

Updates on the WOAAH standards and guidelines on wildlife health

Dr Lesa Thompson
Regional Project Officer
Regional Representation for Asia and
the Pacific

Dr Sophie Muset
Ebola Project Lead Programme and
Technical Coordinator
WOAH Headquarters

SEAWHN_SEAOHUN 2022
IC_092022
September 5-6, 2022
Nonthaburi, Thailand



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



EXPERTISE



WOAH Working Group on Wildlife



Experts network



Focal Points Networks



Partners

TOOLS



International standards



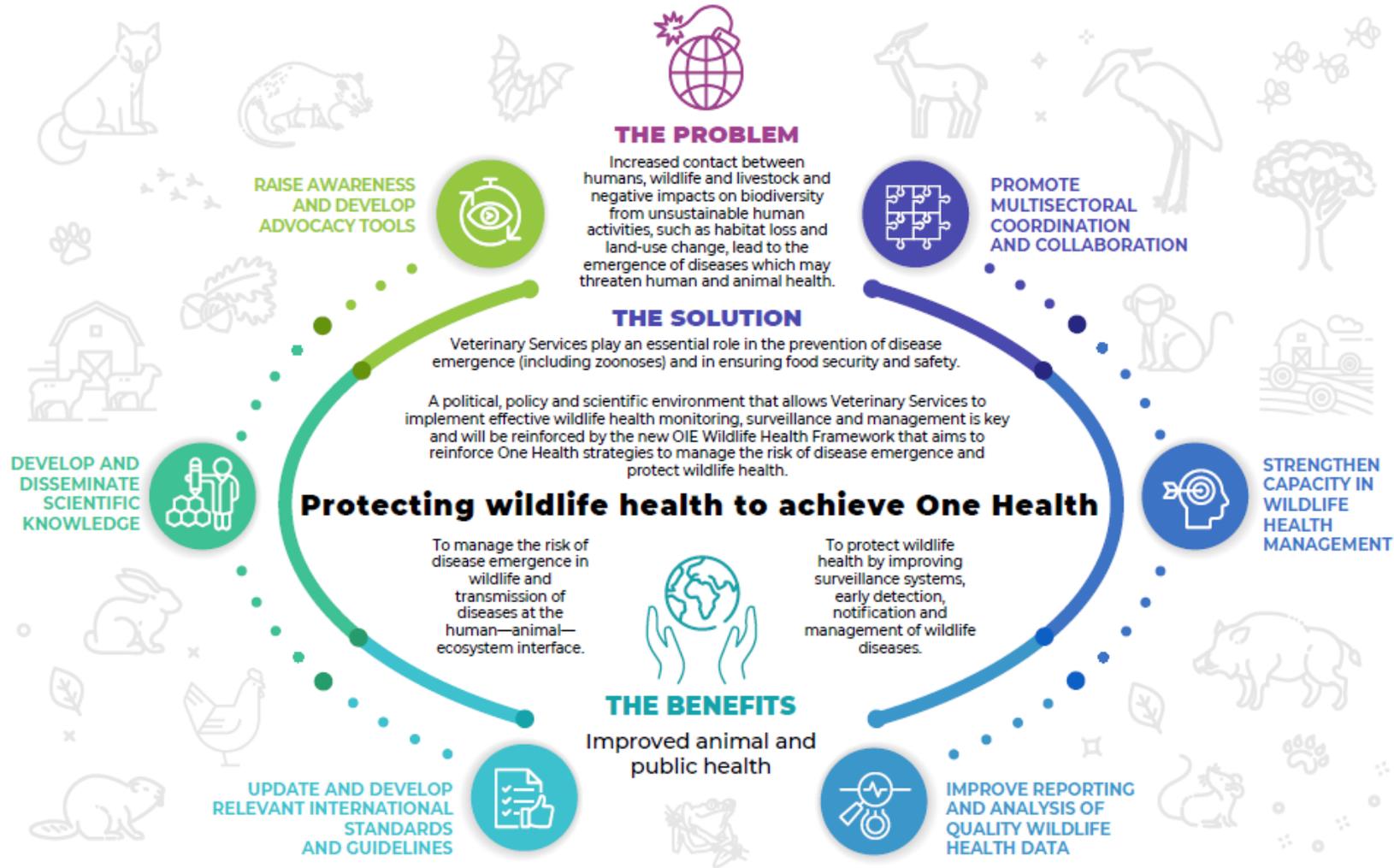
Animal disease notification System WAHIS



