

Reducing health risks in wildlife trade through a multidimensional approach



Dr. Michael Nagel



Initiated by



Implemented by



One Health and Health Risks in Wildlife Trade

- The OH approach is essential for preventing health risks in wildlife trade and the emergence of novel infectious diseases
- Primarily relies on preventive measures to promote and preserve health and an intact, resilient natural environment, especially with a focus on wildlife health which is often overlooked

Key aspects of One Health for pandemic prevention:

- Reduces risks associated with the legal and illegal trade in wild animals and wildlife products
- Helps prevent health risks arising from zoonotic diseases by addressing the trade's impact on human, animal, and environmental health



Wildlife trade – One Health - Biodiversity

Emergence of zoonotic pathogens from wildlife due to:

- Wildlife / human interface: consumption and wildlife trade are associated with spillover risks



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Xiao et al, 2021, Nature

- increased contact: land-use changes / habitat destruction



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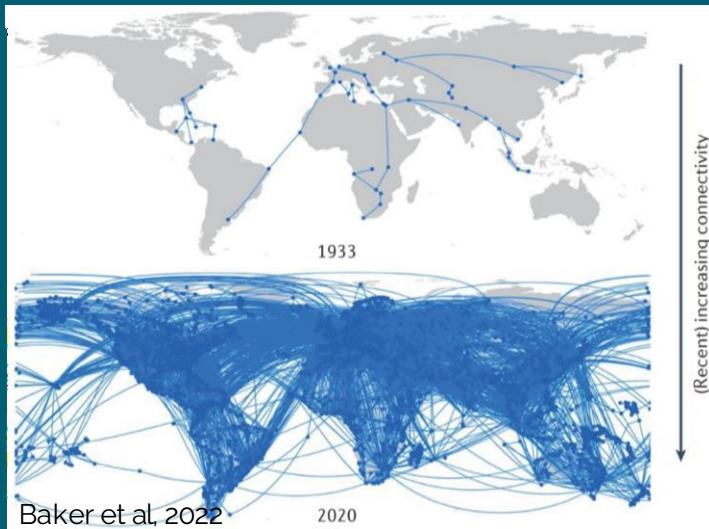
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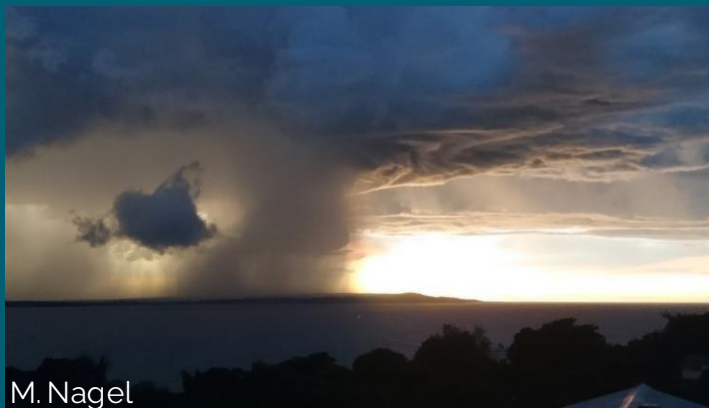
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Wildlife trade – One Health - Climate Change

