



**NATURE4HEALTH MPTF  
ANNUAL FUND NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT  
REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2025**

<p align="center"><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Nature4Health (N4H)</li> <li>• Programme Number <i>(if applicable)</i></li> <li>• MPTF Office Fund Reference Number: MPTF_00282</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</b></p> <p><i>(if applicable)</i> Country/Region: N4H Phase 1 Country Projects: Ecuador, Ghana, Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health, Kenya, Mongolia, Rwanda, Vietnam</p> <p>Priority area/ strategic results</p>
<p align="center"><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <p>Organizations that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</li> <li>• Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD)</li> <li>• United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</li> <li>• United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</li> <li>• World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)</li> <li>• World Health Organization (WHO)</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Implementing Partners</b></p> <p>Implementing Partners to N4H scoping projects are Participating Organizations, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</li> <li>• Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD)</li> <li>• United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</li> <li>• United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</li> <li>• World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)</li> <li>• World Health Organization (WHO)</li> </ul>
<p align="center"><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document in 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNEP/Secretariat: (Project ID: 00132297) \$2,960,690 (2025 tranche)</li> <li>• UNEP/Zambia/Scoping: (Project ID: 00140466) \$-21,688 (UNEP returned the rest and closed financially)</li> <li>• UNDP/Ecuador/Scoping: (Project ID: 00140608) \$250,000</li> <li>• WOA/Mongolia/Scoping: (Project ID: 00140505) \$250,000</li> <li>• UNDP/Ghana/Scoping: (Project ID: 00141319) \$250,000</li> <li>• IUCN/Vietnam/Scoping: (Project ID: 00140506) \$250,000</li> <li>• SCBD/GAPBH: (Project ID: 00141180) \$171,200</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration <i>(months)</i>                      9 years</p> <p>Start Date <i>(dd.mm.yyyy)</i>:                      18 November 2021</p> <p>End Date <i>(dd.mm.yyyy)</i>                      31 December 2030</p> <p align="center"><b>Report Submitted By</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Name: Minseon Kim</li> <li>o Title: Programme Management Officer</li> <li>o Participating Organization (Lead): UNEP N4H Secretariat</li> <li>o Email address: <a href="mailto:minseon.kim@un.org">minseon.kim@un.org</a></li> </ul>

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## List of Acronyms

AA:	Administrative Agent
BMUKN:	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
CIRAD:	French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development
EOI:	Expression of Interest
GAPBH:	Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health
IPD:	Implementation Project Document
IKI:	International Climate Initiative
IUCN:	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MoU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MPTFO:	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
M&E:	Monitoring and Evaluation
N4H:	Nature4Health
PO:	Participating Organization
PUNO:	Participating UN Organization
SBSTTA:	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
SC:	Steering Committee
SCBD:	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
SPD:	Scoping Project Document
TAG:	Technical Advisory Group
ToR:	Terms of Reference
UN:	United Nations
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP:	United Nations Environment Programme
UNSDG:	United Nations Sustainable Development Group
WOAH:	World Organisation for Animal Health
WHO:	World Health Organization

## Narrative Report

### **Executive Summary**

Nature4Health (N4H) is a global fund working in countries and regions where biodiversity is under threat and there are substantial risks of zoonotic disease spillover. N4H aims to address the environmental determinants of health and to strengthen the integration of the environment in the One Health approach, thereby helping secure the health of ecosystems, animals, plants and people.

Through an initial contribution of EUR 50 million from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN) via Germany's International Climate Initiative (IKI), N4H brings together leading environment and health organizations – EcoHealth Alliance (EHA), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Health Organization (WHO), World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD). Partners promote country-led, preventative policies, generate and disseminate evidence on links between biodiversity, climate and health, and support decision makers and other relevant actors to take preventative measures.

N4H promotes the adoption of systemic and participatory approaches to co-develop local solutions. The N4H programming cycle consists of a concept stage, an inception stage, and three operational phases – Phase I, II, III. Each operational phase consists of scoping and implementation phases, and these phases are designed to overlap across 18 low- and middle-income countries over eight years, allowing for the evolution of ideas and the opportunity to share learning and impacts.

