



# NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE PREVENTION AND FIGHT AGAINST EMERGING AND REEMERGING ZOOZOSES, *Cameroon One Health Platform*

## Implementation of One Health in Cameroon

**Botswana, February 2023**

**Presented by Dr Conrad Nkuo**

*(Permanent Secretary)*



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# History of the adoption of One Health approach in Cameroon

# Evolution of One Health approach in Cameroon

- ❑ 2004 to 2005, cases of Anthrax in great apes were reported in the Dja Biosphere Reserve;
- ❑ 2005: International Conference in Limbe for the establishment of a program in charge of the prevention and control of zoonoses
- ❑ 2006: Creation of an Inter-ministerial Committee by the Prime Minister to fight against HPAI H5N1
- ❑ 2008: Creation of an Inter-ministerial Committee by the Prime Minister in charge of the elaboration of the Zoonoses Program

# Evolution of One Health approach in Cameroon

- ❑ 2011: Participatory process of elaboration of the Zoonoses Program
- ❑ 2012: Elaboration of the Cameroon OH strategy validated/signed by 4 Ministers
- ❑ 2012: Validation of the Zoonoses Program framework document
- ❑ 2014: Establishment of the Zoonoses Program, a tool for implementing the One Health strategy

# Cameroon One Health Strategy





# Institutional anchor

- Cameroon's development vision is to become an emerging country by 2035.
- This vision was set out in 2009 in the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper;
- In the section describing the health sector strategy of this document, it is mentioned that the Government "intends to improve the health of the population through a global approach that favors the systematic search for intersectoral synergies necessary for the successful implementation of the health sector strategy.
- PM's decree on the creation, organization and launch of the effective implementation of the Zoonoses Program, April 2014
- Responsibilities/Mandate
  - Article 3
  - Placed under the authority of the PM Ensures the promotion and appropriation of the "One Health" concept through a multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach

# Institutional anchor



## ▶ Strategic axes:

- ▶ 1. Establishment of the institutional framework One Health.
- ▶ 2. Knowledge sharing and training;
- ▶ 3. Development of research topics on emerging and re-emerging diseases;
- ▶ 4. Strengthening of human, animal and environmental health surveillance systems;
- ▶ 5. Communication and raising awareness of the One Health concept.



# Cameroon One Health platform



# Zoonoses Program

République du Cameroun  
Paix-Travail-Patrie



Republic of Cameroon  
Peace-Work-Fatherland



## NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE PREVENTION AND FIGHT AGAINST EMERGING AND RE-EMERGING ZOOZOSES



Programme National de prévention et de lutte contre les zoonoses  
Émergentes et Ré-Émergentes



Promotion de l'approche Une Santé

### Composante 1

Renforcement de la Surveillance,  
l'Investigation et Réponse aux zoonoses

Sensibilisation et  
Communication

### Composante 2

Renforcement Recherche fondamentale  
et développement sur les zoonoses

Sensibilisation et  
Communication

### Composante 3

Renforcement de la Formation

# Creation of the Program

Order N°028/CAB/PM of April 14, 2014, bearing the creation, organization and effective implementation of the Zoonoses Program, having as **missions:**

