

1 April, 2016

One Health Day

Guidelines and Call for proposals

Help celebrate One Health Day on 3 November, 2016

What is One Health Day?

On 3 November this year, individuals and groups from around the world, from academic to corporate & non-profit, students to established professionals, will have the opportunity to implement One Health projects and special events under the auspices of "[One Health Day](#)." One Health Day will bring global attention to the crucial need and benefits of using trans-disciplinary One Health approaches to complex challenges involving animals, people, and planetary ecosystems. It is anticipated that projects will focus on many One Health arenas including worldwide public health issues (emerging/re-emerging zoonotic infectious diseases), comparative medicine / research (cancer, heart disease, orthopedic diseases, etc.) and the inextricable interactions between animal, environmental and human health. Activities and events around the world will give One Health scientists, practitioners and advocates a powerful, unified voice for moving beyond current provincial approaches to emerging infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, climate change, environmental pollution, and many other problems, to a holistic, trans-disciplinary default way of doing business. One Health Day is a joint initiative of three leading global One Health organizations: the [One Health Commission](#), the [One Health Initiative](#) Autonomous *pro bono* Team, and the [One Health Platform Foundation](#).

What is One Health?

Human existence is deeply embedded in the natural world and the survival of all species, including humans, is wholly dependent on a healthy planet. But the health of our planet is declining as demonstrated by highly publicized events such as increases in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters, the occurrence and spread of new, often fatal infectious diseases that can transcend species, the fouling of our air and water, conflicts over limited supplies of safe food and clean water, and the increasing disappearance rate of species that are sentinels for life-threatening environmental change. Attempts by science and technology to understand and solve these global challenges have frequently been fragmented, short-sighted and outpaced by the rate at which these catastrophic events escalate.

One Health is the integrative effort of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally, and globally to attain optimal **health** for people, animals, and the environment. Many professionals discuss humans *and* animals *and* the environment as three separate entities that occasionally interact; *One Health* changes that paradigm (model) of thinking to humans and animals *in* the environment, inherently intermixed and intertwined in a complex network. Failing to recognize that, we often speak in human-centric language that highlights the negative outcomes on humans as opposed to looking at health in a framework for understanding positive, negative, and neutral interactions among all life on planet earth. Hundreds of prominent scientists, physicians and veterinarians and many organizations worldwide have [endorsed the One Health concept](#).

Who can participate?

Anyone, individuals or groups, from academic to corporate to non-profit, from students to established professionals, can plan and implement a One Health Day event.

Why should you participate?

- To enhance human, animal and environmental health and well-being by advancing awareness and understanding of the One Health concept
- To build networks that provide opportunities for collaboration among many health-related disciplines
- To share your perspectives and knowledge with like-minded individuals from diverse backgrounds
- To expand your own transdisciplinary network and understanding of the diversity of One Health sciences and perspectives
- To gain valuable experience in developing, organizing, coordinating and funding a compelling and appealing One Health awareness and educational program. (As a student, this will augment your vitae / resume)
- If a student, and if you like, to compete for cash prizes and global recognition of your event by renowned international One Health experts.

What can you do?

First save 3 November, 2016 for One Health Day. Then identify and bring together like-minded colleagues and others in your region to organize and support local, creative and innovative awareness and educational events on or around One Health Day. You can focus on any topic that falls under the [One Health umbrella](#) but your event should address the interconnectivity of human, animal and environmental health.

What kind of support can you expect?

- Free use of the One Health Day logo (you might help translate it into 'your' regional language).
- Free promotional support through the [onehealthday.org](#) web pages and electronic newsletters regularly circulated by the three sponsoring organizations and their partners to over 15,000 One Health advocates around the world.
- Event ideas and program support such as assistance in selecting speakers can be obtained via your Regional spokesperson and/or the One Health Day Coordinating Team.
- Financial support will not be provided.

How to Participate:

- Identify and coalesce your Event Team and Ideas
- [Register your event](#) on the One Health Day website
- For more information about One Health Day Events or assistance with filling out the Registration form, please contact your [Regional spokesperson](#).
- Advertise your event widely through local media in your region, by posting articles, blogposts, pictures, and/or video recordings online on the One Health Day Facebook page or on Twitter using the hashtag #OneHealthDay and on the One Health Day webpage. Contact the One Health Day [social media manager](#) if you need assistance.

Student Competition

- While anyone can participate, One Health Day especially encourages students (secondary, undergraduate, graduate, professional) to set up One Health events that facilitate student delegates working together from different academic disciplines / backgrounds.
- For fun and added incentive, student teams organizing an event for One Health Day may enter their event to compete for a \$5,000 cash prize. Three award winning events will be selected by a jury of renowned international One Health experts.

Eligibility

Student One Health Day Teams are eligible to apply for one of three One Health Day Awards if they:

- Have at least one ecology / environmental, one human medical, one veterinary medical, and one additional non-medical related student (examples: Anthropology, Chemistry, Communications, Engineering, Social Sciences, Wildlife, Zoology, etc.) N=4 or more students.
- Submit proof of 'students in good standing' letters for each team member on their University's letterhead from a faculty member or Department Head. (Note: It is possible that more than one University will be represented on a single team.)
- Submit an event description
- Submit a promotion plan for advertising your event
- Submit a metric for measuring success of your event
- Submit an evaluation Summary Report to your Regional Spokesperson by 1 December, 2016

Only those teams who wish to compete for the awards must prospectively meet these Event Criteria and submit to their Regional spokespersons. All other One Health Day teams (not wishing to compete) are encouraged to [register their event](#) on the One Health Day webpage for support and help promoting their events.

Dates of Interest

- **27 October – 10 November:** Window for occurrence of events entered in the competition
- **1 December:** Event summaries for competition due to Regional Spokespersons for judging. Be sure we know how to contact you if your team wins.

What if we cannot hold our event 'on' 3 November?

- No problem. One Health is highly relevant and needed all year round. Hold your One Health Day event whenever you can, as close to the recognized One Health Day date as possible. **Please note: if you want your event to compete for the award, it must occur in the One Health Day Events window between 29 October and 10 November.**