Conceptualized in 2021, the Fund went through an inception phase from early 2022 and to mid-2023, with a focus on defining the N4H scope, risks and feasibility issues and carry out preparatory work including a global work plan, recruitment of key staff and a launch. Following the finalization of legal agreements with the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) for both participating UN organizations (PUNOs) and non-UN organizations (NUNOs) respectively in late 2023, six participating organizations (POs) initiated the Phase I scoping stage in 2024 – Ecuador/UNDP, Ghana/EHA, Mongolia/WOAH, Rwanda/WHO, Vietnam/IUCN, Zambia/Kenya/UNEP, which continued in 2025.

The 2025 year marked a significant milestone with the launch of Phase II. The Secretariat initiated the process through a call for Expression of Interest (EOI), including organizing a series of information webinars for interested applicants, managing administrative and technical reviews of 72 EOI applications with Technical Advisory Group (TAG), and supporting Steering Committee (SC) to select six jurisdictions of Phase II.

### **1. Purpose**

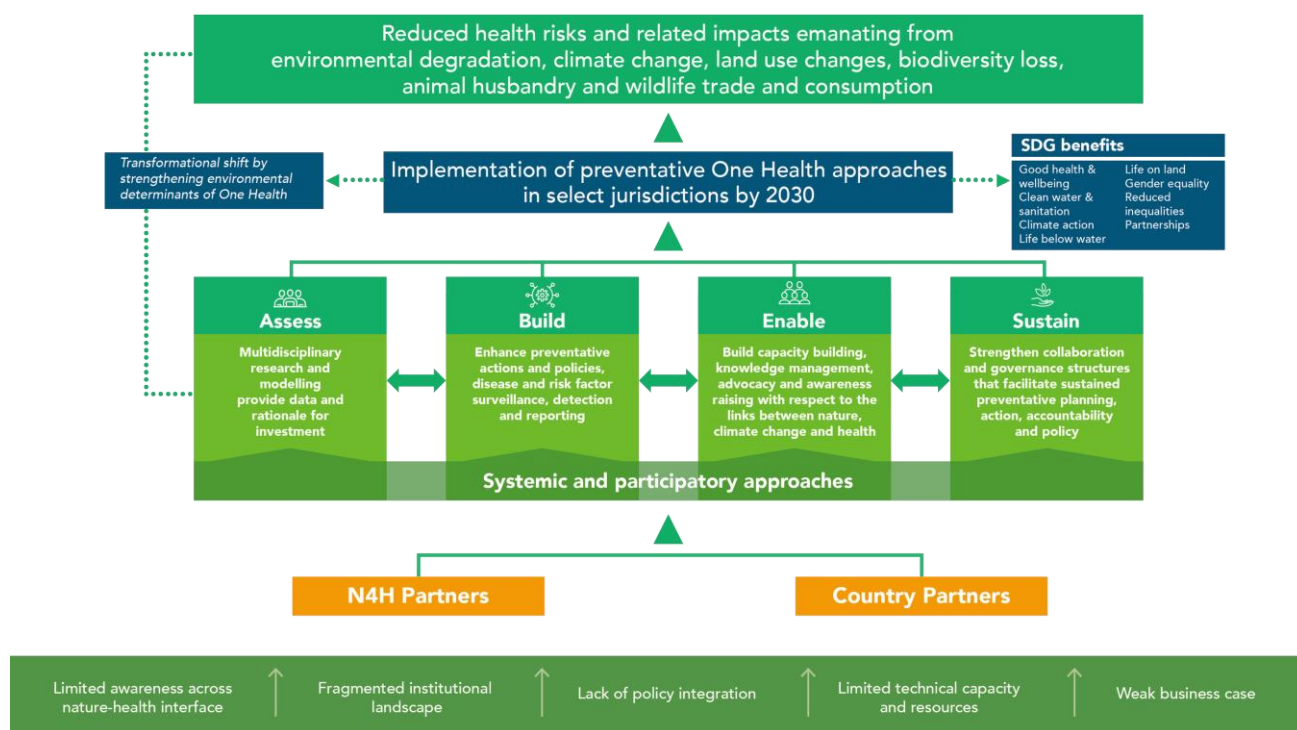
N4H aims to reduce health risks and related impacts emanating from environmental degradation, climate change, land use changes, biodiversity loss, animal husbandry and wildlife trade and consumption through the implementation of preventative One Health approaches in select jurisdictions by 2030 and the integration of environment and health in sector policies in line with [Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health](#) (GAPBH).

N4H adopts systemic and participatory approaches to address the root causes of zoonotic spillover and biodiversity loss, which help co-develop pathways to deliver transformational changes. N4H works in

countries and regions to address the four outputs to identify locally designed solutions through a phased approach.

