



A special edition focusing on the launch and showcase

## Word from the Chief Executive Officer

Dear Reader,

**W**E ARE delighted to have you with us once again. Thank you for making a date with *One Health Digest* and being a regular reader. This edition marks the start of the Second Year of production of our newsletter and we promise you a year of interesting reading.

This edition is a special one; it focuses on the launch of our Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN) brand. October 28th, 2020 will forever be etched in our memories and a special day, marking the official launch of AFROHUN. I do thank all of you who have been with us, from our early days as One Health Central and Eastern Africa (OHCEA), to where we are now. The interest you have in our work and the partnership we have had over the years, is what keeps us going.

The launch of AFROHUN marks a new chapter in our life and journey as a network, renewed energy and strengthened focus on One Health workforce development on the continent and globally. This places a big challenge on us to live up to expectation. With a growing network and increasing partnership portfolio, we are confident that we will deliver as expected.

The One Health Workforce Next Generation project Year 1 showcase of success stories (highlighted in this newsletter), is testimony of the potential the network has to deliver significant results in One Health workforce development and impact global processes, like the response to COVID-19 pandemic.

As AFROHUN embarks on this exciting new chapter as a One Health university network, sustainability and expansion are key areas of focus. Our sustainability will depend a lot on your uptake of the exciting new suite of programs we are working on and will unveil soon.

Once again, thank you for walking with us this far! Enjoy this edition of AFROHUN's *One Health Digest*.

**Prof. William Bazeyo**  
Chief Executive,  
Africa One Health University Network



**Prof. Nawangwe (fifth from right), the leadership of AFROHUN and students cutting cake at the launch ceremony**

## AFROHUN urged to extend out of universities as we launch

**O**N October 28, 2020, we were launched as Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN) at a fun-filled, though nostalgic hybrid event.

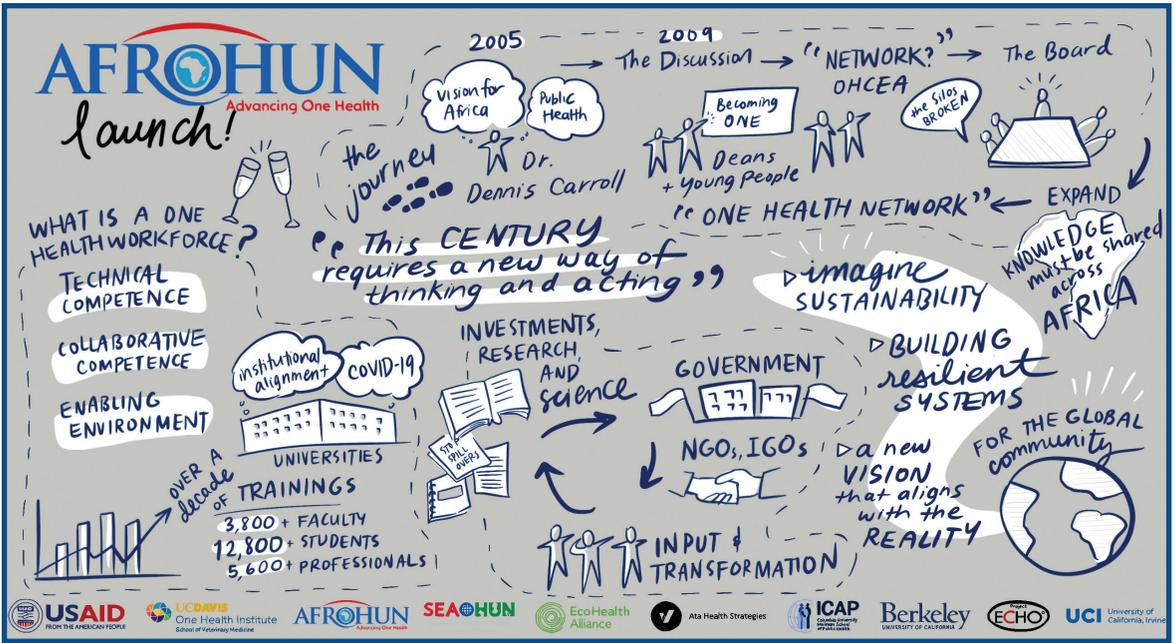
Although this event marked the end of our name as One Health central and Eastern Africa (OHCEA), we are still the same in vision, character and determination to build

a One Health workforce for the continent.

The hybrid launch, where majority of the participants and guests attended virtually, was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Kampala on October 28, 2020.

It was a day of reliving fond memories of this network that has grown from a collection of a

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An artistic impression of the AFROHUN launch drawn by Tracy Nguyen a graphic facilitator. Tracy can be reached on [tracynguyenn@gmail.com](mailto:tracynguyenn@gmail.com)