EBO-SURSY Project



Wildlife Health Programme

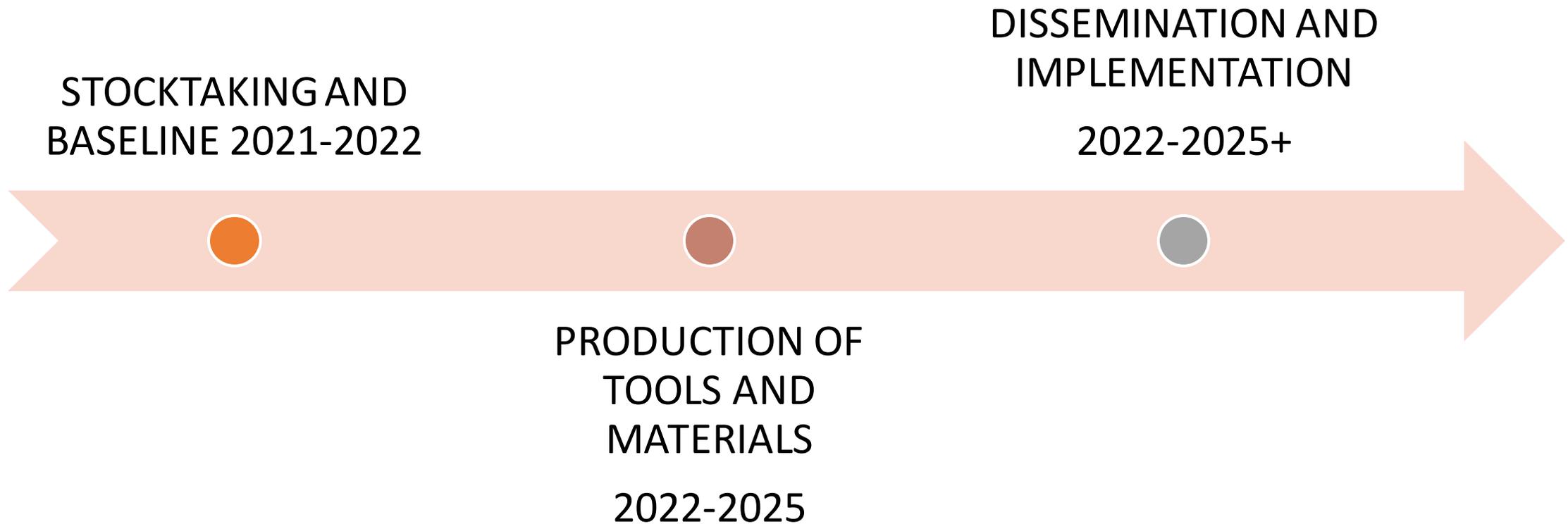


The approach Embrace a holistic systems-based approach to One Health to seek solutions that optimise health outcomes for animals, humans and the environment



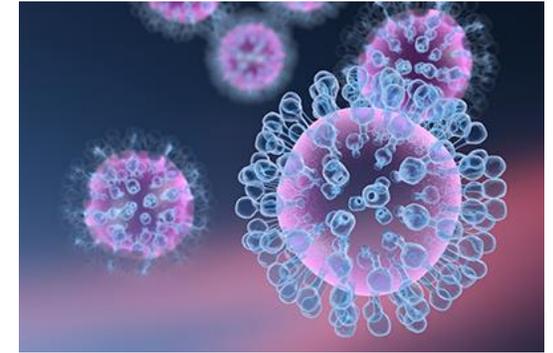
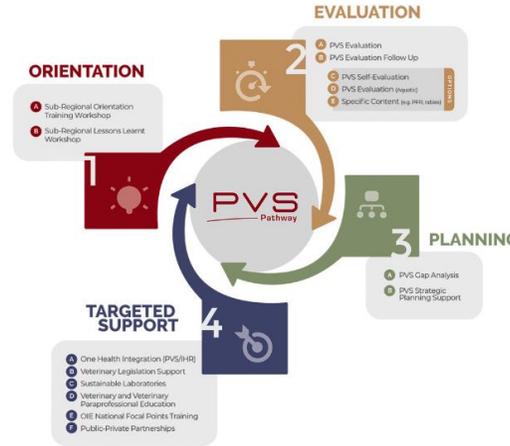
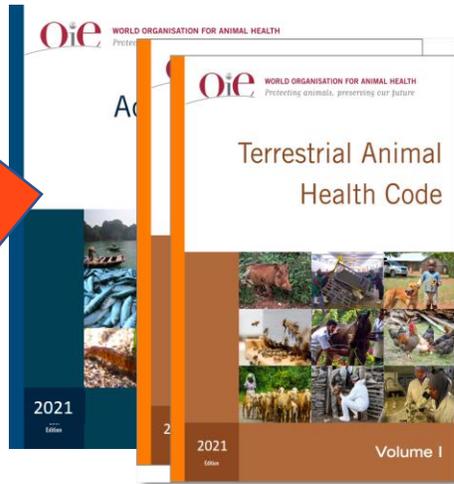


