



Towards a More Resilient Veterinary Workforce for Africa 2024

Continental Conference 26 – 28 November 2024 Nairobi, Kenya

Animal health is our health. It's everyone's health



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation





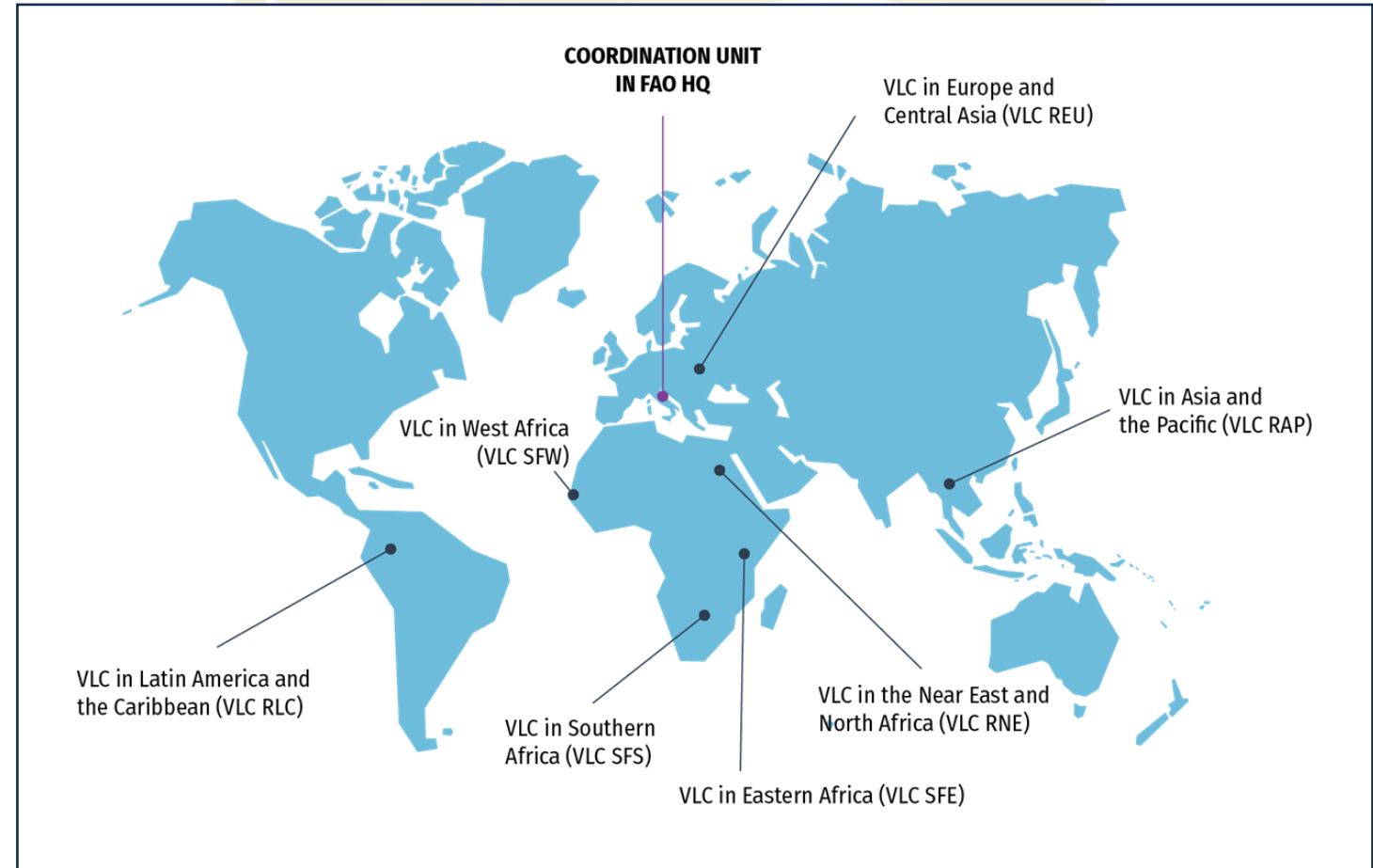
Collaborative Learning: Developing Inclusive Online Communities, from Local to Global