# AFROHUN told to extend activities out of universities

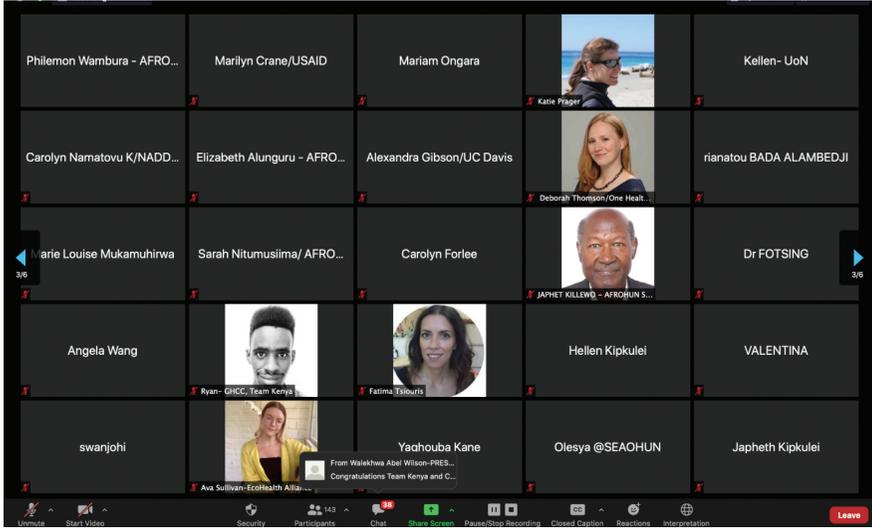
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few individuals and institutions, to a global force leading development of One Health workforce for the continent.

One of the most frequently made appeals by the speakers was that AFROHUN moves out of university walls to engage other stakeholders.

In addition to partnering with other universities, the network was urged to partner with non-traditional institutions like vocational training institutions, the government, private sector, non-governmental organizations, civil society and businesspeople.

Prof. Philemon Wambura, the Board Chair of AFROHUN, noted that the leadership of the network was moving



from institutional focus to building nationwide workforce programs.

Therefore, he explained, it is strategically important for the network to look beyond university rooms and engage other actors.

The same call was made by Dr. Henry Mwebesa, the Director General of Health Services in the Ministry of Health - Uganda. Dr. Mwebesa

explained that the network needs to work with all actors who impact on the health status of the people, adding that by doing so, the network will have a greater impact and it will be able to build a One Health culture.

Similarly, Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe urged the network to move its activities into

the communities.

He advised them to educate communities on zoonotic diseases, in addition to engaging national and regional governments to integrate One Health in their policy and strategic planning.

On the other hand, Marilyn Crane urged the network to work on continuing education programming and supporting alumni.

## The formation of the One Health Initiative in Africa - a brief

**T**HE Chief Executive, AFROHUN, Prof. William Bazeyo, narrated the history of the One Health initiative in Africa. He

noted that it started

in 2005 with

the Leadership

Initiative for

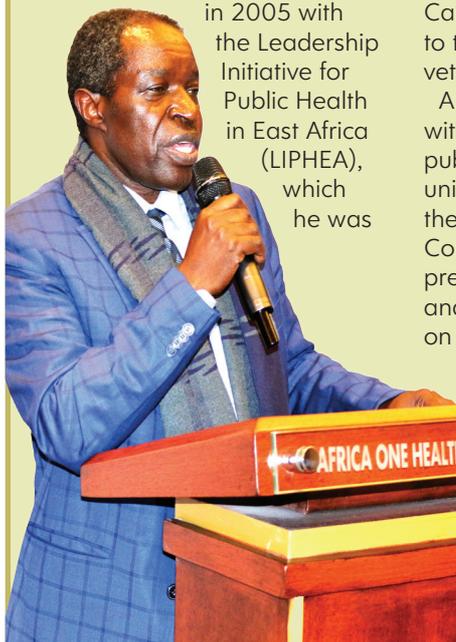
Public Health

in East Africa

(LIPHEA),

which

he was



working on with Prof. Japhet Killewo from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, in Dar-es-Salaam.

Before they completed the project, in 2009, Dr. Dennis Carroll of USAID then, talked to them about bringing veterinarians on board.

A meeting was convened with deans of schools of public health from different universities in East Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia. After a presentation by Dr. Carroll and his assistant, Rob Henry, on the need to have a One

Health focus,

members

decided

to move

forward

with the principle. At first, it was difficult to have a name that was all inclusive. In

addition, members decided not to have the word network on their name because many networks were collapsing, especially after funding would be stopped.

After much deliberations, the name One Health Central and Eastern Africa was born. Thereafter, members set out to convince their universities to accept the collective as a university-wide initiative so that it would be wholly embraced, for example even by the vice chancellors, and not only by the schools of public health and veterinary medicine/sciences.

*You can access the recording of Professor Bazeyo narrating this story here Prof William Bazeyo -AFROHUN CEO On The Genesis Of The One Health University Network by AFROHUN | Free Listening on SoundCloud*

## Govt support in developing OHW assured

**O**N behalf of the Ministry of Health, the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health Uganda, Dr. Henry Mwebesa pledged commitment to work closely with AFROHUN.

He said the Ministry would be available to share relevant information, and to work closely with the network during research and publication.

In addition, Dr. Mwebesa noted that as a ministry, they hope to benefit from the research universities do so as to help them develop policies to address the health needs of the populations in a relevant and sustainable manner.

He urged the network to consider lessons from COVID-19, especially in regard to issues



*Some of the AFROHUN Secretariat staff at the launch*

of preparedness and response, which provided lots of lessons when it comes to partnerships and collaborations.

Prof. William Bazeyo, the

CEO of AFROHUN, thanked the different governments in the member countries for giving the network an enabling environment to do their work.

**W**HEN the one health concept was

introduced in universities, it was seen as going against the norms in some institutions, noted AFROHUN board chair Prof. Philemon Wambura.

He noted that he was happy that the initiative has promoted the understanding and appreciation of the One Health concept across Africa.

Dr. Henry Mwebesa, the Director General of Health Services – Ministry of Health, Uganda, congratulated the leadership of the network on the steady progress. He called the launch an important milestone in the development of the One Health Network, especially given the role of universities in workforce development.

