

Nature for Health

MPTF OFFICE ANNUAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2022

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|---|---|
| Programme Title & Project Number | Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results |
| Programme Title: Nature for Health Programme Number (if applicable) BPH00 MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00282 | Global |
| Participating Organization(s) BMUV (German Ministry of Environment) Convention Biological Diversity Eco Health Alliance International Union for Conservation of Nature United Nations Environment Programme United Nations Development Programme World Health Organization World Organisation for Animal Health | One Health – Environment – primary prevention |
| Programme/Project Cost (US\$) Total approved budget as per project document: JP Contribution: by Agency (if applicable) Agency Contribution by Agency (if applicable) Government Contribution (if applicable) Other Contributions (donors) (if applicable) TOTAL: | Implementing Partners United Nations Environment Programme United Nations Development Programme |
| Programme Duration Overall Duration 8 years Start Date 1 April 2022 Original End Date 31 December 2029 (or later depending on resource mobilization) Current End date 31 December 2029 (or later depending on resource mobilization) | Report Submitted By Name Anjana Varma Title: Programme Manager Participating Organization (Lead): UNEP Email address: Anjana.varma@un.org |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nature for Health (N4H) is a global initiative working to reduce future pandemics and related health risks by strengthening the environmental and preventive aspects of One Health. Conceptualized in 2021, the main focus in 2022 was the Inception Phase designed to define the N4H scope, risks and feasibility issues and carry out preparatory work including a global work plan, recruitment of key staff and a launch. By the end of 2022, project consortium was operational, and the most important achievements include:

- **Governance and set up:** A key priority in 2022 was defining the N4H governance and implementation structure. Governance bodies have now been established with relevant ToR in place and are working well under rules and policies in line with MPTFO. The N4H governance structure has 5 key components, each of which has been a key development area through 2022 including the Steering Committee, Consortium (through Focal Points and Working Groups), Technical Advisory Group, Secretariat and the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office. Evaluating the evolving One Health ecosystem and the key partners working in this area has also been a clear priority.
- **Global work plan:** By the end of the Inception Phase, N4H was ready to start its implementation work. A major focus was on program design including agreement on the programming cycle, global work plan and a joint review of the Theory of Change. These became the core for the N4H Terms of Reference and the technical, administrative and financial procedural information which is summarized in an Operations Manual. The geographic focus was identified through an open call Expression of Interest, definition of the regional scope and selection criteria and engagement with country representatives. Finally, a growth mindset was established across the Consortium and initial resource mobilization steps taken.
- **N4H Launch:** with the support of its Consortium Partners, N4H was publicly launched at a select number of events through 2022 starting with an initial announcement on World Wildlife Day in early spring and cumulating in December at the CBD COP 15 in Montreal to welcome its first round of Country Partners. These key events were supported by the development of a visually attractive and independent logo and brand image, select online and social media tools (website, Linked In, Trello) and a broad suite of communication materials (brochures, animation, blog, reports, PowerPoint materials) designed to introduce N4H, establish the case for primary prevention and attract new partners and funders.

1. PURPOSE

Nature for Health (N4H) is a global initiative which has been set up as a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) to prevent zoonotic spillover events by strengthening the environmental aspects of One Health - an inter-sectoral, interdisciplinary approach acting on the interdependencies of human, animal and ecosystem health.

Through an initial contribution of EUR 50 million from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), N4H will assist countries to develop holistic and coordinated policies, generate and disseminate evidence on the links between biodiversity, climate and health and support decision makers and other relevant actors to take measures focused on prevention in 18 low-and middle-income geographical jurisdictions over an 8-year period. Based on context and need, N4H will facilitate implementation teams in each country including policy decision makers, technical experts, local communities and other relevant stakeholders to deliver long term systemic change.

N4H brings together leading UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations and civil society groups in the field of environment and health in a consortium of eight initial Partners who leverage extensive multisectoral and diverse One Health practical experience. Hosted by the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) with a Secretariat based at UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya, the N4H governance structure includes a Steering Committee, with representation from each Consortium Partner organization, responsible for strategic guidance, and an independent Technical Advisory Group providing additional technical expertise.

