



Original Research

COVER NOTE

The Sustainable One Health Index (SOHI) for Bottom-Up Use: For Countries, Regional Authorities, and Local Communities Based on Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), inaugurated in 2015 by the United Nations and to be achieved in 2030, are off the way. Obviously, the governmental top-down efforts are not sufficient to move forward. In addition, there is a lack of effectively managed funds to support the developing countries, especially in Africa and Asia.

- 1) The efforts to move more successfully forward through the governmental channels of top and mid-level top-down management have to be amended by true bottom-up mobilization of voluntary organizations at the community level focusing on specific SDGs and selected indicators of success.
- 2) Especially, SDGs fostering the One Health perspective are identified here as incomplete: SDG 6, 12, 13, and 14 are delayed about 5 years on average.
- 3) The proposed SOHI can serve as a facilitated overall approach to inform subnational SDG-oriented initiatives about their achievements.
- 4) To that end local initiatives need to be supported by specific funding mechanisms at their disposal to stabilize their work.
- 5) To promote a successful bottom-up process, related non-governmental organizations must establish effective coordination mechanisms at the global and regional level, building on the example of the One Health Commission and providing a minimum set of requested information on their websites.
- 6) The present dominance of physicians, veterinarians, and infectiologists in the international discussion of One Health should be broadened to engage sociologists, economists, and experts in decentralized management, and establish a forum for the regular exchange and monitoring of information.

The “One World, One Health” concept has the potential to succeed as a transformative, epoch-defining approach to ensure the future sustainability of life on this planet. But a strong warning has been expressed also*: *We have been here before in the 1990s: When the HIV/AIDS epidemic materialized and new tools for malaria and tuberculosis (TB) became evident, the related global constituencies originally proposed to enhance the programs for these three diseases across the various UN agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and financial institutions, in the end, each followed their own way: Insufficient confidence emerged*



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among the participating agencies leading to the creation of three separate new agencies: UNAIDS, the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria, and the Global Vaccine Alliance (GAVI).

* Pannenberg O, Seifman R. *Re-Treating Pandemics*. JGPOH 2024. Posted: DATE: 17/04/2024, DOI: 10.61034/JGPOH-2024-10

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