In addition, Makerere University Vice Chancellor, Professor Barnabas Nawangwe noted that it is a formidable network for knowledge and resource sharing.

He thanked those behind OHCEA for setting the agenda for One Health on the continent.

On the other hand, Dr. Dennis Carroll – formerly of USAID, Washington DC - appreciated the extraordinary work and leadership of AFROHUN. Dr. Carroll noted that the network starts its next phase from a remarkable place with a decade of having built networks and alliances.

## AFROHUN Network hailed over 10 years of progress

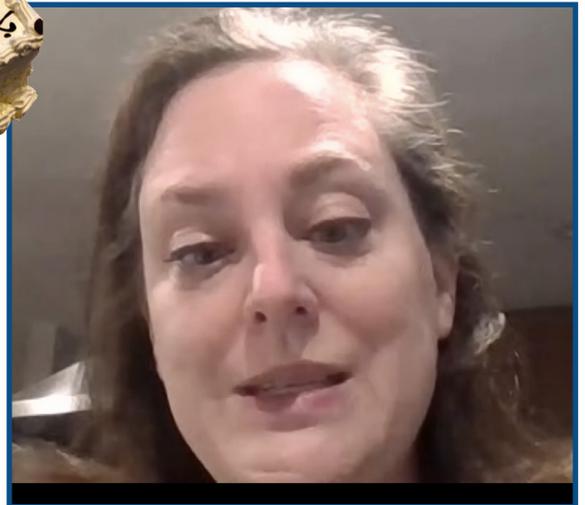


**Prof. Bazeyo (left), Prof. Kabasa and Prof. Nawangwe toasting in honour of AFROHUN**



Ms. Marilyn Crane, USAID Washington, gave an update on the progress of One Health Workforce development in the AFROHUN region and what has so far been achieved, noting that:

- Six One Health-related graduate programmes have been developed
  - 60 One-Health student clubs established at member universities to provide hands-on training
  - 3,8000+ faculty-provided training or professional development
  - 12,800+ students trained
  - 5,600+ current professionals trained
- Prof. Deborah



**Marilyn Crane hailed the network for the impact so far created and expressed hope for more**

Kochevar, of Tufts University, a longstanding AFROHUN Partner, congratulated AFROHUN on the amazing achievements of over 10 years, as OHCEA.

She noted that she was privileged to be a part of it all. Prof. Kochevar urged them to continue doing good work, noting that they

have moved into an exciting phase and the capacity they have developed over the last 10 years will enable them to do good work.

The AFROHUN Board Chair, Prof. Philemon Wambura noted that as AFROHUN moves forward, the board is committed to providing strategic leadership to the network.

# AFROHUN launch: Did you hear this?

## Prof. William Bazeyo

On formation of OHCEA, each member country was represented by two schools; one for public health and the other for veterinary, except Kenya where there was a conflict and it had two schools of public health.

In some cases, the schools were in the same university.

In constituting a board, it was agreed that each country would appoint one



person as board member.

We did not want to use the word network in the name of the initiative

because many networks were collapsing at the time.

After admitting members from West Africa, the name OHCEA became inappropriate. In 2019, we agreed to change the name to Africa One Health University Network.

We are now fine with the word network because we are stable, stronger and cannot break; we have grown and can even manage our resources directly.

## Marilyn Crane

The One Health Workforce is about collaboration and it fosters a multi-sectoral approach to infectious diseases prevention, detection and response.

The one health

workforce requires supportive systems to ensure timely, efficient and effective multi-sectoral responses.

One health leads to improved capacity to detect, prevent and respond to different emerging health threats.

## Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe

With changes in population dynamics, there is no other more pressing challenge for universities to tackle than public health.

## Dr. Dennis Carroll

There is need to think and act differently on how to address challenges as the world changes. It is good to instill this new way of thinking in the students who will be the leaders in public health of tomorrow. Leaders

in public health, veterinary, wildlife and conservation, and ecology should bring a different vision in the way that aligns with the world and not to work in silos that have trapped them in a narrow understanding of what the world is like.

## Prof. David Kabasa

During the bumpy road of nurturing the alliance, membership was increasing, interest was growing, diversity of views and submissions on what was happening growing; so much was discussed and there was diversity of partners that kept growing. But while dealing with challenges,



Prof. Wambura and Prof. Bazeyo focused on improvement and progress rather than perfectionism, and they made progress.

## Partnerships emphasized at AFROHUN launch

**S**EVERAL speakers at the launch of AFROHUN acknowledged the important role partnerships played in the formation and growth of OHCEA and now AFROHUN.

One partner that was appreciated by everyone was the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Prof. William Bazeyo, the CEO of AFROHUN, talked about the formation of OHCEA, noting that USAID supported the association with financial resources right from the beginning when they were branding and setting up a secretariat to manage their activities.

