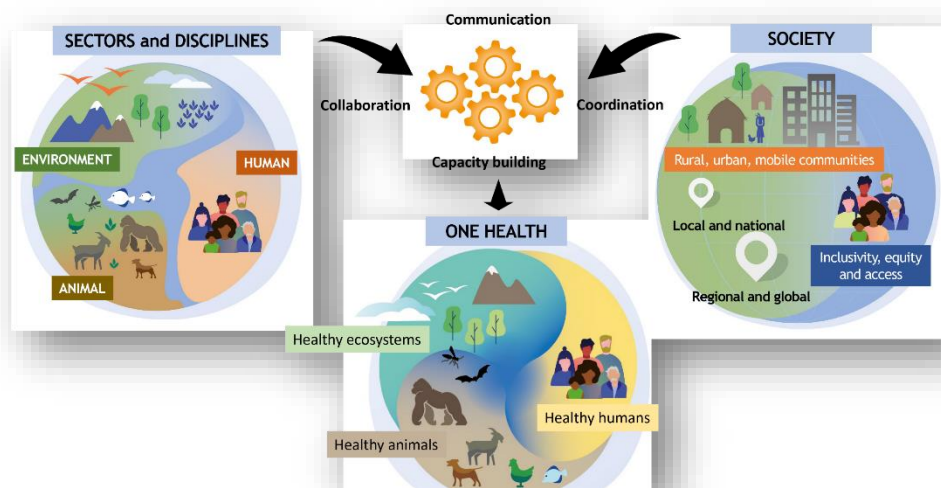


## Report

### One Health Partner Platform Europe and Central Asia

#### Online Meeting

24th March 2025 from 13:00 CET



## Background

The Tripartite Organizations Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) in the European and Central Asian region agreed in 2022 to join forces through a Quadripartite (QPT) Regional One Health Coordination Mechanism (ROHCM) to provide leadership by defining the strategic direction, convening stakeholders and partners and coordinating action and support of Member States for operationalizing the One Health approach across the region.

In 2022 and 2023 respectively, the [One Health Joint Plan of Action](#) (OH JPA) and its [Implementation Guide](#) were developed to provide tools, guidance and support mechanisms for the QPT, partners and countries to advance their One Health planning and implementation.

The Partner Platform is an integrated component of the ROHCM. The Platform aims to convene multiple partners and stakeholders from various sectors and backgrounds, for mutual exchange of information and for the advice and input into the work of the QPT to maximize country impact, foster



collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts in the fight against health risks in the animal, human and environment interface under the One Health approach. The first dialogue of the Partner Platform took place on the occasion of the annual World Antimicrobial Awareness Week in November 2021. In June 2024, an [in-person meeting of the Partner Platform](#) took place in Vienna, Austria, where the discussion concluded with several actions to enhance cooperation and coordination between Partners, including the definition of collaboration and communication modalities and frequency through the completion of a questionnaire. As a result, it was agreed to hold biannual online meetings to ensure regular engagement and collaboration.

## Objectives

The aim of the meeting was to discuss and coordinate collaboration modalities to support **Azerbaijan**, **Kyrgyzstan**, and **Montenegro** on their One Health implementation during the period 2025 – 2026.

Specific objectives included:

1. Present the One Health scenario and priorities of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, and Montenegro.
2. Share information on planned activities for addressing these priorities in 2025 – 2026.
3. Identify gaps between planned activities and country needs, discuss strategies to address these needs, and foster collaboration among Partners to maximize country impact and avoid duplication of efforts in the support of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, and Montenegro in implementing the One Health approach.

## Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Presenter
<b>10 min</b>	Introduction	<b>WOAH</b> Estelle Hamelin Valeria C. Colombo
<b>One Health scenario, gaps and activities planned</b>		
<b>Azerbaijan</b>		
<b>10 min</b>	Introduction	<b>WHO</b> Simona Seravesi
<b>15 min</b>	Partners' inputs and discussion	
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>		
<b>10 min</b>	Introduction	<b>FAO</b>



		Maripa Kichinebatyrova
15 min	Partners' inputs and discussion	
<b>Montenegro</b>		
15 min	Introduction	<b>UNEP</b> Pablo Sagredo Martin
15 min	Partners' inputs and discussion	<b>ISS</b> Maria Grazia Dente
10 min	<b>Regional activities</b> One Health for Pandemic Prevention, Food Systems Resilience and Ecosystem Health in Central Asia: a Regional multi-phase program (2025-2032)	<b>World Bank</b> Charlotte Schrurs
5 min	<b>Additional One Health news</b> AI-powered risk negotiation mechanism to support the interaction among sectors for the assessment of a health crises	<b>BfR/EOHA</b> Ludovico Sepe
5 min	Next steps and closing remarks	<b>WOAH</b> Valeria C. Colombo

## Participants

	Name	Organisation
1	Bruno Gonzalez-Zorn	Una Europa
2	Hannah Fischer	Safe Game Meat
3	Gordana Ristovska	BOHN - Balkan One Health Network
4	Sascha Knauf	FLI - Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute
5	Rusmir Goletic	BOHN - Balkan One Health Network
6	Carmen Varela Santos	ECDC
7	Ruth Cromie	CMS - Convention on Migratory Species
8	Ursula Wagner	IOM - International Organization for Migration
9	Ludovico Sepe	BFR- European One Health Association
10	Claudia Robbiati	ISS - Istituto Superiore di Sanità
11	Maria Grazia Dente	ISS - Istituto Superiore di Sanità
12	Daniela Rana	VSF - Veterinaires Sans Frontieres
13	Casimiro Vizzini	USDT - Une Sante Durable pour Tous
14	Ana Vidal	EMA - European Medicines Agency
15	Barbora Kinross	ECDC
16	Charlotte Schrurs	World Bank
17	Amgaa Oyungerel	IFRC - International Federation for the Red Cross

18	Yohann Lacotte	EU-JAMRAI
19	Saliia Karymbaeva	EEC - Eurasian Economic Commission
20	Stef Bronzwaer	EFSA - European Food Safety Authority
21	Daniel Beltran Alcrudo	FAO
22	Estelle Hamelin	WOAH
23	Mario Latini	WOAH
24	Maripa Kichinebatyrova	FAO
25	Marina Sokolova	WOAH
26	Pablo Sagredo	UNEP
27	Peter Sousa Hoejskov	WHO
28	Simona Seravesi	WHO
29	Sinaia Netanyahu	WHO
30	Valeria C. Colombo	WOAH

## Presentations and Discussions

**Introduction:** The objectives of the Partner Platform, the activities previously performed, the next steps, and the aims of the meeting were presented by Estelle Hamelin and Valeria C. Colombo.

**Azerbaijan** was presented by Simona Seravesi (WHO): After an introduction including geographical and demographic characteristics of the country, Simona presented the different resources and situation analyses performed to assess the current situation on the implementation of the OH approach.

