

# AFROHUN WORK IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

*SOHICS members taking part in beach  
clean-ups to mark World Oceans Day*

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# AFROHUN Network

Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN) is an international network, currently in 29 higher education institutions of public health, veterinary medicine/sciences, pathobiology, environmental sciences, medicine and global health, in 10 countries in Africa. The countries are Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda.

AFROHUN is working to transform the training environment and approaches in universities and allied institutions in Africa, to develop a One Health workforce: a workforce with competency to work across disciplinary boundaries. AFROHUN is building a workforce with competency to predict, detect and respond to the kind of complex health challenges we are increasingly witnessing today. To achieve this transformation, we are reviewing curricula, designing new and exciting experiential learning multidisciplinary training programs, re-tooling teachers and trainers, educating communities on complex health challenges, while engaging national and sub-national governments to domesticate and integrate One Health into national policy and strategic planning.





*Members of the HR OH TWG during the training on the One Health mapping tool. April 2024*

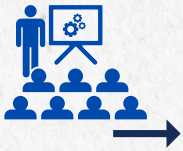
## Our Work in Côte d'Ivoire

In Côte d'Ivoire, the AFROHUN member institution is Felix Houphouët Boigny University Faculty of Medical Sciences. AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire works closely with several other education institutions in the country, both at degree - awarding and certificate and diploma awarding levels, as well as professional bodies. In our work, we engage governments at different levels, including through the National One Health Platform, relevant government sectors (human health, animal health, education, gender, water, environment), the National Public Health Institute of Côte d'Ivoire, the Institute Pasteur Laboratory (IPCI), the National Agricultural Development Support Laboratory (LANADA), monitoring and developing human resources OH, communities, and other stakeholders working in the same One Health and Global Health Security space.

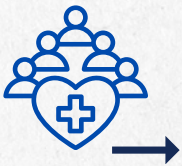
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# Our Impact



AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire has strengthened the capacities of more than **5,500** workforce, including both students and professionals in service, through various programs and projects.



As part of its initiatives, AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire has established five One Health Student Innovation Clubs (SOHIC) within Félix Houphouët-Boigny University, Nangui Abrogoua University, Jean Lorougnon Guédé University in Daloa, Alassane Ouattara University in Bouaké, and Péléforo Gon Coulibaly University in Korhogo. These clubs are self-organising and serve as a key strategy for promoting and training a skilled workforce in the "One Health" approach. The SOHICs have carried out risk communication and community engagement activities, including vaccination campaigns against COVID-19 and rabies in university communities and higher education institutions in several regions of the country. This is a boost to the health sector where human resources numbers are inadequate.



AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire supported the development of a training needs assessment report for health emergencies and a multi-sectoral human resource development strategic plan for health emergencies, using the tripartite (WHO, FAO, WHOA) human resource development tool to improve multi-sectoral coordination and human resource management for public health.



## Our Impact



Furthermore, AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire has supported the National One Health Platform by facilitating the establishment of a One Health Human Resources Technical Working Group (GTTRH-OH). This group, integrating the three key sectors of the approach, aims to strengthen multisectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration for the prevention, detection, and response to public health threats. Its main mission is to develop and monitor human resources at all levels to ensure the effective implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR). A mapping of human resources involved in the One Health approach has been carried out in partnership with the ministry in charge of health personnel. This initiative enables effective tracking of available human resources for the implementation of IHR.



In the academic field, AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire has strengthened the capacities of lecturers at Félix Houphouët-Boigny University to integrate the One Health approach into training modules. This capacity-building focused on innovative teaching methods, including case-based learning and teamwork, while also incorporating gender and equity principles.

*SOHICS members  
raising awareness on  
AMR among peers at  
the university*



# Our Impact



In collaboration with the Directorate of Veterinary Services and the Anti-Rabies Center of the National Institute of Public Health (INHP), AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire has organized community awareness and training sessions. These activities targeted a wide range of animal and human health professionals, as well as community leaders, including religious leaders, community chiefs, and presidents of youth and women's associations. This initiative has allowed these stakeholders to acquire essential knowledge to support rabies prevention efforts within their communities. Rabies is an endemic disease in the area.



AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire has awarded scholarships to junior faculty members and internships to master's and doctoral students, in order to train a qualified workforce capable of addressing the complex challenges posed by zoonotic diseases. These scholarships have enabled research on key zoonotic diseases such as anthrax and rabies, particularly in the Abidjan region.



AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire implemented practical methods for the containment, treatment, and disposal of fluids and solid waste generated from wildlife at key processing sites and markets.



# Our Impact

AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire supported the government in developing a multisectoral surveillance system at the human-wildlife interface, focusing on disease surveillance, pathogen spillover risk monitoring, and capacity building for risk assessment. Key activities included:



A workshop of 56 participants convened in March 2024 to discuss ways to enhance zoonotic disease multisectoral surveillance at Human Animal Environment interfaces.



Strengthening decentralized platforms in Guemon and Cavally by enhancing their risk assessment capabilities using the JRA or STAR tool at the human-animal-environment interface. Additionally, we should train central and local stakeholders in the District des Montagnes to conduct participatory and sentinel surveillance for Ebola, Marburg, and Lassa viruses and Mpox.



Created web-based maps of the human wildlife high risk interfaces in District des Montagnes and strengthened capacity for government partners to develop similar maps at the different high-risk interfaces identified.



## Our Impact

AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire enhanced national capacity for wastewater surveillance (WWS) and liquid waste effluent surveillance to detect pathogens such as SARS-CoV-2, HPAI, Lassa virus, and Mpox. Key achievements include:

Collaborating with and training LANADA and IPCI laboratories in wastewater and effluent sampling techniques for early pathogen detection. Protocols were validated through testing at multiple sites, yielding conclusive results for SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A virus (IAV).



IPCI reported positive SARS-CoV-2 results in both active (grab) and passive samplers, with active samples showing a higher positivity rate (54.16%) compared to passive samples (37.5%) over 12 weeks.

LANADA detected 03 positive avian influenza virus (AIV) samples in chicken slaughterhouse waste streams during the 12-week sampling period.

These efforts strengthen early detection and monitoring of high-threat pathogens in wastewater and liquid waste systems.



*Vaccinating dogs against rabies on World Rabies Day to promote community health*



# Our Impact



AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire in collaboration with the National One Health Platform, veterinary services (DSV), researchers, and government agencies in the public health and animal health sectors, developed the Guidelines for Wildlife Carcass Management in Côte d'Ivoire and corresponding training modules. From 2023 to 2024, this initiative built district and community-level capacity for wildlife carcass identification, reporting, and disposal. A total of 39 government personnel were trained in wildlife carcass disposal methods, and 12 communities in the District des Montagnes were engaged in the carcass reporting process in partnership with local government authorities. This effort strengthens multisectoral collaboration and enhances wildlife disease surveillance and management at the community level.



AFROHUN Côte d'Ivoire collaborated with researchers and government agencies in the public health and animal health sectors to develop guidelines and protocols for training wild meat handlers and processors on biosafety and hygiene practices. This initiative engaged restaurant owners and wild meat traders to promote the safe handling and processing of wildlife meat. To support ongoing learning and implementation, Nijou, a WhatsApp-based chatbot, was introduced. Nijou provides trainees and their peers with access to training materials, a platform to ask questions, and real-time advice to encourage the adoption of biosafety practices. This effort aims to reduce health risks associated with wildlife meat handling and processing while fostering safer practices within the industry.

# Let's Work Together

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