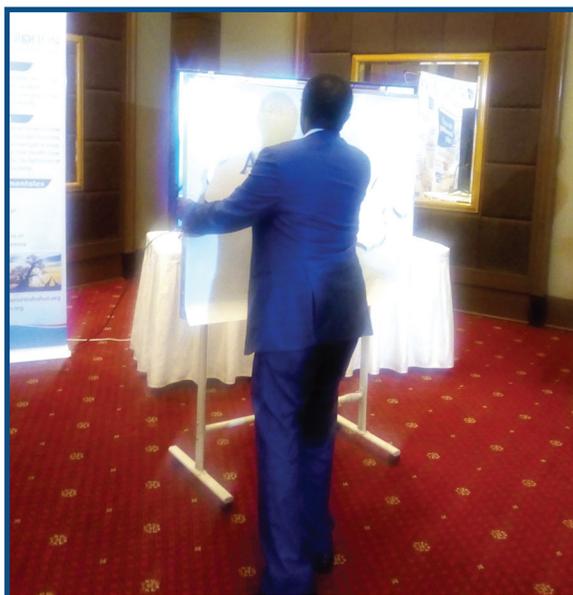
Prof. Bazeyo thanked Dr. Dennis Carroll (who was working with USAID then) for popularizing the One Health concept in Africa and Asia and contributing to the formation of OHCEA.

He also thanked Prof. Japhet Killewo of Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) with whom he worked on the Leadership Initiative for Public Health in East Africa (LIPHEA) in 2005 from which OHCEA was born in 2010.

In addition, he thanked the leadership at Makerere University, AFROHUN Board Chair, Prof. Philemon Wambura, and Prof. John David Kabasa,



*Dr. Dennis Carroll was hailed for popularizing the One Health Concept in Africa and Asia*



*Prof. Bazeyo signing the board to launch AFROHUN at the Sheraton Hotel*

with whom they have worked for a long time.

On his part, Dennis Carroll congratulated the network on new partnerships. He urged the new and old members to work together to bring new perspectives to the network.

Although retired

from USAID, Dr. Carroll promised to remain involved in the activities of AFROHUN and (South East Asia One Health University Network) SEAOHUN.

Dr. Henry Mwebesa, the Director General of Health Services, thanked USAID for putting up a

comprehensive framework on how to support growth of the network.

Prof. Deborah Kochevar of Tufts University – an AFROHUN Partner – commended the thriving partnerships that AFROHUN has formed with other initiatives, such as SEAOHUN and others over the last 10 years.

She noted that the partnerships have been important in capacity building and will bear fruit in years and decades to come.

Prof. Kochevar added that there has been an enormous return on investment in the networks as students have internalized One Health principles and have become leaders in One Health.

Prof. Philemon Wambura (AFROHUN Board Chair) welcomed the newest member of the network; the University of Félix Houphouët-Boigny School of Medicine of Cote d'Ivoire.

He thanked everyone who has been involved with OHCEA and urged them to continue working hard for the advancement of AFROHUN.

He said AFROHUN presents new opportunities for collaboration, adding that it can be used to test new possibilities of alignment within ministries.

## Partnerships emphasized at AFROHUN launch

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Ms. Marilyn Crane, Senior International Higher Education Advisor at the USAID Emerging Threats Division in Washington, underscored the need for innovations, noting that the next step for the network is to look for new types of partnerships, for example, collaborating with non-traditional schools and faculties, private sector, vocational/ technical institutions and primary schools in addition to serving participants from non-network countries.

Ms. Crane urged the One Health Workforce Next Generation Global consortium to create resilient regional networks by planning to transition the networks to independent sustainable entities by identifying potential sources of income.

Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, who presided over the launch, assured partners that the universities are fully committed to the success of AFROHUN.

On behalf of other vice chancellors and as the host university, he promised to provide all necessary assistance to the leadership of AFROHUN.



*Some of the students from Mbarara University of Science and Technology who attended the launch at Sheraton Kampala Hotel*

## Importance of sharing knowledge emphasized

**A**FTER acknowledging that the Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN) will lead and champion the One Health approach in Africa, speakers at the launch urged the network to share knowledge.

Prof. William Bazeyo, the CEO of AFROHUN, noted that knowledge must be shared across Africa.

On the other hand, Prof. Jonna Mazet added that AFROHUN can be the role model of all One Health programs around the world and can provide the backbone, technology and training materials to set the standard for One Health to produce professionals with trans-disciplinary skills.

In addition, Dr. Henry Mwebesa, the Director General of Health Services – Ministry of Health Uganda- explained that with the increasing nature of pathogens the world over, which are crossing countries and

continents, the importance of a university network is significant in creating partnerships, linkages and synergies. These are key in managing health emergencies.

Similarly, Prof. John David Kabasa noted that universities are in a position to do research and surveillance to support government efforts which tend to be more national than regional, yet university activities are trans-boundary due to collaboration with other universities. Therefore, universities bring knowledge more quickly from country to country and inform government ministries.

You can listen to a longer version of Professor Kabasa's take on the issue here; Professor John David Kabasa - Deputy CEO AFROHUN | Free Listening on SoundCloud

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## Importance of sharing knowledge emphasized

*From page 7*

Makerere University Vice Chancellor Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe noted that AFROHUN positions well the role of universities to address health challenges through creation of partnerships that facilitate knowledge, skills transfer and workforce development. He urged AFROHUN to keep pace with competence needs

through regular competence assessments and to endeavour to design and use the right curricula in training.

Prof. Nawangwe implored those involved in the activities of AFROHUN to document, package and share their experiences, good practices, successes and challenges so as to contribute to the understanding and effectiveness of similar undertakings.



*Prof. John David Kabasa speaking at the launch ceremony of AFROHUN*

## Relevance of One Health explained

**D**URING the launch of AFROHUN, several speakers emphasized the interconnection of the health of the people, animals and the environment.

Making reference to the presence of zoonotic diseases, the speakers underscored the relevance of the One Health principle.