FAO Virtual Learning Centers

Jenny Maud, Gerald Mucheru, Alessandra Alviti, Maria de la Puente Arevalo, Madhur Dhingra, Barbara Haesler, Holly Hufnagel, Laetitia Lempereur, Gerald Mucheru, Daniel Toro

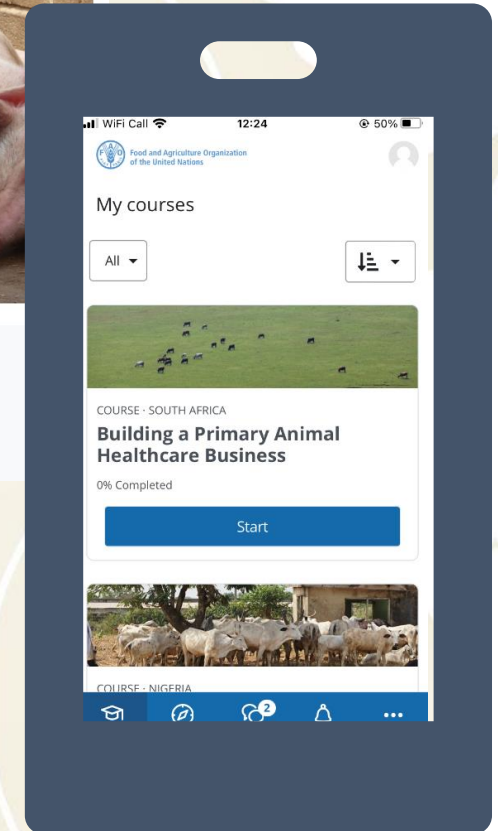
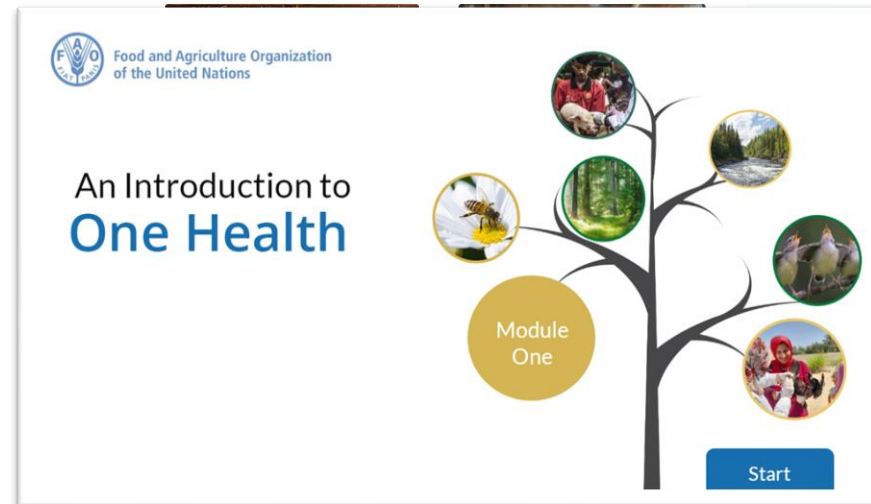
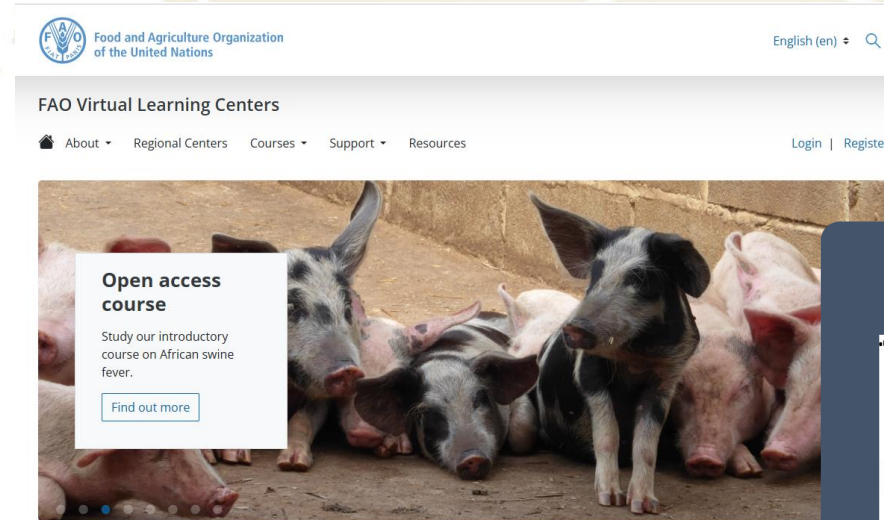
FAO Virtual Learning Centers (VLCs)

