

# AFROHUN WORK IN DRC

*Students One Health Innovation Club (SOHIC)  
members raising awareness during World Rabies 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.





A training session for territory administrators in Kongo Central province

## Our Work in **DRC**

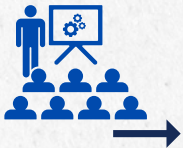
In DRC, AFROHUN member institutions are School of Public Health (KSPH) at the University of Kinshasa and the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Lubumbashi. AFROHUN DRC was registered as an NGO in 2022. It largely implements its projects through its two member institutions. Furthermore, AFROHUN is collaborating with several other universities across the country, including Institut Supérieur de Techniques Médicales (ISTM), William Booth University, and National Pedagogic University (UPN).

AFROHUN DRC works with several other education institutions, 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, communities, and other stakeholders working in the same One Health and Global Health Security space. To ensure relevance of the work that AFROHUN DRC does, the network works very closely with the National One Health Platform.

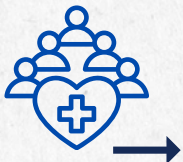
<https://afrohun.org/drc>



# Our Impact



AFROHUN DRC has trained over **1,000** pre-service and in-service personnel in prevention, preparedness, and interventions against zoonotic diseases around the country.



AFROHUN DRC supported the integration of the One Health modules in the Master of Public Health program curriculum at KSPH. As part of this process, 40 faculty were trained in integration of One Health competencies in degree programs.



Furthermore, AFROHUN DRC initiated the development of a Master's Program in One Health and Wildlife Surveillance at the University of Lubumbashi. Indeed, 25 students have so far been trained through this program, while 2 faculty (1 senior and 1 middle level) were trained as core faculty to develop the program further.



Through the different projects over the years, AFROHUN DRC supported the development of five Student One Health Innovation Clubs across five universities in DRC. These include University of Kinshasa, University of Lubumbashi, Catholic University of Graben, Institut Supérieur des Techniques Médicales de Bukavu and National Pedagogic University



# Our Impact



To ensure sustainability, AFROHUN DRC developed a SOHIC and alumni network to assess and monitor the integration of One Health competencies and how they are being utilized by the alumni. Through this, AFROHUN DRC can design programs that align with what the workforce needs.



In DRC, AFROHUN has provided financial and technical support for the development of the country's first One Health Strategic Plan, spearheaded by the National One Health Platform (NOHP). This was a key moment in the country's efforts to institutionalize One Health. Later, when the Plan was due to review, we were available to support the process, once again. AFROHUN is proud to be part of these incredible moments in the country's One Health journey.



In the area of risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), AFROHUN DRC has supported rabies campaigns, including vaccination and surgical sterilization of dogs and cats; community environmental awareness campaigns by SOHICs; and implementation of the RCCE Mentored Experiential Learning Training (MELT) program. The MELT is a network flagship program that has changed the landscape of experiential workforce development, using the One Health approach.

# Our Impact



In addition, AFROHUN supported the process of the integration of RCCE competencies in the module of communication in public health at the veterinary Medicine Faculty of the University of Lubumbashi. This module was targeted in order to reinforce health communication aspects and equip students in skills of community engagement.



Working closely with the NOHP, AFROHUN DRC is engaging in the implementation of the Sub-national One Health Platforms across the country. Today, 16 out of the planned 26 sub-national OH platforms have been developed in DRC. The development of these platforms is a significant development, ensuring that the One Health concept and approach moves closer to the communities and frontline personnel.



To improve gender mainstreaming at KSPH, AFROHUN conducted a gender gap study which provided data for the development of a gender policy for the KSPH. This process was triggered by observations that there were few women taking up the MPH program as well as the scholarship opportunity that was offered through AFROHUN

Territory administrator  
receiving her Certificat  
after training





# Let's Work Together

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