Prof. Jonna Mazet, the Director of the One Health Workforce Next Generation project, commended AFROHUN over its involvement in the COVID-19 response across Africa. She noted that with the growth of AFROHUN, there is hope that “if we work together, we can do what is



necessary to get out of pandemics like COVID-19”.

Prof. Mazet acknowledged the fact that with AFROHUN training the next generation of world

health leaders to respect each other and use the One Health approach, the future looks much stronger and better.

Dr. Henry Mwebesa, the Director General

of Health Services, noted that “the One Health approach can help us to deliver enormous benefits in

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# Relevance of One Health explained

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health promotion, disease prevention and universal health coverage”.

He informed participants about the existence of the National One Health Platform, where four ministries work together to address health issues. These are the Ministry of Health, that of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries; the Ministry of Water and Environment, plus that of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, which is represented by the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

Dr. Dennis Carroll noted that the world we live in today needs a new way of thinking. “Diseases are coming from multiple sectors which means that multiple professional skills are required to deal with them. The situation also requires engagement of communities and dynamically different ways of bringing different communities together,” Carroll noted.

Prof. John David Kabasa, AFROHUN Deputy Chief Executive, noted that with the intensification of human activity due to population explosion and increased globalization, the

**USAID One Health Workforce – Next Generation**  
Empowering One Health university networks to sustainably deliver world-leading model programs for equipping professionals with transdisciplinary skills to address complex global health issues

Gender & Other Inequities

**TRAINING & EMPOWERMENT:**  
TRAININGS IN ALIGNMENT WITH  
PRIORITIZED ONE HEALTH CORE  
COMPETENCIES & TECHNICAL SKILLS

**ASSESSMENT & TRACKING:**  
ASSESSMENTS OF MULTI-  
SECTORAL WORKFORCE CAPACITY  
TO INFORM DESIGN OF TRAINING  
& EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

**ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY:**  
RESILIENT CAPACITIES OF ONE HEALTH  
UNIVERSITY NETWORKS TO EXPAND &  
MAINTAIN PARTNER  
DONOR RELATIONSHIPS

USAID UCDAMS AFROHUN SEAQHUN EcoHealth Alliance ICAP

*Jonna emphasizing the need for university networks to intensify efforts in One Health workforce development*



*Dr. Dennis Carroll joined the launch via Zoom*

needs of humans are resulting into increased contact with animals and movement, thus increasing the risk of developing diseases.

Makerere University Vice Chancellor, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe noted

that increasingly, the world needs a One Health workforce. Therefore, he urged AFROHUN to position itself well to deliver on this by anticipating changing needs and embracing innovative training approaches like training in multi-

disciplinary teams.

Professor Nawangwe disclosed that Makerere University is working on a One Health framework that will guide the mainstreaming of One Health teaching, research and service to the community.

# Innovating in the face of COVID-19

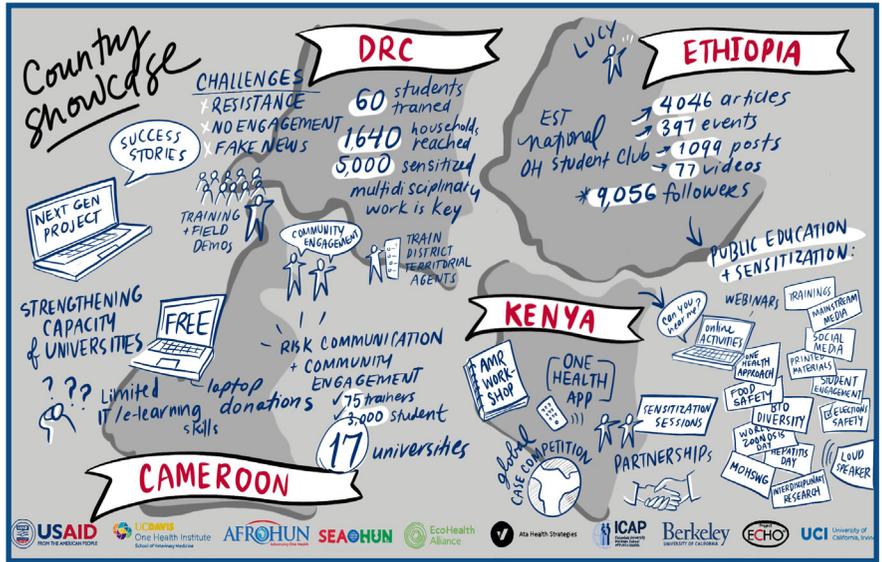
**E**ARLY in the OHW-NG year 1, the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded with major implications in workplaces and the new USAID One Health Workforce Next Generation project.

For AFROHUN, the pandemic was an opportunity to demonstrate One Health in practice albeit with challenges to work modalities that affected directly implementation within member institutions given international and local COVID -19 response guidelines and SOPs that had to be adhered to for safety of staff, students, faculty and all implementing partners.

Innovations were inevitable to safely support response efforts within countries as well as leverage the rare opportunity to demonstrate One Health in action in settings where all national decision-makers were grappling for solutions to manage the pandemic.

The global health challenge was also an ideal situation where learners could sharpen their One Health competencies in a real time outbreak of global and nation-wide magnitude.

In collaboration with the One Health Workforce – Next Generation Project, AFROHUN is glad to share selected innovations and successes realized over the past one year (Jan-Sept 2020) within the face of COVID -19 challenges.



Graphic presentation of the summary of the presentations for four of the countries

Eight countries (Cameroon, DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda) have synthesized a selection of outstanding works to share with stakeholders through PowerPoint presentations in combination with visuals (video and audio clips), telling their stories of the innovations employed.