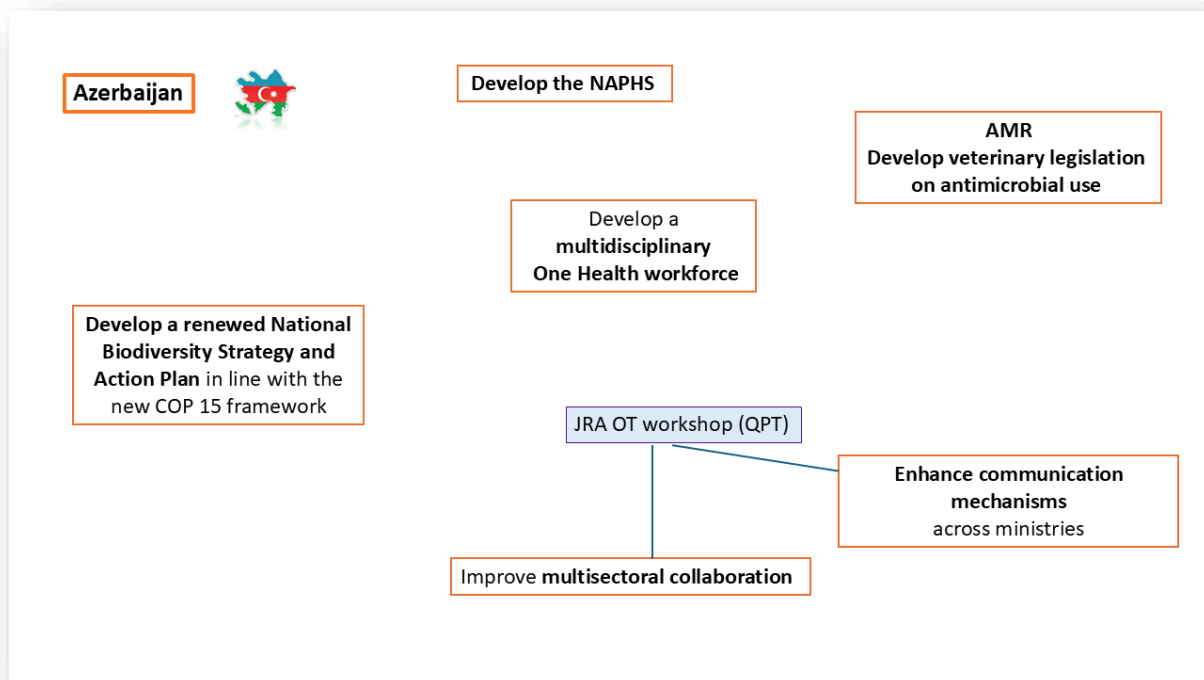
### An Assessment of One Health Operations and Capacities (Ecohealth 2023): main recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS	
Coordination and Governance	Formally establish a National One Health Committee that includes representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Safety Sector, Ministry of Science and Technology, military or defense sectors, universities, and other potential One Health stakeholders.
Disease Risk Reduction	Finalize, renew, and implement not yet completed national plans and assessments, including a National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS), National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), and Joint Risk Assessment (JRA) with a multisectoral group of government experts.
	Expand zoonotic disease monitoring and surveillance in wildlife using nonlethal methods.
One Health Capacity Building	Enhance public communication about the importance of biodiversity preservation, and safe practices regarding interactions with wildlife.
	Improve the transparency and timeliness of health-related information dissemination to additional sectors, departments, and academicians
	Expand joint work-training with veterinarians, environmental health specialists, epidemiologists, and other professionals across the human-animal-environmental health landscape

ONE HEALTH  
AZERBAIJAN

An Assessment of One Health  
Operations and Capacities

A mapping exercise of the national priorities linked with the Partners activities in Azerbaijan was performed (Figure 1) to evaluate how the current activities cover the country needs for the implementation of the One Health approach.



*Figure 1: Mapping exercise linking priorities vs activities planned in Azerbaijan. Shapes highlighted in orange contain the priorities, while in blue the activities planned by the QPT and Partners for 2025. The arrows connect the activities with the priorities to be addressed.*

JRA OT workshop: The join risk assessment operational tool aims to support countries in applying a consistent and harmonized approach to assessing risks posed by zoonotic disease hazards. It is a 10 step intersectoral qualitative process to jointly assess the likelihood and impact for priority One Health challenges. For more information on the tool visit the following links: [JRA factsheet](#) and [JRA OT](#)