- Established to strengthen animal and One Health competencies.
- Seven regional hubs, each with a VLC manager and established network of training focal points.
- Courses are tailored to regional and local needs.



Our activities

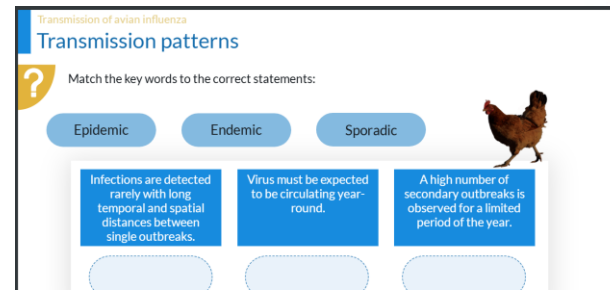
- Virtual learning platform has more than **30 000 registered users**: <https://virtual-learning-center.fao.org/>.
- Nearly 100 courses delivered with **+20 000 people completing courses** from **+150 countries**.
- Increasingly, **courses accredited** with VSBs and other organizations such as VetCEE to provide **CPD points**.



- Most of the courses organised by the VLCs are **tutored** and some follow a **blended learning model**.
- These courses **connect our learners together** during live webinars, online workshops and asynchronous discussion fora.
- We are going to introduce three examples:



Blended learning for VPPs on biosecurity and One Health



Regional training on avian influenza



One Health Knowledge Nexus

Communities: from local to global

Biosecurity and One Health for Veterinary Paraprofessionals



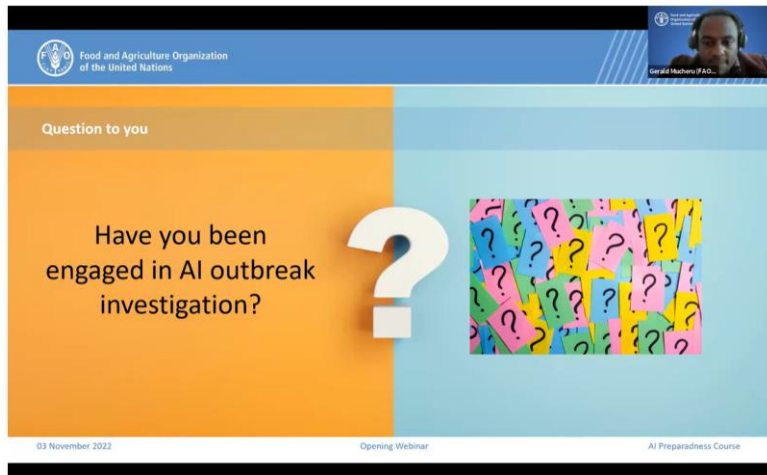
100 VPPs trained through the blended programme reached **4,563** farmers.

Building a community through whatsapp groups was important



Avian influenza preparedness course

- Developed in response to avian influenza emergencies.
- Tutored courses organised in all 7 regions
- Total of **2397** trained globally to date
- Two webinars, discussion forum, whatsapp group support, assessment, scenarios
- **Discussion forum allows us to hear from those “on the ground” and connect them with international experts. Building understanding of real-life issues and risks.**



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Question to you

Have you been engaged in AI outbreak investigation?