The emerging story from the selection is categorized into two themes:  
 (a) Relevance of OH competencies in COVID-19 response  
 (b) Utility of innovations in activity implementation. Enjoy the presentations.

**a) Relevance of OH competencies in COVID-19 response**  
**Kenya** presents an anatomy of the COVID-19 related challenges in universities and how

country teams had to re-adjust to this context.

Highlights of achievements realized presented through voices from various participating stakeholders (private sector, students, faculty) are presented.

**Cameroon** presents a case of the level of preparedness of Universities in Africa. They present support provided through the project in strengthening university capabilities to cope with COVID-19 by strengthening e-learning systems. The context rooted in government decisions, the innovations employed under the project, and the impacts so far realized which provides a sustainable solution for higher education.

**Ethiopia** presents a specific case demonstrating the role of universities in COVID -19 response, using the

students and faculty trained in One Health as surge capacity in responding to national and regional COVID-19 response in the country.

**Rwanda** illustrates impacts of the project to communities. The contributions by students through Student Innovation Clubs (SOHICs) to community health and well-being is demonstrated as well as a case of field experiential learning where community problems at the human-environmental interface is highlighted and student interventions and outcomes presented.

**DRC** demonstrates progression from previous project. They present in detail the application of one health knowledge and skills

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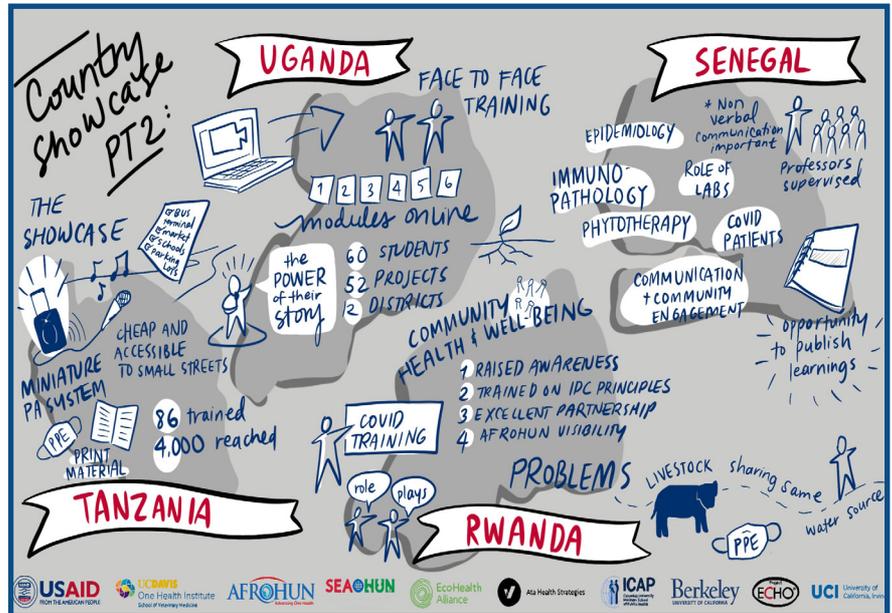
# Countries innovate in the face of COVID-19

From page 8

gained during OHW for the benefit of COVID-19 national response as well as using COVID-19 as an opportunity for AFROHUN alumni to gain practical field experience while applying knowledge gained.

## b) Utility of innovations in activity implementation

Tanzania shares actions towards strengthening in-service capacity for COVID-19 response using innovations applicable community level COVID-19 response. A partnership approach with TPHA (a local private NGO responsible for advocating on public health). Uganda Demonstrates a case of innovations



The summary of the presentations for the second half of the countries

in implementing Year 1 activities within COVID-19 context. The innovations were applied in field experiential learning activities and in

institutionalization of OH within a member university. Senegal demonstrates the utility of OHW-NG innovations e.g. ECHO (extension for

community healthcare outcomes). They also highlight student and mentors' experiences gain through multi-disciplinary small research grants.

## AFROHUN advised on developing a One Health workforce

**A**S AFROHUN starts the next stage, its leadership was advised to focus on developing a One Health workforce that will competently handle the future needs of the world.

Ms. Marilyn Crane, from One Health Workforce USAID, explained that the critical pathway to a One Health workforce includes three elements:

1. Identifying workforce needs
2. Strengthening workforce
3. Supporting an enabling environment

She emphasized the goal of the One Health Workforce, which she said is to empower universities to develop and deliver sustainable training programmes that equip current and future professionals with multi-sectoral skills and competencies to address complex health issues, including zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance.

On the other hand, Dr. Dennis Carroll acknowledged the fact that AFROHUN is at the

forefront of building the next generation of world leaders.

He added that with proper training, we shall have a different quality of leadership. On that note, Carroll urged universities to produce graduates with skills to address emergencies and pandemics when they include other countries. "Universities should be transformational/change agents for making the next generation of leaders more impactful than today's. The network

should transform the training environment and approaches in universities in a bid to develop a workforce without disciplinary barriers, helping students to understand and appreciate the contribution of disciplines outside their own in predicting, detecting and responding to complex health challenges we are witnessing today."

He called on AFROHUN to support the growth of the continental and global health security agenda.

