

Newsletter September 2022

Dear colleagues,

After the first plenary meeting earlier this year and the then following Steering Committee election, the *Alliance* is gaining more momentum in different fields. With this newsletter, we give you an overview of current developments and upcoming activities in the *Alliance*.

I. First Steering Committee meeting

The first online Steering Committee (SC) meeting took place on the 13.07.2022. The Secretariat team and the SC members used the opportunity to get to know each other, to agree on the general understanding of the body and to discuss the following two topics:

- Usage of the Alliance Logo: When directly linked to the Alliance's goals and activities, members may use the Alliance's logo for their products and outputs. The Secretariat must be informed about the use of logo at least one week in advance. **(Rule for all members)**
- Working Groups introduction: The intention of the Secretariat is to actively support 3 main working groups with specific topics and a targeted outcome for a duration of 12 months. Every year, new main working groups shall be designated based on the needs of the Alliance members. Apart from the main working groups, the Secretariat encourages all members to create own working groups related to their interests. The Secretariat will support the idea finding process in the coming months.
 - o During the meeting, the Secretariat proposed to the SC possible working group topics collected during the plenary meeting, which was followed by a lively discussion. As a result, following three main working groups for the coming 12 months will be supported:

1. Science Policy Interface: furthering the Alliance's Goal 1 in international discourse

Considering our core understanding of wildlife as formulated in the Alliance Charter ("*Wildlife is an important and integral part of biodiversity, which is one of the foundations of the health of human civilization. It is also a source of known and currently unknown pathogens, some of which have the potential to become pandemic in humans.*") the Alliance as such will want to infuse this understanding, based on scientific evidence, into international political processes. We suggest a two-phase approach:

- a) First (3-5 months), the working group should deliberate and determine, which political instruments/ international political processes are most important to achieving the Alliance's goal ("*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.*"). (Obvious candidates to consider: bringing wildlife health and thus the biodiversity/ ecosystem angle into the *WHO Pandemic Prevention Instrument/ Agreement?* Bringing "health" as issue into *Convention on Biodiversity/ Global Framework? CITES?*)
- b) In a second phase (5-7 months), the working group will formulate suggestions what concrete actions the Alliance/ its Steering Committee should take towards making our voice heard in this process.
 - ➔ possible outcomes: input in relevant fora/ conferences; policy brief, joint statement

2. Transformative System Change: The Big Picture

Working towards our goals, the Alliance can work on various levels; while concrete findings and outcomes will help to move towards bringing the science policy gap, we understand that there are underlying more fundamental obstacles to achieving the Alliances objectives and goals. Identifying these and addressing these is the focus of this working group.

Here, again we propose a two-phase approach:

- (a) Identify which are central obstacles for transformative change towards the Alliance's goals?
 - (b) On those obstacles, what can and should be done? What opportunities are there to achieve the Alliances goals?
- ➔ possible outcomes: Develop recommendations and concrete actions towards a "system change".

3. Effective Interventions

The aim of this working group is to gather good practices on effective interventions from members of the Alliance to enable learning and knowledge exchange across sectors and regions. This includes experiences from local realities and education & training that have been proven to be successful.

Here, again we propose a two-phase approach:

- (a) In a first phase (3-5 months), this working group will elaborate a joint understanding which (type of) interventions are considered most suitable to contribute to the two goals of the Alliance and collect related cases among the members. incl. local realities and education and training.
 - (b) In the second phase (5-7 months), some successful cases will be presented to the plenary and jointly reflected.
- ➔ possible outcomes: document (to be disseminated to the members of Alliance) with learnings and recommendations on how to address interventions on various levels.

The Secretariat will soon inform all members regarding the next steps and ways of participation in these groups.

For the next meeting the Steering Committee will meet in presence directly in the run up to the World Health Summit in Berlin in mid October.

If you are around in Berlin or attending the WHS, please reach out to us so that we can see how best to organize a joint meeting or lunch during the event.

Please find the minutes in the second document attached for your information.

II. Updated web site with new functions

We are currently developing our website further, to suit the needs of our growing Alliance membership and to offer better ways to connect and exchange among you, the members. An updated version of the main page will go online mid of October with new functions and better usability. The member area will be subsequently upgraded until the end of this year.

A small reminder: check **our new Alliance vision film** and feel free to share it in your networks to further promote us: [Our Vision - International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade - YouTube](#)

III. Screening the acclaimed Sir Attenborough documentary “*Breaking Boundaries*”

The *Alliance* Secretariat will organize a hybrid screening of the acclaimed documentary ***Breaking Boundaries*** on **12th October** : high-level ministry representatives and GIZ board member will discuss essential consequences with Prof. Dr. Johan Rockström of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK). If you happen to be in Berlin and would like to attend in person, leave us a short notice so that we can put you on the guest list. For those who want to participate online, the invitation link for the event will be shared in advance.

