



FACT SHEET

One Health – controlling zoonotic diseases and AMR in the milk value chain in Ethiopia, Malawi and Tanzania

The overall aim of this regional project is to use a One Health (OH) approach to contribute to the sustainable production of safe milk for food security, improved nutrition, increased animal and human health as well as economic growth. The project was established in collaboration with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), and operates in Ethiopia, Malawi, and Tanzania, empowering local stakeholders and fostering economic viability.

*From NVI visit to the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) in Lilongwe in Malawi in October 2024.
Photo: Mary Shresta*

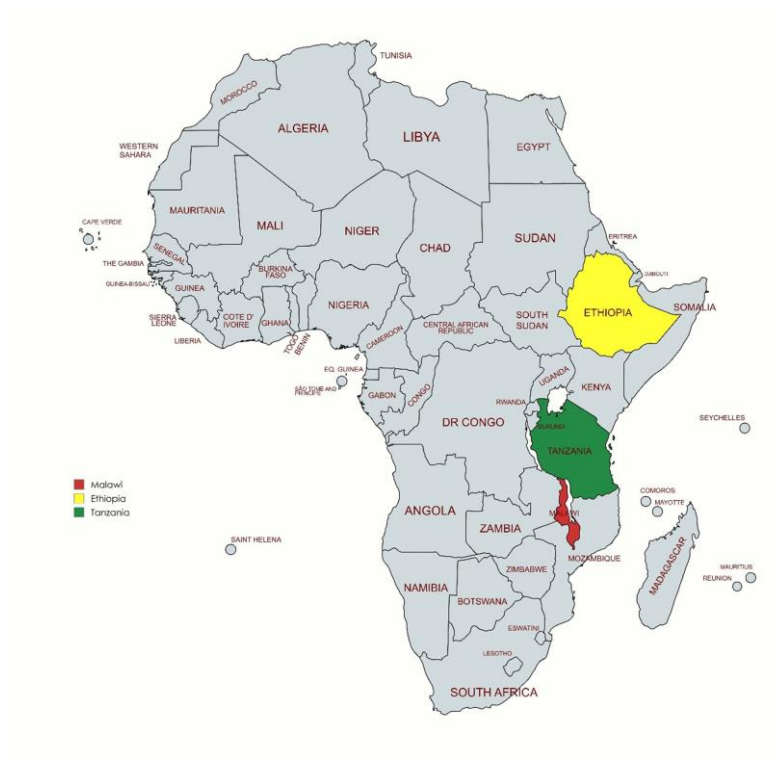
The main objective is to improve diagnostic investigation capacities for zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) relevant to the milk value chain.

Background

Livestock systems play a significant role in rural livelihoods and the economies of developing countries. The global cost of livestock disease is estimated at billions of dollars, and interventions to improve animal health will benefit human health and food sustainability.

Firstly, by reducing zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and emerging diseases. Secondly, by improving the efficiency of livestock production, reducing the negative environmental impacts, and contributing to economic gains at multiple levels. Zoonotic diseases occur at the animal-human interface. Functional health systems must include a bridge of collaboration at least between human- and veterinary authorities if they shall efficiently target zoonotic disease for the good of public health.

Based on discussions and mapping exercises with partners in Ethiopia, Malawi and Tanzania, the Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NVI) proposed the initiation of four interlinked “areas for action” that together will help improve animal health and food safety, strengthen the veterinary services and operationalize One Health (OH) in Africa.



Project details:

Main object is to operationalise the OH platform for communication and collaboration necessary for sharing information and responsibilities to deal with zoonoses and infectious diseases affecting the milk value chain.

Funded by:

Norwegian Agency for Development and Cooperation (Norad)

Partners:

Malawi: Trustees of Agricultural Promotion Program (TAPP),
Central Veterinary Laboratory of Malawi (CVL) & Public Health Institute of Malawi (PHIM)

Ethiopia: Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI)

Tanzania: Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency (TVLA)

Duration:

September 2022-September 2027

Location:

Norway, Ethiopia, Malawi and Tanzania

Implementer:

The Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NVI)

Project goal

The overall aim of this regional project is to use a One Health approach to contribute to sustainable production of safe milk for food security, improved nutrition, increased animal and human health as well as economic growth.

Outcomes

The project is built around four strategic outcomes (OUT): One Health platforms, Surveillance (epidemiological capacity), Laboratory diagnostics and Veterinary services.

OUT 1 - Operational One Health Platforms for coordinated control of zoonoses and AMR in the milk value chain

Expected outputs:

- Stakeholder map relevant for OH and collaborations for zoonotic diseases in the milk value chain, describing their role, function, collaborations, communication pathways and any shared inter sectoral responsibilities
- Country- and context specific prioritization of zoonotic disease and AMR challenges in the milk value chain
- Defined gaps in the OH system necessary to deal with zoonoses in the milk value chain and defined training needs.
- A country specific syllabus developed to fill the gaps, and purpose-made courses designed and the training is implemented.

OUT 2 – Capacity for surveillance of AMR, antimicrobial use and infectious diseases in the milk value chain

Objective: to establish procedures for collecting samples, reporting and analysing data and results for zoonotic diseases and other important pathogens from dairy animals and milk.

Expected outputs:

- A detailed description of existing surveillance systems with qualitative and quantitative assessment of the system describing the strengths and weaknesses
- A roadmap for strengthening surveillance systems across veterinary and public health sectors.
- Identified training needs, developing and piloting field

epidemiology-training programs and other courses for animal health personnel /veterinarians, collaborating public health officials.

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- OUT 3 – Capacity to detect zoonotic diseases through laboratory investigations
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Objective: To improve capacities for diagnostic investigations, for zoonotic diseases and AMR relevant to the milk value chain.

Expected Outputs:

- Stakeholder map of relevant central and regional laboratories and their functionalities, strengths and weaknesses.
 - Defined training needs, and syllabus as well as a roadmap for implementation.
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- OUT 4 – Veterinary services surrounding primary producers of the milk value chain has been established
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Objectives: To accelerate investment in the milk value chain by improving national disease control in dairy animals through empowering the veterinary services.

Expected Outputs:

- Relevant partners have been identified for collaborative partnership & target veterinary service chains have been selected; their status and needs have been mapped.
- A strategic plan for interventions to strengthen the services along the chain from farmer to central veterinary authorities has been made.
- Training needs have been defined, training of animal health personnel has been

commenced and the impacts of training have been assessed.

Key stories

The overall aim of this regional project is to use a One Health approach to contribute to sustainable production of safe milk for food security, improved nutrition, increased animal and human health as well as economic growth.

News and events

[The Norwegian Veterinary Institute contributes to safer milk in Malawi \(October 16, 2024\)](#)

[Will strengthen preparedness and disease management in Malawi \(October 19, 2023\)](#)

Related publication

Start	2022-09-01
Finish	2027-09-01
Status	Ongoing
Research Areas	Antibiotic resistance

Forskere

[Mary Shrestha](#)

Seniorrådgiver

[Show phone number](#)

[Send email](#)

[Shimaa Elsayed Mohamed Ali](#)

[Show phone number](#)

[Send email](#)

[Edgar Brun](#)

Avdelingsdirektør

[Show phone number](#)

[Send email](#)

Norwegian Veterinary Institute

Delivery address: Arboretveien 57, 1433 Ås

Postal address: Pb 64, N-1431 Ås

Visiting address: Elizabeth Stephansens vei 1, 1433 Ås

Org. number: 970 955 623

Telephone: +47 23 21 60 00

E-mail: postmottak@vetinst.no

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