# How the OHW Next Generation project work feeds

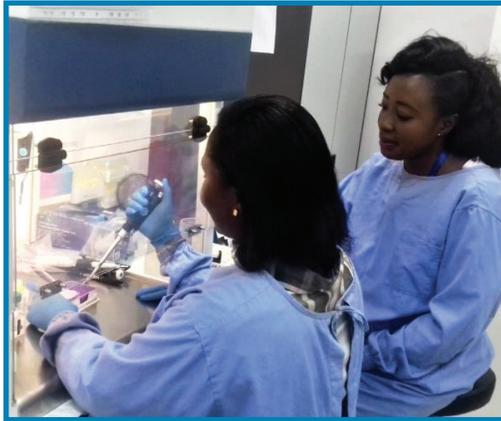
**D**ANGEROUS threats, such as Ebola, highly pathogenic avian influenza, and the recent emergence of the 2019 novel coronavirus highlight the need for a skilled One Health workforce, prepped for early detection and timely response to zoonotic diseases before they become pandemics.

The complex nature of these threats is a reminder of how a large-scale multidisciplinary network of health professionals is required for achieving global health security.

Traditional, siloed approaches fall short; cross-sectoral and trans-disciplinary approaches and strong partnerships between governmental, non-governmental and private partners are needed to build capabilities and effectively respond to health emergencies.

To meet these demands, new competencies are required to strengthen the pipeline of the next generation of One Health professionals.

USAID's investments through the Emerging Pandemic Threats program are making huge strides in this regard, delivering national workforce assessments, providing innovative tools and



## *Mission of the USAID One Health Workforce – Next Generation project:*

*To empower AFROHUN and SEAOHUN to become global leaders in transforming the capacity of workforces to more effectively engage across sectors to prepare current and future health workers to prevent, detect, and respond to emerging disease threats of epidemic and pandemic importance.*

## OHW-NG technical objectives and illustrative activities



Our consortium has integrated and linked activities to the GHSA 2024 Action Packages, country roadmaps, the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) 2.0 indicators specifically related to the Human Resources Technical Area, and the WHO Benchmarks for International Health Regulations (IHR) Capacities to ensure that our deliverables help move countries towards a higher level of capacity with improved global health security.

training programs, and building strong university networks in Africa and Asia to address the most critical One Health workforce gaps.

As part of this effort, the USAID One Health Workforce – Next Generation (OHW-NG) project is supporting One Health

University Networks in Africa (AFROHUN) and Southeast Asia (SEAOHUN). Together, we are building scalable and sustainable systems for training and empowering human resources to combat complex health threats in the world's most vulnerable areas for disease emergence.

## **OHW-NG enhancing capabilities of University Networks**

The OHW-NG consortium is actively supporting global health security activities in many countries.

This project builds and operationalizes strategies that strengthen health systems, expand

## into global level One Health processes, objectives

regional and national networks, and promote utilization of health information for evidence-based decision making.

### The OHW-NG approach

The OHW-NG project strives to empower One Health university networks to sustainably develop and deliver world-leading model programs that equip current and future professionals with skills and competencies that address high priority health issues. To this end, the OHW-NG project is oriented around three technical objectives.

Objective 1 focuses on increasing proficiency in One Health competencies for pre-service and in-service professionals, establishing a well-trained and technically proficient workforce pipeline, and engaging One Health Networks that could be activated during health emergencies.

Objective 2 targets strengthening systems and procedures to assess and track multi-sectoral workforce placement, performance, and impact.

Objective 3 builds organizational sustainability for the regional One Health University Networks by strengthening their organizational capacities.

The regional network



and country-led activities are aligned with these global objectives along several prioritized thematic areas:

**1. A Focus on Faculty and Students** – as the inspiration and engine of the OHW-NG project, motivated faculty and students are a key to success in building momentum for One Health University Networks around the world. Activities range from engaging with student One Health clubs, supporting a faculty scholars forum, and running small grants programs, to fostering cross-Network connectivity.

**2. Harnessing Technology** as a Next Gen Training Tool – in our rapidly changing world, it has become essential that colleagues are globally connected on a real-time basis using a variety of technologic

formats. Our consortium will continue to evaluate and pilot training innovations that utilize low-cost, high-impact technological formats in order to build a workforce capable of rapidly addressing global health threats as they emerge.

**3. Addressing Hot Topic One Health Issues** – The university networks will continue to make advances in the hot topic areas of COVID-19, antimicrobial resistance, and disease transmission and emergence. These themes will be addressed using existing and newly developed training materials optimized during online and face to face synchronous meetings, learning activities, and conferences, as well as using asynchronous formats.

### OHW-NG Consortium Highlights from 2019-2020

#### **Objective 1: Training and Empowerment**

We developed curricula survey instruments with 13 categories of One Health training activities to curate training materials in each country. We produced a table of training activities that capture 18 One Health competency domains and distributed to Country Managers to record exemplar training activities in specific academic units.

We developed a survey questionnaire for self-assessment of progress toward institutionalization of One Health training activities at the national and regional levels, according to the CLASS (Calibrated, Life-long, Adaptable, Scalable, and Sustainable) schematic scores.

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# How the OHW-NG project work feeds into global level One Health processes, objectives

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We organized and launched virtual communities of practice (vCoP) focusing on COVID-19 and One Health. Following the initial launch, we implemented six ECHO panel sessions with the AFROHUN and SEAHOHUN networks to stimulate Communities of Practice and to discuss the multiple dimensions of the pandemic.

We began to establish the OHW-NG One Health Workforce Academy (OHWA) website for three branches of the One Health Workforce Academies, including the Global Consortium OHWA, AFROHUN OHWA, and SEAHOHUN OHWA.

