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EVALUATION AND CHALLENGES/LIMITATIONS OF ONE HEALTH

Simon Ruegg

Presentation

NEOH evaluation framework, evaluating One Healthness

One Health (OH) positions health professionals as agents for change and provides a platform to manage determinants of health that are often not comprehensively captured in medicine or public health alone. OH relies on characteristic operational principles, corresponding infrastructure and is expected to produce outcomes, which are not possible to obtain through intra-sectoral approaches. The COST-funded Action TD1404 “Network for Evaluation of One Health” (http://neoh.onehealthglobal.net/) elaborated an evaluation framework, assessing the operation and infrastructure in a One Health Index (OHI), and finally comparing this index to the outcomes of the initiative.

The One Health Index is based on five aspects, namely 1) the comprehensiveness of the approach, 2) the planning, 3) the learning infrastructure, 4) the sharing infrastructure, and 5) transdisciplinarity and leadership. The expected outcomes of One Health initiatives are health and welfare of humans, animals, plants and ecosystems. Transdisciplinarity should result in better stewardship and compliance, and promote interspecies equity. One Health can also improve effectiveness across different sectors and at multiple scales. Overall, One Health is expected to result in long-term effects of policy decisions, resilience and ultimately sustainable lifestyles. Confronting the OHI to these outcomes is a way to identify the conditions required to produce them and determine when such holistic approaches are appropriate.

EVALUATION AND CHALLENGES/LIMITATIONS OF ONE HEALTH

Sara Savic

Presentation

Preliminary results from a set of case studies evaluating One Health

The “Network for Evaluation of One Health (NEOH)” is an EU COST funded Action that aims to evaluate One Health initiatives (http://neoh.onehealthglobal.net/). Today, One Health is a frequently used term, but evidence on its added value is scarce. Therefore, to promote the development and use of methods and frameworks for improved One Health decision making, we need standardised methods, approaches and data to evaluate One Health activities.

Participants of the NEOH Action are applying a handbook for evaluation of One Health developed within the consortium to assess a set of case studies in local institutions and networks. They use available primary and secondary data from ongoing One Health projects in which they are involved in for evaluation.

A total of 12 case studies were selected. The criteria for choosing a case study for evaluation were the following: impact on humans, animals (and environment); relevance at the European level; transdisciplinarity and intersectorality; measurable benefits of One Health and - if it is a disease condition, it should be on the of priority list for Europe according to EFSA and the ECDC. For each case study, the different evaluation steps in the protocol are followed to describe and measure the evaluation context, One Health characteristics, the One Health index, and to select an appropriate evaluation question and approach. In terms of metrics for outcomes, the case studies take into consideration the ecological dimension, social dimensions, resilience and sustainability as well as economic considerations. The meta-analysis of all case study findings will give a clearer pictures of the added value of One Health.