

Prevention at source of emerging zoonotic diseases in Belgium – WG PREZODE

PREZODE : PREventing ZOonotic Disease Emergence

The Belgian WG PREZODE

- provides **recommendations for policy**, aiming at understanding the **root causes** of emerging infectious diseases of animal origin, and at developing integrated early detection and resilience mechanisms
- focuses on the **initial stages** of the chain of events potentially leading up to pathogen spill-over and outbreak,
- and integrates the **interconnectedness of climate change, biodiversity loss and ecosystem health**.

2021

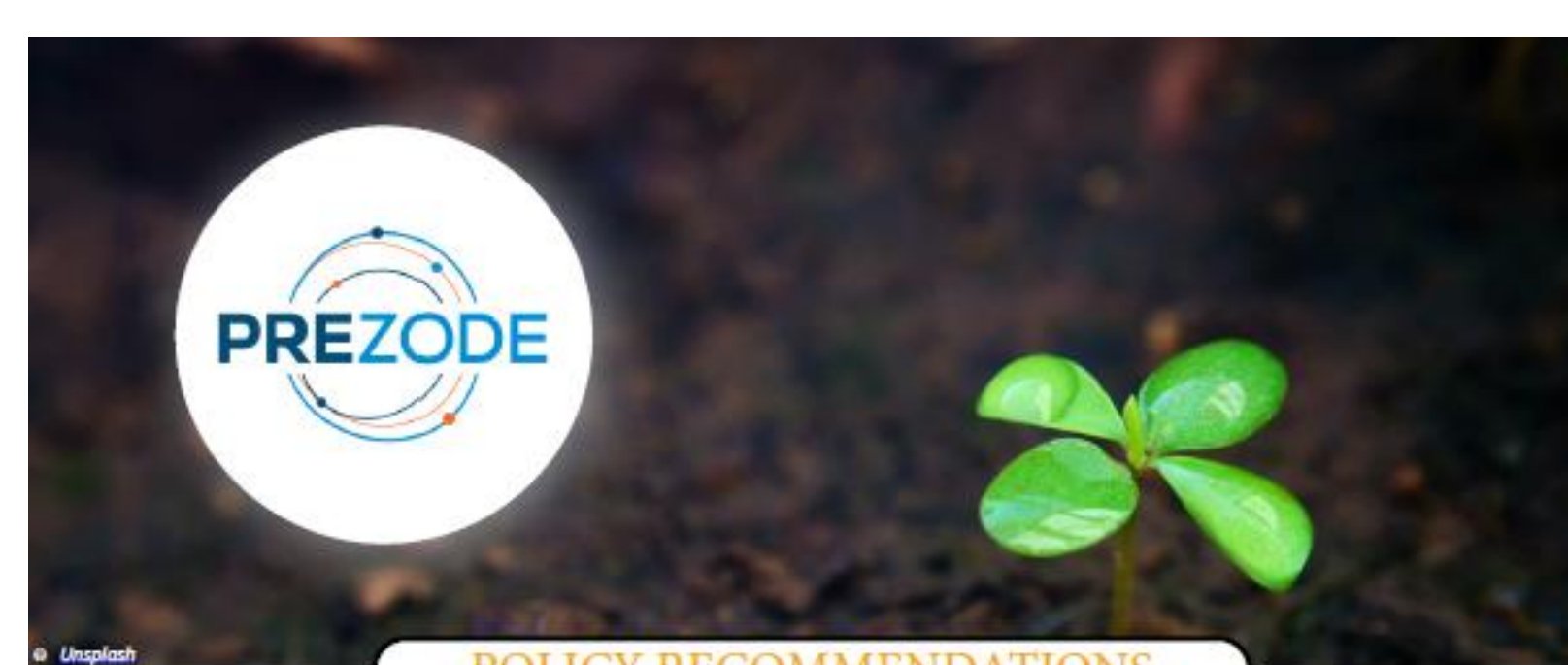
The international PREZODE initiative is launched, providing a **global One Health scientific framework for pandemic prevention**. Belgium joins immediately.

2022

The Belgian WG PREZODE is created, composed of experts from regional and federal government organisations, scientific institutions, universities and the civil society active in human, animal and environmental health.

2023-2025

The outputs of WG PREZODE are submitted to the ministers of the federated entities and the federal authority.



Belgian One World One Health Vision Towards
Prevention of Zoonotic Disease Emergence
A paradigm shift from response to deep prevention

Summary of key policy recommendations

1. Establish a comprehensive, cross-cutting One World One Health governance at Belgian level, to support proactive and integrated preventive measures to zoonotic disease emergence, based on deep prevention;
2. Elaborate a comprehensive and cross-sectoral national action plan to implement the One World One Health approach on the prevention of zoonotic risks;
3. Establish and promote integrated, aligned and complementary monitoring and surveillance programmes through harmonised methodologies and cross-sectoral collaborations, supported by appropriate public funding;
4. Provide funding opportunities for One World One Health scientific research into preventing the emergence of zoonoses at national and international levels, facilitating coordination for multidisciplinary projects and enabling targeted scientific research;
5. Develop a One World One Health socio-educative programme related to prevention of zoonotic diseases emergence in a view to inducing a long-term behaviour change in society;
6. Provide more support for, and learn from countries with a higher risk for the emergence of zoonotic diseases and assist the global community in protecting high-integrity ecosystems to reduce risks of future pandemics of zoonotic origin;
7. Voice the One World One Health approach at European and international levels, and advocate its integration into relevant policies.

2023

Policy recommendations



2026

Roadmap for Action

2025

Memorandum

