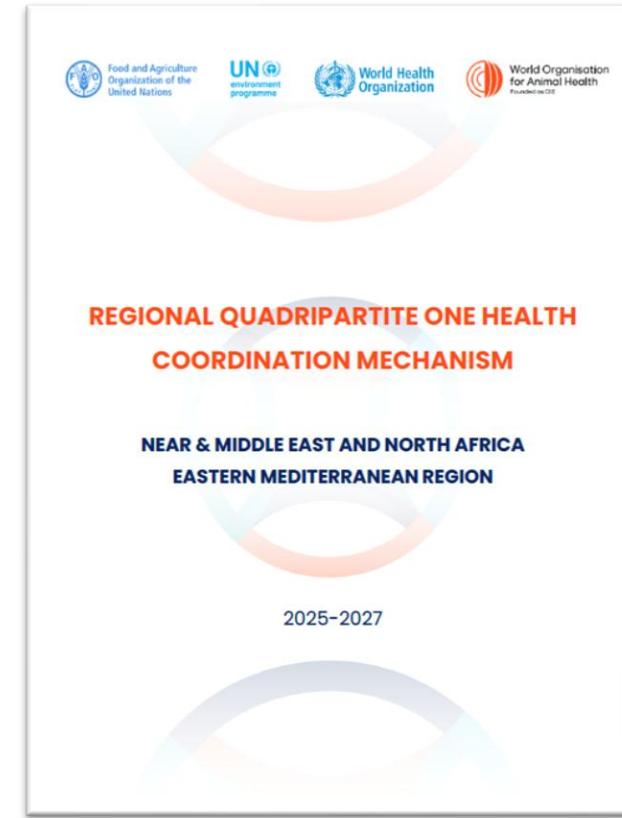
# OH governance structure at regional level

## 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
- CAMENT
- ...



**Regional One Health Executive Committee (Regional OHEC)**

Represented by Respective **Regional Heads** of the Quadripartite organizations

**Regional One Health Coordination Group (Regional OHCG)**

One Health **focal points** from FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAH coordinate among the different technical working groups and the steering committee

**Regional One Health Technical Groups (Regional OHTG)**

**Technical officers** from each Quadripartite organization. The scope of the OHTG for One Health approach covers zoonotic diseases, food safety, and AMR.

All meetings either virtual or hybrid

Annually



Monthly



Every 2-3 Monthly

**(Regional OHEC)**



**(Regional OHCG)**



The chairing of the meeting on a rotation complied with the Chair of the Global QPT.



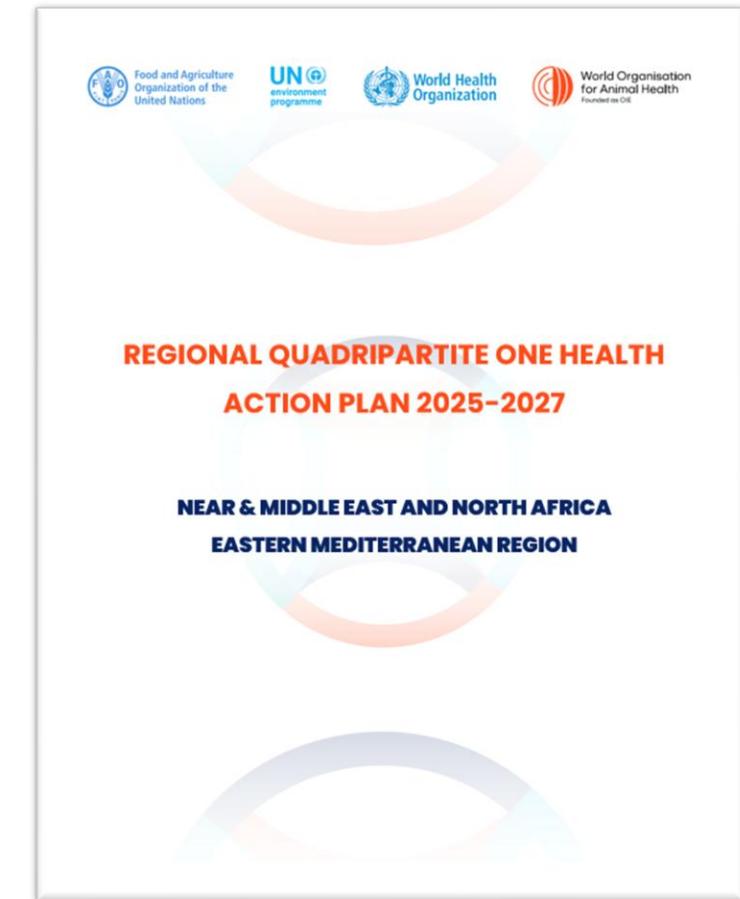
# Regional QPT OH Action Plan 2025-2027

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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
<b>Outcome 3: Improved Joint Practices and Data Integration</b>												
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												
<b>Output 3.1</b> - Establish or strengthen a Enhanced institutional surveillance, early warning, risk assessment, preparedness, and response to health threats risks at human-animal-environment interface using the One Health approach	One Health multi-sectoral coordinated surveillance and information sharing (SIS) system for zoonotic diseases*	WHO WOAH FAO	Other QPT organizations				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Strengthen the role of Agriculture and Fisheries in OH structure	FAO	Other QPT organizations							✓	✓	
	Support countries in											