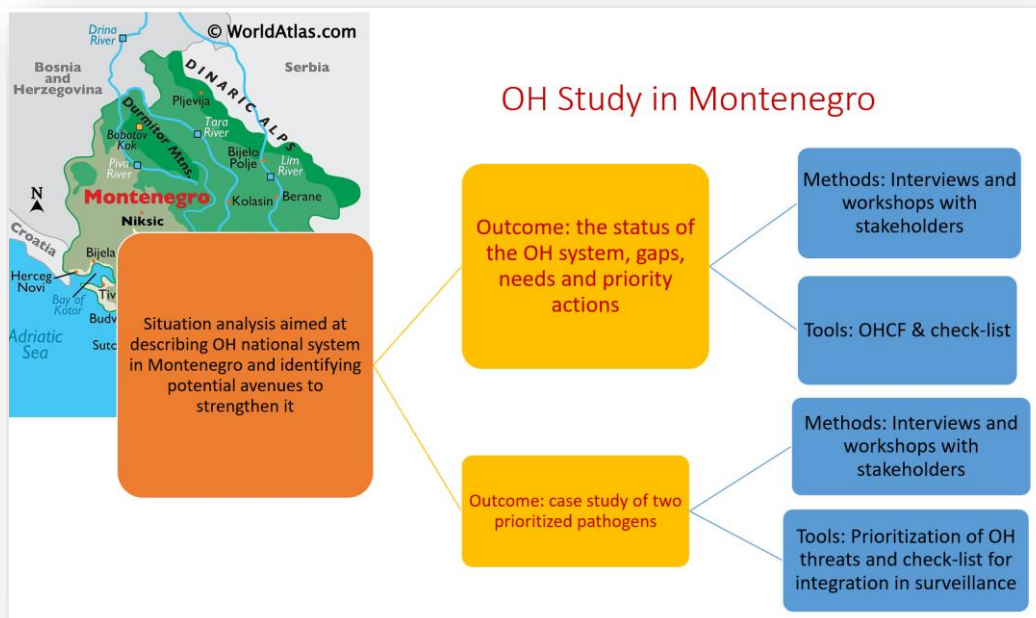
In addition to the activities planned by the Partners, there are governmental in Azerbaijan that targets the needs of the country in terms of One Health implementation including:

- National Strategy on Strengthening Zoonotic Diseases Prevention and control through One Health in Azerbaijan (2025-2030)
- Comprehensive Action Plan Against Bird Flu

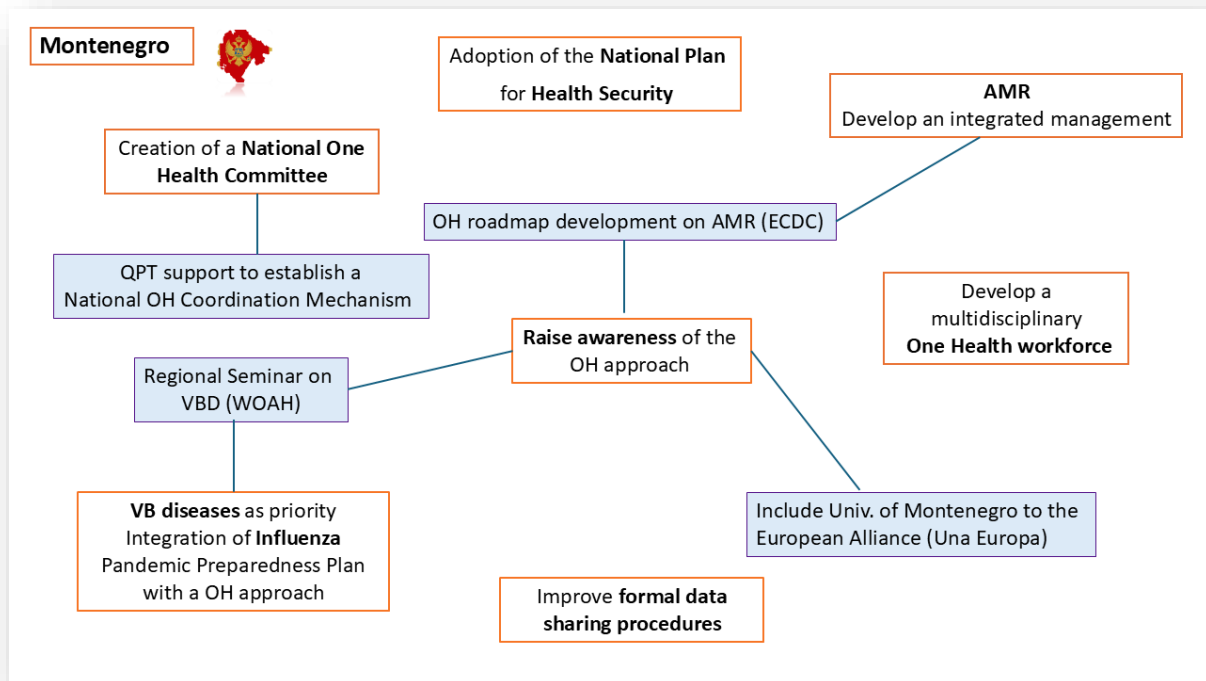
- Electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance System (EIDSS) between the Ministry of Health (MoH) and AFSA
- The Ministry of Ecology working group between AFSA and State Service of Protection of Biodiversity has been established and is operational
- Since March 2025, it was formally established the multisectoral National IHR Committee led by the Ministry of Health to serve as One Health Coordination Mechanism. This was a result of the MCM OT workshop conducted.

