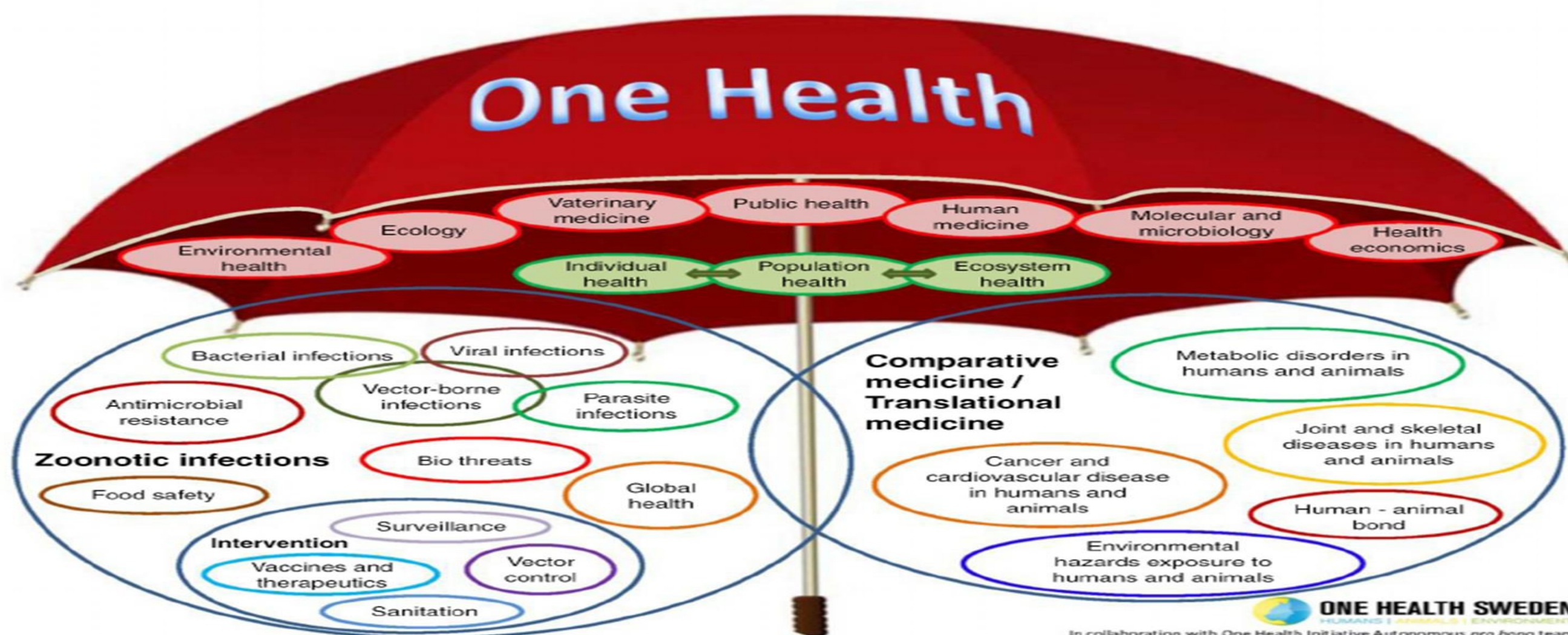


# Regional Workshop Accelerating the Operationalisation of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OHJPA) in Veterinary Services in the European Region 18-20 November 2025 - Athens, Greece

The Integrated "One Health" Approach refers to a collaborative and interdisciplinary method that seeks to achieve optimal health outcomes by recognizing the interconnection between humans, animals, plants, and their shared environment.

This approach emphasizes that human and veterinary medicine must work together to prevent, monitor, and control diseases, especially zoonoses (diseases that are transmitted between animals and humans)



**KEY ELEMENTS OF THE INTEGRATED "ONE HEALTH" APPROACH**

- Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** This approach involves cooperation among various fields such as human medicine, veterinary medicine, environmental science, and public health. Professionals from these disciplines work together to address complex health issues, especially those affecting both animals and humans.
- Prevention of Zoonotic Diseases:** Many infectious diseases, such as rabies, influenza, and COVID-19, are zoonotic, meaning they originate from animals and can spread to humans. An integrated One Health approach helps in preventing these diseases through joint efforts like vaccinations, controlling the movement of animals, and improving biosecurity.
- Monitoring and Surveillance:** Constant monitoring of both human and animal populations for signs of disease outbreaks is crucial. By sharing data and surveillance systems, human and veterinary health professionals can detect and respond to outbreaks faster.

