Global framework to accelerate action on avian influenza



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

World Health Organization

World Organisation for Animal Health

CMS

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Contents

Foreword v
Acknowledgements vi
Abbreviations vii
1. Introduction 1
1.1 Purpose and scope 2
1.2 Methodology 3
1.3 Advancing a One Health response to avian influenza 3
1.4 Strategic alignment 4
2. One Health collaboration 5
2.1 Background and context 5
2.2 Rationale 6
3. The global framework 7
3.1 Goal, objectives and actions 7
3.2 Overall impact and outcomes 8
3.3 Assumptions and risks 10
4. Implementation arrangements 11
4.1 Operational approach 11
4.2 Resourcing 11
4.3 Human resources and partnerships 11
Further reading 12
References 13

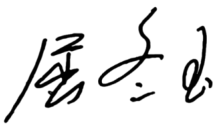
Foreword

Avian influenza is a shared challenge that crosses sectors, regions and borders. Its impacts extend beyond poultry and the people whose livelihoods depend on them, increasingly affecting wild birds, mammals, ecosystems and communities. As viruses continue to evolve and spread across regions and species, they pose significant risks to animal health, agrifood systems, biodiversity, ecosystems and human health.

These risks are interconnected, demanding that our response must be collective and coordinated. The health of animals, people and the environment cannot be separated. A weakness in one becomes a danger to all. Healthy, resilient ecosystems and sustainable agrifood systems are not a backdrop to health – they are its foundation. This is why a One Health approach, working across sectors at the human-animal-environment interface, is essential.

This framework is built on years of shared work, common learning and joint action. It sets out a common vision and a coherent foundation for strengthening how we prevent, prepare for, detect and respond to avian influenza – across sectors, borders and regions. Its value lies in bringing together distinct mandates and expertise, so that countries and partners can see where coordinated One Health action can have the greatest impact.

We call on Member States, partners and stakeholders at every level to use this framework: to strengthen action grounded in science and evidence, to deepen One Health collaboration across sectors, and to direct investment where it counts. Working together, and putting these approaches into practice, we can anticipate threats sooner, prevent more of their harms and blunt their impact when they strike. That is how we protect safer, healthier and more sustainable environments and societies – for present and future generations.



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The four organizations are grateful to the technical experts who reviewed earlier drafts and provided technical feedback at different stages of development. These included experts from FAO headquarters, regional and subregional offices and FAO Reference Centres; CMS, including the CMS-FAO Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wildlife; WHO regional offices and colleagues of the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS), including those from WHO Collaborating Centres, WHO H5 Reference Laboratories and National Influenza Centres; WOAH headquarters, regional and subregional offices, WOAH Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres; and OFFLU, the WOAH–FAO Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza.

The four organizations further thank all individuals and organizations who submitted comments during the public consultation held from 6 to 20 July 2026. Their feedback helped strengthen the clarity, technical robustness, relevance and practical orientation of the framework.

Declaration of interests

External experts who were invited to review this global framework were asked to complete a declaration of interest to disclose potential conflicts of interest that might affect, or might reasonably be perceived to affect, their objectivity and independence concerning the subject. One declaration was received and reviewed and it was concluded that it could not give rise to a potential or reasonably perceived conflict of interest related to the development of this global framework.

Abbreviations

CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GF-TADs	Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases
GISRS	Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System
HPAI	high pathogenicity avian influenza
LPAI	low pathogenicity avian influenza
OFFLU	WOAH–FAO Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health

1. Introduction

Avian influenza is a complex global challenge with consequences for animal health, human health, biodiversity, food security and livelihoods. In recent decades, high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) viruses have spread across continents, become established in wild bird populations, affected an increasing range of mammalian species and caused unprecedented impacts on wildlife, poultry production and associated economies. These impacts are occurring alongside other environmental pressures including climate change, habitat degradation and biodiversity loss.