2. RESULTS

Conceptual work on N4H began in Spring 2021 and cumulated with the signing of a Terms of Reference in November 2021. N4H was formally announced on World Wildlife Day in Nairobi Kenya on March 3rd, 2022, and the inception phase began soon after. The N4H inception phase was established to define the project scope, risks and feasibility issues and carried out preparatory work including global work plan and ensure there are solid foundations in place with detailed goals, a project roadmap and buy in from key stakeholders secured.

In the table below, the Inception Phase indicators illustrate the main objectives and expected outcomes for N4H in the reporting period and are thus used as a structure for the narrative report. Operational work begins in 2023.

Table 1: Inception phase objectives

| Outcome 0 - Inception Phase | | |
|--|--|---|
| The project consortium is operational. At all levels, from the local to the global, intervention strategies are elaborated, countries of implementation are selected and project implementation is fully prepared. | | |
| Output 0.1 | Output 0.2 | Output 0.3 |
| Governance and implementation structure defined and agreed by the Steering Committee | Operations Manual, including the results framework, specified and approved by Steering Committee | Launch of the Programme at CBD COP 15.2 |

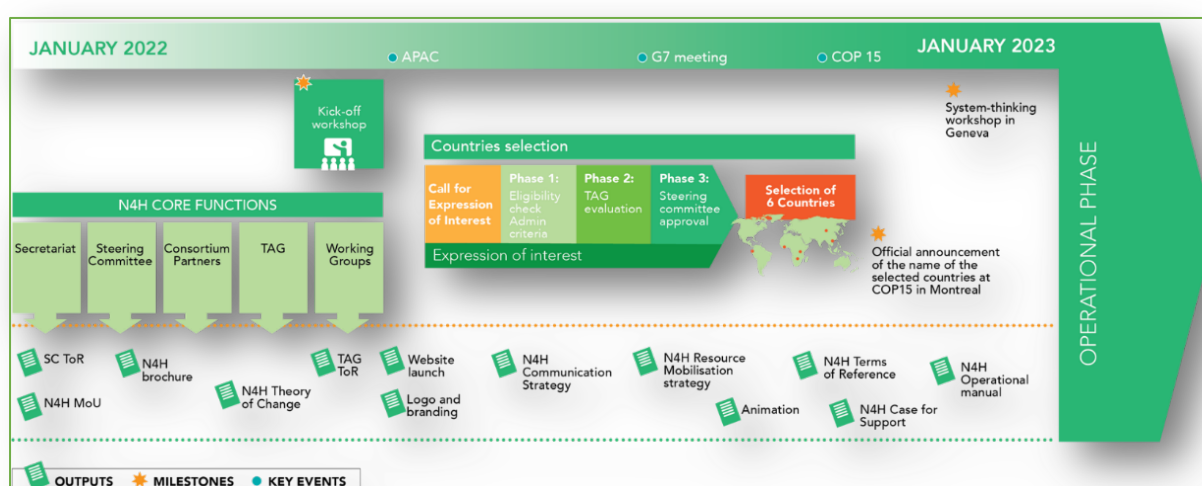


Figure 1: Inception Phase summary

OUTPUT 0.1 Governance and implementation structure defined and agreed by the Steering Committee

A key priority in 2022 was defining the N4H governance and implementation structure. Governance bodies have now been established with relevant ToR in place and are working well under rules and policies in line with MPTFO. The N4H governance structure has 5 key components, each of which has been a key development area through 2022 including the Steering Committee, Consortium (through Focal Points and Working Groups), Technical Advisory Group, Secretariat and the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office. Evaluating the evolving One Health ecosystem and the key partners working in this area has also been a clear priority.