- Output 1. Assess: multidisciplinary research and modelling data and rationale for investment
- Output 2. Build: preventative actions and policies through legal environments, disease and risk factor surveillance, detection and reporting
- Output 3. Enable: capacity building, knowledge management, advocacy and awareness raising with respect to the links between nature, climate change and health
- Output 4. Sustain: collaboration and governance structures that facilitate sustained and strengthened preventative planning, action, accountability and policy

## 2. Results



**Figure 1. Nature4Health Theory of Change**

N4H aims to reduce health risks and related impacts emanating from environmental degradation, climate change, land use changes, biodiversity loss, animal husbandry and wildlife trade and consumption through the implementation of preventative One Health approaches in select jurisdictions by 2030 and the integration of environment and health in sector policies in line with Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health.

N4H adopts systemic and participatory approaches to address the root causes of zoonotic spillover and biodiversity loss, which help co-develop pathways to deliver transformational changes. N4H works in countries and regions to address the four outputs to identify locally designed solutions through a phased approach.

## 2.1. Narrative reporting on results

The 2025 year marked a significant milestone with the launch of Phase II. The Secretariat announced the launch of an EOI for Phase 2, providing the EOI application package on the N4H website. The Secretariat organized a series of information webinars from November 2024 to May 2025 to elaborate and respond questions on the EOI criteria, process and timeline. From April to July, the Secretariat received and reviewed 72 EOI applications while TAG also reviewed 43 eligible non-duplicate applications and provided recommendations on Phase II selection to SC consideration. From August to November, SC had reviewed and selected six jurisdictions for Phase II, and also selected six N4H Partner Organizations who convenes respective Phase II jurisdiction projects (Angola/UNDP, Bhutan/UNDP, Madagascar/WHO, Pacific Islands/UNEP, State of Campeche/WOAH, Uzbekistan/IUCN). The Secretariat notified Phase II jurisdiction partners and convening partner organizations of the SC decisions of their selection in the last quarter of 2025. Furthermore, the jurisdiction partners were also put in contact with their corresponding convening partner organization to initiate dialogue and planning.

In addition, the Secretariat prepared a revised Operations Manual for Steering Committee approval (April–May 2025) and developed background notes on the N4H Growth Strategy to support SC discussions in October–November 2025. The selected Phase II countries were publicly announced during a side event at the 27th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-27) of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on 21 October 2025 in Panama City. The Secretariat strengthened external communications by publishing Phase II EOI and jurisdiction webpages at N4H website and social media. Key communication materials, including the Scoping Guide and brochure, were also updated in December 2025 to reflect Phase II developments.

Throughout 2025, N4H Participating Organizations (POs) advanced the Phase I Scoping Phase across six countries: Ecuador (UNDP), Ghana (EHA/UNDP), Mongolia (WOAH), Rwanda (WHO), Vietnam (IUCN), and Kenya (UNEP). For Ecuador, Mongolia, and Vietnam, the respective POs completed all requirements, including the submission of all narrative reports such as workshop reports and final scoping report. Ecuador and Vietnam have now finalized its operational closure, while Mongolia has finalized both operational and financial closures, with final financial reports submitted to the MPTFO. Additionally, Zambia (UNEP) withdrew from Phase I and has concluded its operational and financial closure. In mid-2025, N4H selected Kenya as the country to replace Zambia in Phase I.

Ghana submitted its Implementation Project Document (IPD) for the implementation of a full project in October 2024 and completed all reporting obligations. However, in early 2025, the N4H partner responsible for the project, EcoHealth Alliance, was dissolved and the process to allocate a new convening partner concluded in September 2025. In November 2025, the N4H Steering Committee approved supplemental funding to facilitate necessary revisions and finalization of the IPD under UNDP and IUCN as the new convening partner organizations. Following a supplemental workshop held in late November 2025, UNDP and IUCN submitted the proposal for review in April 2026.