## Montenegro

After an overview of the general geographical and demographic characteristics of the country shared by Pablo Sagredo Martin (UNEP), the Partner Maria Grazia Dente (ISS) shared the main outcomes of the MediLabSecure One Health Situation Analysis performed in 2023 in Montenegro. This included the strengths, needs and opportunities to strengthen the One Health system in Montenegro.



A mapping exercise of the national priorities linked with the Partners activities in Montenegro was performed (Figure 2) to evaluate how the current activities cover the country needs for the implementation of the One Health approach.



*Figure 2: Mapping exercise linking priorities vs activities planned in Montenegro. Shapes highlighted in orange contain the priorities, while in blue the activities planned by the QPT and Partners for 2025. The arrows connect the activities with the priorities to be addressed.*

OH roadmap development on AMR (ECDC): In January 2025, the European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) organised a technical meeting in Montenegro to discuss with human health, animal health and environmental sectors the One Health roadmap development on AMR. This activity was a follow up after the ECDC/EC/EFSA One Health country visit on AMR in June 2024. With the support from ECDC contractors, the country is now working on the One Health roadmap to address AMR following the Guide for the development of national One Health roadmaps on antimicrobial resistance in the Western Balkans. Further information can be found [here](#)

Una Europa: Bruno Gonzales-Zorn proposed to include Universities of Montenegro to Una Europa, the European alliance for networking, training and capacity building that also includes the One Health approach in the academic level.

Regional Seminar on VBD (WOAH): Considering that Vector-borne Diseases (VBD) are considered priority to be addressed with a multisectoral approach in Montenegro, the European Seminar on Vector-borne Diseases to be performed in 2025 will catalyse the adoption and implementation of



enhanced and harmonized prevention and control measures for vector-borne diseases across the WOAHEuropean Region, including Montenegro.

QPT Support to Establish a National OH Coordination Mechanism: During 2025, the Quadripartite organisations developed a formal letter to provide support to the government of Montenegro in advancing its operationalisation of the One Health approach by providing technical assistance on the establishment of a National One Health Coordination Mechanism and strengthening the One Health Governance.

## Kyrgyzstan

Maripa Kichinebatyrova from FAO, shared the main activities planned to be performed in Kyrgyzstan under the Pandemic fund umbrella. These activities include mostly the Building of surveillance, laboratory and workforce capacity for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response (PPR), including AMR surveillance, zoonotic diseases surveillance, Risk communication and community engagement among others.