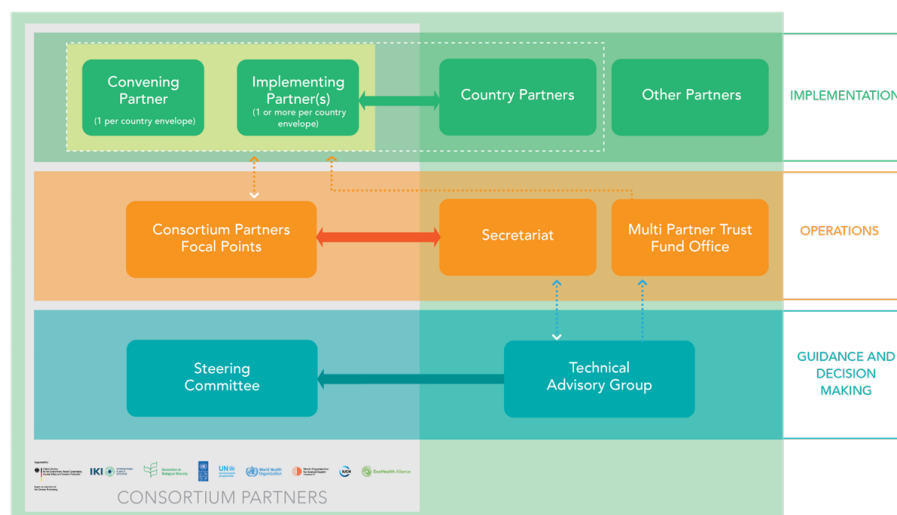


Figure 2: Governance Framework

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee (SC) is composed of one senior-level representative from each of the Consortium Partner organisations and is responsible for governance and decision-making. The Terms of Reference for the SC have now been agreed with standard rules around representation, Conflicts of Interest, quorum, decision making approaches and other supporting policies. The current SC is fully functioning with 8 members, current chair from UNEP and four meetings in the reporting time frame.

2022 Steering Committee decisions

SC decision record template ♦ interim SC ToR ♦ Secretariat ToR and Project Document ♦ funds for EcoHealth Alliance HACT assessment approved ♦ name of Fund changed to Nature for Health ♦ EoI process for Phase I ♦ established TAG process ♦ SC ToR ♦ TAG ToR ♦ TAG members selected ♦ Phase I countries selected ♦ 3 meeting dates were set

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

- *Established:* in the reporting period TAG was set up and is functioning through a clear and transparent process. The TAG is composed of international-level global One Health experts and practitioners from different sectors and diverse disciplines proposed by the Consortium and selected by the Steering Committee after completion of an Application Form.
- Role is to support and advise the Steering Committee by providing technical inputs on development, implementation and monitoring of the N4H initiative. They ensure an independent and expert voice in N4H operations.
- *Selection:* The TAG were selected according to geography, representation, balance and expertise.

- *Policies:* TAG ToR have been created, endorsed by SC and shared with TAG members plus relevant reference checking, Col forms and other relevant documentation. An initial meeting was hosted in October 2023. ([TAG materials and minutes](#))

Secretariat

- *Resource needs identified:* during the reporting period, the Secretariat role was identified through a ToR and the Nairobi-based Secretariat was partly recruited.
- *Long term recruitments:* a series of staff member recruitments have been launched and opened for applications in 2022: two P3 positions, one G7, one JPO, one P4 and one P5.
- *Consultant support:* in the meantime, a team of short-term and long-term consultants have been hired to start the design of N4H: one facilitator, two OH experts, one web designer, one graphic designer, one communication expert and one knowledge management expert.

Consortium Partners

- *Consortium Partner roles:* eight complementary organizations are effectively working together, contributing through the mobilization of different competencies and skills. CP meetings have been convened to facilitate input into N4H.
- *Consortium Partner Focal Points (CPFP):* key representatives have been nominated. An initial workshop/meeting was hosted by Consortium Partner IUCN in March 2022. Nine meetings in 2022 shaped N4H inception phase as well as they helped to refine the CPFP role as coordinators and representatives of their organizations
- *Working Groups:* Temporary specific working groups have been created on an ad-hoc basis to facilitate the Inception Phase: Working groups on Criteria (6 meetings) ToC (6 meetings), Communications (8 meetings), Resource Mobilization (6 meetings), Work Plan (12 meetings).

Multi Partner Trust Fund Office

- Through the guidance and continuous support of MPTFO based in New York, N4H Secretariat defined the final governance structure of the MPTF and procedures in compliance with legal documents and donors' requirements.

Partner mapping

Mapping: has conducted an initial mapping and comparative analysis exercise of initiatives, projects and organisations in the One Health and prevention spaces and begun an initial consideration of how the activities and scope of these projects overlap or intersect with the work of N4H and potential interaction.

Structure: considered the following criteria: structure, objective, specific One Health remit (prevention, detection, response) and activities, timeframe, donors, geographical scope and stakeholders.