*Table 1. Phase I Scoping Phase and IPD submission status*

Country/PO	Scoping start date	Proposed end date	Scoping workshops	Scoping operational closure	IPD submission
Ecuador/UNDP	2024-01-01	2025-01-31	All workshops completed	Project closed	Approved with conditions
Ghana/UNDP	2023-11-29	2026-03-31	All workshops completed	In progress	IPD under review
Mongolia/WOAH	2023-12-01	2025-03-31	All workshops completed	Project closed	Approved with conditions
Rwanda/WHO	2024-07-01	2025-10-30	All workshops completed	In progress	In preparation
Vietnam/IUCN	2024-01-08	2025-05-31	All workshops completed	Project closed	Approved with conditions
Zambia/UNEP	2023-11-01	2023-12-01	Discontinued/withdrawal	Project closed	N/A
Kenya/UNEP	2026-02-23	2027-02-07	In progress	N/A	N/A
GAPBH/SCBD	2025-07-01	2026-09-30	In progress	N/A	N/A

At the second year of Phase I in 2025, Rwanda/WHO continued to organize workshops and consultations. Rwanda/WHO is in the process of completing the IPD and expects to submit imminently. UNEP initiated consultation meetings with Kenya Country Partner to prepare and submitted scoping project document (SPD) for Secretariat review. Kenya/UNEP kicked off Scoping Phase in early February, following receiving scoping funding. Ecuador/UNDP, Mongolia/WOAH, Vietnam/IUCN submitted implementation project document (IPD), and incorporated feedback received from Secretariat and TAG for IPD revision. Secretariat coordinated SC review process for Vietnam's revised IPD, and SC requested IUCN to refine certain elements of IPD to align with N4H objectives within three months of implementation phase. In mid-2025, GAPBH/SCBD began a project focusing on supporting countries in mainstreaming biodiversity and health interlinkages, and promoting informed decision-making on biodiversity and health indicators.

### **N4H Outcome – The implementation of preventative One Health approaches in select jurisdictions contribute to the integration of environment and health in sector policies in line with the Global Biodiversity Framework**

Ecuador, Mongolia and Vietnam completed their scoping phases in January, March and May 2025, respectively. The respective Partner Organizations conducted a series of consultation meetings with the project core team, country partners, Secretariat, TAG and Steering Committee Chair, when needed, to course correct and incorporate Secretariat/TAG/SC feedback into the IPDs. An IPD is the main result of scoping phase project. IPD preparation does not fall under any of the four outputs; therefore, details are provided below.

**Ecuador/UNDP:** As UNDP completed scoping phase in January 2025, UNDP submitted Ecuador IPD for Secretariat review in April. Following Secretariat and TAG reviews on the IPD, UNDP received detailed feedback from Secretariat and TAG respectively in July. From September-November 2025, UNDP had a few feedback meetings with Secretariat, TAG member and Steering Committee Chair to better understand upstream prevention and digest all feedback received from Secretariat and TAG in July 2025. UNDP Ecuador country team met a series of meetings to plan IPD revision, revised and resubmitted revised IPD to Secretariat in mid-January 2026. Secretariat conducted a review of the revised IPD and provided guidance note including recommendations to SC members for their review in mid-February – the main concern with the revised IPD is notably health-focused, disease surveillance activities, which is out of the N4H scope. The SC meeting of 26 February discussed on Ecuador revised IPD and fully supported Secretariat comments and provided additional feedback to UNDP SC member to refine certain elements of the IPD to align with N4H objectives and ultimately contributes to CBD's Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health. In early March, BMUKN also provided written comments to specify elements for revision especially with budget. Secretariat consolidated all feedback received directly in the revised IPD, during the SC meeting of 26 February, and via email to share with SC members and UNDP Ecuador Country team for IPD refinement. Meanwhile, Secretariat initiated signing process, through the MPTFP Gateway, to initiate fund releases to expedite progress towards implementation.

**Mongolia/WOAH:** While scoping phase was completed in March 2025, WOAH submitted Mongolia IPD for Secretariat review from Jan-April. Secretariat conducted a review process and provided WOAH with feedback from Secretariat and TAG in late April - main concern is that upstream prevention activities are largely missing. Following two feedback meetings with Secretariat in May, WOAH conducted consultations with Mongolia country partner and other key stakeholders to plan for IPD revision. Following internal consultations among the core team and country partner throughout the rest of 2025, WOAH submitted revised IPD to Secretariat in mid-January 2026. Secretariat also initiated internal review of the IPD and provided guidance note including key concerns and recommendations to SC members in mid-February. The SC meeting of 26 February decided to complete SC review by 17 March and SC members are currently reviewing Mongolia IPD.