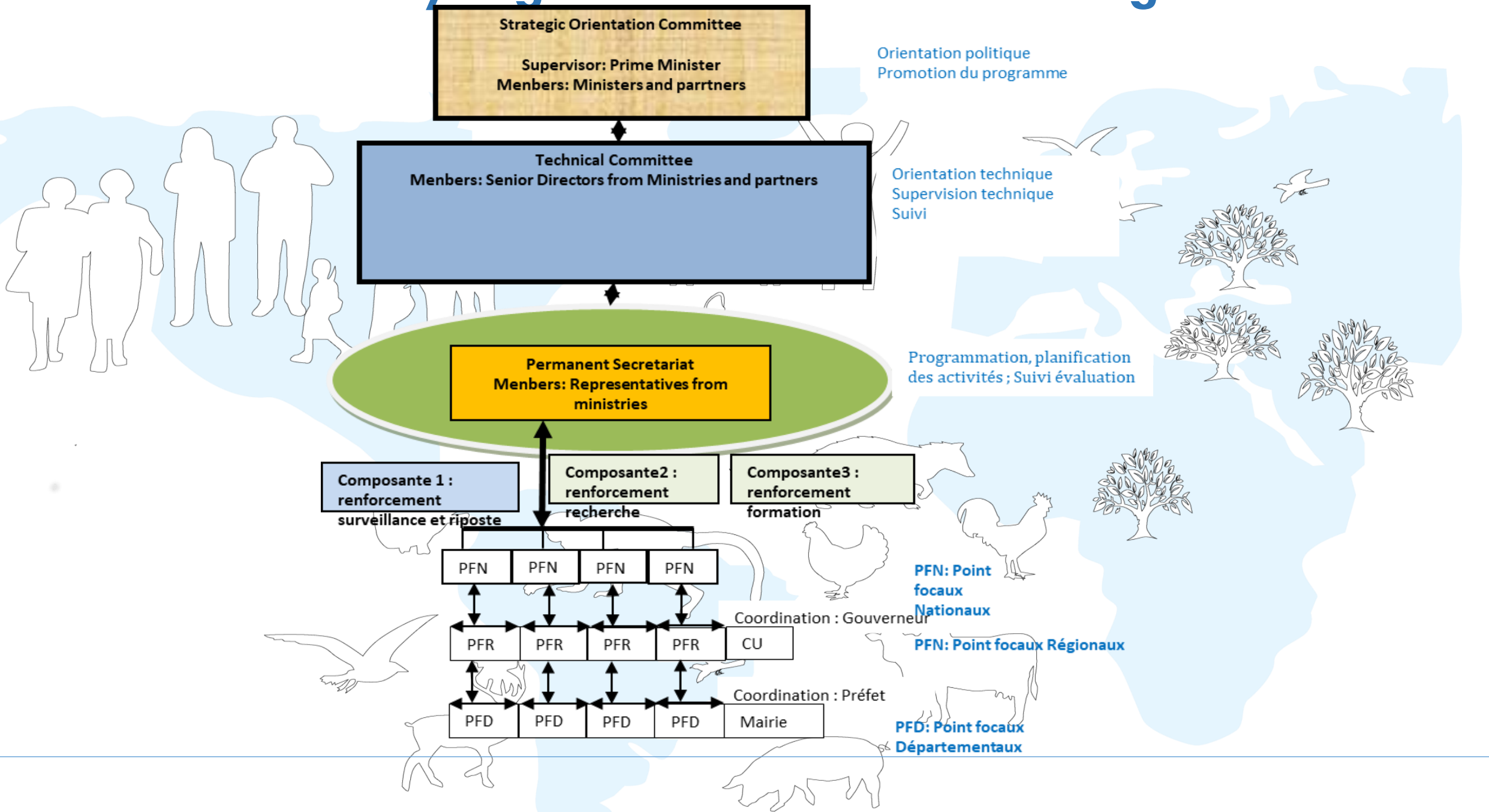
- ✓ to ensure health watch, investigation and response against emerging and re-emerging zoonoses ;
- ✓ to ensure the promotion and appropriation of the concept of "one health" through a "multisectoral" and "multi-actors" approach;
- ✓ to contribute to the production and development of scientific knowledge on zoonoses;

# Creation of the Program

## Missions (cont.):

- ✓ to contribute to the elaboration and implementation of the national policy on training and capacity building of actors involved in the fight against zoonoses;
- ✓ to ensure the availability, reliability and communication of health information on zoonoses and their publications;
- ✓ to contribute to the development and the implementation of the national and international cooperation in the field of zoonoses;
- ✓ to carry out any mission entrusted to it by the public authorities

# Statutory organs of the Zoonoses Program





# Evolution/successes of One Health approach in Cameroon over the years

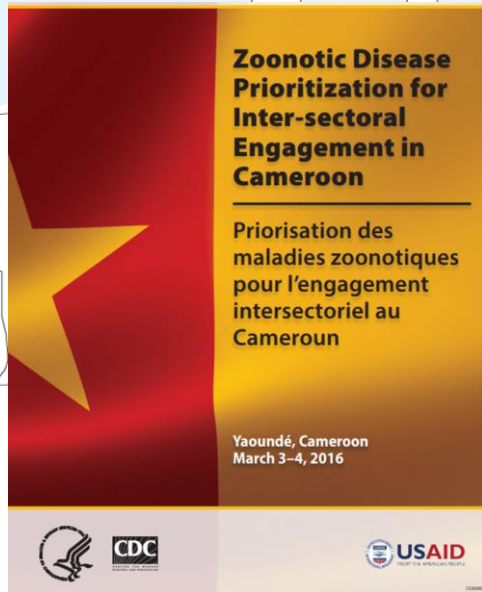
**Contribution to national  
capacity building**





# Prioritisation of zoonoses

## Prioritisation, 2016



- ✓ Rabies
- ✓ Anthrax
- ✓ HPAI
- ✓ Ebola VD
- ✓ Tuberculosis
- Mycobacterium bovis*