Analysis: two initiatives with the greatest overlap with N4H are PREZODE (PREventing ZOonotic Disease Emergence), led by the French Development Agency (AFD) and funded by the French Government; and Preventing Pandemics at Source, led by Dalberg Catalyst and funded by a cross-sectoral group comprising six philanthropic foundations and GIZ. N4H has engaged with both initiatives.

Table 2: Indicator based performance assessment

| Ref | Activity | Status | Comment |
|-------|---|------------|---|
| 0.1.1 | Define the final governance structure of the MPTF and procedures | Done | See ToR & Operations Manual |
| 0.1.2 | Define political partners at international, regional and national level | Done | Political partners in this context = country partners |
| 0.1.3 | Define Consortium Partners: roles, responsibilities and contributions and ways of coordination | Done | |
| 0.1.4 | Define implementing partners/organisations (associated direct grants or elaboration of calls for proposals) | In process | See Operations Manual |
| 0.1.5 | Elaborate detailed project budget, including co-financing | Not done | To be done at national level |
| 0.1.6 | Ensure strong coordination: articulate activities foreseen for the different partners within the implementation units | In process | Completed globally but to be done at country level |
| 0.1.7 | Ensure contractual compliance with the safeguards standards by all stakeholders/agencies | In process | |
| 0.1.8 | Define useful synergies with and links to other relevant projects and programmes (of Germany and international). | In process | Initial mapping complete, further work required |
| New | Decision making body established (Steering Committee) | Done | SC ToR in Ops Manual |
| New | Technical Advisory Group | Done | |
| New | Secretariat partially recruited | Done | |

Output 0.2 - Operations Manual, including the results framework specified and approved by Steering Committee

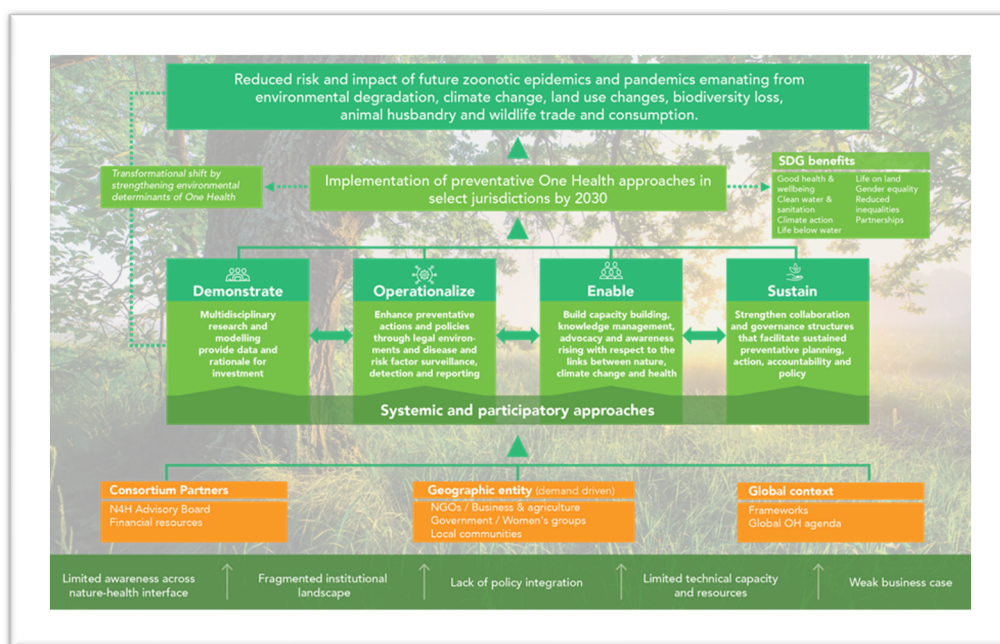
By the end of the Inception Phase, N4H was ready to start its implementation work. A major focus was on program design including agreement on the programming cycle, global work plan and a joint review of the Theory of Change. These became the core for the N4H Terms of

Reference and the technical, administrative and financial procedural information which is summarized in an Operations Manual. The geographic focus was identified through an open call Expression of Interest, definition of the regional scope and selection criteria and engagement with country representatives. Finally, a growth mindset was established across the Consortium and initial resource mobilization steps taken.

