SIXTH FORUM OF MINISTERS & ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITIES OF ASIA PACIFIC
26-29 AUGUST 2025, FIJI

UN environment programme

Side Events Name: Scaling-up actions on One Health for a resilient planet: Addressing triple planetary environmental crises through One Health approach

Date: 27 August 2025

Time: 15:00-17:00

Venue: Hotel Crowne Plaza, Nadi, Fiji

Concept Note

1. Background

One Health is an integrated approach aimed at preventing and mitigating health threats at the interfaces of humans, animals, plants, and the broader environment. Its objective is to achieve public health, animal health, food and nutrition security as well as the health of our planet which supports the protection and promotion of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. Over the past century, economic, technological, and social advancements have placed a strain on the Earth's capacity to sustain human health and well-being. This, combined with the triple planetary environmental crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste, has intensified emerging health threats, including infectious diseases with pandemic potential which disproportionately affect groups in vulnerable situations. This clearly indicates that there are inter-relationships between health risks and environmental challenges, and an integrated approach is needed in addressing these interconnected challenges.

In this context, the adoption of holistic and collaborative approaches like One Health becomes imperative, which enables the integration of knowledge from various disciplines and engagement of stakeholders across all sectors. Over the past years, One Health has gained increasing recognition at the global, regional, and national levels, particularly with the comprehensive definition of One Health introduced by the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) that specifies One Health as an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. Guided by the One Health Joint Plan of Action (OH JPA), Quadripartite partners, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) have been supporting member states in their efforts towards scaling-up actions on One Health, through the roll out of the OH JPA, including in the Asia-Pacific region, with strong focus on the active engagement of environment sector stakeholders and strengthening the nexus between the efforts towards addressing health risks and environmental challenges.

The proposed side event will focus on showcasing key initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region that contribute to accelerating national and regional level efforts towards implementing One Health in close connection with the efforts towards addressing the triple planetary environmental crisis. Specifically, the side event will highlight key achievements related to One Health with active engagement of environment and other sector stakeholders across Asna and the Pacific. Selected case studies on how One Health has been integrated into the efforts towards implementing MEAs will also be showcased.

2. Objective

The side event aims to:

1. Increase understanding of the role and benefits of One Health in addressing environmental challenges while safeguarding human and animal health

2. Showcase key initiatives on One Health with active engagement of environment sector in the region
3. Highlight case studies on on-the-ground initiatives where the health/One Health has been integrated into the efforts towards addressing environmental challenges and implementation of MEAs

3. Proposed Participants: Quadripartite Partners (FAO, WHO, WOAH, UNEP), Governments, Intergovernmental organizations, the environment and health sector and other relevant stakeholders,