## Revision of prioritisation, 2020

N°	Agro-ecological zone	Regions concernées	Priority Zoonoses	Other critical zoonoses
1	Bimodal forest zone	CE, SO, Ea	Tuberculosis M bovis	Rabies, Monkeypox, HPAI
2	Zone forestière monomodale	LT, SW	HPAI	Lassa fever, Ebola, Tuberculosis M bovis ;
3	Zone des hauts plateaux	W, NW	HPAI	Anthrax, lassa fever, Tuberculosis M bovis ;
4	Zone des hautes savanes	AD	Tuberculosis, M bovis	lassa fever; Trypanosomiasis ; monkeypox
5	Zone soudano-sahélienne	NO, EN	Rabies	Anthrax, Tuberculosis M bovis, lassa fever

- ✓ Rabies
- ✓ Anthrax
- ✓ HPAI
- ✓ Ebola VD
- ✓ Tuberculosis
- Mycobacterium bovis*
- ✓ Salmonellosis
- ✓ Lassa fever
- ✓ Trypanosomiasis
- ✓ Monkeypox
- ✓ Brucellosis

**Impacts :** Risks are better analysed, plans and interventions oriented

# Joint Risk Assessments

## In relations to

- The emergence of **monkeypox** in the Centre, South and East Regions and the spread of **COVID-19**
- The emergence of **bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis** at the human-animal-environment interface
- **Lassa fever and Ebola virus**

Conducted by a pool of country experts





# Supporting epidemiological surveillance

➤ Development of an SOP manual for multisectoral surveillance;

➤ Technical, material and financial support, of investigation missions on Mpox, rabies, anthrax, brucellosis etc... **on average 5 multisectoral investigations per year;**





# Supporting epidemiological surveillance in protected areas

Strengthening capacities of ecoguards on wildlife surveillance in protected areas; **one training session per year, a total of a hundred ecoguards trained in 4 years**



# Rumour management, strengthening early detection...

Conception of an integrated rumour management system (**Cmr One Health Rumour Management System (COHRMS)**)



The image shows a screenshot of the login page for the Cameroon One Health Rumour Management System (COHRMS). The page is split into a dark green left section and a blue right section. On the left, it says 'Welcome to Cameroon One Health Rumor Management System' with a circular logo for 'ONE HEALTH UNE SEULE SANTE' and a faint background image of a seal with 'ANIMAL HEALTH' and 'ENVIRONMENT'. On the right, it says 'Sign in to COH-RMS' and 'New Here? Create an account'. There are input fields for 'Email' and 'Password', a 'Login' button, and a 'Forget Password?' link.

**Welcome to**

**Cameroon One Health**

Rumor Management System

**ONE HEALTH**  
UNE SEULE SANTE

Sign in to COH-RMS

New Here? [Create an account](#)