Program design

- *Theory of Change*: Consortium Partners refined the existing Theory of Change detailing the obstacles, clarifying the core outputs, outcomes and impacts, highlighting the need for a participatory systems approach, developing a visual to communicate the overall vision and activity areas for the initiative.
- *Programming cycle*: a three-phase cycle was agreed together with the broad elements of a global work plan with activities to enhance evidence, develop policies, structures and frameworks; build knowledge and capacity and long-term governance and collaboration.
- *Funding windows*: two potential funding modalities were agreed but during Phase I, only the direct allocation option will be utilized. This has been outlined in the Operations Manual including preparation for funding allocation for Non-United Nation Organizations e.g. by completion of HACT assessment for Eco Health Alliance.
- *N4H Terms of Reference*: highlights N4Hs strategy and scope of work including the background and context, rationale, scope of work, activities, theory of change and intervention strategies alongside governance, reporting and specific functions such as resources and communications. The editing work has not been to change the overall scope of work but to strengthen the document by updating with new arguments, evidence and decisions made during the Inception Phase.
- *Operations Manual*: sets out the procedures for management of the technical, administrative and financial components of N4H. It codifies policies, rules of procedure and guidance in accordance with the signed legal agreements and to ensure compliance with those and the overall strategy of the N4H Initiative issued by the N4H Secretariat, the MPTFO and the Steering Committee.
- *Work plans*: the first year of work has been agreed and will include a 3–6-month scoping stage that is common to all six countries and is designed as a systemic inquiry. The scoping stage will conclude with a jointly developed project document to outline the implementation activities plan and budget. The implementation work will last longer (approximately 2-3 years) and will be based on individual country interests and priorities. There is still work to be done in two key areas but this will be completed as part of the scoping phase
 - Define baseline values and target values for all indicators under Work Area 1-4 are and specify indicators as much as possible

- Specified global, regional and country-specific work plans, including co-financing, broken down by work areas with budget, indicators, base line and target values, activities and milestones as this will be shaped by the scoping phase – above.



Geographic scope

- *Expression of Interest*: after agreeing on the initial focus for its first phase of work, N4H employed an open call “Expression of Interest” to decide on its geographical scope and coverage. Broadly disseminated through formal and informal channels, more than 60 applicants from 49 jurisdictions (countries, sub-national entities and regions) expressed their interest in a systemic process to implement preventative One Health approaches with technical support from the N4H consortium.
- *Selection*: All “Expressions of Interest” were initially assessed for eligibility before being reviewed by the N4H Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Selection criteria centered on 1) the risk of zoonotic disease spillover, 2) a commitment to collaboration and One Health, and 3) the potential as an N4H partner. Those Expressions that met or exceeded the TAG expectations were put forward to the Steering Committee who made the final selection based on geographic and representational balance, and selection for countries at different stages in their

preventative One Health journey. The Expression of Interest details are available [here](#).

- *Allocation:* In each country, it has been agreed that one Consortium Partner will represent N4H with responsibility for administration and creating synergies across the Consortium, as well as other One Health initiatives. All Consortium Partners will have the opportunity to engage during the scoping stage in any or all of the six countries according to their technical expertise and in-country networks.

Resource Mobilization

Strategy: Resource Mobilization strategy maps the RM landscape in the health, environment and pandemic prevention, Identifies N4H's Unique Selling Point (USP), especially vis-à-vis other important One Health initiatives such as The Pandemic Fund, as its focus on primary prevention and its systemic approach before setting the N4H RM goals and rationale for this ambition:

Case for Support: publication was developed to give potential donors an overview of the initiative and make the case for funding it. It lays out the business case for prevention, highlights N4H's USP, describes the organizational and governance structure and N4H's intended impact in terms of health, lives and economics, and makes the case for donors to support the initiative.

Mapping: high level mapping work has identified countries with strategic interest in funding sectors relevant to N4H (environment, health, agriculture, DRR) plus philanthropic foundations and the private sector as important sources of funding, and that non-financial resources such as skills and technology will also be sought and welcomed. Key principles for the identification of funders have also been drafted including: alignment with N4H objectives, evidence of existing interest in One Health, motivation for involvement, existing relationship with or contacts within the funder and under acceptance of MPTF pooled funding MO.