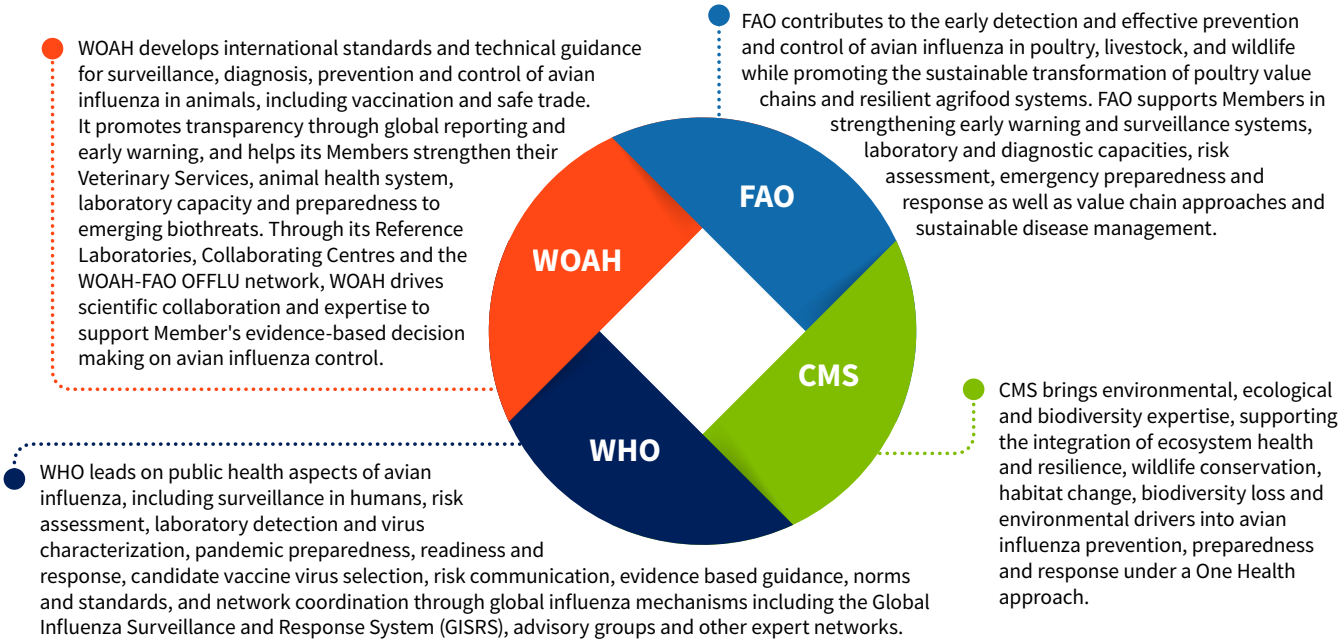
Recognizing these challenges, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) have developed this global framework to strengthen collaboration on avian influenza through a One Health approach.

This high-level framework is not intended to replace existing mandates, strategies or technical guidance. Rather, it adds value by showing how existing mandates, strategies and technical mechanisms can be better connected, aligned and communicated as part of a shared One Health response to avian influenza. It reflects a recognition that no single sector nor institution can address avian influenza alone, and that sustainable solutions require coordinated efforts that integrate human, animal and environmental dimensions.

Developed through a participatory and consultative process, the framework draws on the comparative strengths and roles of each organization (Figure 1). It emphasizes the importance of human, domestic animal and wildlife surveillance, including in wild birds, poultry and susceptible mammalian species, timely information and data sharing, strong laboratory and workforce capacities, effective risk communication and sustained investment in prevention and preparedness. It reinforces the principle that protecting health is inseparable from protecting ecosystems and ensuring resilient agrifood systems.

Given the accelerating risks and impacts of avian influenza, there is an urgent need to translate this framework into concrete action. This will require enhanced global support, including increased and sustained investment in prevention, preparedness, surveillance, mitigation and response capacities across sectors. The four organizations call on governments, donors and partners to prioritize avian influenza within broader health security and development agendas, and to mobilize the resources necessary to support coordinated, country-led implementation of a One Health approach.

Figure 1. Roles of the organizations relevant to avian influenza



1.1 Purpose and scope

Purpose: This global framework establishes an overall goal, objectives and areas of collaboration among the four organizations to accelerate coordinated efforts, investment and strengthen urgent action on avian influenza. It is intended to enhance alignment, complementarity, and collective impact by clarifying shared goals, priority areas and pathways for collaboration among the four organizations. In doing so, it provides a practical reference for countries, partners and donors to understand where joint action can add value beyond organization-specific guidance, programmes and mechanisms.

Scope: While recognizing the broader risks posed by zoonotic influenza viruses, this global framework addresses avian influenza threats from both high and low pathogenicity avian influenza viruses[1]. It outlines the areas of collaboration among the four organizations in areas of animal well-being and public health, and wildlife and ecosystem protection, using a One Health approach *(1–3)* at regional and global levels, on avian influenza.

Key areas of focus include:

- monitoring threats
- information and surveillance data sharing
- laboratory networks and collaboration
- prevention, preparedness and response including risk communication
- mitigation and resilience
- advocacy and outreach
- sustainability investment in control.

The global framework is intended to provide a common reference, rather than a workplan, for the four organizations, Member States and partners, providing direction for collaboration, advocacy and resource mobilization while supporting countries in strengthening a coordinated One Health approach to avian influenza. It does not replace existing organizational mandates, strategies or technical guidance, nor does it establish dedicated implementation or monitoring mechanisms. More detailed operational priorities and activities may be developed separately as needed.

