



In numbers



49 countries supported by
FAO through ECTAD



USD 250 million
in ongoing funding received from
USAID under the Global Health
Security (GHS) Program

USD +536 million received
from USAID over the last 17 years



75% of recent emerging infectious
diseases affecting humans are
of animal origin



60% of all human pathogens
are zoonotic



USD 150–190 billion
economic impact of selected
infectious disease outbreaks
(1995–2016)



2.5 billion estimated cases of
human illness and approximately
2.7 million human deaths
worldwide each year due to
zoonotic diseases

Through ECTAD, FAO works to build health systems' capacities to enable countries and regions to prepare for, detect, prevent and control emerging infectious and zoonotic, transboundary and high-impact diseases, and other health threats.

Overview

Transboundary animal diseases (TADs) can spread rapidly irrespective of national borders. There are many TADs that can result in high incidence of disease and death in animals, thereby having serious socioeconomic and sometimes public health consequences while constituting a constant threat to the livelihoods of livestock farmers and the food security of the communities they serve.

Established in 2004, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) plans and delivers animal health assistance to more than 49 countries responding to the threat of high-impact diseases. By helping to avoid national, regional and global spread, the work of ECTAD contributes to the protection of people and animals from disease and other health threats.

ECTAD multidisciplinary teams deliver FAO Animal Health programmes, funded by Australia, the Republic of Korea, FAO internal funding, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America – Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) – and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

The One Health approach is embedded in the work of ECTAD. Zoonotic transmission occurs at the human–animal–environment interface and cross-disciplinary work at all levels is enhanced by the nature of ECTAD's multidisciplinary global network.

Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA)

The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) programme develops national capacity to prevent zoonotic and non-zoonotic diseases while quickly and effectively detecting and controlling diseases when they do emerge. FAO serves as a permanent advisor to the country-led GHSA and its membership of over 70 countries.

Through the USAID-funded GHSA programme, FAO supports 17 countries in Africa and four in Asia to implement the five action packages:

- antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
- biosafety and biosecurity
- national laboratory systems
- workforce development
- zoonotic diseases

Countries currently supported by FAO through ECTAD



Source: United Nations. 2022. Map of the World. [Cited 28 September 2023]. <https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world>. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined. The dotted line represents, approximately, the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

FAO Global Health Security (GHS) Program

While FAO's global support in the animal health domain has moved countries closer to the goal of effectively dealing with zoonotic disease and AMR threats, gaps still remain. FAO and USAID have therefore agreed to extend their partnership through the 2022–2027 FAO GHS Program. The FAO GHS Program will build on the investments made over the past 15 years; target additional countries in Africa and Asia, and expand to Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean; and foster partnerships with the private sector. It will also further enhance country and global capacity to forecast, prevent, detect, prepare for and respond to health threats along the livestock value chain.

Strengthened animal health services capacities

The strengthened animal health services capacities in Africa and Asia resulting from the Emerging Pandemic Threats and GHSA programmes has also enabled a number of countries to rapidly address a range of new diseases that have emerged over the last 15 years.

This includes various strains of new highly pathogenic avian influenza, goat plague in East Asia, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (which originates in bats and is hosted in camels), Ebola in West and Central Africa, and more recently African swine fever in Cambodia, China, Myanmar and Viet Nam – which poses a significant threat to the pig industry and jeopardizes food security in Asia.

By supporting national governments' training capacities and providing control equipment, FAO contributed to the tackling of avian influenza, with the prevalence of the disease reduced from over 60 countries globally to a handful of countries. FAO also supports animal health services in Member Nations to contribute to the COVID-19 pandemic surveillance and response under the One Health approach utilizing laboratory and community animal health services.

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ECTAD global achievements (October 2022–March 2023)



340 outbreaks responded to in 14 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America



Trained approximately **2 900 professionals** (24% women) in 21 countries across Africa and Asia



Developed and published **six publications** to better inform decision-making and/or capacity building efforts related to health security



Presenting ECTAD

Established to complement the pre-existing Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases, ECTAD, under the leadership of the FAO Chief Veterinary Officer, is a partnership between the FAO Animal Health Service and the FAO Office of Emergencies and Resilience.



Resource partners for ongoing programmes

- Australia: USD 2.2 million
- DTRA: USD 4.5 million
- Republic of Korea: USD 3.7 million
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: USD 2 million
- USAID (Bureau for Global Health): USD 73 million (funding under the GHS Program grant as of 2022)
- USAID (Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance): USD 1.6 million
- WOA: USD 1.2 million

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