## NATIONAL ONE HEALTH STRATEGIES AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS

- Intersectoral Coordination Committee linking human, veterinary, food, and environmental sectors.
- National One Health Action Plan (2023–2027).
- Joint simulation exercises for zoonotic disease preparedness.

## VECTOR-BORNE AND ZOOONOTIC DISEASES

- Joint surveillance of West Nile virus, rabies, and tick-borne diseases.
- Cross-border collaboration and early warning.
- Awareness campaigns in high-risk regions.

**KEY STAKEHOLDERS**

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management /Veterinary Directorate
- Institute of Public Health of Serbia, IPI "Dr Milan Jovanović Batut"
- Network of Public Health Institutes/Veterinary Institutes
- Institute for virology, vaccines and sera "Torlak"
- Veterinary Specialist Institute "Kraljevo", Kraljevo
- Scientific Veterinary Institute "Novi Sad"
- Network of veterinary institutes/laboratories
- Referent laboratories
- Faculty of Agriculture Novi Sad,
- Faculty of Sciences Novi Sad, Department of Physics
- Institute for Meteorology, Faculty of Physics, Belgrade
- Institute for Biocides and Environmental Medicine
- Clinic for Infectious Diseases
- Blood Transfusion Institute of Serbia

**One Health Approach**

2012: established seasonal surveillance of WNV in the human population on the territory of the Republic of Serbia (Institute for Public Health of Serbia/Ministry of Health - Ministry of Health)

2013: integrated with surveillance of West Nile virus (WNV) in the mosquito population (Ministry of Health-MoH)

2014: started parallel "surveillance" of WNV in mosquito, bird and horse populations (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Veterinary Directorate)

2015 - continued parallel "surveillance" of WNV in mosquito, bird and horse populations (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Veterinary Administration)

2016: the MAAFWM program was interrupted (lack of funds), continued in 2017, 2018, 2019

In 2020, surveillance was interrupted, in 2021 and 2022, surveillance continues

**IMPORTANT ZOOONOSIS IN SERBIA**

- Avian Influenza (HPAI)
- Rabies
- Anthrax
- Tuberculosis
- Brucellosis
- Trichinellosis
- Q-fever
- Leptospirosis
- Listeriosis
- Toxoplasmosis
- West Nile fever

**RABIES IN SERBIA 2006-2025**

| Year                  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total number of cases | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Species/cases         | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 | Fox 0 |

**INTEGRATED VETERINARY WNV MONITORING PROGRAM IN SERBIA**

The integrated WNV monitoring program established by the Veterinary Directorate MFWM was active from spring - May 2014, June 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 - (not only in 2016 and 2020)

The main aim of the program - early detection of WNV presence in the environment due to the application of timely control measures - the control of vectors (mosquitoes) and prevention of disease outbreaks (epidemics) in humans and animals

Surveillance program is based on monitoring of antibodies in sentinel animals (WNV IgG in horses and poultry in 2014, and only WNV IgM antibodies in horses in 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, as well as on monitoring the presence of the virus in natural hosts and vectors (wild birds and mosquitoes)

## AMR Prevention and Control

- National Action Plan for AMR.
- Integrated AMR surveillance system across sectors.
- Responsible antimicrobial use promoted via training and awareness.

**AMR**

Given the analysis of data on the consumption of antibiotics in animal medicine, resistance to antibiotics in animals and their correlations further direction of activities will be provided in:

- monitoring antibiotic consumption,
- monitoring bacterial resistance to antibiotics
- the training of veterinarians.