Implementation timeline





• Current consultancies to identify gaps and strengths



- WOAH Standards and practical Guidelines to identify opportunities to better integrate wildlife disease surveillance and health management

- Wildlife health legislation

- Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) pathway activities to identify approaches to better incorporate wildlife and environmental health

- Diseases (caused by infectious agents and toxins) affecting wildlife that are potentially a threat to wildlife conservation.



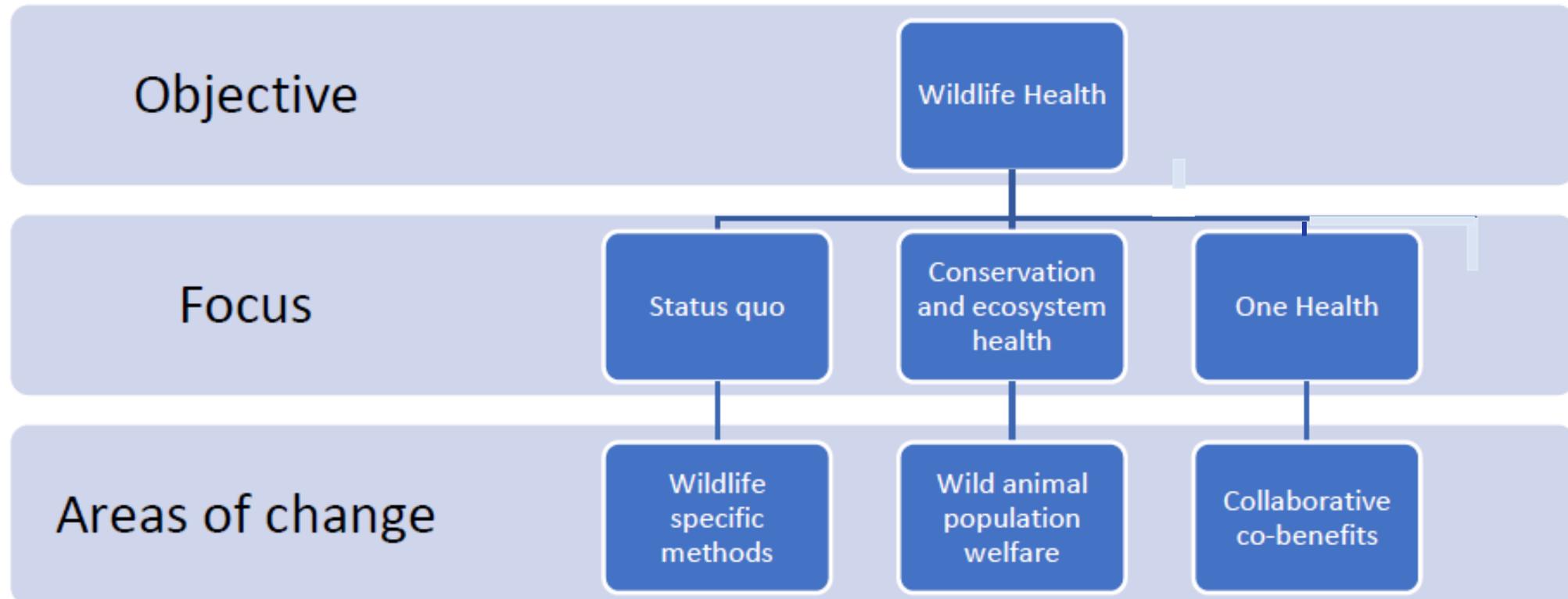
Wildlife Working Group to analyse outcomes and provide recommendations and strategic guidance by the end of the year



Standards review main outcomes

Purpose : to identify gaps and needs in WOAHS Standards and practical Guidelines with regards to wildlife disease surveillance and health management and propose interventions for improvement.