1 The many strains of avian influenza viruses can generally be classified into two categories according to the severity of the disease in poultry: low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) that typically causes little or no clinical signs; and high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) that can cause severe clinical signs and possible high mortality rates.

1.2 Methodology

This global framework was conceived following a virtual consultation in 2024, which identified the need for a shared approach to strengthen coordinated One Health action on avian influenza. It was developed through a participatory process led by the technical teams of FAO, WHO, WOAH and CMS engaged in avian influenza across headquarters and regional levels and relevant technical bodies.

The development process included a review and synthesis of relevant global strategies, frameworks, resolutions, guidance documents and technical reports to identify areas of alignment, existing commitments, gaps and opportunities for enhanced coordination. The draft framework was further informed by technical review rounds involving the four organizations, relevant technical bodies and expert networks, complemented by internal review and public consultation.

Inputs were assessed by the drafting group through a consensus-based process, considering technical relevance, feasibility, resource requirements, equity, country and regional capacities, complementarity with existing mechanisms, sectoral mandates and the need to avoid duplication. Feedback was incorporated where it improved the clarity, technical robustness, relevance and practical orientation of the framework, including its scope, goal, objectives, actions, outcomes and implementation arrangements.

1.3 Advancing a One Health response to avian influenza

Avian influenza has remained a challenging and ever-evolving global threat for nearly three decades, marked by continuous viral diversification, geographic spread and ecologic expansion. Since the first emergence in Southeast Asia in 1996-1997, H5 viruses of the goose/Guangdong lineage have repeatedly adapted and reassorted, giving rise to new subtypes and clades, including the now widespread 2.3.4.4b clade, causing major outbreaks in wild and domestic birds across all continents. In recent years, H5 viruses have been detected in an expanding range of mammalian species (e.g. foxes, minks and other mustelids, pinnipeds, dairy cattle, domestic cats), alongside continued sporadic human infections. Unprecedented mass mortality events and population scale impacts observed in wild birds and wild mammals further underscore the scale and severity of its ecological effects *(4)*. The zoonotic potential of H5 viruses remains an ongoing concern, as sporadic human infections continue to be detected following exposure to infected animals or contaminated environments.

Other avian influenza virus subtypes also deserve sustained global attention. LPAI subtypes, for example, H9N2 viruses, are enzootic in poultry, act as important viral genetic donors through reassortment and are a consistent source of human infections. Similarly, H7 viruses, including zoonotic subtypes such as H7N9 and various H7Nx strains, continue to emerge unpredictably, sometimes with severe human health consequences. Moreover, several sporadic or geographically restricted subtypes such as H10N3, H10N8, H6Nx have caused human disease, expanding the broad and evolving landscape of avian influenza viruses with pandemic potential.

The growing complexity of avian influenza epidemiology, including increasing detections in mammalian species, is worrisome and reinforces the necessity for coordinated action and multisectoral surveillance, prevention and preparedness efforts. A One Health approach enables more effective prevention and mitigation of these risks by integrating expertise and aligning efforts and resources across environmental, and human and animal health sectors. This collaboration on avian influenza within this global framework is firmly grounded in the One Health approach, promoting and enabling urgent, coherent, evidence-based, and synergistic action to better prevent, detect, mitigate and respond to avian influenza.