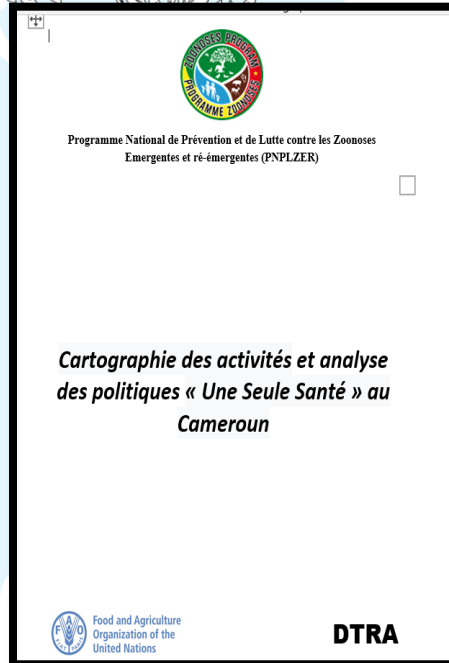
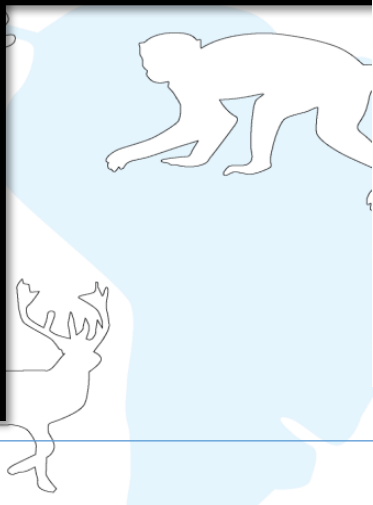
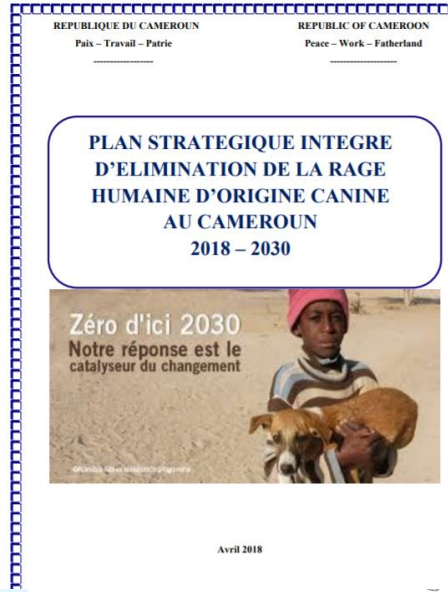
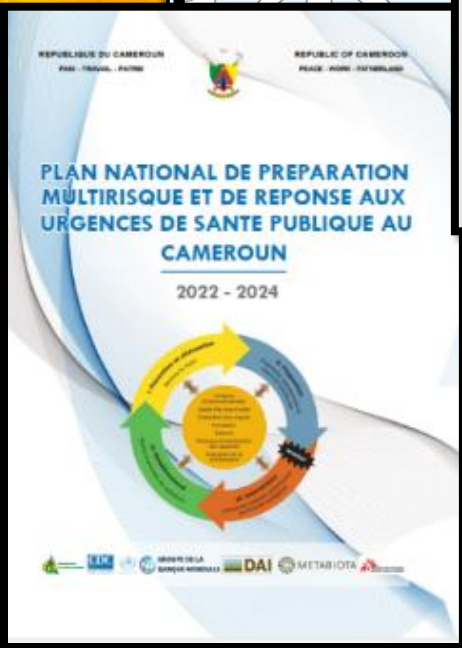
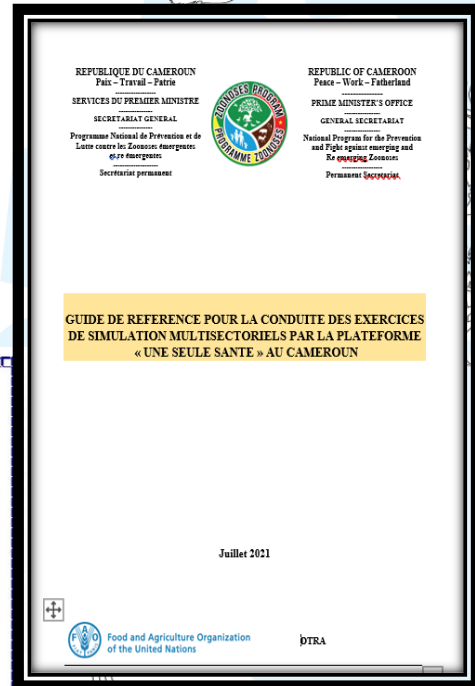
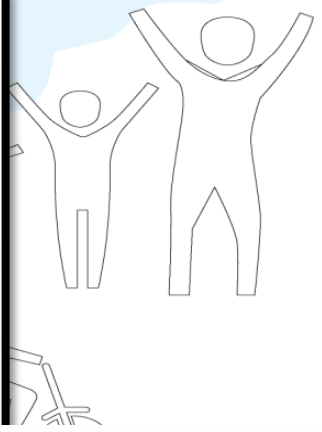
Email

Password [Forget Password?](#)

Login

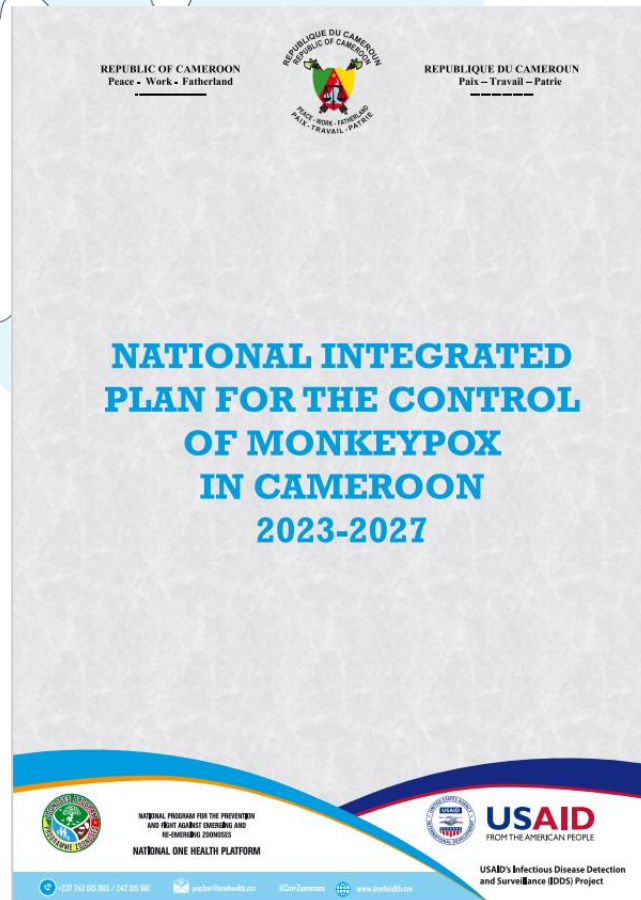


# Development of Plans and SOPs





# Development of Plans and SOPs cont'd



# Advocacy and Capacity Building (1/2)

Thematic	Target	Results obtained
<b>One Health approach and Health Security</b>	30 parliamentarians (Senators)	-Advocating for an improved legislative framework -Funding guidelines
	200 sectoral managers at central and deconcentrated level in 5 years	Strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration- Creation of Regional OH groups
	18 Civil Society Organisations	-Appropriation of OH
<b>Epidemiological Surveillance</b>	100 ecoguardes in 4 years	-Detection of zoonotic diseases in protected areas



# Capacity Building (2/2)

Thematic	Target	Results
RCCE	30 actors at central level	-Appropriation of the approach
	20 media actors	Appropriation of the approach and issues, networking
	20 health communicators	-Appropriation of the approach and issues, networking
	18 civil society organisations with 35 persons	-Community engagement
Emergency management (IMS and EOC)	30 actors at central level	-Appropriation of IMS





# Simulation Exercises

- Development of a simulation exercise manual
- Functional multi-sectoral exercise on the management of an outbreak of cases of Ebola Virus Disease in the context of a mass gathering event (football competition)
- Multi-sectoral exercise (tabletop) for the management of a zoonotic disease outbreak, involvement of the private sector and civil society

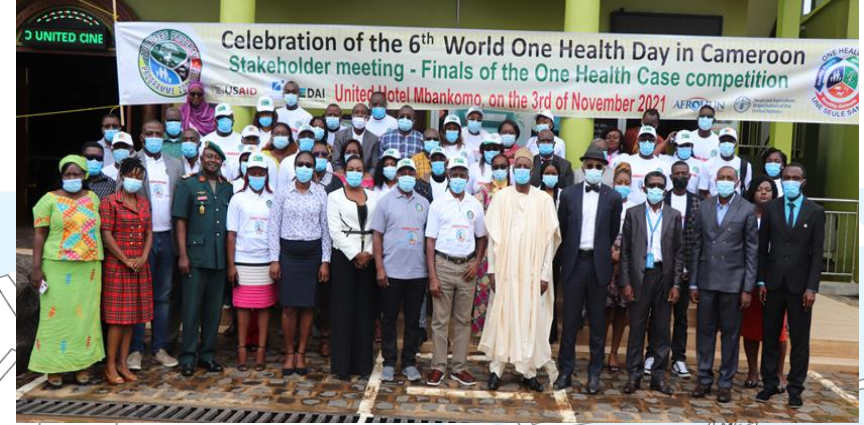




# Communication (1/2)

➤ Establishment of a risk communication and community engagement Technical Working Group

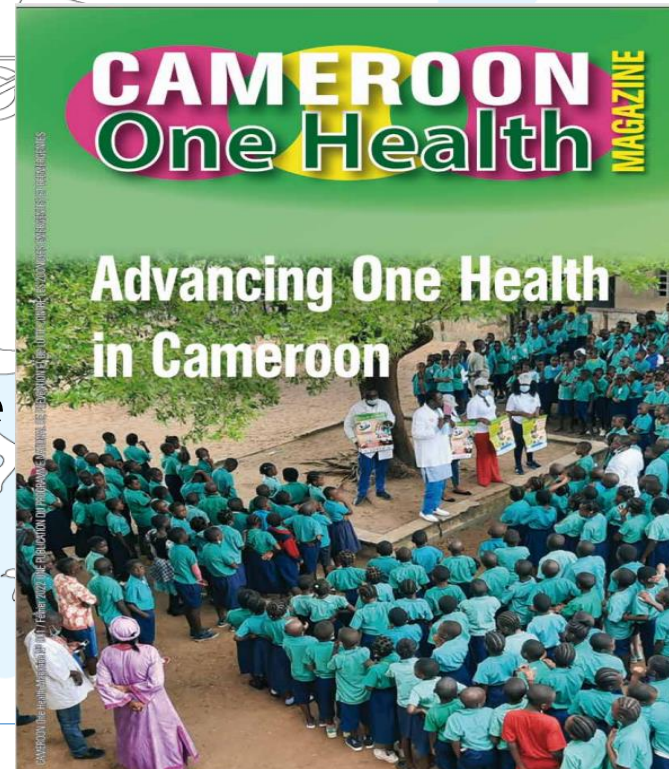
➤ Awareness Raising of approximately 4000 people at risk through specific campaigns, health inspections and the celebration of World Days (Zoonoses, Rabies, OH, AMR)





# Communication (2/2)

- Strengthening of digital communication (website, tweeter account)
- Development an annual One Health Magazine 2022
- Development of quarterly One Health newsletters





# Multi-sectoral management of zoonotic disease outbreaks



- Financing of an average of **03 multisectoral investigations** per year
- Support in sensitization material Exchange of expertise
- Promptness in action

Photo 1: les points focaux

Photo: les points focaux One Health + l'équipe du sanctuaire





# Multi-sectoral management of zoonotic disease outbreaks

## Multisectorial Actions

- Joint Press Release
- Joint press conferences
- Sharing of daily reports between the two departments
- Surveillance network, laboratories, joint investigations

- Timeliness of response
- Shared response efforts
- Material support
- Sharing of expertise
- Consistency in crisis communication

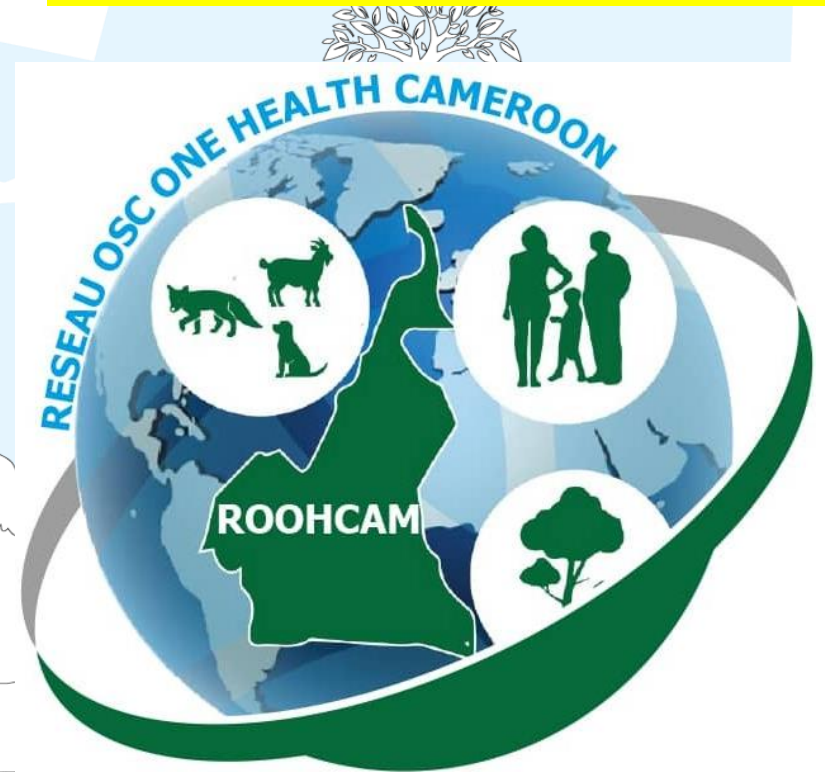


# Engagement of the Civil Society Organisations

3 CSOs trained, developed action plans to carry out community actions in response to Covid 19:

- Dialogue with communities on immunization
- Education for barrier measures,
- ++ hand washing
- Detection of rumors on Covid 19
- Adoption of healthy behaviors to prevent zoonotic diseases
- Food safety

the 1st OH network for CSO was created





# Engagement of the bloggers and the media

- Bloggers were trained on RCCE, zoonoses prevention and control, rumour management on the media
- They are often solicited for social media engagement like in the case of the One Health day 2022 with the organisation of a case competition



# Engagement of the Local Councils and the Private sector

- the most remarkable OH advances in 2022 is undoubtedly the private sector, and decentralized local authorities among the key actors of the One Health Platform.
- brought onboard on the occasion of the World One Health Day 2022 celebration through an information meeting.
- This meeting was aimed at strengthening the knowledge of these actors on the One Health approach and health security issues.
- It was also an opportunity to advocate for a common fight against public health threats that necessitate the involvement of all actors for optimum results.