Taxonomy of expectations and areas for improvement of WOAHS wildlife Standards and Guidelines.





Wildlife legislation review

Comprehensive review and analysis of legislation related to wildlife health and surveillance systems and the role or mandate of the Veterinary Services in addressing wildlife health issues and risks of pathogens emergence at the animal-human-ecosystem interface.

Key elements for legal best practices

- Scope of Legal Authority
- Food Safety Tools
- Surveillance and Control Tools
- Testing, Data, and Information
- International Trade and Cooperation
- Enforcement
- Integrity of Enforcement and Monitoring
- Veterinary Services Penalties
- Wildlife Penalties





Findings from selected Best practices

Based on 22
jurisdictions
covering all
WOAH
Regions

- 1. Reference to Wildlife
- 2. Definition of Wildlife
- 3. Express Delegation of Authority over Wildlife Disease
- 6. Wildlife Surveillance
- 7. Notification of Wildlife Disease Events
- 8. Violation of Disease Emergence

Next Steps

- Develop focused questions around wildlife legislation to supplement the standard Veterinary Legislation
- Identification Mission questionnaire based on OIE TAHC Ch. 3.4 on Veterinary Legislation (“Ch. 3.4”) + in country Mission
- Propose revisions to Ch. 3.4 to incorporate language on wildlife.

PVS review main recommendations



- 1 Adaptation of “wildlife” definition for PVS Pathway
- 2. Improving wildlife health consideration in the Evaluation section of the PVS Pathway
 - The PVS Evaluation/follow-up mission
 - PVS Evaluation for Wildlife Services
- 3. Improving wildlife health consideration in the Planning section of the PVS Pathway
- 4. Improving wildlife health consideration in the Targeted Support section of the PVS Pathway
 - Including Wildlife Health in the National Bridging Workshop
 - Development of Wildlife assessment tools





Guidelines under development





PURPOSE

- Describes a framework to support informed decision-making in the face of uncertainty and complexity.
- Provides approaches to enable users to identify and select pragmatic and relevant risk reduction and intervention strategies according to identified risks, capacity, and needs – with the aim of ensuring effective implementation on the ground.



- **Primary audience:** Veterinary Services, Wildlife Authorities, Public Health authorities, other Competent authorities with a mandate on animal health and welfare, public health, wildlife management and trade, law enforcement.

- **Disease of focus:** Any infectious pathogen at any interface across the spectrum of wildlife trade: Commercial and non-commercial, legal (both regulated and unregulated) and illegal wildlife trade.

- **Scope:** Wildlife includes wild animals and captive wild animals. Feral were out of scope.



Framework steps



Describe the wildlife trade system for which risks are to be addressed and the objectives to be achieved.



Conduct risk analysis via engagement with subject matter experts



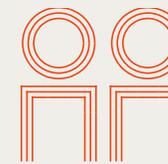
Identify and engage with stakeholders, champions and experts



Develop management and intervention strategies using the Hierarchy of Controls or other approaches.



Use structured decision-making to address complex, multidimensional problems and trade-offs.



Develop metrics for each intervention and monitor and assess effectiveness. Adjust accordingly.



Identify and prioritize the hazardous wildlife trade activities.



Tools to identify critical capacity gaps and requirements

Advice on implementation, risk communication and training



Diseases of focus



- Monkey Pox**
- Risk guidance on reducing spill-over events of monkeypox virus from humans to wildlife, pet animals, and other animals. (upcoming in 2022)

Objective: To provide guidance on reducing risk of spill-over events of monkeypox virus from humans to animals

Target audience: Humans who are at risk of transmitting monkeypox virus to wildlife, pet animals, and other animals.