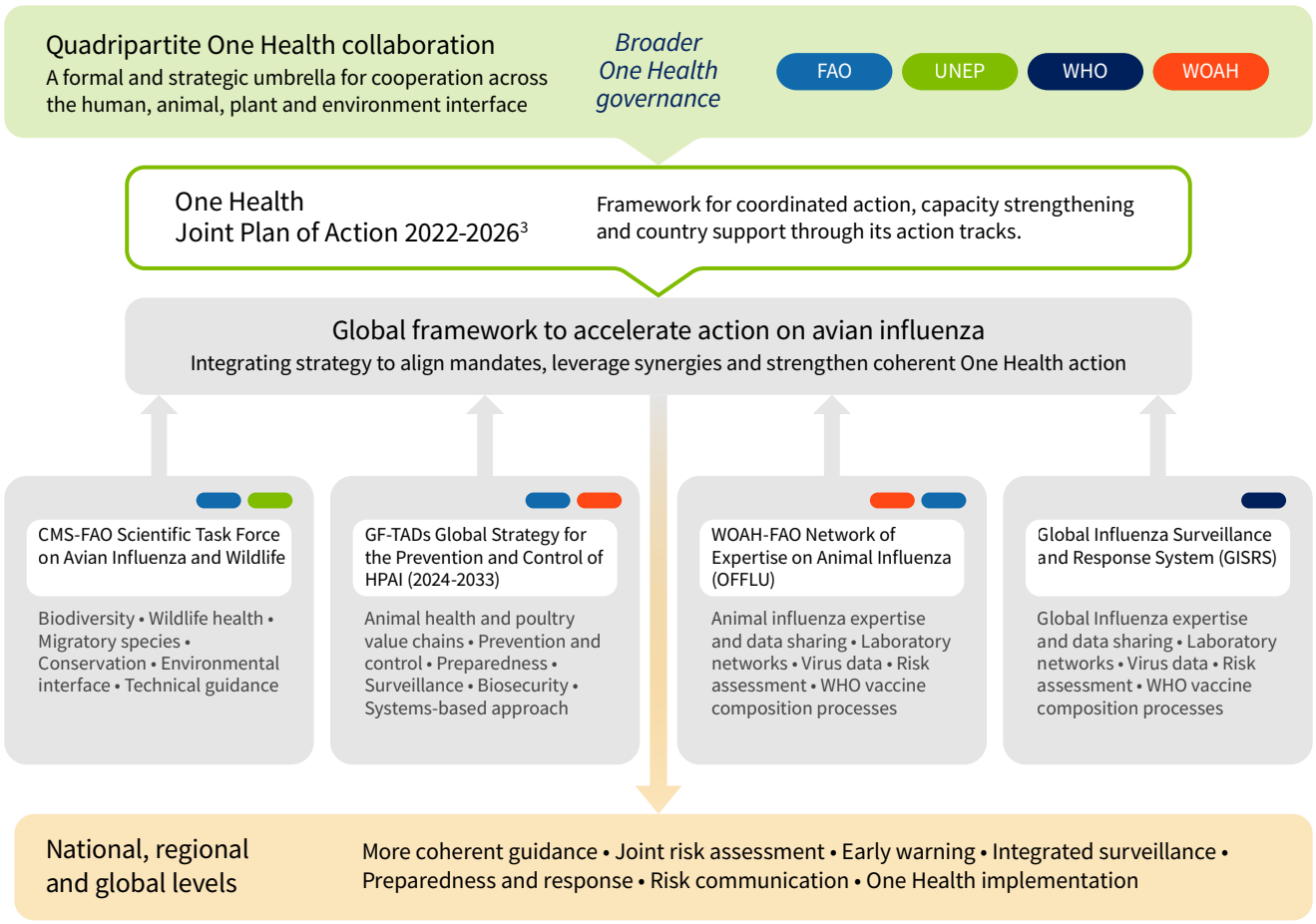
1.4 Strategic alignment

Key inputs for the development of the global framework included[2]:

- FAO and WOAH Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (2024–2033) *(5)*
- UNEP/CMS/Resolution 14.18 on Avian influenza *(6)*
- Convention on Biological Diversity Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health *(7)*
- CMS FAO H5N1 High pathogenicity avian influenza in wild birds - Unprecedented conservation impacts and urgent needs *(8)*
- FAO The Emergency Prevention System for Animal Health: Enhancing the prevention and control of high-impact animal and zoonotic diseases through biosecurity and One Health Strategic Plan (2023–2026) *(9)*
- One Health High-Level Expert Panel One Health Theory of Change *(10)*
- One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022–2026): working together for the health of humans, animals, plants and the environment *(11)*[3]
- WHO Global influenza strategy 2019-2030 *(12)*.

Figure 2 depicts how this global framework fits in relationship to key inputs.

Figure 2. Context of this global framework in relationship to other frameworks and strategies



2 Refer to the Further Reading section for summaries of some of these key documents.
3 The Quadripartite has agreed to extend the implementation period of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA) through to 2029, building on its original 2022–2026 implementation period.

2. One Health collaboration

2.1 Background and context

From the early 2000s onward, the emergence and international spread of HPAI prompted FAO, WHO and WOAH to intensify and formalize joint efforts to manage risks at the human–animal–environment interface. As HPAI became a transboundary and multisectoral threat, the three organizations established increasingly structured mechanisms for coordination, technical collaboration and normative guidance.

A significant step in strengthening collaboration was the creation of OFFLU in 2005, the joint WOAH-FAO network of expertise on animal influenza *(13)*. Designed to support global surveillance, laboratory diagnosis, capacity building and risk assessment, OFFLU has played a critical role in generating and sharing animal influenza virus data and related analyses with WHO. This contribution has been particularly important to the WHO vaccine composition meeting process, including the selection of zoonotic influenza candidate vaccine viruses, thereby strengthening global pandemic preparedness.