- Faster spreading:
Human connectivity



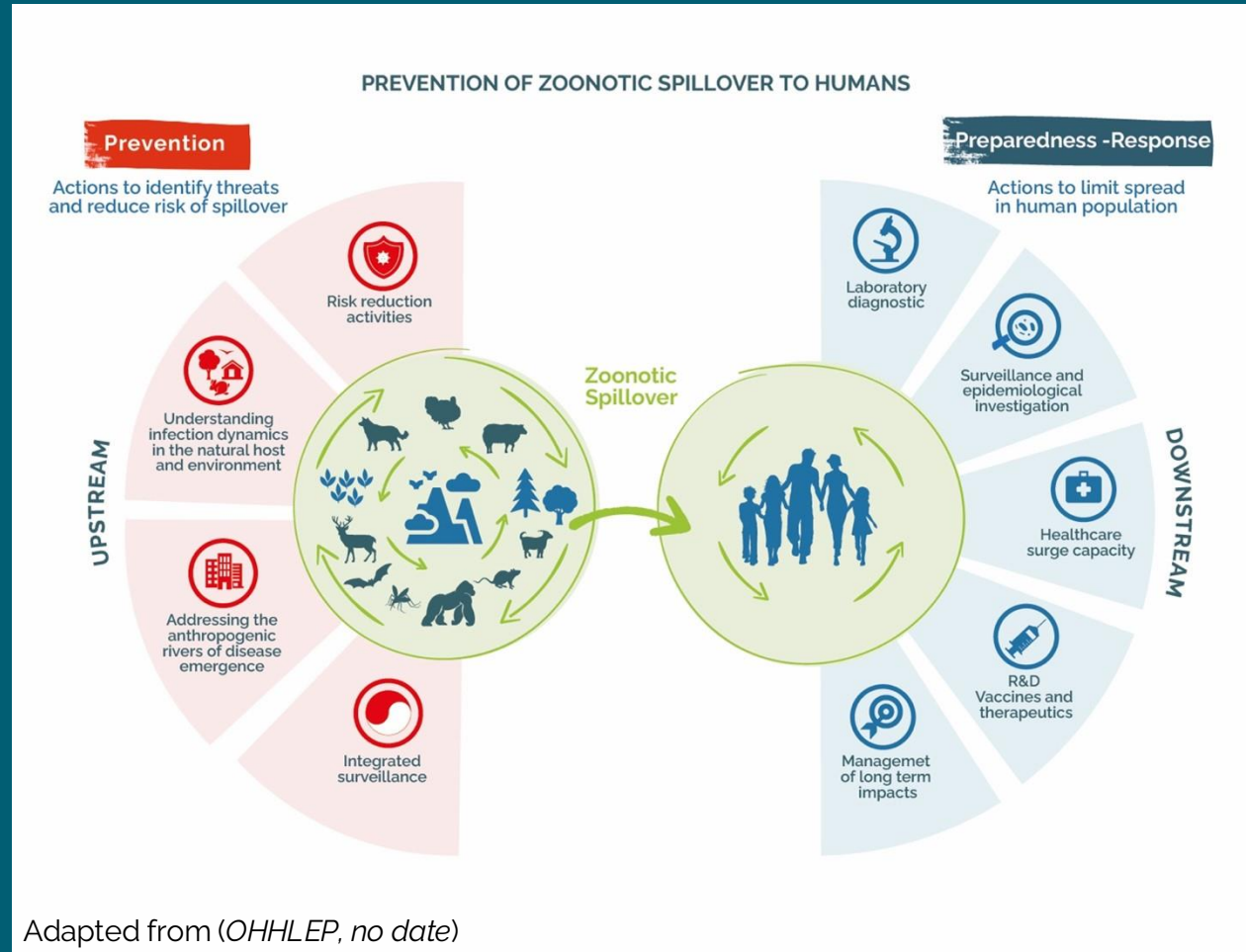
- Late detection:
Weak health systems



- Climate change leads eg. to vector expansion

Prevention at the source and multidimensional OH approaches

- No consensus on the understanding of 'prevention at source' (or 'deep/upstream prevention')
- Lack of preventative measures within international/national policies
- Lack of cooperation between sectors and across disciplines
- Science-policy gap



The Internat. Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade: A multidimensional OH approach to pandemic prevention

The Alliance's goals are:

1) “Substantially **reducing the risks of zoonotic spillover** and stepping up responses (including behavioral changes) to human and animal health risks caused by direct and indirect contact with wildlife and their products along the wildlife trade chain.”

and

2) “Enhancing international and national awareness, knowledge and policies with regard to goal 1, thus **narrowing the gap between science and implementation**”

The *Internat. Alliance*: A multidimensional OH approach to pandemic prevention

- Initiated by BMZ and BMUV in 2021
- International, interdisciplinary & inclusive network of experts, implementors, and policy makers across sectors
- Fostering exchange & collaboration by sharing knowledges, data and translating evidence and expertise into policy
- Currently 180+ member organizations and over 500 individual experts
- High ownership through member co-creation process of Alliance Charta and Operational Manual
- Lean Governance: Secretariat, Steering Committee, Plenary



International
Alliance against
Health Risks in
Wildlife Trade





International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade



World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



WORLD BANK GROUP



ILRI
INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE



Preventing zoonotic disease emergence



Indigenous Peoples Rights International
Championing Indigenous Peoples Rights



WAZA
World Association of Zoos and Aquariums



Wildlife Conservation Society

TRAFFIC



INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST CONFEDERATION
Collective Wisdom United Voice



Advancing One Health



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TRADITIONAL MEDICINE



BNITM
Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine



FRIEDRICH-LOEFFLER-INSTITUT
FLI
Bundesforschungsanstalt für Tiergesundheit
Federal Research Institute for Animal Health



ifaw
International Fund for Animal Welfare



Enforce Wildlife & Referral Clinic



UC DAVIS
One Health Institute
School of Veterinary Medicine



NABU International
Foundation for Nature

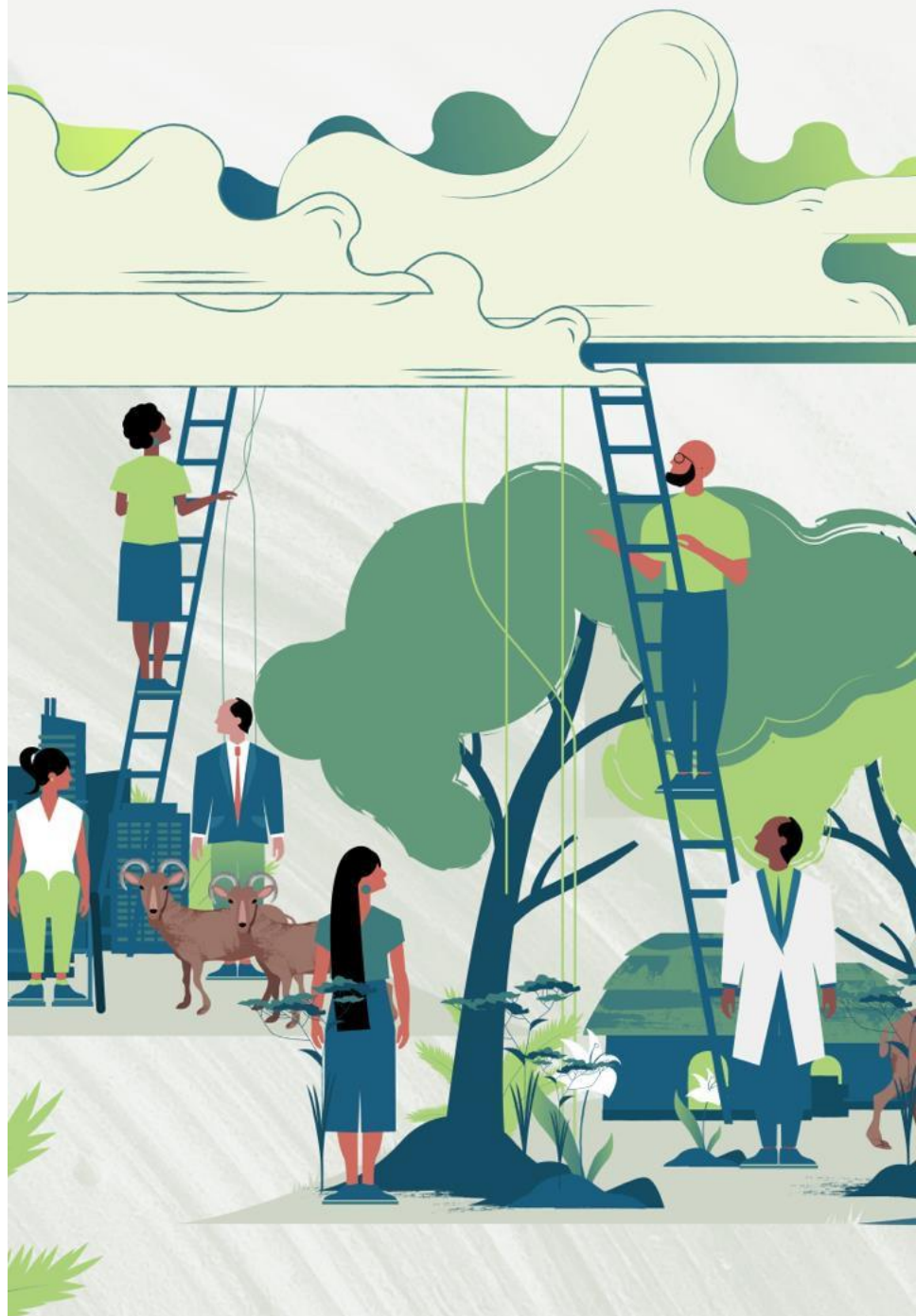


legalatlas



IUBS

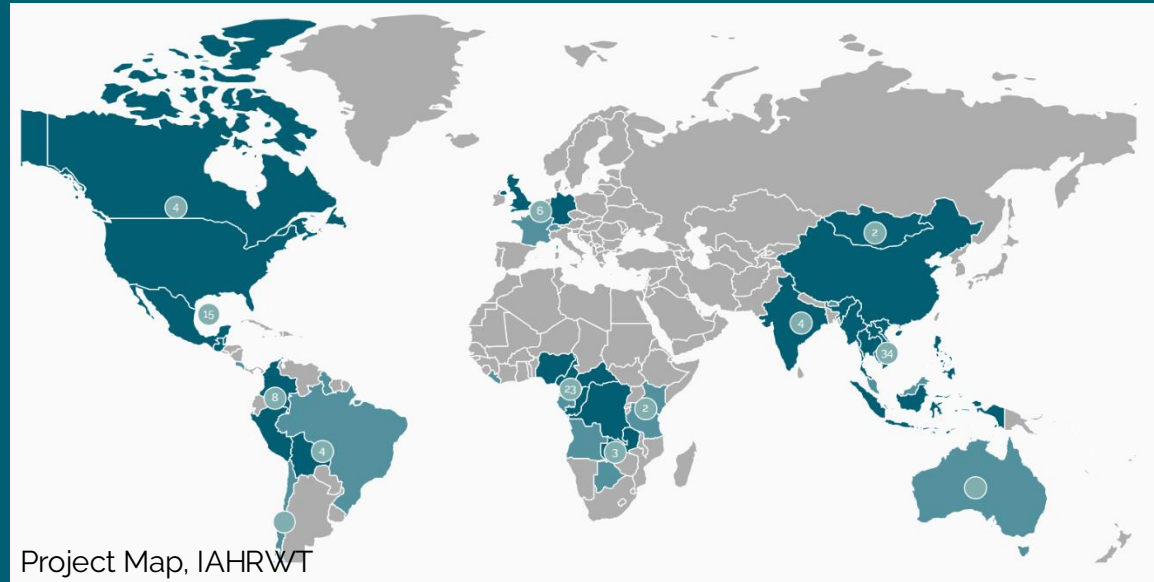
and many more...



Success stories of the Alliance

18 funded projects and its on the ground impacts

- Various projects related to **Social and Behaviour Change** activities to **policy recommendations** and **pathogen identification** have been implemented in over 20 countries



- Through **outreach and educational communication** work on zoonoses and health risks in wildlife risks **over 12 Mio people have been reached** in multiple countries such as Nigeria, Bhutan, Mongolia or Liberia
- Through **pathogen identification on the ground**, local health risk sources were identified and **governmental agencies were informed** and received adequate **policy recommendations** for risk mitigation

Success stories of the Alliance

CONTACT Mission - Benin

Objective:

Assess the zoonotic disease risks associated with wild meat consumption in Benin

Background:

Wild meat is an integral part of life and diet, of local consumption chains and livelihoods and a representation of cultural and identity-forming ties and traditional life

Impact:

Introduction of the Pan-Orthopox PCR Test kit, developed with the CHARITÉ Berlin and deepening the understanding of the socio-cultural contexts of wildlife meat consumption to assess feasible biodiversity-sensitive alternatives



Success stories of the Alliance

Political engagement on the international stage

- The Alliance has **positioned the One Health approach and prevention at the source in relation to wildlife trade at several international fora** (WHS 2022, Breaking Barriers 2023, EWDA and WDA 2024, etc.)
- The Alliance has engaged with various **political processes to highlight the importance of health risks in wildlife trade** (CBD GAP on biodiversity and health, CITES, etc.)



The Internat. Alliance: What's next?

- The Secretariat will be handed over to **WOAH**
- Launch of two reports in 2025: **Impact Report** and **Overarching results** of the 18 funded projects
- Publications of several **scientific articles** from the funded projects
- Continuation of a growing **knowledges hub** and **online formats** to share these knowledges and broadening the interdisciplinary **network**
- Integration of wildlife trade in the **Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM)** Programme
- Finalization of the four **CONTACT missions** and **distribution of the results** with governments, involved stakeholders, and the Alliance membership

Take home messages

- Health risks in wildlife trade are a complex issue that need an **integrated, holistic and multidimensional approach** for **effective risk mitigation**
- The **Internat. Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade** offers multidimensional **solutions** to reduce health risks in wildlife trade through **One Health** and **primary prevention at the source**
- **Political engagement, cooperation on the ground with multiple actors and sectors and sharing knowledges and different expertise** within the One Health sphere are crucial activities supported by the Alliance

Visit and Contact us

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