



Capacitating One Health in Eastern and Southern Africa

Building the Future One Health Workforce in Eastern and Southern Africa – Gaps and Opportunities in Higher Education

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COHESA

Capacitating One Health in Eastern and Southern Africa



Knowledge sharing

Understanding One Health (OH) status of countries and promoting information sharing and collaboration



Governance

Promoting national and regional OH collaboration, and supporting implementation of OH platforms within each country



Education and research

Building the future OH workforce in secondary and tertiary education institutes



Delivery of One Health solutions

Local partners adopt, develop and implement OH solutions. Training professionals and building the future OH workforce through OH secondary and tertiary education. Strengthening research innovation in One Health

Local partners deliver a 4-year project—building a society-wide inclusive system to rapidly manage and resolve One Health threats

Consortium-led

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Beneficiaries



Funder



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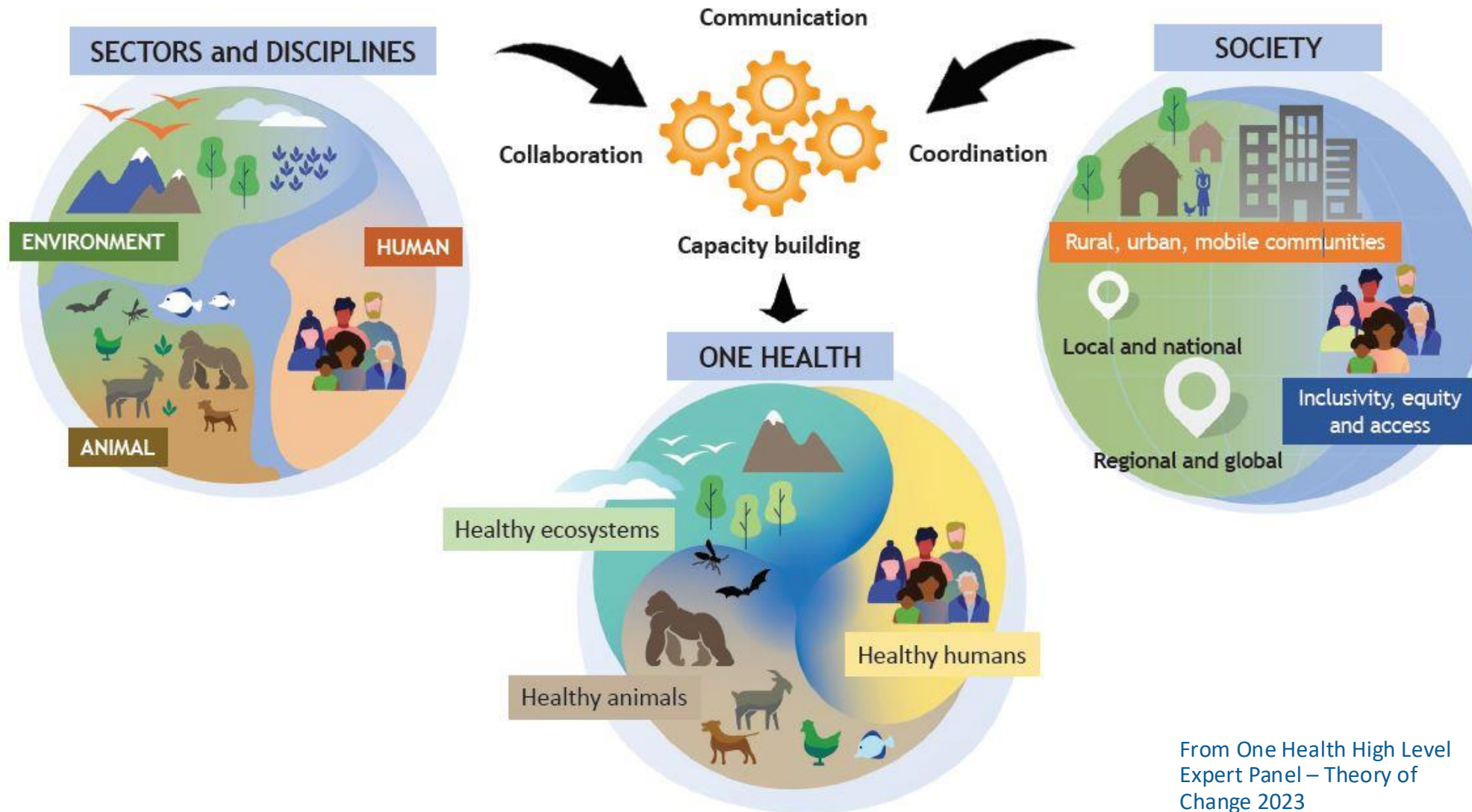
What is One Health

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

One Health High Level Expert Panel

Quadripartite (FAO, WHO, UNEP, WOAH)

What is One Health?



