



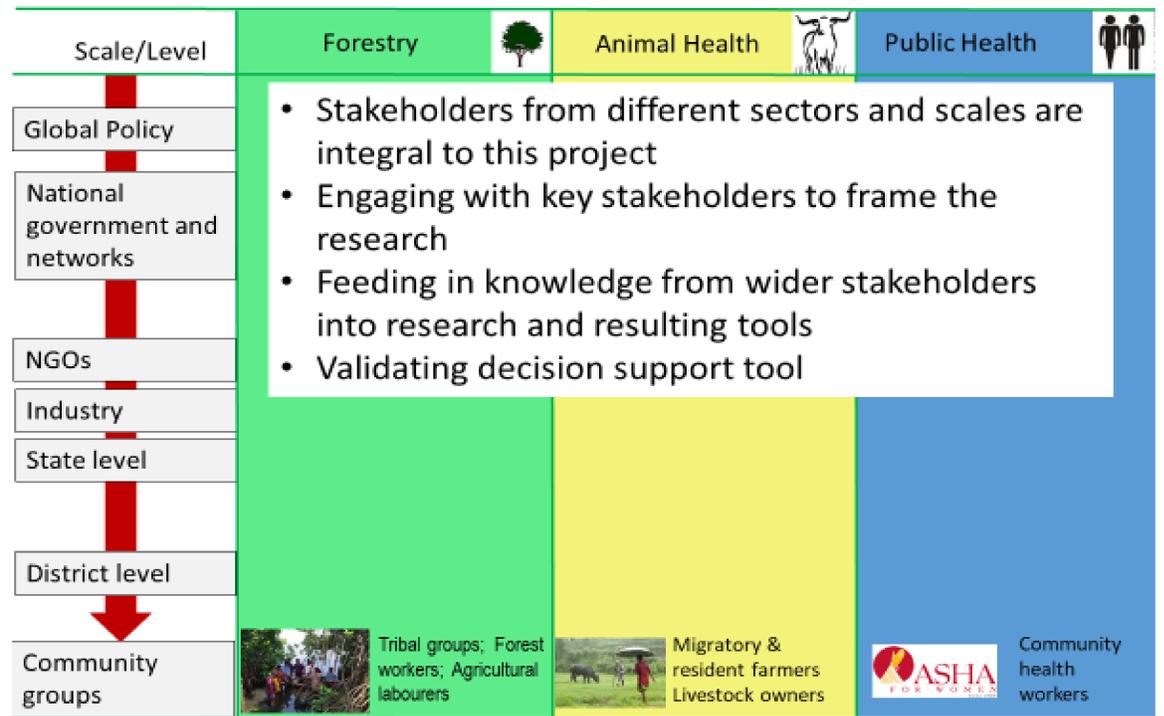
MonkeyFeverRisk

Interdisciplinary approaches for KFD & zoonotic disease management

Why the need for interdisciplinary approaches?

- Research & action needs coordinated *fieldwork-laboratory-community engagement* (e.g. tick collection, identification and control in the case of KFD)
- Disease surveillance across human, animal and forest sectors -> need for *intersectoral, interdepartmental coordination in addition to interdisciplinary approaches*
- Risk factor identification and action requires collaboration between ecologists, epidemiologists, public health professionals, and health workers across biomedical and social sciences
- MonkeyFeverRisk addresses both intersectoral and interdisciplinary needs of KFD -> lessons for other zoonotic diseases

Interdisciplinary approach for KFD: What do we mean?



Interdisciplinary approaches that we used



Bringing together decision-makers with researchers spanning from different disciplines helped integrate multiple perspectives on KFD control as well as contributing to co-developing a decision-support tool



Data collection involved research methods and techniques across disciplines; zoonotic diseases such as KFD require multiple disciplines to work together in interdisciplinary research teams



Implementation and action at the centre; Integrating high resolution earth observation data with fine-scale maps and on-ground health department and health worker experience to co-produce a decision-support tool; researchers keep on-ground decision support at the centre of the research agenda

What are we learning?

- Experience and wisdom from health workers and other on-ground staff is crucial to translating research into action
- Experience of the Karnataka Health Department in managing multiple KFD outbreaks holds important lessons for the future of zoonotic disease management
- District administrative leadership is able to galvanise intersectoral coordination during outbreaks in the absence of a formal institutional framework
- Multiple policy and practice barriers for coordinated OneHealth approaches at district level, especially for strengthening preparedness, prevention and between outbreak periods

What resources for future interdisciplinary work?

- An interdisciplinary & intersectoral community of professionals with an interest in KFD/zoonotic disease control (Whatsapp group and multiple meetings)
- An international and local institutional framework involving Government health and veterinary services sector, central and state government research organisations and academic organisations from NGO sectors
- Capacity building for all researchers, practitioners and decision-makers on OneHealth approaches that can be applied to other disease systems and contexts



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