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# One Health Sensitization Toolkit



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# INTRODUCTION

Understanding the importance of a One Health approach and being able to advocate for it among partners is critical to ensuring its adoption and implementation. There are many different ways to engage stakeholders and build their commitment to a One Health approach. What is outlined in this toolkit is a framework for conducting a workshop that is specifically focused on One Health sensitization as the primary objective. This toolkit will guide you through the process of preparing and executing a one-day One Health sensitization workshop. It also includes details on a one- to two-day follow-on module on preparedness and response to public health events of initially unknown etiology (PHEIUE).

A sensitization workshop is an event intended to introduce and heighten understanding of a topic among stakeholders. In this case, a One Health sensitization workshop introduces the One Health approach and familiarizes stakeholders with its use in preventing, detecting, and responding to outbreaks and other public health events (PHEs). The one-day workshop (Introduction to One Health) is intended for use during preliminary engagements with government officials from various ministries at a national or sub-national level. The key outcomes of a One Health sensitization workshop are twofold: participation of representatives from key ministries, and agreement among stakeholders on next steps.

To expand and complement the one-day One Health sensitization workshop, workshop organizers may choose to offer a one- or two-day follow-on module on the [WHO framework for preparedness and response to a public health event of initially unknown etiology](#). This module complements the One Health sessions on the first day on outbreak preparedness and response, which primarily assume a known etiology. Not only do the two preparedness and response courses complement each other, but they also serve as a model for conducting more interactive, experiential training using adult learning principles.

## ONE HEALTH SENSITIZATION OBJECTIVES

The Introduction to One Health Workshop draws on the experiences of participants to:

- Recognize the interdependence of human, animal, and environmental health
- Approach health issues and opportunities holistically using systems thinking
- Form interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary teams across human, animal, and environmental health practitioners
- Promote communication and collaboration among representatives of diverse constituencies within human, animal, and environmental health sectors, as well as with other relevant disciplines

Objectives of the one- or two-day follow-on module on PHEIUE are to:

- Use WHO/AFRO decision criteria to determine whether or not a suspect case is a PHE of International Concern
- Adopt a One Health approach to preparing and responding to PHEIUEs
- Identify roles and responsibilities at the country level for the Emergency Management Committee (EMC) and Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) in preparing and responding to a PHEIUE
- Differentiate steps and/or activities necessary in preparing for and responding to a PHEIUE with steps for a known etiology
- Apply the three phases of the PHE framework—preparedness, response, and monitoring and evaluation—to a simulation of an outbreak of initially unknown etiology



# STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

The step-by-step process described below provides an overview of the different phases of the workshop process. Each phase overview also includes timeline suggestions and tasks for the National One Health Platform or OH Champion leading the process and the chosen facilitator. A list of the workshop tools contained within this toolkit is presented in the text box to the right. The tools in this toolkit are available in English and French, and are designed to be adaptable to different country contexts.

## STEP 1: CUSTOMIZING THE WORKSHOP

### Customize for Country Context

The first step in the process of preparing the One Health sensitization workshop involves adapting and customizing a scope of work based on the desired learning outcomes, country priorities, and the current state of the One Health platform. The scope should clarify if the PHEIUE module will be included and the number of days needed to achieve the learning outcomes.

A clear understanding of country context should inform adaptation of tools to ensure that the workshop is based on pertinent and accurate information. The champion and facilitator should consider the country's experience with One Health, dynamics between key One Health stakeholders, and gender-related perspectives that may be important for the workshop.

### Consult Government Stakeholders

Once the champion and facilitator agree on specific workshop objectives, content, and an agenda, the facilitator should meet with stakeholders to jointly review and finalize the workshop agenda and participant list. Participants should include representatives from all relevant One Health sectors. Both men and women should be invited to foster a balanced perspective and inclusive atmosphere among participants at the workshop.

This advance consultation allows stakeholders an opportunity to modify the content and make suggestions as they deem necessary, ensuring agreement on all aspects of workshop content and participation.

## STEP 2: EXECUTING THE WORKSHOP

Drawing on adult learning principles, the facilitator will introduce the One Health approach and highlight key concepts through individual and group activities as well as group discussion. The facilitator should ensure that all participants are given the opportunity to contribute to group activities and discussions. In addition, the facilitator should explore the role of gender in this context (see text box).

### ONE HEALTH SENSITIZATION TOOLS

This toolkit contains the following customizable materials:

- **Facilitator SOW** – scope for preparing for and conducting a One Health sensitization workshop and the follow-on module on PHEIUE
- **Facilitator's Guide** – detailed guidance and agendas for a three-day workshop (One Health sensitization and the follow-on module on PHEIUE)
- **Participants' Guide\*** – participant agendas and worksheets for all three days
- **PowerPoint Presentations\*** – presentations for the one-day sensitization workshop and the two-day PHEIUE add-on
- **Zoom Pictures and Handouts\*** – materials that need to be printed in advance of the workshops
- **Zoom Video** – a three-minute video that can be used in place of the full-day sensitization workshop

*\*Items available in English and French*



As mentioned earlier, the champion and facilitator may choose to supplement the one-day workshop with a follow-on module on the WHO framework for preparedness and response to a PHEIUE. This module can be adapted for either one or two days. An outline of the content for the different modules is included below to assist teams in deciding how best to customize the workshop for a specific country context.

## **GENDER CONSIDERATIONS**

The facilitator should explore the role of gender in PHEs and how applying a One Health approach can help identify and mitigate gender-related factors contributing to/stemming from a PHE.

## **Introduction to One Health Workshop: Day 1**

### **Zoom into One Health**

The goal of this introductory session is to help participants gain a greater understanding of the larger story behind a PHE, including the events leading up to the event and the potential for a larger outbreak if the event is not mitigated. Through an experiential activity led by the facilitator, participants begin to appreciate the power of a One Health approach in preventing, responding to, and mitigating PHEs.

### **Why Are We Here (About the Course)**

The facilitator reviews the course objectives and agenda. He/She also underscores the necessity of the course, highlighting the impact of globalization, urbanization, and industrialization on human, animal, and environmental health as well as the need for a multisectoral, cross-disciplinary approach.

### **Stepping into One Health**

This session, which centers on group discussion, is a deeper dive into One Health concepts. Led by the facilitator, participants identify where wildlife, domestic animals, and people interface. The objective of this session is for participants to recognize the need to monitor environmental changes for the potential impact on animals and humans.

### **Players and Profiles**

Individually and in groups, participants consider the different actors and professions involved in PHE response. This session will help participants better understand the importance of interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary teams in responding to PHEs.

### **Working Together**

The facilitator underscores the importance of ground rules to help teams work effectively toward shared goals; create a safe and productive context for the team's work; and hold team members accountable for any behavior that may negatively impact team success. Working as a group, participants create a list of ground rules and norms for working as a team.

### **Communication and Collaboration**

After a short group activity on the benefits and challenges of collaboration, participants take part in an activity based on *kaizen*, or the concept of “continuous improvement” in Japanese. This activity helps participants practice working as part of a team while completing a task. The facilitator then gives participants an opportunity to revise the ground rules they previously drafted based on their experiences from the *kaizen* activity.

### **Exploring Environments**

During this session, participants work together to identify the different physical environments in their countries, as well as the diverse animal populations, human settlements, trade and commercial routes, and industries present. This process helps participants understand the impact of trade and commerce and changing environments on animal, human, and environmental health.



### Reflection and Application Planning

Individually, participants reflect upon their roles during a PHE; which One Health elements they already use; which One Health elements they would like to incorporate; and how this will change the way they work. Participants then share their thoughts in a group setting.

### PHEIUE Follow-on Module: Day Two

#### Experience Circle

In a group setting, the facilitator asks participants to share their experiences of PHEs that they have participated in or that have impacted their countries. Through this activity, participants will have an opportunity to critically examine these events, highlighting what went well, what challenges they faced, and the outcomes.

#### Preparedness and Response with Known versus Unknown Etiology

The facilitator will lead a discussion on the differences between PHEs of known and unknown etiology, including basic definitions as well as the different steps and activities associated with each type of event. The facilitator will underscore the role of One Health in preparing for and responding to a PHEIUE, and lead interactive exercises drawing on case studies.

#### Emergency Management Committees (EMCs) and Rapid Response Teams (RRTs)

To begin, the facilitator will discuss the roles of EMCs and RRTs at the country level in preparedness and response efforts before launching into an interactive group activity. During the group activity, participants will explore how to build these teams, including how to determine team goals and necessary skills, using case studies.

#### Preparing and Responding to a PHEIUE Using the WHO Framework

The facilitator will break the participants into groups and assign each group a section of the WHO Framework to study. Each group will then teach their peers about their section, underscoring the key points and activities in preparing for and responding to PHEIUEs.

#### Monitoring and Evaluating a PHEIUE Using the WHO Framework

The facilitator will summarize the key monitoring activities included in the framework before asking participants to take a short quiz on monitoring and evaluation. This quiz and the ensuing discussion on indicators will help clarify these concepts for participants.

#### Reflections and Application

Individually, participants will have time to reflect on what they learned during the day. The facilitator will ask them to consider the skills they may need to develop to effectively take part in preparedness and response activities, as well as how they might use the PHEIUE framework, among other questions.

### PHEIUE Follow-on Module: Day Three

#### Simulation

The facilitator will introduce the events leading up to a fictitious PHEIUE, slowly presenting more information and questions to prompt discussion among participants. This exercise will assist participants in identifying risks, challenges, and opportunities surrounding PHEIUEs and how to address PHEIUEs using a One Health approach.

#### Debriefing the Simulation

After the simulation, participants will have a chance to look back at the simulation and pinpoint where and how the PHE could have been mitigated. The facilitator should underscore how a One



Health preparedness plan could have anticipated many of the issues that arose and how it could have mitigated the impact of the PHE.

### Reflections, Application, and Planning

At the end of the course, participants will have time to individually reflect on what they learned, how they can apply this new information, how the One Health approach could make them more effective at their jobs, and what information they can share with their colleagues.

## STEP 3: DOCUMENTING LEARNING AND ACTION ITEMS

Immediately following the workshop, the facilitator conducts an event After Action Review to evaluate the workshop and document any learnings or recommendations. The facilitator drafts a report based on the sensitization workshop proceedings containing lessons learned, actions to be taken, and the agreements reached by platform stakeholders.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### P&R PROJECT EXPERIENCE

The One Health sensitization workshop was initially created for the Disaster Preparedness Program (AFRICOM) in 2016 and updated in 2017. In Mali, the workshop materials were customized to include a Facilitator's Macro Design in French, which was used as the facilitator guide. All Mali materials, including a report from the workshop, are available for download at [www.onehealthapp.org/resources](http://www.onehealthapp.org/resources).

### REFERENCES

1. [WHO, "Public health events of initially unknown etiology: A framework for preparedness and response in the African Region", 2014.](#) This framework is a technical and managerial guide for senior-level decision makers and members of national EMCs and RRTs; it provides guidance on the appropriate steps for PHEIUEs.
2. [Meredith A. Barrett and Steven A. Osofsky, "One Health: Interdependence of People, Other Species, and the Planet", 2013.](#) This paper provides an overview of the One Health approach, including the approach's breadth, goals, and benefits.