**Objective, Scope and Coverage of the AMR Monitoring Plan**

**Objective**  
Systematic monitoring of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in zoonotic agents isolated from animals and food - to safeguard both animal and human health

**Scope**  
Implemented across the Republic of Serbia, in line with:  
• Commission Decision (EU) 2020/7729  
• EFSA Technical Specifications on random sampling

**Bacteria Monitored**  
• Salmonella spp.  
• Campylobacter coli and C. jejuni  
• Commensal Escherichia coli

**Animal Populations & Food Categories**  
• Poultry (chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese)  
• Swine (pigs)  
• Cattle (cows, calves)  
• Sheep (ewes, lambs)  
• Goats (goats)  
• Poultry meat (chicken, turkey, duck, goose)  
• Swine meat (pork)  
• Cattle meat (beef, veal)  
• Sheep meat (mutton, lamb)  
• Goat meat (chevon, cabrito)  
• Eggs (chicken, turkey, duck, goose)  
• Honey (bees)

## SAMPLING METHOD AND SAMPLE SIZE AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES

**1. SAMPLING AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES**

**A. Method**

Only those producing 200% of poultry, pigs, or cattle population

Evenly distributed throughout the monitoring period

Carcass content from healthy animals only

One sample per epidemiological unit per year

**B. Number of Samples**

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing

Annual minimum 300 samples per animal species

300 samples per animal species

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**Zoonotic disease context**

Ministry of Health  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management  
Institute of Public Health of Serbia  
Veterinary Directorate  
Hospitals  
Primary Health Centers

**West Nile virus infection surveillance data flow in humans, Serbia, 2012-2024**

Acute Care Hospitals  
District Centers for Disease Control  
Serbian Center for Disease Control

Plan for implementing monitoring and reporting on antimicrobial resistance of zoonotic and commensal bacteria in the Republic of Serbia in 2025/2026, number 002424622 2025 14841 001 000 000 001 from 01.09.2025. year.

The decision on the establishment of a national multisectoral coordination group for the control of antibiotic resistance was formed on January 30, 2025 by Minister Zlatibor Lončar.

## Food Safety and Foodborne Diseases

- Risk-based control of foodborne pathogens.
- Stronger traceability and coordinated inspections.
- Alignment with EU and Codex Alimentarius standards.

**FOODBORNE DISEASES Intersectoral cooperation**

Important role of Institutes / Institutes of public health and veterinary institutes in matrix testing and scientific support

Communication in the context of foodborne disease testing must allow for a permanent link between competent authorities - effective exchange of relevant data

The research on foodborne diseases concludes with a detailed final report

**Food Safety: Key Stakeholders**

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management  
Ministry of Health  
Institute of Public Health of Serbia  
Veterinary Directorate

## Legislative and Institutional Frameworks Supporting One Health

- Legislation harmonized with EU Animal Health Law and International Health Regulations (2005).
- Updated Animal and Public Health Acts.
- Enhanced intersectoral data sharing and coordination.

**Education, Awareness, and Workforce Development**

- One Health education in veterinary and medical programs.
- Continuous professional development for experts.
- National campaigns and workshops for citizens.

**ONE HEALTH – Avian influenza, epidemiological and epizootiological situation in the world, Europe and the Republic of Serbia, 2, Institute for Public Health "Dr Milan Jovanović Batut" Belgrade, 2015-2025, annually meeting**

Protocol on joint investigation of epidemics, risk assessment and response to diseases from the group of zoonoses/Tool for assessing the risk of the occurrence of West Nile fever in the human population in the Republic of Serbia/ February/April 2022.

From theory to practice: Implementing the One Health approach holistically workshop Belgrade, Serbia, 1-2 December 2025

Capacity building of veterinary and plant services in the Western Balkans - Lot 1 - Animal Health (ADEWB II) An EU funded project implemented by Agriconsulting Europe S.A. (AES) and IZSAM G. Caporale Teramo

**One Health**

National Workshop on WHO/OIE/FAO Methodology on Joint Field Research and Response to Priority Zoonotic Disease Epidemics November 30 - December 1, 2021 Belgrade, Serbia

**CHALLENGES**

- The possibility of the occurrence of zoonoses of known and unknown causative agents
- The migration of animals, people and goods creates the possibility of rapid transmission of zoonotic agents
- The cooperation of veterinary and health services in the country and in the region must be permanent, professional and maximal
- Crisis situations and possible accidents create the possibility of the emergence and spread of various diseases, including zoonoses
- Prevention, monitoring the spread and suppression of zoonoses are a joint task of the veterinary and health services

Together for the Health of Humans, Animals, and the Environment