**Vietnam/IUCN:** Following the scoping phase was completed in May 2025, IUCN submitted Vietnam IPD in June. Secretariat and TAG provided their respective feedback to IUCN for IPD revision in July. Following feedback meeting was held among IUCN, UNDP Vietnam and Secretariat in September, IUCN submitted revised IPD in late October. Secretariat and TAG reviewed and provided feedback on revised IPD, as all initial feedback was not fully addressed and incorporated into the revised IPD. As SC meeting of November raised concerns on project implementation delays, Secretariat coordinated a SC review process for Vietnam IPD, providing guidance notes which include key concerns and recommendations – the primary concerns with the revised IPD include that 1) most project activities remain concentrated under capacity building and knowledge management; 2) unclear how activities lead to concrete deliverables or impacts and eventually contribute to N4H outcome and outputs. The SC reviewed the Vietnam IPD and granted conditional approval due to concerns regarding programme alignment. The SC requested IUCN to refine specific elements of the IPD and submit revised IPD within three months of implementation phase.

### **Output 1. Assess – Multidisciplinary research and modelling data and rationale for investment.**

**Ghana/UNDP:** From November to December 2025, N4H Ghana scoping project made progress in finalizing the IPD, ensuring alignment with national priorities, strengthening collaboration among implementing partners, and laying the groundwork for timely project implementation in early 2026. Following the transition of convening partners from EcoHealth Alliance to UNDP and IUCN, a coordinated series of technical and stakeholder consultations were held in Accra from 24–27 November 2025. These engagements brought together UNDP, IUCN, the University of Ghana, and key government agencies across the One Health spectrum such as the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST), Ministry of the Interior through the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO), Ministry of Food and Agriculture through Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD), Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources through the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission (FC), and the Ministry of Health through Ghana Health Service (GHS). The N4H Secretariat also participated in the discussions. The consultations ensured continuity from the 2024 scoping process while integrating feedback from the Secretariat and Technical Advisory Group. The scoping project is now well positioned to transition into the implementation phase, with strengthened partnerships, clarified roles, and a shared commitment to advancing upstream prevention of zoonotic spillover risks in Ghana. UNDP, IUCN and country partners are in the process of finalising the revised IPD for re-submission.

**Kenya/UNEP:** During the reporting period, the Kenya N4H project held bilateral meetings with several government sectors, academia and civil society relevant to Nature for Health to explain the project systemic approach and the upstream prevention focus of N4H. Based on these meetings, a core team was established comprising representatives from key sectors. Two online meetings were held with the core team to develop a scoping plan. Consequently, the Scoping Project Document was finalized, approved, and a request for funding made in December 2026.

**Rwanda/WHO:** Rwanda established a core team and completed the scoping phase of N4H initiative between August 2024 and October 2025 through four national workshops jointly convened by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, WHO, and the University of Global Health Equity. The process focused on identifying ecological and socio-economic drivers of zoonotic spillover and developing prevention-at-source strategies grounded in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem health. A comprehensive situational analysis on biodiversity, ecosystem health, and zoonotic spillover risk in Rwanda was developed through collaboration between the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, WHO, and the University of Global Health Equity. The analysis highlights land-use change, deforestation, wetland degradation, agricultural intensification, and climate variability as systemic drivers of disease emergence. The findings also underscore the interconnected nature of biodiversity loss, climate change, and emerging infectious disease risks, illustrating how ecosystem degradation and climate pressures can amplify zoonotic spillover pathways and reinforcing the importance of

integrated approaches to biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and public health protection. Key findings from the situational analysis, in line with N4H objectives, emphasize that effective pandemic prevention must extend beyond surveillance and response to include upstream ecological prevention measures, including ecosystem restoration, sustainable land management, and strengthened cross-sectoral governance. The final scoping workshop in October 2025 consolidated these findings and initiated preparation of the Implementation Project Document (IPD), which will guide the next phase of the N4H programme in Rwanda. Rwanda is in the process of finalizing the IPD.

**Vietnam/IUCN:** IUCN secured GIZ funding to support additional N4H scoping work in preparations for the implementation phase. The major output from the GIZ grant was to test implementation of WOAHA's 2024 Guidelines for Addressing Disease Risks in Wildlife Trade. IUCN hired two national and one international consultant to support a workshop process that included consultations with key partners, preparation of background materials on IWT and disease risks in Viet Nam, and coordination of workshop design and facilitation with WOAHA and other technical partners. The workshop was held in Hai Phong on 27-28 May, co-chaired by Country Partner, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, IUCN Vietnam Office, and FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ETACD) Vietnam. Participants from WOAHA, Zoonotic Disease Monitoring and Surveillance Center, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Mahidol University, and CIRAD (also TAG member) also shared their practical experience and enriched discussions.