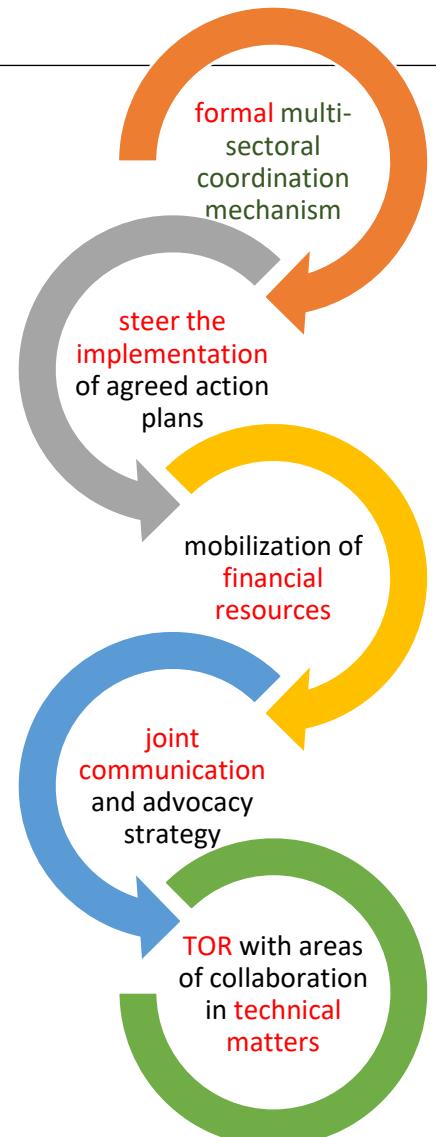


## REGIONAL QUADRIPARTITE ONE HEALTH ACTION PLAN 2025-2027

### NEAR & MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN REGION

# 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, WOAH, 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.

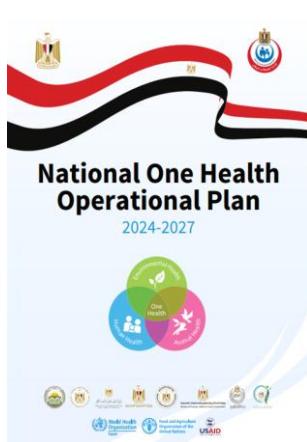
**Laboratory capacity:** accredited public health and veterinary labs providing molecular diagnostics for animal-origin pathogens.

**ADAFSA as WOAH 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



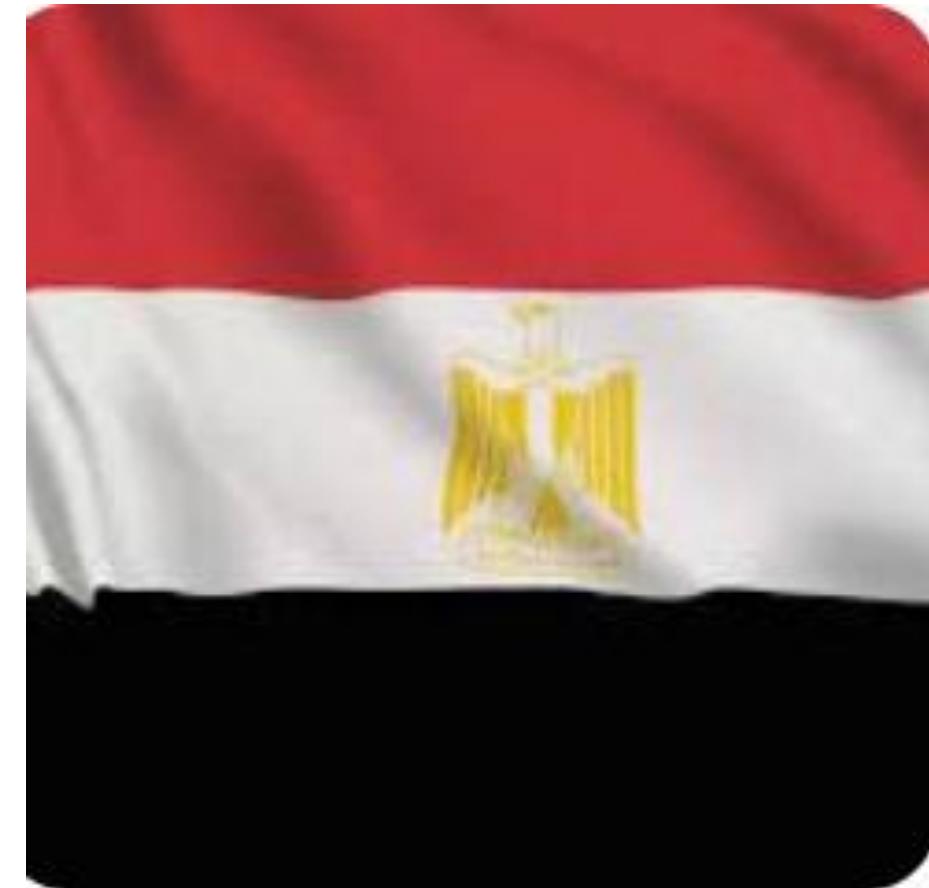
National One Health platform connecting Agriculture, Health, Environment and research institutions.

**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 WOAH programme 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:** Hight level committee to combate 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. WOAH Middle East One Health Leadership Award

Recognising Excellence in Regional One Health Governance

Motivation





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# Thank you!

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