

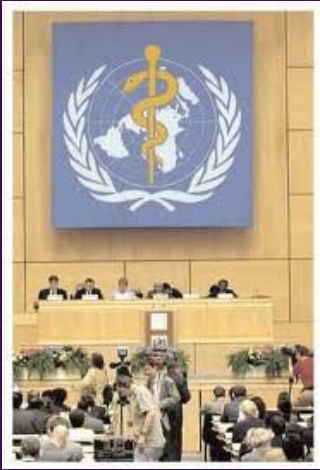
RECENT APPROACHES IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND NATIONAL POLICIES: ON THE TRAIL OF THE “ONE HEALTH” CONCEPT

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INSERM

PRINCIPLE 1 OF THE RIO DECLARATION OF 1992

- *“Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.”*



MAY 1992, THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY CALLED UPON MEMBERS

« to strengthen environmental measures to protect and promote human health including intersectoral, interdisciplinary approaches emphasizing the protection and promotion of human health and well-being and building on community participation »

Since the Rio Conference

The United Nations and global agencies such as WHO, FAO, UNEP and OIE are collaborating at the intersection between health and environment

Their collaboration generates:

- 1) New policy tools which could lead to One Health « into action »;
- 2) The integration of the One Health concept in International environmental conventions

TOOLS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Since the Rio conference, international law requires states to conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

“EIA, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority”.

(Principle 17 of the Rio Declaration)

The impacts concerned are usually broadly defined:

- domestic and transboundary environment;
- sustainable development;
- global impacts such as climate change or loss of biological diversity.

Along with EIA, the Agenda 21 explicitly encourage the adoption of Health Impact Assessment.

HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT

HIA aims to identify how development induces unintended changes in health determinants and resulting changes in health outcomes.

Definition: A structured method for assessing and improving the health consequences of projects and policies in the non-health sector. It is a multidisciplinary process combining a range of qualitative and quantitative evidence in a decision making framework.

HIA enshrined by the 2007 Thai Constitution

“Any project or activity which may seriously affect the community in quality of the environment, natural resources, and health shall not be permitted, unless its impacts on the quality of the environment and health condition of people in the community have been studied and evaluated”

- The National Health Act of 2007 provides:

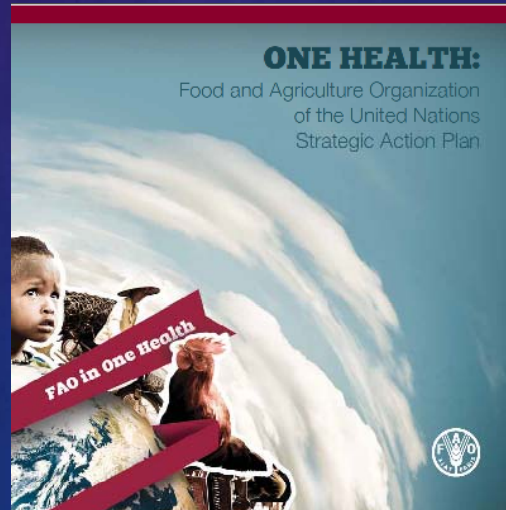
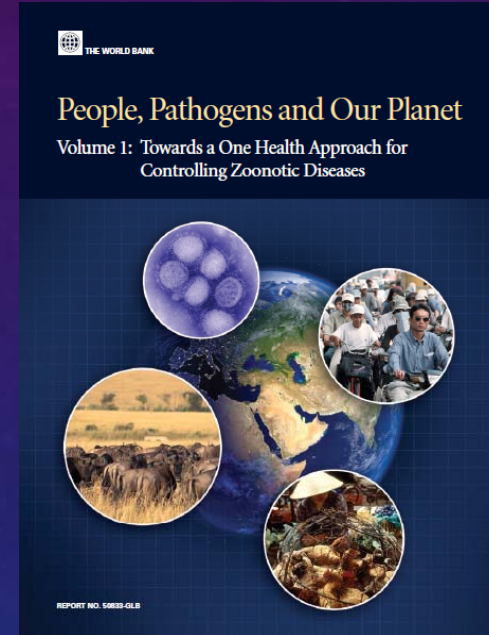
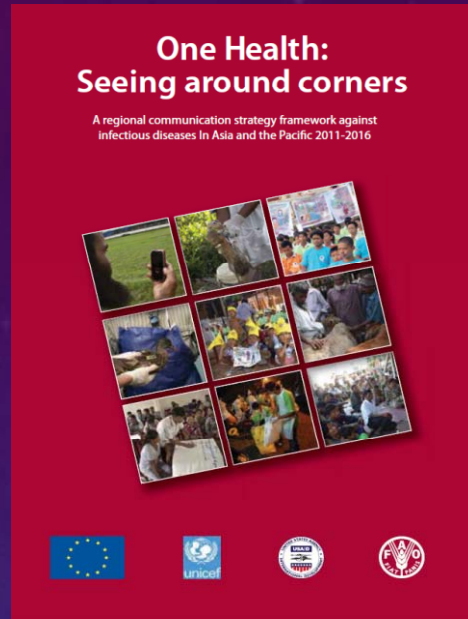
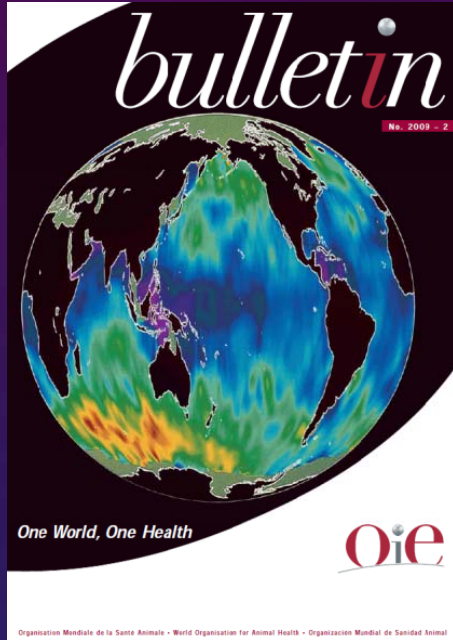
“An individual or a group of people has the right to request for an assessment and participating in the assessment of health impact resulting from a public policy”