**Alignment of the Implementing plan of the  
Cameroon One Health Strategy with the  
global OH-JPA**



# Implementation plan of the Cameroon One Health Strategy in process

The Cameroon One Health Strategy developed in 2012, does not cover all domains of the One Health approach such as AMR, food safety, biosecurity, etc

To overcome this challenge, the One Health platform initiated a process to develop an implementation plan of the One Health strategy in 2022

With the publishing of the OH JPA in 2022, it was timely to align the our national plan with the OH-JPA and a series of activities have been initiated in this regard:

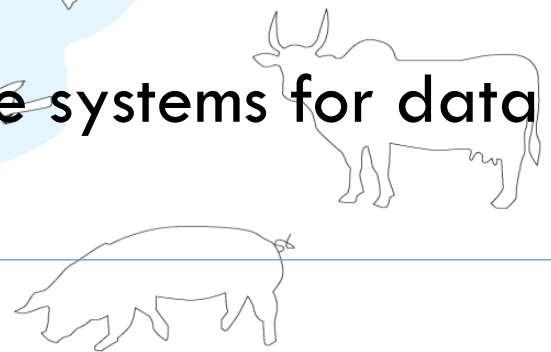
- Meeting with the Quadripartite stakeholders
- Meeting to present and appropriate the OH-JPA
- Meeting to identify the gaps in national plan in alignment with the OH-JPA



**Challenges of the implementation of the One Health approach**

# Challenges

- sustainable financing;
- operationalization of the "One Health" approach at the deconcentrated level (Regions, Departments, Districts or Communes);
- capacitating the Program to fully play its role as a "One Health" platform at the national level and to take into account other public health issues, particularly AMR, food safety, etc.
- Interoperability between surveillance systems for data sharing

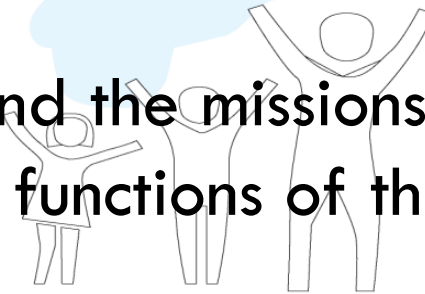
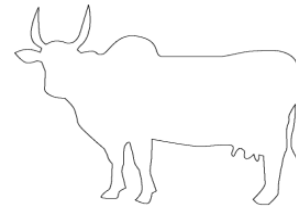
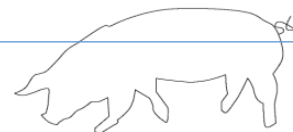
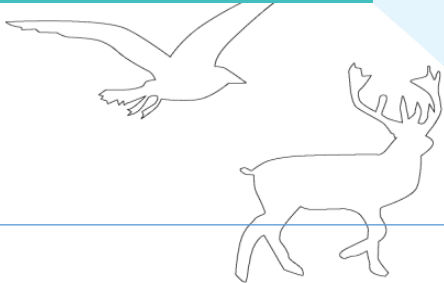




