



What is One Health?

Human, animal and environmental health are inextricably linked:

- Human Health – Over 60% of emerging pathogens affecting humans originate from animals
- Animal Health – There is a high burden of infectious diseases that are zoonotic (animal diseases communicable to humans)
- Environmental Health – Emerging diseases have been linked to climate change, environmental destruction and habitat loss

The One Health Triad



One Health is an interdisciplinary approach to address complex challenges at the human-animal-environment interface.

It is a concept that seeks to break-down the barriers between disciplines, with a goal of optimizing health for humans, animals and the environment.

Why do we need a One Health approach in the Caribbean?

The majority of Caribbean islands are small, resource-poor and have little capacity to respond to human, animal and zoonotic disease outbreaks.

Caribbean people working together across disciplines, both within and between islands, is therefore essential to efficiently and effectively address some of the major health problems facing the region.

These health issues include:

- Climate change
- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
- Food safety and security
- Water safety and security
- Disaster management
- Emerging zoonotic diseases

One Health workshop -Haiti



Project Partners





One Health in Action:

The ‘**One Health One Caribbean One Love**’ project is changing the way people respond to health issues in the Caribbean.

The project has three (3) major components:

1. Developing One Health leaders across the Caribbean
2. Improving disease detection in the Caribbean
3. Building regional cooperation and policy in the Caribbean

1. Developing One Health Leaders across the Caribbean

Caribbean professionals (29) from multiple disciplines across twelve (12) countries were selected through a competitive process to be part of a two (2) year One Health Leadership Series. These One Health Leaders are the foundation of a crucial One Health regional network in the Caribbean.

One Health Leaders attended five (5) training modules and were tasked with implementing a locally relevant One Health project within their country.

- **Module #1: Introduction to One Health:** Tobago, November, 2014
- **Module #2: Interconnectivity for Food Security and Food Safety:** Jamaica, June 2015
- **Module #3: Environment and Health:** Guyana, December 2015
- **Module #4: Society and Health:** Grenada, May 2016
- **Module #5: The Way Forward for One Health:** Trinidad, November 2016



One Health leaders in Grenada

Learning by Doing:

National One Health Projects

The One Health leaders implemented a small-scale One Health project at the interface of health, agriculture and the environment. Projects tackled invasive species, climate change, childhood obesity, pesticide use, antibiotic resistance, emerging diseases, solid waste management and food security.



Addressing Iron deficiency - Dominica



2. Improving Disease detection in the Caribbean

Capacity Building & Outreach:

Regional ‘Train the Trainer’, Animal/Zoonotic Disease Recognition and Response Training Workshop:

In March 2015, a ‘Train the Trainer’ workshop was held in Trinidad to strengthen the knowledge of selected Caribbean veterinary personnel. Thirty-one (31) participants from 14 countries attended.

Priority diseases were selected for training through consultation with the Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) from the Caribbean. Using this list, relevant international, regional and local disease experts were invited to the workshop as presenters. Training material (presentations and videos) were made available to the trainers after the workshop. This training material can be accessed at: www.onehealthcaribbean.org/index.php/resources/workshop-resources



Project Leader (Professor Chris Oura) presenting at the regional training workshop in Trinidad

National Animal/Zoonotic Disease Recognition and Response Training Series:

Following the regional workshop, five (5) national workshops in selected Caribbean countries were conducted:

- **Trinidad** – November 2015, 100 participants trained
- **St. Lucia** – March 2016 38 participants trained
- **Guyana** – April 2016 85 participants trained
- **The Dominican Republic** – April 2016 57 participants trained
- **Jamaica:** May 2016 120 participants attended

To increase the scope of these national workshops, the One Health project applied for and received further funding through the IICA-SPS project for three (3) of these workshops, St Lucia, Guyana and the Dominican Republic.



Demonstrating optimized disinfection techniques at a workshop in St Lucia



2. Improving Disease detection in the Caribbean

Improving the ability of Caribbean labs to rapidly detect disease:

Quality Assurance and Biosafety training:

In partnership with CIRAD, 11 country representatives were trained in a quality assurance and biosecurity workshop on March 7-11 2016.



Training in QA and Biosafety

Improving Laboratory diagnostic capacity

Novel molecular tests have been validated and will be introduced into selected Caribbean veterinary diagnostic labs.



Training in QA and Biosafety

3. Building regional cooperation and policy across the Caribbean

A regional One Health policy has been accepted & a draft regional One Health strategic plan / framework has been developed:

A regional One Health Policy & a draft strategic framework will help provide a unifying vision for health in the Caribbean and will assist in building cross-sectoral local and regional One Health Teams to work on Caribbean specific issues.

It will also serve as a platform for the further development of national One Health policies and strategic plans.



Caribbean strategic planning workshop, Oct 2016

The “**One Health, One Caribbean, One Love**” project is funded through the ACP-EU Cooperation Programme in Science and Technology (S&T II) and is being supported by the European Union under the 10th European Development Fund (SPS) Project executed by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)

Project implemented by:

University of the West Indies (UWI)

Faculty of Medical Sciences
School of Veterinary Medicine
St. Augustine, T&T

Website: www.onehealthcaribbean.org

Email: one.health@sta.uwi.edu

Project Leader: **Prof. Chris Oura**

Project Manager: **Dr. Adana Mahase-Gibson**