Tentative Publication Date: Early September 2022

- WOAHA Technical disease card on infection with Poxes

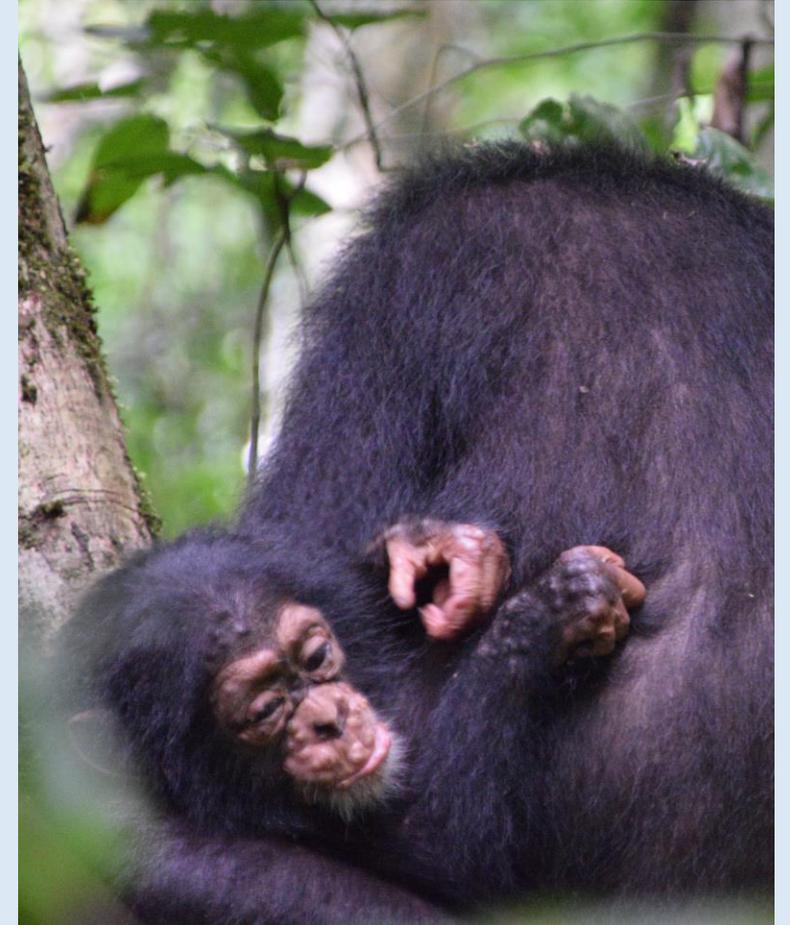


Photo: Kamilla Pléh
Copyright: Tai Chimpanzee project



Avian Influenza

- Risk guidance management for people working with wild birds (2022)

Objective: To provide guidance on measures to be taken to reduce disease risks, while considering the health of humans, poultry and wild birds.

Target audience: people who handle wild birds



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



Avian influenza and Wildlife Risk management for people working with wild birds

Purpose

The purpose of this article is to provide guidance to people who handle wild birds on measures to reduce disease risks associated with avian influenza virus strains. The guidance takes a One Health approach by considering the health of wildlife, poultry and people.

Impacts of the ongoing avian influenza outbreaks on wildlife

The recent outbreaks of avian influenza virus strains of the subtype H5N1 have raised concern for wildlife conservation due to their unusual impact on wild birds, including several endangered species, and transmission to mammals. The most recent wave of infection spread began in October 2021, and to date thousands of outbreaks (including poultry and wildlife) have been recorded worldwide. Events have been predominantly reported in North America (56%) and Europe (34%). In addition to massive mortalities in seabirds, aquatic birds, and raptors, there are reports of infections in wild mammals such as foxes, otters, and seals, which is relatively unusual for H5 strains. Although the current outbreaks have been linked to a low number of human infections, involving mild symptoms, all H5N1 strains pose zoonotic risks.

This article was initiated by the World Organization for Animal Health's Working Group on Wildlife (Karsik, W; Uhart, M; Hofmeyer, M; Slezman, I; Ryser-Degiergis, MP; Murata, K, and Woods, R), and led by Marcela Uhart. This article is supported by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's (SSC) Wildlife Health Specialist Group (WHSG).