In 2005, CMS convened a Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds to address the conservation consequences of HPAI and to promote evidence-based decision making on avian influenza in relation to wildlife. In 2007, FAO was invited to co-convene what is now the CMS-FAO Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wildlife which continues to provide inputs from the wildlife perspective along with technical guidance to a wide range of stakeholders *(8)*.

In 2007, FAO and WOAH published the first global strategy for the prevention and control of H5N1 HPAI. In 2025, an updated global strategy (*5*) was published under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), to reflect evolving viral ecology and the need for a systems-based approach to mitigate the risks of avian influenza, with a particular focus on the poultry sector. These strategies have guided national and regional preparedness, prevention, and control efforts for nearly two decades.

An important institutional milestone was reached in March 2022, when FAO, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), WHO and WOAH signed the Quadripartite Memorandum of Understanding *(14)*, formally expanding the Tripartite collaboration (2010) *(15)* to include UNEP and establishing a shared legal and strategic foundation for cooperation across the human–animal–plant–environment interface. This was followed by the launch of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022-2026) in October 2022 *(11)*, which translated this commitment into a common framework for coordinated action, capacity strengthening and country support across priority One Health areas, and has been extended to 2029.

These developments provided the broader basis for more integrated and systematic collaboration on avian influenza.

2.2 Rationale

The four organizations bring together complementary mandates, expertise, networks and convening power across environmental, and human and animal health sectors. Collectively, they support countries through highlighting the value of resilient ecosystems for delivery of the ecosystem services for health promotion across sectors and the technical guidance, capacity strengthening, surveillance, risk assessment, policy development and emergency preparedness activities related to avian influenza. Although collaboration on avian influenza is extensive and longstanding, it is often implemented through multiple initiatives, programmes and technical mechanisms that may not always be visible as part of a common effort. The development of a global framework is essential to strengthen the coherence, visibility and impact of international action on avian influenza threats. A clearly defined framework would enhance transparency of roles, reduce perceived fragmentation and duplication, increase synergy and communicate more effectively to Member States and partners how the organizations collectively deliver added value.

3. The global framework

3.1 Goal, objectives and actions

Avian influenza represents a global issue affecting multiple sectors, including on agrifood systems, biodiversity and public health. Good cross sector coordination and collaboration would lead to more efficient and effective global prevention efforts, disease intelligence, early warning systems, vaccine matching, reduction of viral load in the environment and pandemic preparedness, thereby contributing to the global public good.

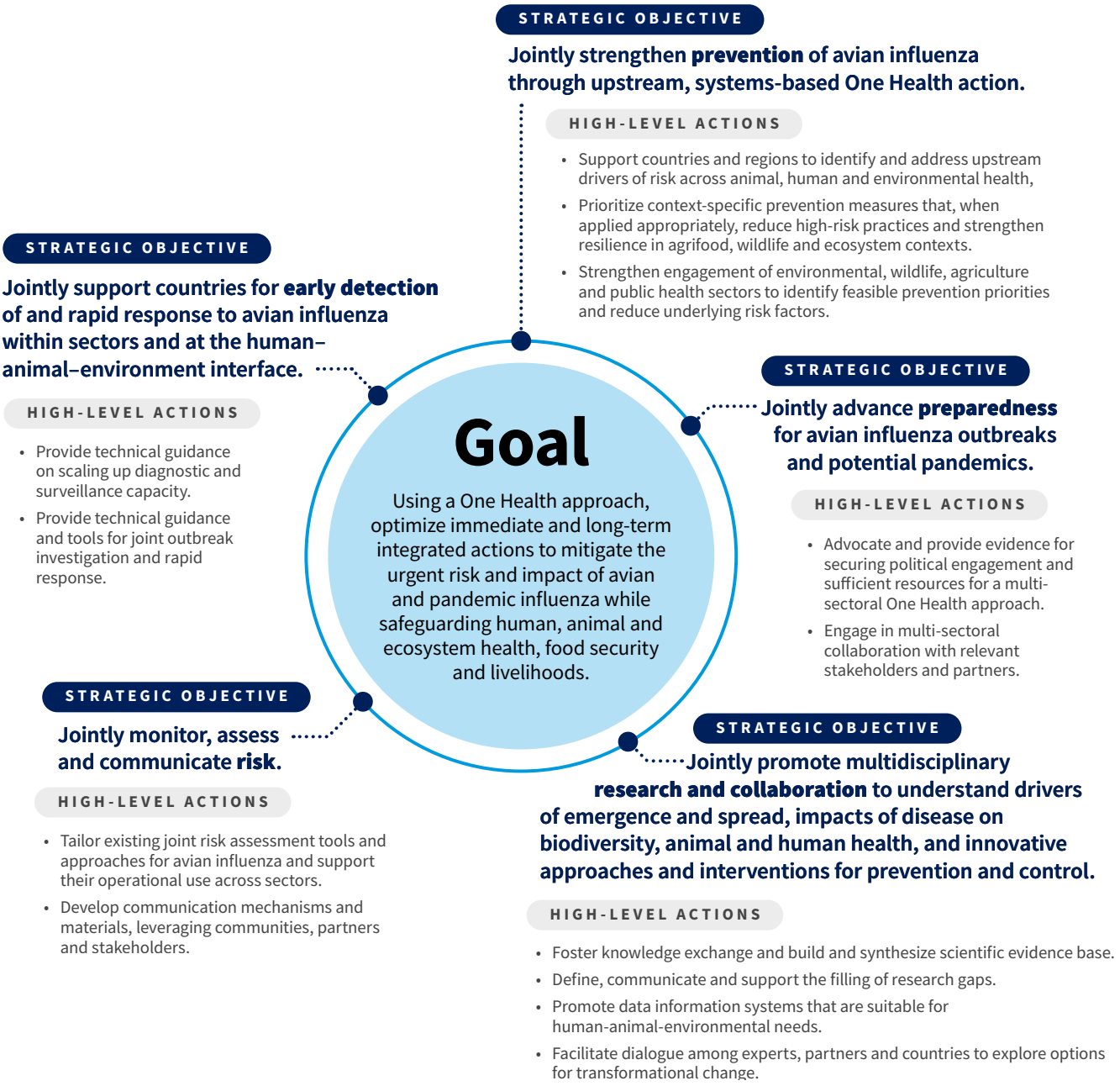
The overall goal of this global framework is aligned with the first two long-term outcomes of the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022-2026): improving the health of humans, animals, plants and the environment through sustainable, system-wide One Health solutions, and reducing the risk and impact of health threats at the human–animal–plant–environment interface through coordinated, effective and equitable action *(11)*.

