As the first country to host a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) of the IHR[1] Core Capacities and develop a multi-sectoral costed National Action Plan for Health Security, Tanzania is a leader in its commitment to health security. Surveillance in the human health sector has significantly improved since the JEE in 2016, with real-time surveillance and reporting enhancements for priority diseases. Gaps still remain in linking human cases to animal or environmental exposures at subnational and community level, in part because of a frontline workforce shortage: only 6% of villages have animal health staff, contributing to limited communication and sharing of information between institutions.

**WHAT ONE HEALTH ADDED**

In 2019, PREDICT hosted a One Health specialist short-course for 26 national and subnational managers in Tanzania. The workshop integrated laboratory (human and animal), regional and district-level veterinary staff, medical doctors, nurses, health port officers, wildlife researchers, and integrated disease surveillance and response focal points to enhance knowledge and technical skills of critical members of the health workforce and strengthen local One Health networks for improved multi-sectoral communication and information sharing. Due to the specificity of skills covered, participants were split into groups for targeted field and human and animal laboratory training, but came together to work on community engagement for zoonotic disease control and subnational surveillance.

This demonstrates a key operational tenant for One Health: strengthening the specialized capacity of each sector while providing pathways to bring information and action together in coordinated fashion.

The applied format of the one-month course — at multiple geographic scales — allowed participants to identify practical opportunities to overcome One Health implementation barriers. Among these are the need for synchronization of standard operating procedures for zoonotic diseases for surveillance and pathogen detection, improved networking between field and laboratory teams, and establishment of feedback mechanisms to communities to facilitate their engagement in disease reporting and control. Applied and in-depth trainings such as the PREDICT workshop help strengthen field-based skills and enhance awareness of pathways for integration of zoonotic disease prevention, detection, and response measures in the surveillance system.

[1] International Health Regulations