- African swine fever in wild pigs in the Asia and the Pacific Region (2022)



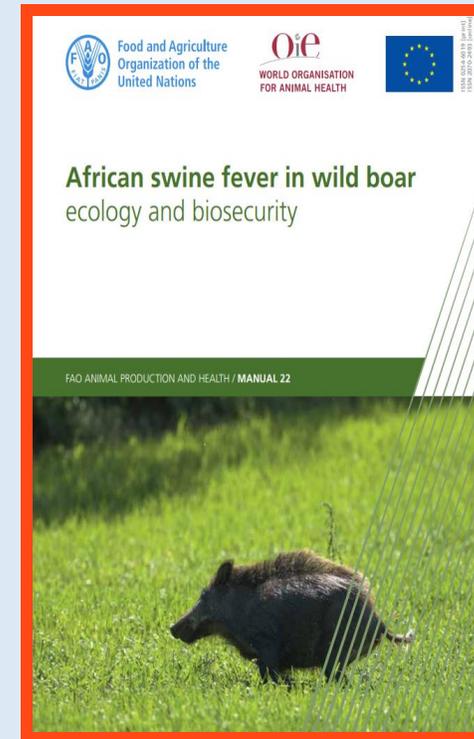
African swine fever in wild pigs in the Asia and the Pacific Region



Objective: To review knowledge of ASF in wild pigs and the ecology and distribution of wild pigs in the Asia and the Pacific region and make recommendations and suggest actions that should be taken to manage wild pigs in the Asia and the Pacific region.

Target Audience: Member countries and their Veterinary Services

- African Swine fever in wild boar ecology and biosecurity (2019)

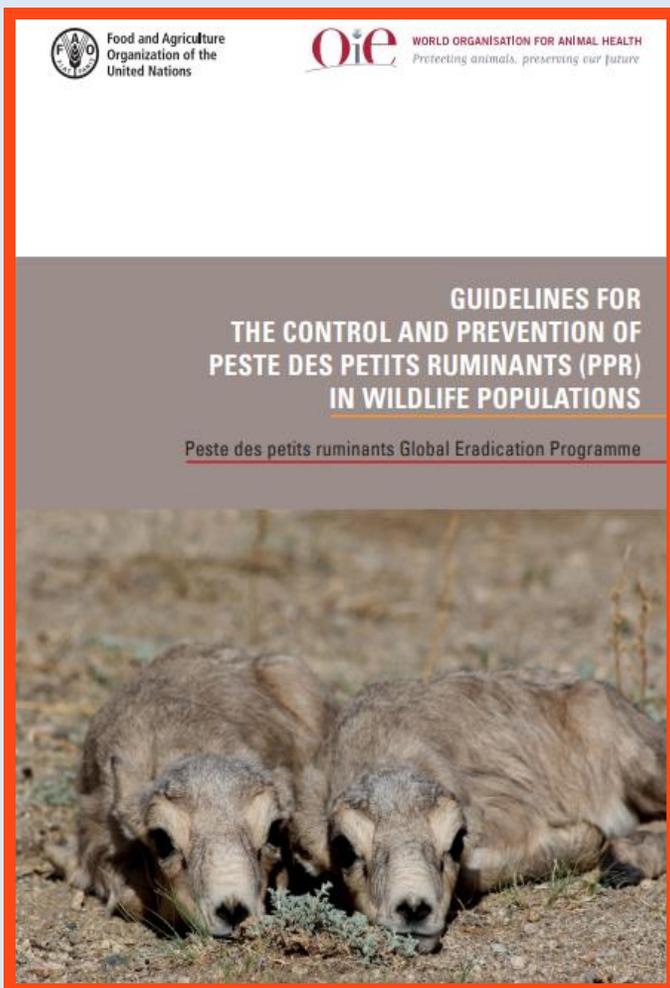


Objective: To provide an evidence-based overview of ASF ecology in the northern and eastern European populations of wild boar, including practical management and biosecurity measures or interventions, to address the problem in a more collaborative way.

Target Audience: veterinary authorities, wildlife conservation bodies, hunting communities, farmers, general public

PPR

- Guidelines for the Control and Prevention of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Wildlife Populations (2021)



Objective: to help countries in the development and implementation of PPR eradication programmes, that facilitate the integration of the wildlife sector into the national strategic plan.

Target Audience: Member countries and their Veterinary Services

COVID-19

- Working with Free-Ranging Wild Mammals in the Era of the COVID-19 Pandemic (2020)



Objective: to minimize the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission from people to free ranging, wild mammals.