Across all objectives and outcomes, this framework promotes a One Health and systems approach *(10, 16)*, applied in an equitable manner, that recognizes the interconnections between animal health, public health, biodiversity, agrifood systems, livelihoods and the environment, while considering differences in countries' capacities, sectoral needs and community vulnerabilities.

The objectives and high-level actions described in Figure 3 of this framework add value by aligning the complementary mandates, expertise and networks of the four organizations around a shared One Health agenda for avian influenza. It strengthens coherence across guidance, risk assessment, communication and country support, enabling collective action in support of countries.

The high-level actions will be implemented through the pathways of 1) policy, advocacy and financing, 2) organizational development, implementation and sectoral integration and 3) data, evidence, education and knowledge exchange *(10)*.

Figure 3. Objectives and high-level actions for the global collaboration on avian influenza



3.2 Overall impact and outcomes

This global framework provides a coordinated global platform to support countries in strengthening their capacity to prevent, detect, mitigate and respond effectively to avian influenza threats through an integrated One Health approach. While the framework is articulated at the global level, its ultimate impact is realized at national and subnational levels, where prevention, preparedness, early detection, mitigation, response and recovery measures are planned, financed, and implemented.

Countries are at the heart of a successful approach to avian and pandemic influenza, and, considering its transboundary nature, cross-sectoral One Health collaboration at regional and global levels is also important. By aligning the comparative advantages of FAO, WHO, WOAH and CMS, the framework enhances the coherence of global guidance, technical assistance, and advocacy, translating into more effective, country-owned action. It supports countries to move from fragmented, sector-specific efforts toward integrated systems that address risks at the human–animal–environment interface, thereby strengthening health security, protecting livelihoods, and safeguarding ecosystems.

The global framework for collaboration on avian influenza aims to bring the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Policy and governance support for coordinated and country owned One Health actions on avian influenza.

- Countries and regions recognize avian and pandemic influenza as a priority and the value of a One Health approach to prevention within broader environmental, food and agriculture and health security and development agendas.
- National policies and legal frameworks enable coherent, multisectoral action.
- International guidance and recommendations are aligned, coherent and mutually reinforcing, enabling countries to adopt integrated approaches to mitigate risk across animal, human, and environmental health sectors.
- Countries adopt and implement international standards in an integrated manner across sectors.

Outcome 2: Reduced risk of emergence and spread through strengthened upstream prevention, mitigation and ecosystem protection and resilience.

- Improved understanding of drivers of emergence and spread of avian influenza, and of effective upstream prevention and mitigation measures.
- Reduced use of high-risk practices that contribute to the emergence and spread of avian influenza.
- Broader implementation of mitigations to reduce the spread of avian influenza within and between populations.
- Upstream prevention and a One Health approach embedded across agriculture systems, wildlife interfaces and environmental management, supporting biodiversity benefits and ecosystem resilience.

