

HEALTH POLICY BRIEF

Strengthening Jordan's One Health Framework

Gaps and Opportunities in Zoonotic Disease Control,
Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Climate Policy

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Classification

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Topic area

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KEY MESSAGES AT A GLANCE

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Intersectoral Gaps	AMS Urgency	Climate-Health Link	Priority Action
Jordan has established strong foundations for One Health; however, fragmented governance and limited enforcement constrain impact	Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) remains a critical and growing threat due to gaps in regulation, surveillance, and cross-sectoral coordination	Climate change is an emerging public health risk, but is not yet operationally integrated into national health preparedness systems	Three priority actions can significantly strengthen national health security and system resilience

WHY THIS MATTERS NOW

- ✓ Jordan is increasingly exposed to complex, interconnected public health risks driven by the interface between human, animal, and environmental systems. Zoonotic diseases continue to pose regional and global threats. AMR is accelerating due to inappropriate antimicrobial use across sectors. Climate change is intensifying risks such as heat-related illness, water scarcity, and vector-borne diseases.
- ✓ Without integrated and institutionalized action, these risks may lead to increased disease burden and outbreaks, higher healthcare and economic costs and reduced effectiveness of existing health interventions
- ✓ Strengthening One Health is therefore both a public health priority and a national resilience imperative.

POLICY PROBLEM

Jordan has made notable progress in aligning with the One Health approach, including national legislation addressing public health and environmental protection, multisectoral committees and coordination platforms, a National Action Plan for AMR and engagement with international frameworks and partners. However, system-level gaps persist. These gaps limit Jordan's ability to translate policy commitment into effective, sustained implementation.

Governance and Coordination	Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS)
▪ No explicit legal mandate for One Health coordination ▪ Fragmented institutional roles and accountability ▪ Limited formalized multisectoral operational mechanisms	▪ Weak enforcement of prescription-only antibiotic policies ▪ Insufficient regulation in the veterinary and agricultural sectors ▪ Fragmented surveillance across human and animal health systems
Climate-Health Integration	
▪ Absence of a dedicated climate-health coordination function ▪ Limited integration of climate risks into surveillance and preparedness ▪ Lack of operational emergency frameworks for climate-sensitive health threats	

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

Methodology

This policy brief is informed by a national multimethod assessment conducted by Jordan Center for Disease Control (JCDC) and Health Care Accreditation Council (HCAC), and published in an international peer-reviewed journal in 2025. The study included: comprehensive mapping of policies, strategies, and legislation, 41 key informant interviews across government, academia, and international partners and benchmarking against WHO and international best practices

Scope

Zoonotic Disease Control

National policies and surveillance systems

Antimicrobial Stewardship

Human and veterinary sector regulations

Climate Change

Health adaptation and emergency preparedness

PRIORITY POLICY ACTIONS

1 Institutionalize One Health Governance	Action: - Establish a legally mandated national One Health coordination mechanism with clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and accountability structures. Key components: - Formal designation of a national coordinating body (JCDC) - Regular multisectoral coordination and joint risk assessment - Standardized data-sharing and reporting mechanisms Expected outcome: - Improved coordination, accountability, and efficiency in managing cross-sectoral health threats.
2 Strengthen Antimicrobial Stewardship and AMR Control	Action: - Enhance enforcement and integration of antimicrobial stewardship across human, animal, and environmental sectors. Key components: - Enforce prescription-only antibiotic use across all sectors - Strengthen veterinary antimicrobial regulation - Establish integrated national AMR surveillance systems - Expand public awareness and behavioral change interventions Expected outcome: - Reduced antimicrobial misuse and improved capacity to monitor and respond to AMR trends.
3 Integrate Climate Change into Health Systems and Preparedness	Action: - Operationalize climate-health integration within national public health systems. Key components: - Establish a climate-health coordination function within the health sector - Integrate climate risks into surveillance and early warning systems - Develop preparedness plans for climate-sensitive health emergencies - Strengthen cross-sector collaboration (health, environment, water, agriculture) Expected outcome: - Enhanced preparedness and response to climate-related health risks and system shocks.

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

Governance	Financing	Data systems	Capacity building	Partnerships
Requires alignment across ministries (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment) with JCDC as a central coordinating entity	Dedicated budget lines and integration into national strategies are essential	Investment in interoperable surveillance and health information systems	Continuous workforce development across sectors	Leverage international collaboration and technical support

CONCLUSION

Jordan is well-positioned to advance a comprehensive and institutionalized One Health approach. However, closing the gap between policy and implementation is critical and can be achieved by prioritizing strong governance, effective AMR control and climate-health integration. Accordingly, Jordan can significantly strengthen its public health resilience, national health security and alignment with global best practices. A fully operational One Health framework will position Jordan as a regional leader in integrated public health governance.

REFERENCES

Exploring Policies, Strategies, and Legislations Related to the One Health Approach to Zoonoses, Antimicrobial Stewardship, and Climate Change in Jordan: A Multimethod Study with SWOT Analysis
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph22050749>

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This health policy brief reflects the current scientific evidence and public health assessment of Jordan CDC. It is intended to inform — not replace — clinical and policy decision-making.