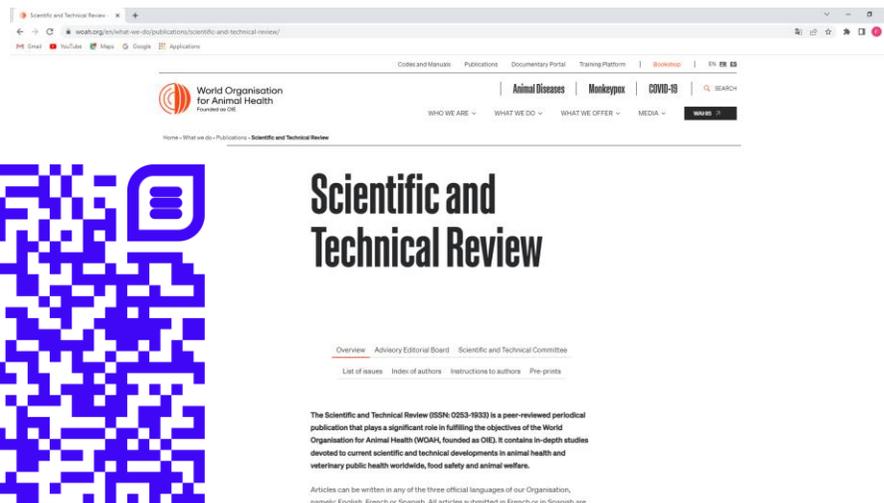
Target Audience: people engaged in wildlife work in the field with free-ranging wild mammals



Additional resources to support Wildlife health management



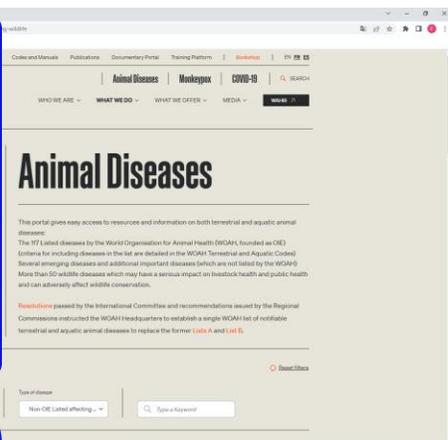
WOAH publications (available online)



A RAPID REVIEW OF EVIDENCE ON MANAGING THE RISK OF DISEASE EMERGENCE IN THE WILDLIFE TRADE

Prepared for the Preparedness and Resilience
Department of the
World Animal Health Organization (OIE)
Paris, France

