

A 'one health' approach to addressing emerging zoonoses: The HALI project in Tanzania

December 15 2009

In this week's *PLoS Medicine*, Jonna Mazet (University of California, Davis) and colleagues describe their work in the Tanzania-based HALI Project, which adopts the "One Health" approach to address emerging zoonoses, recognizing the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health.

There is a strong need for integrated health approaches, the authors argue, because explosive [human population](#) growth and environmental changes have resulted in increased numbers of people living in close contact with wild and domestic animals. Every day thousands of children and adults die from underdiagnosed diseases that have arisen at this human-animal-environment interface, especially diarrheal and respiratory diseases in developing countries.

"Integrated policy interventions that simultaneously and holistically address multiple and interacting causes of poor human health—unsafe and scarce water, lack of sanitation, [food insecurity](#), and close proximity between animals and humans—will yield significantly larger health benefits than policies that target each of these factors individually and in isolation", the authors say.

More information: Mazet JAK, Clifford DL, Coppolillo PB, Deolalikar AB, Erickson JD, et al. (2009) A "One Health" Approach to Address Emerging Zoonoses: The HALI Project in Tanzania. *PLoS Med*

6(12): e1000190. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1000190

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Citation: A 'one health' approach to addressing emerging zoonoses: The HALI project in Tanzania (2009, December 15) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2009-12-health-approach-emerging-zoonoses-hali.html>

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