HIA AND "ONE HEALTH"

- HIA: “tool that provides an opportunity to everyone, be they project owners, villagers fearing harm, researchers ... to take part in a process to study and evaluate possible health and environmental impacts of a project or activity...”.
- multidisciplinary process: qualitative and quantitative evidence to evaluate and estimate the health consequences of public policies, projects, programmes.

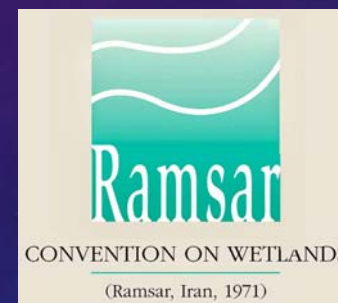
ONE HEALTH CONCEPT IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTIONS

- Acknowledgment of the « One Health » concept in the discourse of the international agencies :
 - New International Health Regulations (2005) enhancing the role of the WHO
 - Global Early Warning and Response System for Major Animal Diseases, including Zoonoses (GLEWS) by FAO, OIE, WHO



The inter-agencies work lead to discussions around the world about the One Health concept ...

and permeated explicitly the resolutions of the decision-making bodies of the main international environmental conventions





CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

- **COP 10 (2011) Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species**
- « Acknowledging that the One Health approach is increasingly gaining ground as a multidisciplinary way of addressing emerging infectious diseases, and that the concept has been endorsed by several international organizations including FAO, OIE, WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank (...)”



CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES

CITES, 26TH MEETING, MARCH 2012



“Support CMS, FAO, and major conservation MEAs ... to integrate issues of livestock-wildlife-human-ecosystem health interface into their activities, approaches and resolutions”.

Objective: Encourage One Health multi-sectoral and transdisciplinary approaches including science-based information sharing.



RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

COP 11, 2012

- **Ecosystem approach to health**

It helps understanding disease dynamics in broader contexts of sustainable agriculture, socio-economic development, environment protection and sustainability, and complex patterns of global change.



UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

COP 11, 2013

« One Health ... can be a powerful tool to successfully cope with the drivers and consequences of desertification. **Better knowledge is needed for informed debate, informed policymaking, and informed planning.**”

NEXT STEPS



International environmental conventions at the national level: concept of « One health » within the the national policies

Integrate the « One health » concept into the HIA and promote tools considering the issue of zoonotic diseases



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION