Network for Evaluation of One Health

Evaluating transdisciplinarity and systemic thinking in an attempt to drive the health agenda

Simon Rüegg[1]*, Jakob Zinsstag[2], Barbara Häsler[3]

[1] Section for Epidemiology, Vetsuisse Faculty, University of Zurich, Switzerland. E-mail: srueegg@vetclinics.uzh.ch. [2] Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel, Switzerland. [3] Royal Veterinary College, Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health, London, UK.

Background

Current health problems require **transdisciplinary** approaches by combining natural, social sciences and humanities with citizen participation and adapted governance mechanisms to shape One Health (OH) responses.

There is a need for **standardised evaluation** of OH initiatives in order to **demonstrate benefits and limitations** of such comprehensive approaches.

The Network for Evaluation of One Health (NEOH) is an **multidisciplinary, open network** that brings together people from fields such as ecology, economics, epidemiology, public and veterinary public health, linguistics, government and industry with varying expertise and experience who have an interest in One Health and evaluation.

22 COST countries have joined the network to date

Aims

❖ **Provide a tested framework and methodology for the evaluation of One Health initiatives in a systematic and comparable manner.**

❖ **Identify gaps and opportunities for best practice in One Health.**

❖ **Identify criteria for decision-makers to support the development of sustainable policies, and to allocate resources efficiently.**
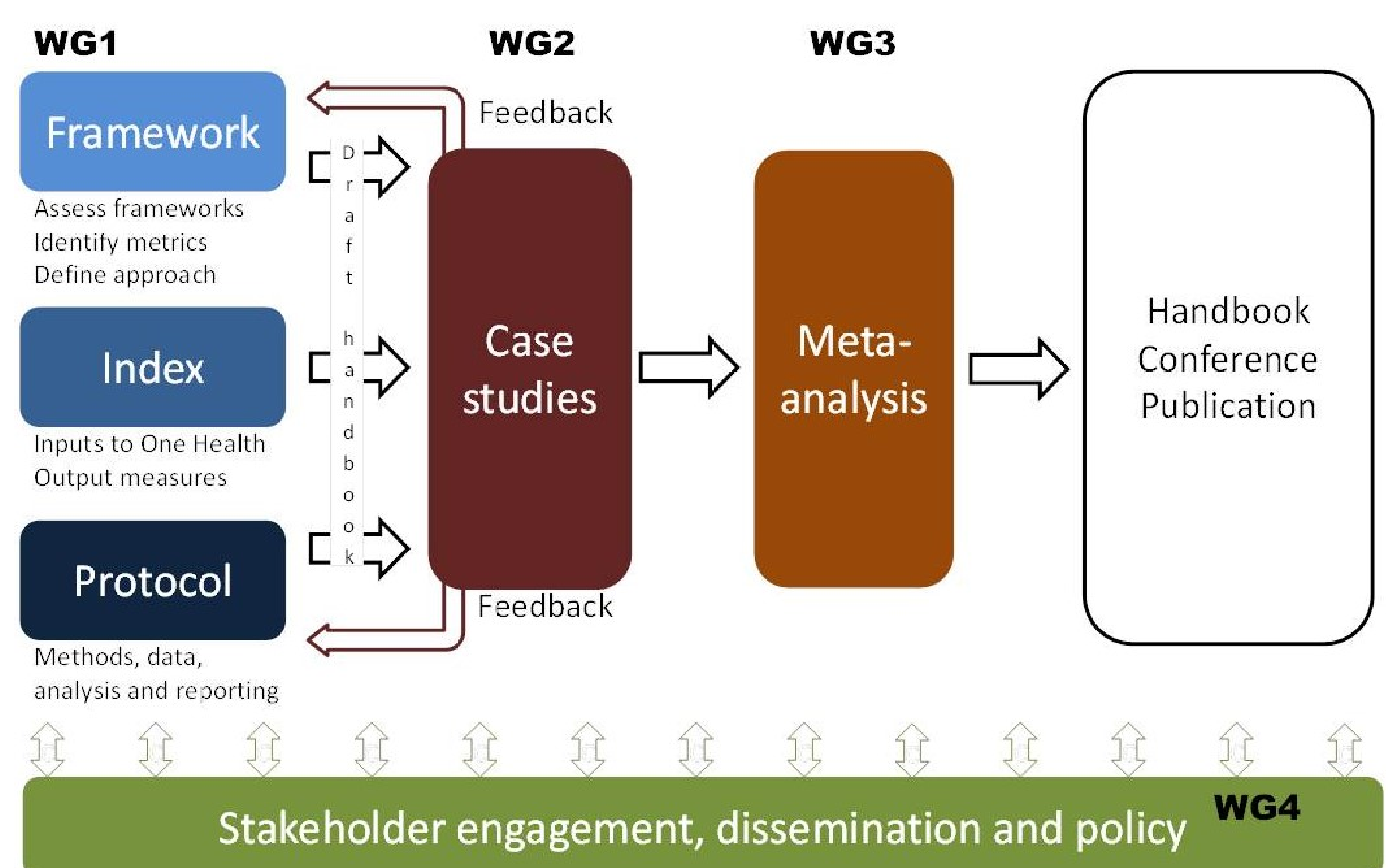
Approach

The project is divided into four working groups (WG):

➢ **WG1** - develop an **evaluation framework**, a One Health index and recommend metrics and methods.

➢ **WG2** - apply the evaluation framework in selected **case studies** using available primary and secondary datasets stemming from ongoing OH initiatives including but not limited to research projects, surveillance or disease control activities, educational programs.

➢ **WG3** - conduct a **meta-analysis** of the available case-studies for evaluation of the framework and benchmarking.

➢ **WG4** - seek **dialogue** with government and non-government organisations, research and industry to adapt the framework the needs of decision makers and analysts.

The network provides financial support to **short-term-scientific-missions**, **training schools**, **working group meetings**, **stakeholder meetings** and **dissemination activities** to facilitate the work.

Working groups

WG1 — Framework: Assess frameworks, Identify metrics, Define approach. Index: Inputs to One Health, Output measures. Protocol: Methods, data, analysis and reporting. WG2 — Case studies, Feedback. WG3 — Meta-analysis. Handbook, Conference, Publication. WG4 — Stakeholder engagement, dissemination and policy

Invitation to join

Any researcher, engineer or scholar from a COST Member Country

Any researcher from institutions in Near Neighbour Countries, International Partner Countries and International Organisations on the basis of mutual benefit

The COST Action is funded from 2015 to 2019

For details visit

http://neoh.onehealthglobal.net