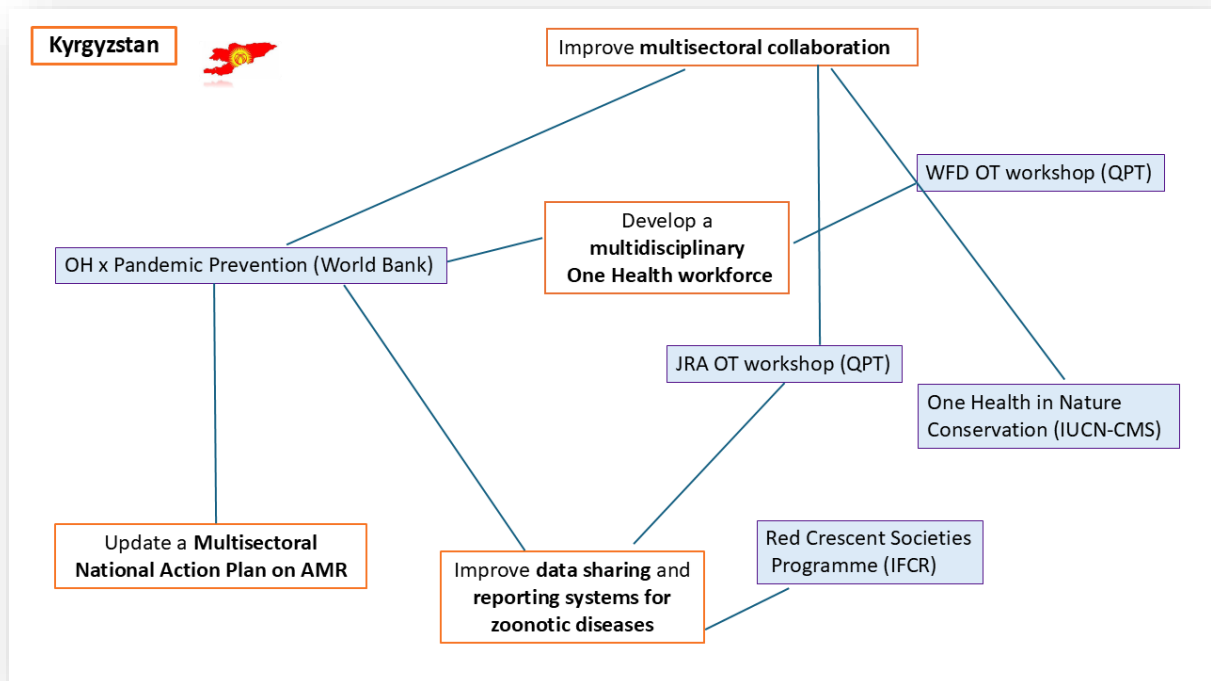
### Component 1. Build surveillance capacity for PPR

- Improved national and regional surveillance systems
- Standardized multisector AMR surveillance
- Standardized multisector zoonotic surveillance
- Veterinary Services quarantine & border security



A mapping exercise of the national priorities linked with the Partners activities in Kyrgyzstan was performed (Figure 3) to evaluate how the current activities cover the country needs for the implementation of the One Health approach.





*Figure 3: Mapping exercise linking priorities vs activities planned in Kyrgyzstan. Shapes highlighted in orange contain the priorities, while in blue the activities planned by the QPT and Partners for 2025. The arrows connect the activities with the priorities to be addressed.*

JRA OT workshop: The join risk assessment operational tool aims to support countries in applying a consistent and harmonized approach to assessing risks posed by zoonotic disease hazards. It is a 10 step intersectoral qualitative process to jointly assess the likelihood and impact for priority One Health challenges. For more information on the tool visit the following links: [JRA factsheet](#) and [JRA OT](#)

WFD OT workshop: This tool is focused on strengthening workforce competencies to work across sectors and disciplines to ensure the workforce is competent, maintained, and mobilized across sectors while managing zoonotic diseases and other threats under the One Health approach. For more information on the tool visit the following links: [WFD factsheet](#) and [WFD OT](#)

One Health in Nature Conservation (IUCN-CMS): This project aims to enhance the landscape resilience to zoonotic disease emergence by consolidating nature conservation systems in Central Asia, funded by the International Climate Initiative of the German Government. The implementation

countries are Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. More information can be found in the [IUCN site](#).

**Red Crescent Societies Programme (IFRC):** The Red Crescent Societies of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan with the support of IFRC are working on community-based surveillance, which is the systematic detection and reporting of events of public health significance within a community by trained Red Crescent volunteers. They feed the alerts about suspected cases of priority infectious diseases in their communities, including zoonotic diseases into human health and animal health surveillance systems in both countries, in partnership with the respective ministries of health and agriculture.