Outcome 3: Coordinated wildlife, environmental, livestock and human health information systems support early warning, risk assessment decision-making.

- National and subnational human, animal and environment influenza surveillance systems, including systems relevant to wild, farmed and companion animals, are functional, equitable and coordinated.
- Agreements and mechanisms are in place to support timely sharing of surveillance data, virus samples and related information across sectors and with regional and international partners and organizations.
- Joint risk assessment and modelling to inform decisions.
- Early warning supports coordinated response.

Outcome 4: Strengthened capacities, partnerships and sustainable resourcing for prevention, preparedness and response.

- National One Health influenza prevention, preparedness and response plans are prioritized and adequately financed across the human–animal–environment sectors.
- Countries can leverage partnerships with regional and global networks for technical support, knowledge exchange, and resource mobilization.
- Investments in workforce development, research, and innovation are sustained to address evolving influenza risks.
- Adequate laboratory readiness and workforce capacity are established for timely diagnosis and characterization of influenza viruses.
- Risk communication strategies are in place to engage all communities and stakeholders effectively.
- Multisectoral outbreak investigation and response plans and mechanisms are operational and regularly tested.
- Environmental and wildlife health sector capacities are strengthened and better connected with animal and public health systems for prevention, preparedness and response.

3.3 Assumptions and risks

This global framework is based on a set of assumptions about the conditions needed for successful implementation and the risks that could affect progress. These assumptions and risks should be reviewed periodically and used to guide planning, prioritization and risk management.

Assumptions

- The four organizations maintain their role as trusted global leaders on the topic of One Health and avian influenza.
- Sufficient technical and financial resources are available for joint work across sectors at global, regional and country levels.
- Political commitment to avian influenza prevention, control and pandemic preparedness remains strong at global, regional, and national levels.
- Evidence on influenza risks and interventions is timely, reliable, and accessible for decision-making.
- Multisectoral collaboration is prioritized and supported by national governance structures.
- No major shifts occur in global health priorities that undermine influenza preparedness efforts.

Risks

- Competing health emergencies (e.g. other epidemics, pandemics or health crises) divert attention and resources from avian influenza preparedness.
- Limited national capacity or political will to implement a One Health approach noting particular weaknesses in existing resourcing of the wildlife component of HPAI responses.
- Fragmented coordination among sectors and partners at country level.
- Insufficient or unsustainable financing for preparedness, prevention, early detection and response activities.
- Existing economic incentives may impact uptake of prevention and mitigation measures and/or timely reporting and transparent information sharing.
- Misinformation and lack of trust hinder effective risk communication and community engagement.
- Rapid virus evolution, including changes associated with infections in mammalian species, or emergence of novel strains outpaces available countermeasures (animal and human vaccines, antivirals, culling).
- Gaps in formal arrangements for sharing samples and related information across One Health partners may hinder timely virus characterization, risk assessment and coordinated response.
- Climate, biodiversity and geopolitical risks may affect ecosystem resilience, disease dynamics, surveillance and response systems, and coordinated cross-border action.

4. Implementation arrangements

4.1 Operational approach

This global framework will be implemented through a coordinated and flexible operational approach. It will serve as a common reference for aligning joint and organization-specific contributions to the shared goal and objectives on avian influenza.

Implementation of this framework will build on existing mechanisms rather than create parallel structures, leveraging the existing coordination mechanisms and networks of each organization within the four organizations. Its added value will be realized through better alignment of ongoing work, clearer communication of joint priorities, and more coordinated support to countries and regions. Implementation will be guided by agreed priorities and regular information exchange across global, regional and, where relevant, country levels. Where needed, the four organizations may define time-bound priority actions or coordination arrangements and build on relevant existing mechanisms and partnerships, including OFFLU and GF-TADs, to promote complementarity, avoid duplication and strengthen support to countries.

4.2 Resourcing

Each organization will support delivery of the global framework by mobilizing resources for its respective contributions, while opportunities for coordinated resource mobilization may be pursued for joint priorities and activities.

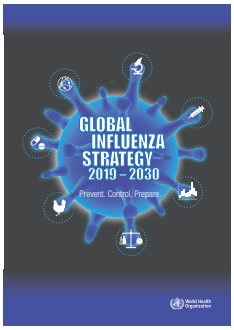
4.3 Human resources and partnerships

Depending upon the context, the framework and work plan will be implemented by staff across multiple departments and all levels of the four organizations, and associated experts, with ongoing coordination support, as appropriate, from the senior management group.