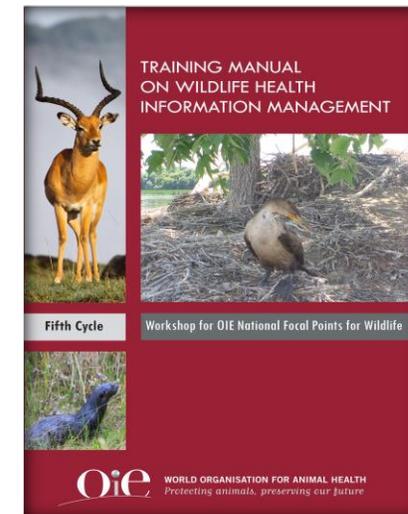
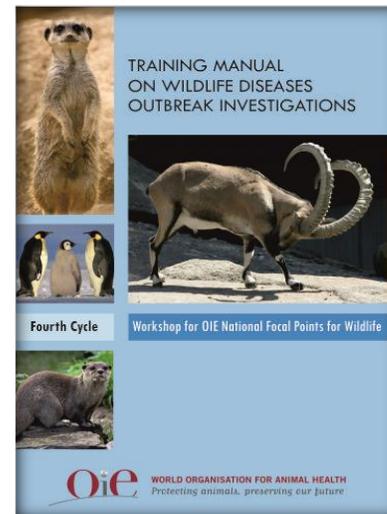
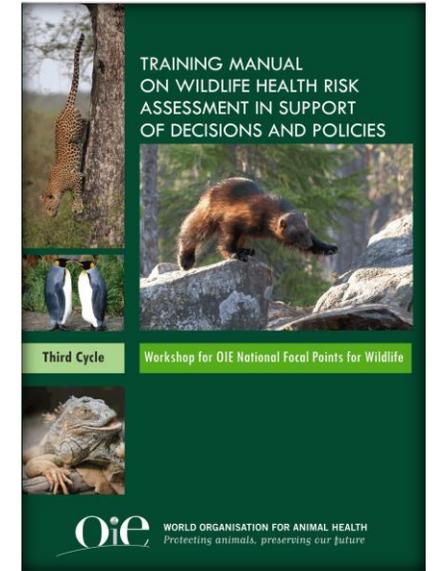
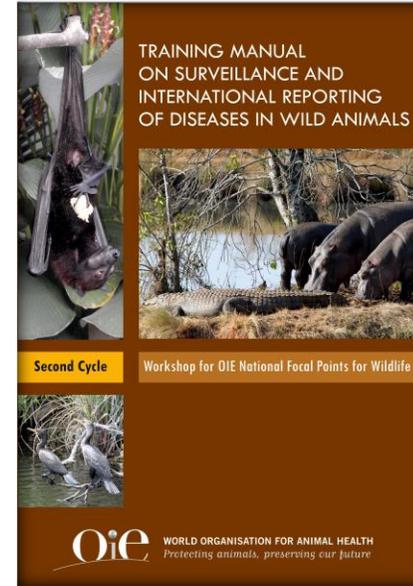
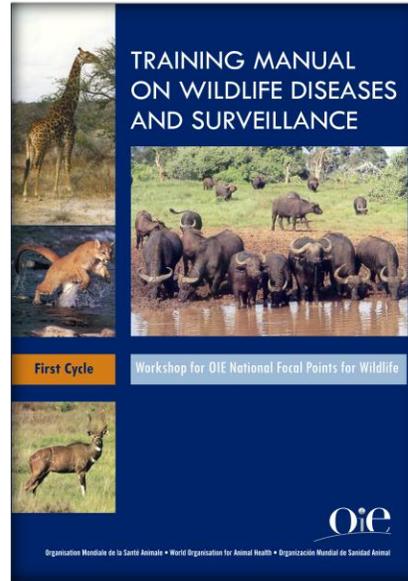
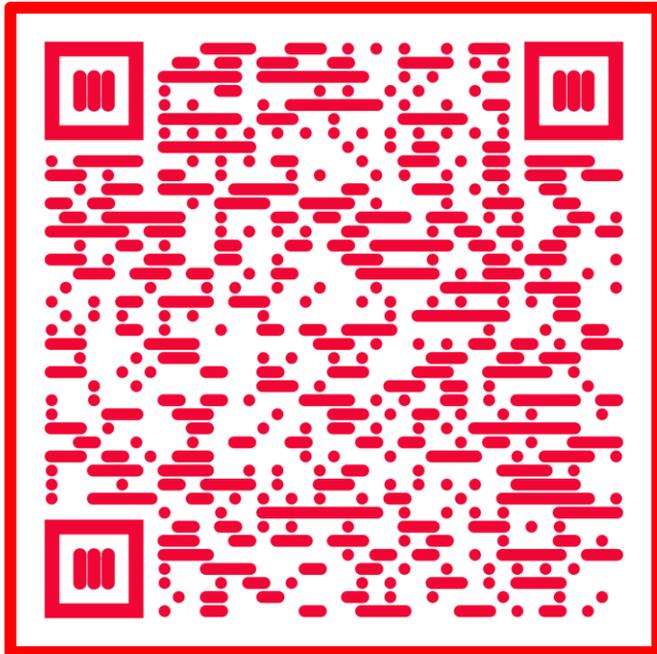
February 18, 2021
Prepared by Craig Stephen DVM PhD
Pacific Epidemiology Services Ltd.
Canada



- Technical diseases cards for Non-WOAH listed diseases affecting wildlife



Training Manuals





Regional resources on WOA regional websites

REGION: Europe English

WAHIS Codes and Manuals Search



WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO WHAT WE OFFER MEDIA

Wildlife



REGION: Africa English

WAHIS Codes and Manuals Search



WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO WHAT WE OFFER MEDIA

Protecting animal health at the wildlife livestock interface



REGION: Asia and the Pacific English

Login Main site Search



WILDLIFE HEALTH

LAST UPDATED: 29 AUGUST 2022

Wildlife Health



WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO WHAT WE OFFER NEWS

Home Focal Points Wildlife Focal Points

Wildlife Focal Points



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

[Facebook](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Instagram](#)
[LinkedIn](#)
[YouTube](#)
[Flickr](#)



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