We sponsored a student competition on digital communication incorporating the One Health concept targeting the COVID-19 pandemic and received > 40 entries from AFROHUN participants.

## **Objective 2: Assessment and Knowledge Management (KM)**

We developed a collaborative three-stage KM needs assessment strategy. The AFROHUN Secretariat completed the needs



**Dr. Susan Michaels-Strasser**  
*Objective 2 Global Lead speaking on the panel*



**Dr. Alexandra Zuber,**  
*Objective 3 Global Lead*

*The OHW-NG Consortium consists of AFROHUN and SEAHOHUN, as well as global leaders in One Health. Founded in 2011 with the support of USAID, AFROHUN and SEAHOHUN have been empowering universities to train the present and future health workforce to effectively prevent, detect, and respond to threats posed by emerging infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance. The Global Team is led by the University of California, Davis One Health Institute with university and industry partners recognized as leaders in One Health worldwide.*

assessment and after reviewing the results, determined that their priority was a KM strategy rather than a single KM system.

We completed a curricula curation exercise and performed an intensive systematic scan of existing OH competencies, learning objectives and competency-based evaluation strategies. As a result, we established a resource library, which now consists of over 200 learning assets and provides an organized platform for searching, sharing, and access-

ing diverse resources for developing OH workforce competency and assessment tools.

We developed a OH workforce competency framework to define workforce performance and created a competency evaluation toolkit for two domains – gender and outbreak response, which consists of tools for evaluating OH Workforce training and practices.

## **Objective 3: Organizational Sustainability**

We established new benchmarks

for organizational sustainability and development of Secretariat business plans, including:

- Completion of a Non-U.S. Organization Pre-award Survey (NUPAS) assessments to determine eligibility to directly receive USAID funds.

- Accomplishing two phases of a strengths, opportunities, weaknesses, and threats (SWOT) assessment for the Secretariat and country chapters/OHUNs.

- Development of sustainability case studies that investigated business models and sustainability approaches of similar regional training organizations.

We conducted a strategic planning exercise beginning with AFROHUN's vision and mission and leading to the network's strategic goals and completed a five-year business plan which articulates the network's strategic direction with components of the capacity building plan and partnership development strategy that provide actions to be implemented for institutional sustainability.

# Global Health Case Competition spices up things at AFROHUN OHW-NG Year I Showcase event

## THE CASE: A Zoonotic Disease Outbreak of Unknown Origin in Tanzania

**F**OUR countries: Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Cameroon took part in the hugely exciting Global Health Case Competition (GHCC) that brought a different kind of flavor to the AFROHUN One Health Workforce Next Generation Year 1 country showcase/ success stories. The two-part GHCC required students to;

1. Work systematically through disease outbreak information to identify possible causes.

2. Recognize the complexity associated with disease transmission, detection and control.

3. Formulate recommendations for a One Health approach to disease control and prevention.

### **Case summary**

A multidisciplinary group of scientists have just finished attending a conference at a university in Morogoro, Tanzania. The group has decided to extend their stay in Tanzania in order to explore the country and visit nearby Ruaha National Park. It is early June, the rainy season has ended, and daily temperatures

range between 14–27°C, making it an ideal time to observe wildlife during safari.

Just as the group's vacation begins, their friends at Sokoine University of Agriculture and their colleagues at the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) alert the group to the fact that a small disease outbreak with several fatalities has occurred in a village in the Idodi division of Iringa Rural District, which borders Ruaha National Park.

The locals are fearful as the disease appears to be a fatal febrile illness of unknown origin.

The colleagues have asked for the group's assistance to investigate the outbreak and have asked them to form a multidisciplinary taskforce including experts from different disciplines: and include roles such as a medical doctor, a virologist,

ache, abdominal pain and headache, severe diarrhea, nausea and vomiting.

Question for this part included initial case definition, list of possible differential diagnosis and what other factors – in addition to the case definition – the students would consider when generating their differential diagnosis.

**Part II** of the case competition tasked the student country teams to identify a solution or solutions to the problem they had identified in Part I of the case and make recommendations for its containment.

Cameroon emerged winners, while Kenya came second. The two won cash prizes that they will use to support their attendance at educational events. This support may be in the case of travel or registration for the event.



*Happy Asifiwe responding to a question to the Rwanda team*

an epidemiologist, a cultural anthropologist, and a veterinarian.

**Part I** of the case competition involved outbreak investigation of a cluster of severe illnesses resulting in multiple deaths that were reported from a village in the Idodi division of Iringa Rural District. Thus far, four patients had presented with the following symptoms: fever, malaise, body

# The AFROHUN One Health Workforce Academy: The AFROHUN promise

**A**S the world becomes more interconnected and health challenges more complex, the demand for the next generation of competent workforce is increasing. This need is even more glaring on the African continent, given the increasing frequency and emergence of infectious disease outbreaks.

Being at the center of One Health Workforce development, the then OHCEA network repositioned itself to fill this gap on the continent. The repositioning is not only reflected in name change, but it also came with a promise to innovatively integrate African capacity to coordinate Global



*Dr. Irene Naigaga, AFROHUN Regional Program Manager, presenting the academy*

Health Security Agenda.

AFROHUN is pooling the strength of the network members, partners and lessons learned over 10 years into a platform

to coordinate development of the continent’s One Health Workforce under the umbrella of AFROHUN One Health Workforce Academy.

The academy will

be operationalized through five pillars where structured programs and trainings will be incubated, piloted and rolled out to users on the African continent and beyond.



**For More Information about AFROHUN**

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