Approaches have been made during the Inception Phase including a G7 Roundtable '[Nature for Health Multi Partner Trust Fund](#)' hosted virtually by Germany to stimulate interest in N4H. Other potential donors have been approached by Germany, the MPTFO and Consortium Partners during various events and bilateral meetings.

Table 3: Indicator based performance assessment

| Ref | Activity | Status | Comment |
|---------------|--|------------|---|
| 0.2.1 | Define set of criteria for the selection of countries and select countries of implementation (for phase I) | Done | |
| 0.2.2 | Elaborate the intervention strategy for all countries of implementation ¹ | Done | |
| 0.2.3 | Initiate elaboration of content and timeline for the first Call for Proposals. | Done | |
| 0.2.4 | Elaborate strategy to reach private sector and integrate adequate measures in results framework | In process | In Ops Manual and will be done in country |
| 0.2.5 | Elaborate stakeholder outreach strategy, women, IPLC and other marginalized groups, and integrate measures | Done | |
| 0.2.6 | Elaborate gender strategy and integrate adequate measures in results framework | In process | |
| 0.2.7 | Elaborate intervention strategy to apply a multi-level approach: maintained from global to the local spheres | In process | |
| 0.2.8 | Elaborate strategy on how to leverage further funding (short-, medium- and long-term strategy), | In process | |
| 0.2.9 | Define work plan, including activities and milestones under Work Area 1-4 and integrate in Gantt Chart | Not done | |
| 0.2.10 | Define baseline values and target values for all indicators under Work Area 1-4 are and specify indicators as much as possible | Not done | |
| 0.2.11 | Establishment of an Environmental and Social Management Systems in order to manage Safeguards ² | In process | |

¹ Selected projects must be in compliance with IKI's rule of local content (50 percent of funding must be implemented through local actors¹ in the cooperation countries). This includes preparing the following safeguards measures: Implementing agencies must be obliged to comply with IFC Performance Standards. A Safeguards Due Diligence is mandatory for each project chosen, including 1) safeguards risk analysis, 2) defining measures to avoid or, if not possible, minimize and lastly mitigate risks, 3) compliance with environmental and social laws and regulations of the partner country. Mechanisms to monitor and to report on Safeguards risks must be established between MPTF Office and implementing organisation

² risk proportional to the Safeguards risks of the portfolio, including sufficient human and financial resources, adequate processes for Safeguards Due Diligence and Safeguards monitoring of the funded portfolio. Define overall safeguards risk category and, if necessary, revise safeguards annex based on final country and project selection.

Launch of the Programme at CBD COP 15.2

With the support of its Consortium Partners, N4H was publicly launched at a select number of events through 2022 starting with an initial announcement on World Wildlife Day in early spring and cumulating in December at the CBD COP 15 in Montreal to welcome its first round of Country Partners. These key events were supported by the development of a visually attractive and independent logo and brand image, select online and social media tools (website, Linked In, Trello) and a broad suite of communication materials (brochures, animation, blog, reports, powerpoint materials) designed to introduce N4H, establish the case for primary prevention and attract new partners and funders.

Events

- *N4H announcement*: Delivered on the back of World Wildlife Day on 3 March 2022 - the N4H was launched by Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Inger Andersen, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UNEP and Steffi Lemke, German Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection. The media event was streamlined [here](#) on YouTube and since received 1,613 hits (till April 2023). The Press Release is available [here](#) on the N4H and partner websites.
- *Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)*: During the Geneva UN Biodiversity Meetings, a SBSTTA-24 side event was held on "[Fast-tracking the implementation of One Health approaches for biodiversity and health](#)" to build momentum on the linkages between biodiversity and health and the need to accelerate the transition and uptake toward a biodiversity-inclusive OneHealth approach that can help to ensure the health of the planet and all living beings, in line with the aims of the draft Global action plan for Biodiversity and Health with speakers from all N4H Consortium Partners and country representatives. Approximately 100 participants plus online participation.
- *Geneva Health Forum*: On 3 May 2022, N4H was introduced at the [High-Level Discussion](#) at the Geneva Health Forum to demonstrate action in the area of primary prevention and invite potential partners to join. Approximately 250 participants plus online participation
- *African Protected Areas Congress*: in support of the N4H Expression of Interest and to engage with potential African Partners, N4H hosted a [side event](#) at the APAC event in Kigali, Rwanda in July. With the German Minister of Environment and the Rwandan Health and Environment Minister, the event introduced N4H and heard perspectives from the Forestry Development Authority in Liberia, Conservation Through Public Health (CTPH) in Uganda, Gorilla Doctors, CAMPFIRE Producers Association in Zimbabwe and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity,
- *Side event to announce countries at CBD COP 15.2*: over 80 participants with opening remarks from Inger Anderson, UNEP followed by the Environment Ministers from Rwanda, Ecuador and Germany unveiling the first N4H countries. A second panel with