The four organizations collaborate individually and jointly with a wide range of partners and stakeholders. Stakeholders and external partners may be mobilized to support activities.

Further reading

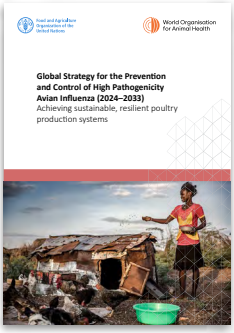
Global influenza strategy (2019–2030) *(12)*



The Global influenza strategy 2019–2030 provides a comprehensive framework to strengthen global, regional, and national capacities to prevent, detect, and respond to influenza epidemics and pandemics. It emphasizes a life-course approach to influenza prevention, integrating seasonal influenza control with pandemic preparedness to reduce disease burden and protect vulnerable populations. The strategy highlights the importance of strong surveillance systems, timely virus sharing, robust laboratory networks, and effective risk assessment to inform evidence-based decision-making. It also underscores the need for equitable access to vaccines, antivirals, and other countermeasures, particularly for low- and middle-income countries.

The strategy is built around four strategic objectives: strengthening country capacities for surveillance and monitoring; advancing pandemic preparedness and response; expanding influenza prevention and control policies and tools; and promoting research and innovation to improve influenza risk management. Cross-cutting enablers include multisectoral collaboration, including a One Health approach, sustainable financing, workforce development, and global partnerships such as the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS). Together, these elements aim to reduce the global impact of influenza by supporting countries to implement integrated, sustainable, and resilient influenza programmes aligned with broader health security and universal health coverage goals.

Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (2024–2033): Achieving sustainable, resilient poultry production systems *(5)*



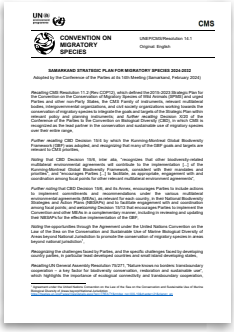
The Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (2024–2033): Achieving sustainable, resilient poultry production systems emphasizes a systems approach to contextualize the threat of HPAI against the backdrop of other global concerns. The vision is a world with effective HPAI prevention and control along poultry value chains that supports the protection of domestic animals, wildlife, the environment and humans, and aligns with the sustainable transformation of agrifood systems. Thus, there is a strong focus on the One Health approach to ensure integrated collaboration between the agriculture, public health and environmental sectors. It promotes multistakeholder inclusion and the development of public-private partnerships. It encourages the use of both established and innovative means of protecting poultry value chains to reduce the burden of infections and losses. The strategy provides a framework for global and regional coordination to support countries in the effective implementation of national plans that reflect the evolution of the disease and new scientific advances in prevention and control, adapted to their specific context.

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) *(17)*

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals provides the global legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats. It recognizes that migratory species cross national boundaries and therefore require coordinated international action across their range. The Convention sets out obligations for Parties to conserve migratory species, particularly those threatened with extinction, including by protecting habitats, removing obstacles to migration and addressing factors that endanger species. It also promotes international agreements and cooperative measures for species that would benefit from concerted conservation action.

In the context of avian influenza, the Convention is relevant because it provides the institutional and legal basis for international cooperation on the conservation of migratory birds affected by disease threats. Its emphasis on coordinated action across flyways, habitats and jurisdictions supports evidence-based responses that seek to protect migratory species while avoiding inappropriate or harmful measures. This framework helps situate avian influenza not only as an animal and public health issue, but also as a conservation challenge requiring cross-border and multisectoral collaboration.

CMS Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (2024-2032) *(18)*



UNEP/CMS/Resolution 14.1
Original: English

CMS

CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

SAMARKAND STRATEGIC PLAN FOR MIGRATORY SPECIES 2024-2032

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 14th Meeting (Samarkand, February 2024)

The Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2032 provides the overarching strategic framework for implementation of the CMS over the period 2024–2032. It aims to improve the conservation status of migratory species and the ecological connectivity on which they depend by strengthening action across species, habitats and migration routes. The plan emphasizes the need to address the multiple and interacting pressures facing migratory species, including habitat loss, pollution, climate change, unsustainable use and disease. It also promotes stronger integration of migratory species conservation into national planning, international cooperation, and cross-sectoral decision-making.

In the context of wildlife health, the Strategic Plan is particularly relevant to avian influenza (specifically HPAI) because it reinforces the need to consider disease within the broader context of threats affecting migratory species and ecosystems. Its focus on ecological connectivity, resilience and coordinated international action aligns with global efforts to address the impacts of HPAI on wild bird populations. Furthermore, the plan supports an integrated One Health approach by recognizing that long-term conservation outcomes depend on collaboration across the environmental, animal and human health sectors.

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