Breaking Boundaries featuring Sir David Attenborough and Professor Johan Rockström explores the science behind the impact humanity has had on Earth since the dawn of civilization, revealing an urgent truth about the health of our planet. The film details just how far we’ve pushed Earth beyond the boundaries that have kept our planet stable for millennia, and what steps need to be taken to turn things around.

At the core of Breaking Boundaries lies a key message of action: stay innovative, cooperate, and make the next decade one that safeguards the future of our planet. The science is clear on what humanity needs to do. Only when we listen to these facts – and pay attention to the undeniable urgency – can we create a future where nature and people thrive.

IV. Save the date: Quadripartite Joint Plan of Action

We are thrilled to announce that the *Alliance* will be co-hosting the launch (on-site & online) of the **Quadripartite’s** awaited **Joint Plan of Action** on 18th October, starting at 18:30 CET. The event will take place in the beautiful Dinosaur Hall of the Natural History Museum in Berlin (Museum für Naturkunde). The Joint Plan for Action will be presented by high level representatives of each of the respective Quadripartite member organizations (WOAH, UNEP, WHO and FAO). For Alliance members who will be in Berlin there will be a possibility to attend in person – send us a short notice so that we can put you on the guest list. For those who want to participate online, the invitation link for the event will be shared in advance.

V. Call for proposals @ Panorama Solutions

We would like to direct your attention to the current PANORAMA Solutions Call for Proposals. We encourage all to participate and submit your ideas:

PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet is a partnership initiative to document and promote examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics, enabling cross-sectoral learning and inspiration. PANORAMA allows practitioners to share and reflect on their experiences, increase recognition for successful work, and to learn with their peers how similar challenges have been addressed around the globe.

PANORAMA One Health was launched in February 2022. To grow this Community with further inspiring solutions, we are calling for examples of good practices from projects that implement the One Health approach around the world.

For this call, PANORAMA collaborates with CABI and their initiative on collating One Health Cases:

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CABI One Health Cases is a curated collection of real-life examples of One Health in practice, stressing the interconnections between humans, animals, plants, ecosystems, and their shared environment in a truly transdisciplinary way. A database of educational, practical cases, it will be an invaluable resource for students, teachers, academics, public stakeholders, and industry practitioners.

More information can be found under this link: [PANORAMA and CABI joint call for One Health solution cases! Open now until 30 September | PANORAMA](#)

VI. Nature for Health Fund

A new fund, relevant also for pandemic prevention, was recently launched, including by the German government. It highlights the importance of our work. Through an initial contribution of 50 million Euros from Germany's International Climate Initiative (IKI), the Fund brings together leading UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations and civil society groups in the field of environment and health, namely UNEP, the SCBD, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the EcoHealth Alliance. The Fund will be administered by the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office.

The new Fund will help countries achieve more holistic policymaking by creating further evidence of the links between biodiversity, climate and health, and will support decision makers and relevant actors to take measures to prevent future pandemics. Through application of enhanced One Health approaches, the Fund aims to achieve improved policies and cross-sector collaboration.

Once more details are available, the Secretariat will inform you about developments and possible opportunities.

Within the Nature for Health-Secretary UNEP offers a very interesting position:
Programme Management Officer, P3

This assignment is intended to support UNEP's global work to strengthen the environmental dimensions of the One Health approach. This includes **coordination across all of UNEP on One Health** working with the partners of the Quadripartite Alliance for One Health and its initiatives, including the One Health High Level Expert Panel and the One Health Joint Plan of Action. This position is also part of the Secretariat of the new **Nature for Health Fund** and partnership, which will support countries in developing evidence-based policy, action, capacity and governance mechanisms to enhance the multiple health benefits of investment in nature.

This position is in the Biodiversity and Land Branch of the Ecosystems Division in the Nairobi duty station. This position reports to the Coordinator of the One Health Secretariat.

Link: [UN Careers](#)

VII. Upcoming events

September 2022

- 14th September: Expert Talk on Radical Listening with Kinari Webb - Health in Harmony 16:00-17:15 CEST

October 2022:

- 12th October: Screening of "*Breaking Boundaries*" (see above)
- 15th October: Steering Committee meeting in Berlin (by invitation only)
- 18th October: Stream/On-Site launch of Quadripartite Joint Plan of Action
- 27th October: Save the date: IPRI Voices from the Ground