From One Health High Level
Expert Panel – Theory of
Change 2023

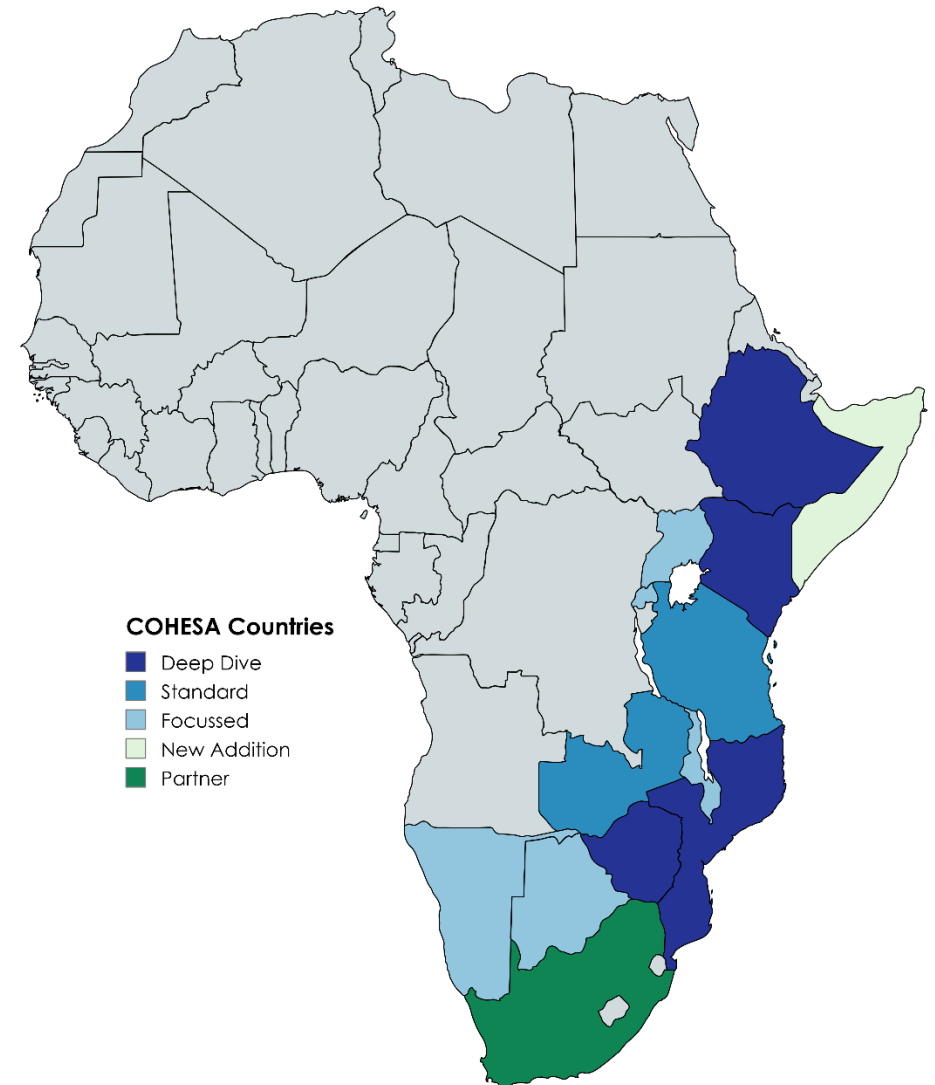
Background

- The OHHLEP & Quadripartite are investing in One Health through the workforce to be able to address One Health issues
- Currently no consensus on required One Health competencies regionally
- Objective: understand the available One Health education in Eastern and Southern Africa and define One Health competencies relevant to the region



Methods

- Eleven countries in Eastern and Southern Africa
- Purposive sampling One Health (OH) higher education institutions as per COHESA partners + snowball sampling
- Questionnaire online + take home to understand OH education, resources needed to develop/deliver new OH education, employability of graduates, and OH competencies



Results

- Response rate of 82% (42/56) individuals introduced to the survey and 46% (42/99) invited to participate.
- 11 women; 31 men with roles as lecturers, professors, registrars, deans, directors, heads of department → representing 29 higher education institutions

	Number of interviews conducted	Number of completed questionnaires	Number of institutions that had at least one questionnaire submitted
Botswana	8	6	3
Ethiopia	8	6	3
Uganda	3	2	2
Kenya	4	4	2
Tanzania	4	4	4
Rwanda	5	5	3
Malawi	5	4	3
Zambia	7	5	5
Zimbabwe	6	3	3
Namibia	5	3	1
Total	55	42	29

Results

- Total of 166 education interventions (programs and courses) were reported → 115 courses; 35 programs; 16 missing records
- Masters programs were most common (19/35)
- Validation led to identification of an additional 14 educational interventions (total 180)
- 10 technical competencies which spanned many sectoral areas (animal, human, environment) were considered essential by >60% of respondents
- 20 cross cutting competencies were considered essential by >60% of respondents

Discussion

- Awareness of One Health education at higher education institutions is limited even amongst experts – there is no catalogue on offer to identify programs, courses, or short courses
- No program or course will fit 10 technical competencies and 20 cross cutting competencies
- Respondents considered competencies essential based on their own technical background instead of considering One Health is a multi/trans disciplinary approach



Conclusions

- One Health is diverse and many disciplines and technical areas of expertise are needed to contribute to solving complex health issues
- All disciplines need cross-cutting competencies like: collaboration, community engagement, ethics, partnerships, problem solving, policy, systems thinking, and team work to jointly work on shared One Health issues
- With the Inter-University Council for East Africa a set of benchmarks for a Masters in One health that takes this approach was developed with contributions from Southern Africa. Currently working to develop guidelines that reflect a wider spectrum of SA to share with SARUA

Acknowledgements



OACPS R&I



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Thank you



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