There is no relevant progress to update for Ecuador/UNDP, GAPBH/SCBD and Mongolia/WOAH under output 1 for 2025.

## **Output 2. Build – Preventative actions and policies through legal environments, disease and risk factor surveillance, detection and reporting**

There is no relevant progress under output 2 for 2025.

## **Output 3. Enable – Capacity building, knowledge management, advocacy and awareness raising with respect to the links between nature, climate change and health**

**GAPBH/SCBD:** Following Steering Committee approval of the SCBD's N4H project in May 2025, the SCBD commenced workshops and meetings with relevant partners and key actors. The project has advanced towards its objective: "to support countries in mainstreaming biodiversity and health interlinkages, and to promote informed decision-making on biodiversity and health indicators by, (1) Creating an enabling environment for the uptake and implementation of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health (GAP); and (2) Supporting the development of science-based indicators that will assist countries and stakeholders in assessing progress towards the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health linkages" In this respect, significant progress was made to develop a draft proposal of an indicator on biodiversity and health, which will soon undergo peer reviews and will eventually be presented to COP 17. In addition, progress was made towards supporting the uptake of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health, mainly through awareness-raising activities such as hosting a webinar, and through the development of materials to promote the GAP and how it can be used by various stakeholders

There is no relevant progress to update for Ecuador/UNDP, Ghana/UNDP, Mongolia/WOAH, Kenya/UNEP, Rwanda/WHO and Vietnam/IUCN under output 3 for 2025.

## **Output 4. Sustain – Collaboration and governance structures that facilitate sustained and strengthened preventative planning, action, accountability and policy**

**Vietnam/IUCN:** In addition to testing application of the WOAAH guidelines, the GIZ grant supported preparation of studies of the scale and impact of snaring and livestock grazing inside protected areas. Because these studies involved the same government counterparts and case study visit to Muong Nhe Nature Reserve, they were merged. The key conclusions and recommendations are given below:

- **Conclusions:** The report synthesizes the alarming situation of uncontrolled livestock grazing and wild animal trapping in Viet Nam’s Special-Use Forests (SUFs), particularly across critical biodiversity hotspots. This crisis stems from intertwined drivers of systemic and socio-economic factors. Law enforcement remains uneven due to resource disparities and policy gaps, while monitoring efforts are consistently undermined by rugged terrain, understaffing, and a lack of technology. Furthermore, intense livelihood pressures and limited environmental awareness among local communities continue to drive illegal activities. Current penalties are insufficient, leading to repeat offenses. To address these threats, priorities must be given to stricter control of trapping, clear grazing regulations, promoting community-based management, applying modern monitoring technology, and enhancing cooperation.
- **Recommendations:** To move from crisis to sustainability, a concrete action plan is proposed, beginning with a short-term (1-2 years) focus on legislative reform, increased patrol frequency, and robust public awareness campaign. In the medium-term (3-5 years), the strategy shifts toward piloting community-led conservation models and establishes international cooperation mechanisms. Ultimately, the long-term (5-10 years) goal is to integrate SUF policies into socio-economic strategies and build smart forest monitoring systems. Achieving this vision requires a multi-stakeholder approach involving state agencies, law enforcement, conservation organizations, local communities, and research institutions. Immediate next steps should include quantitative impact assessments of grazing, the development of a centralized database to support a multi-level monitoring strategy that balances ecological integrity with livelihood support.

Ecuador/UNDP, GAPBH/SCBD, Ghana/UNDP, Mongolia/WOAH, Kenya/UNEP and Rwanda/WHO do not have relevant progress update under the output 4.

### **2.2. Delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices**

At the fund level, a primary challenge has been technical knowledge gap regarding ‘upstream prevention’ and being able to translate it into actionable locally-designed interventions. This is, to some extent, an inherent aspect of the nature of the Fund which challenges the traditional scope of One Health interventions by bringing in the environment and in its current scope, seeks to address the environmental drivers of zoonotic spillover. With each partner bringing differing approaches, expertise and understanding of this particular challenge, a substantive period of time was spent on addressing feedback related to scope within the draft project proposals. As a lesson learnt, there is now an increasing recognition amongst partners, including Steering Committee, that landing on a joint understanding of upstream prevention and what this looks like as an intervention – is crucial. A number of actions are now being planned to this effect, inter alia, a dedicated series of webinars bringing expertise (especially external) for cross-sharing and learning within the programme.