<https://www.ifrc.org/>

## Regional activities

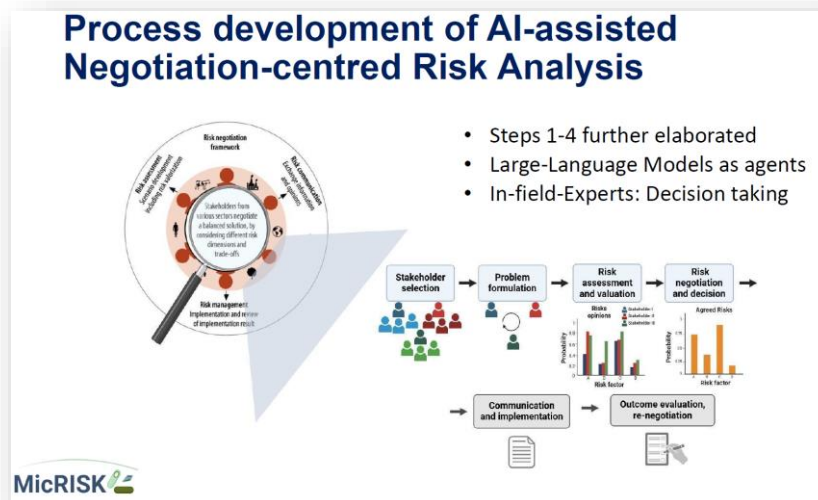
In addition to the presentations and discussions focused on Azerbaijan, Montenegro and Kyrgyzstan, Charlotte Schürs from the World Bank shared the presentation One Health for Pandemic Prevention, Food Systems Resilience and Ecosystem Health in Central Asia: a Regional multi-phase program (2025-2032). This included information over activities to implement the One Health approach in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan focused on strengthening the capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to priority zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and food safety issues. Find further information in the following [link](#).

### Proposed Long-Term Engagement in One Health

Phases	PHASE I (2025-2030)	PHASE II (2025-2027)	PHASE III (tbc)
Focus Areas (FA)	i. Establishing an effective multi-sectoral coordination mechanism on One Health at a country-level ii. Strengthen countries' core capacities in preventing, detecting, and responding to zoonotic diseases, AMR and food safety issues iii. Establishing the foundational elements of a regional One Health Coordination Structure		iv. Consolidating regional coordination mechanism on One Health v. Deepening regional collaboration for joint surveillance and capacity development vi. Continuing to strengthen countries' core capacities in preventing, detecting, and responding to zoonotic diseases
Participating countries / organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kyrgyz Republic: FAs i &amp; ii</li> <li>Tajikistan: FAs i &amp; ii</li> <li>CAREC: FA iii</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uzbekistan: FA i</li> <li>Kazakhstan: FA i</li> <li>Turkmenistan: FA i</li> </ul>	Potentially any of the five Central Asian countries willing to further improve capacities in preventing, detecting, and responding to zoonotic diseases, AMR and food safety issues & CAREC or other host of the Regional One Health Coordination Secretariat
Coordination & collaborations	Functional national cross-sectoral governance and collaboration on One Health issues Foundational elements of regional One Health governance		Functional national and regional One Health governance Regional Collaboration on surveillance systems

## Additional One Health news

Ludovico Sepe from the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR )/European One Health association (EOHA) shared the presentation “AI-powered risk negotiation mechanism to support the interaction among sectors for the assessment of a health crises”. This tool aims to support the interaction among stakeholders developed by the MicRisk consortium. Integration in the risk analyses of the element of “risk negotiation” in order to enable a more integrative holistic assessment of the health risks and supports the negotiation of more balanced solutions among stakeholders. Find further information in the following article: [Risk negotiation](#)



## Conclusions

This online meeting of the Partner Platform for Europe and Central Asia represented the first step of the biannual coordination cycle. The meeting operationalized one of the key outcomes of the Vienna discussion and set a precedent for sustained, structured engagement among partners. It reaffirmed the Platform’s evolving role as a dynamic, inclusive space for strategic coordination, mutual learning, and transparent exchange of priorities, challenges, and activities planned in the region. Through joint mapping exercises, presentations, and country-specific dialogues, the session fostered a shared understanding of national One Health priorities and enabled partners to better align their efforts to avoid overlapping and duplication of efforts. Looking ahead, this online meeting lays the groundwork for more agile, informed, and collaborative action across the region.