# Perspectives



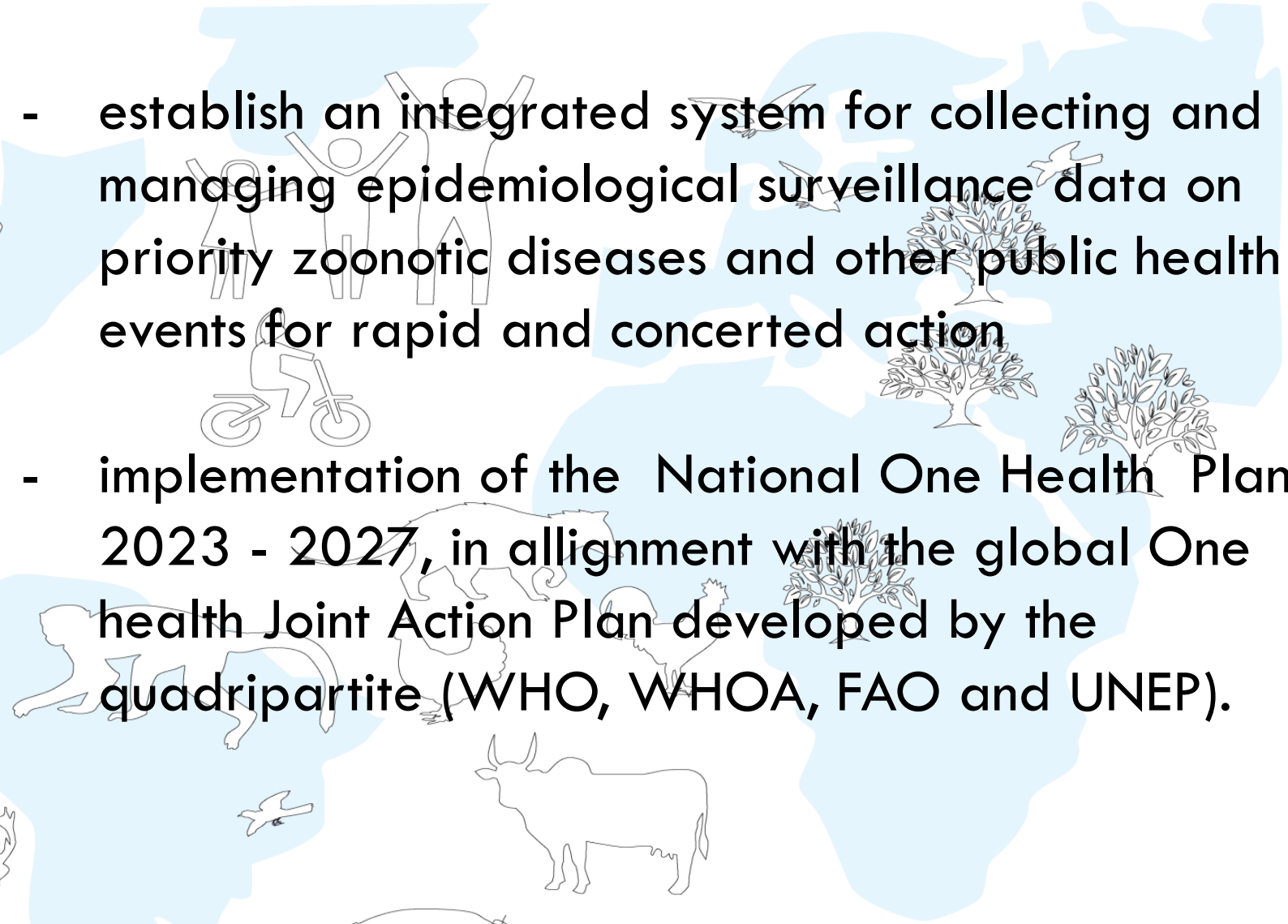
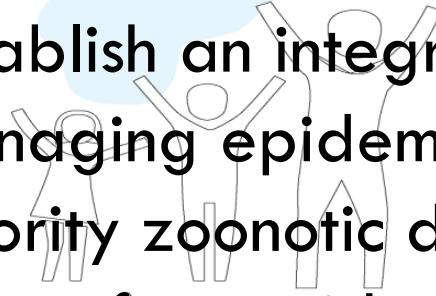
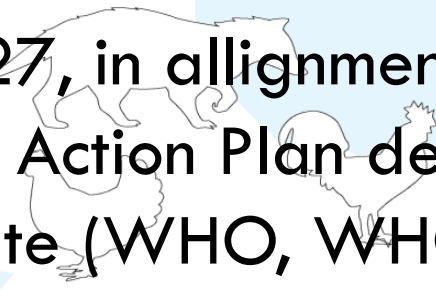
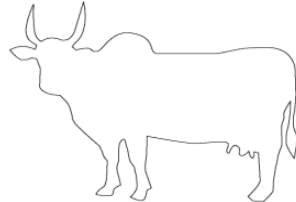
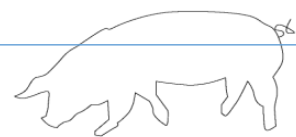
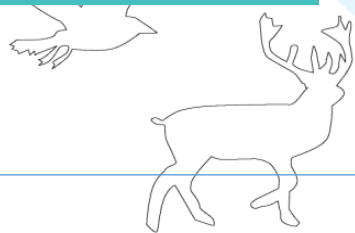
- expand the missions of the PNPLZER to include the other functions of the One Health platform;
- promote the One Health approach at all levels (central and decentralized) and set up regional representation (Focal Points) of the Program;
- Continue advocacy for the sustainable financing of One Health



# Perspectives



- establish an integrated system for collecting and managing epidemiological surveillance data on priority zoonotic diseases and other public health events for rapid and concerted action
- implementation of the National One Health Plan 2023 - 2027, in alignment with the global One health Joint Action Plan developed by the quadripartite (WHO, WHOA, FAO and UNEP).



Thank You!