03 November 2022 Opening Webinar AI Preparedness Course



Discussion Forums

[View More](#)

Progress



Risk factors for introduction and spread

The importance of biosecurity

Many management related risk factors can be mitigated by effective biosecurity. On-farm biosecurity measures are intended to reduce the risk of exposing the birds to AI virus, and often form our “first line of defense”.

Can you think of some examples of mitigation measures for the management related risk factors that we discussed on the previous slide?

Write brief notes in the box below

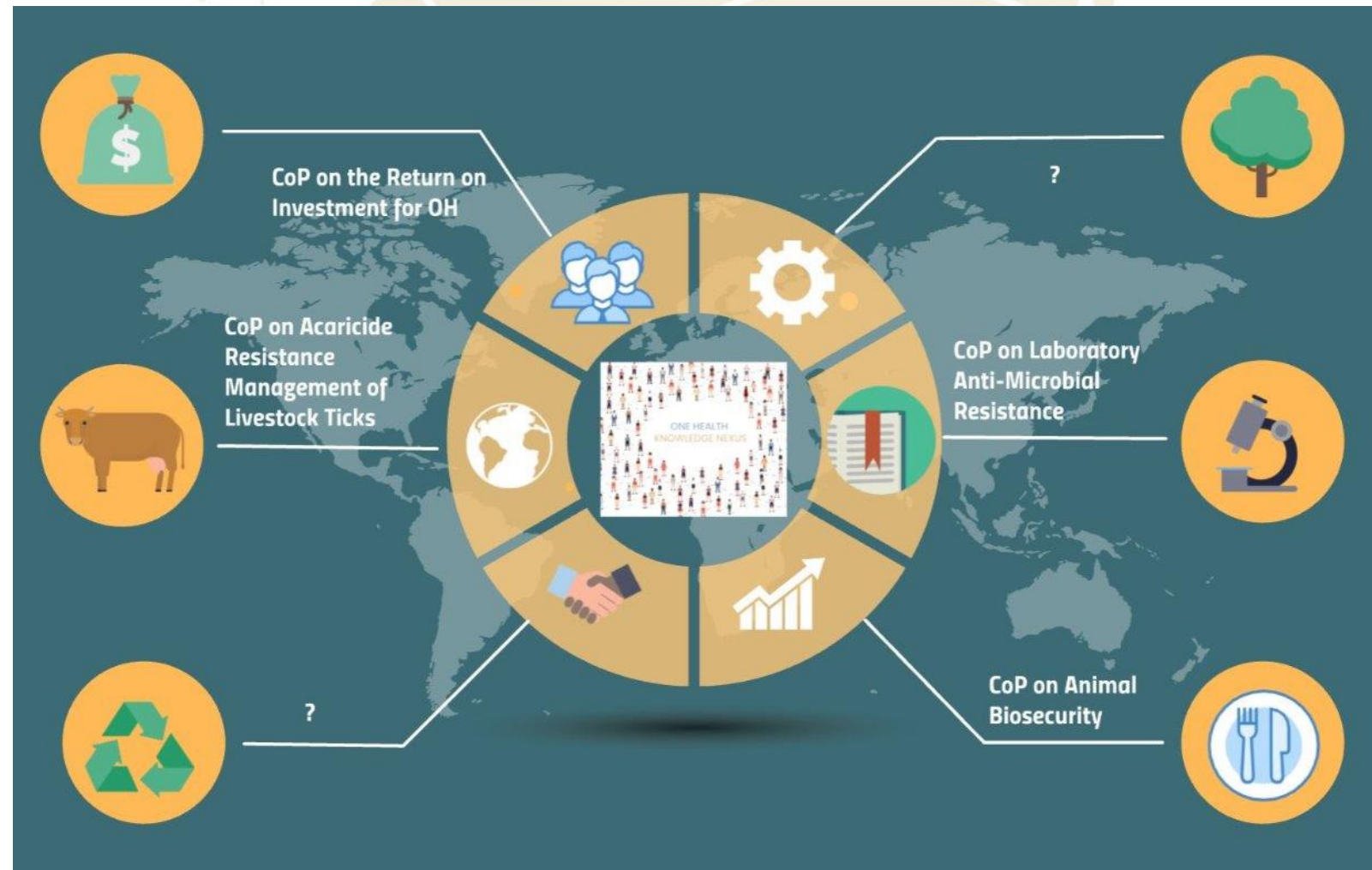
Type your text here.

