

02

Evaluation of the implementation of one health in Kenya: a case study of the zoonotic disease unit

Momanyi K.^{1,2}, Anderson N.², Fèvre E.^{1,3}, Häsler B.⁴

¹International Livestock Research Institute, Animal and Human Health, Nairobi, Kenya, ²University of Edinburgh, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, ³University of Liverpool, Institute of Infection and Global Health, Neston, United Kingdom, ⁴Royal Veterinary College, Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health, London, United Kingdom

Kenya became one of the first country in Africa to institutionalize One Health (OH) and operationalized it on 1st March 2012 as a cross-sectoral collaboration. It created a cross-sectoral One Health unit called the Zoonotic Disease Unit (ZDU) that establishes and maintains active collaboration at the human, animal and ecosystem interface towards better prevention and control of zoonotic diseases in Kenya. Using Network for Evaluation of One Health's (NEOH) standardized One Health evaluation framework a process evaluation of the ZDU was conducted to appraise its effectiveness and impact. The NEOH tools helped in identifying the drivers and outcomes of One Health, as well as necessary operations and infrastructure to implement an integrated approach. The evaluation included a description of the context and the initiative, illustration of the theory of change, identification of the expected and unexpected outcomes and assessment of OHness. The latter is the sum of characteristics that defines an integrated approach and includes OH thinking, planning, working, sharing infrastructure, learning infrastructure, and systemic organisation. Data for the analysis were gathered in 27 face-to-face key informant interviews using the Bristol Online Survey, 1 focus group discussion and a desktop review of literature. Qualitative data was thematically analysed using NVivo Pro version 12 while quantitative data was through SPSS v23 and the One Health Index. ZDU attained a One Health Index of 0.8261 with a score of 0.44 in One Health planning, 0.58 in One Health learning, 0.72 in One Health working and 0.71 in One Health thinking. The Unit was praised for its elaborate strategic implementation strategy, vast network of stakeholders, and its relevance to address imminent One Health challenges in Kenya. Shortcomings were identified regarding duplication of efforts with no framework to harmonize activities by different institutions and weak institutional structures that facilitate sharing of resources between the animal and human health agencies. The critical application of the NEOH evaluation tools

allowed identifying advantages and shortcomings in the processes of the ZDU that can be used by its coordinators to improve impact. We recommend that the next evaluation to focus on the assessment of impact and economic efficiency in line with the developed theory of change.