representatives from Mongolia, Zambia and youth highlighted implementation barriers before a closing from Monique from WOA. [Agenda](#) and [press release](#) available.

- *Stakeholder dialogue at CBD COP* to engage a wide range of stakeholders and test initial thinking on the N4H operational phase with discussion on following challenges: awareness raising, collaboration, resource mobilisation, policy, locally relevant stakeholders, private sector, business case and capacity building. With 100 participants, opened by Stefan Tidow, the German State Secretary for the Environment, there were rich and valuable interactions. Report available [here](#).

Visual identity and website

- *Visual identity process* hosted to align Consortium Partners Focal Points and Steering Committee to identify what perception and impression wants to express through its visible elements and develop a visual identity for N4H. The interactive process was concluded with a logo design, website design, photo library, font selection and [branding guidelines](#).
- *N4H website* was developed in mid-July with the following sections: about, approach, resources, contact and blog with additional navigation options to be added / subtracted on demand. The website utilises Squarespace as an all-in-one platform with templates, fast content delivery, SSL certificates, built-in security and a 24/7 customer support. The website is available [here](#).

Website information

- **Geography:** web IP addresses from USA (1,150), Switzerland (502), Germany (3990) and Kenya (303).
- **Website traffic:** 6,900 visits in the first 5 months with a peak in September 2022 due to the Expression of Interest
- **Source:** 5,077 visits came from direct links. LinkedIn was an efficient directing traffic.
- **Content:** The Expression of Interest page was the most popular in 2022 with a bounce rate of 68,44% and 4,066 pageviews.

Social media

- *LinkedIn Profile:* dedicated N4H page launched in December 2022 in support of COP15 currently with 209 followers. Initial content included an introduction to N4H, a series of social media tiles to provide a quick and effective way to share organic content on social media channels, followed by links to relevant publications, primary prevention materials and other N4H relevant materials to promote awareness and interest in N4H.
- *Online notice board* in [Trello](#) for easy access to N4H assets with a focus on the N4H presence in Montreal for COP15 including press releases, brochures, presentations, event invites, roll ups, flyers, photos, and other core material.
- *N4H blog*, launched in December, the N4H blog is [available on its website](#) and initially profiles the N4H Steering Committee members to provide institutional insights into the Consortium Partner experience and participation.

Communication products

- *Brochure*: high level introductory business card with 2 pages of information into a designed PDF [document](#) that explains the purpose of N4H, its governance structure and key activities
- *Animation* – short stimulating explainer [animation](#) telling the story of zoonotic disease spillover and need for systems approach to change and introducing N4H, introduced at COP15 developed by One Shop, Geneva and now available on Linked in.
- *Standard presentation* using PowerPoint to provide a clear narrative on N4H and a visual explanation of the governance, background and theory of change to support Consortium Partners in stakeholder outreach.

N4H in the media

[Unveiling the First Nature for Health Investments for Preventing Pandemics Together | IISD Earth Negotiations Bulletin](#)

Table 4: Indicator based performance assessment

| Ref | Activity | Status | Comment |
|--------------|--|------------|---------|
| 0.3.1 | Develop communications package for launch, including website, brochure and Terms of Reference. | Done | |
| 0.3.2 | Prepare launch event at CBD COP 15.2 with political partners, Consortium Partners and BMU. | Done | |
| 0.3.3 | Gather formal expressions of interest of political partners to join the initiative | Done | |
| 0.3.4 | Conduct preliminary contacts and discussions with the aim to be able to announce additional donors | In process | |
| New | Communication tools – visual identity, linked in, animation, Trello | Done | |
| New | Social media presence to promote primary prevention and environmental integration into OH | Done | |
| New | Strong presence at key events through 2022 | Done | |

For more information, please contact Anjana Varma anjana.varma@un.org