[Submit](#)

33/40

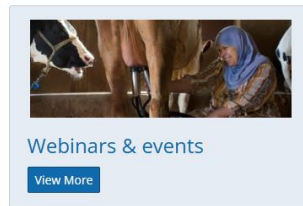
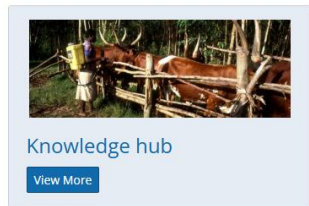
Communities of practice

One Health Knowledge Nexus has supported a range of CoPs that discuss in-depth on specific interest areas.



Example: Acaricide resistance CoP

- Networks wide range of stakeholders together, from international experts to local field practitioners.
- Community members have shared knowledge, built consensus and **co-created resources**.



| Discussion | Started by | Last post | replies | Subscribe |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Challenges faced by diagnostic laboratories in acaricide resistance tests implementation | Laetitia Lempe... 21 Nov 2024 | Laetitia Lempe... 21 Nov 2024 | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New method for diagnosis of acaricide resistance | Guilherme Klaf... 4 Sep 2024 | Mutegheki Joc... 6 Sep 2024 | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Launch of the Grand Challenge for sustainable laboratories | Laetitia Lempe... 22 Mar 2023 | Noura Alshraa 18 Jul 2024 | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Weaknesses at both community, extension and advisory services level | Mubiru Rashid 24 May 2023 | Mwesige Stuart 29 Mar 2024 | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| WILDLIFE VS PARASITE IN ETHIOPIA | Misgana Amenu 9 May 2023 | Mwesige Stuart 29 Mar 2024 | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Acaricide resistance | MUGISHA AGG... 21 Apr 2023 | Safou ADEHAN 20 Mar 2024 | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Diagnosis | Aphrodis TUYI... 2 Mar 2024 | Aphrodis TUYI... 2 Mar 2024 | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Last call - Acaricide Resistance Diagnostic Laboratory | Laetitia Lempe... 3 Nov 2023 | Srikanta Ghosh 5 Nov 2023 | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Innovations in Diagnostic and Surveillance of ticks and | Laetitia Lempe... 27 Oct 2023 | Laetitia Lempe... 27 Oct 2023 | 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> |



New guidelines

Overcoming challenges



Network connectivity



Competing priorities
due to studying in
own time

Smartphone App

Motivation:

- Skilled facilitation and regular reminders
- CPD accreditation
- Whatsapp networks and shared successes

Friendly and inclusive online learning communities: one of the keys to success!



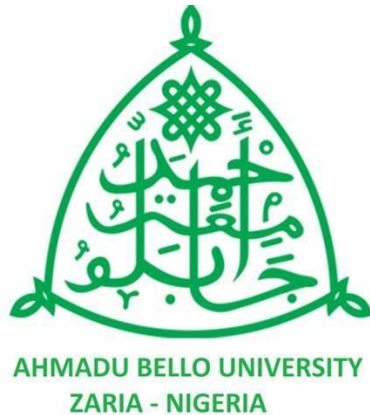
Feeling connected with “colleagues like me” spurs **participation and engagement.**

Online communities are for everyone, especially those who might not be able to travel to workshops.

Field practitioners are connected with peers with similar challenges and with international experts. Across national borders. **We learn from each other.**

Acknowledgements

- FAO VLC and VPP teams
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Partners that have contributed to deliver courses:



Thank You

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations English (en) 🔍

FAO Virtual Learning Centers

About Regional Centers Courses Support Resources Login Register

Open access course
Study our introductory course on African swine fever.
[Find out more](#)

Regional Centers
Six Virtual Learning Centers (VLCs) have been

Courses
The VLCs offer a range of tutored and self-

Login
Username
Password

VLC-global@fao.org

<https://virtual-learning-center.fao.org>