



# PREZODE

*PREVENTING ZONOTIC DISEASE EMERGENCE*



Preventing zoonotic  
disease emergence



## Zoonoses: a major scientific and global challenge

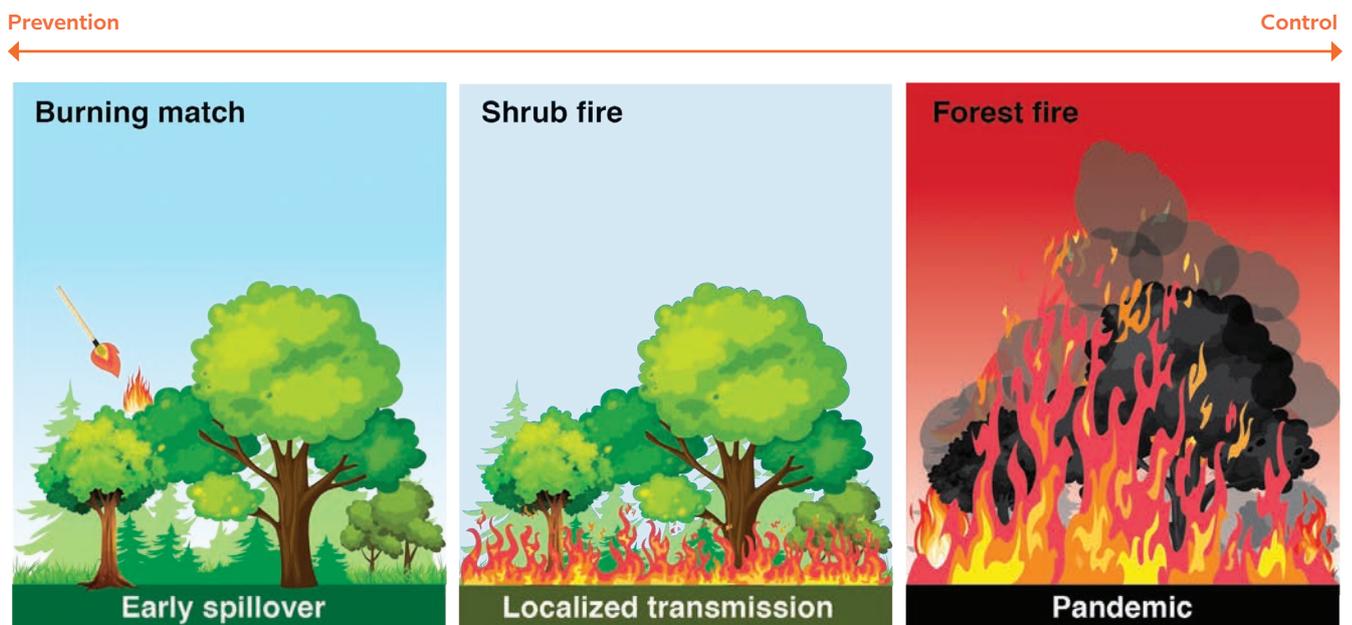
**Over the past decade, 75% of emerging human infectious diseases have been of animal origin.**

(WHO)

The proportion of zoonoses among emerging human diseases has increased over the past 50 to 60 years, rising from 62% to 75%, and the occurrence of associated epidemics has also increased over the past 30 years.

The emergence and reemergence of these diseases are profoundly linked to pressures on the environment, and especially on natural habitats and biodiversity.

The crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic has also reminded us more than ever of our need for a One Health approach including human, animal and environmental health in order to fight new pandemics and, above all, better prevent and avoid them.



**The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the close links between human, animal and environmental health, in a context of increased human-livestock-wildlife contacts and ecosystem degradation. FAO recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability as a key determinant of a long term 'One Health for All'. We need to do more 'all for one health.'**

(FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL, DR QU DONGYU, OPS 11 January 2021)

## Prevention programmes have to be developed

**Investing in prevention would cost 100 times less than trying to control future pandemics.**

(IPBES)

- The increased frequency of the emergence of infectious diseases of animal origin also demonstrates the need for a real paradigm shift: preventing the causes and improving early detection, in addition to seeking to curb their spread and impact.
- Preparedness strategies are extremely important to ensure rapid response to these events, but are not primarily designed to prevent pandemics.
- Prevention strategies therefore need to be defined before pandemics emerge. To design efficient prevention strategies, it is necessary to have a holistic and multidisciplinary approach taking into account multiple factors, which is the case of the One Health approach.





## The PREZODE initiative as a proposed way forward

PREZODE - PREventing ZOonotic Disease Emergence - is an international initiative addressing all the challenges related to the prevention, surveillance, early detection and rapid response to risks of zoonotic pandemics.

The initiative was announced by the President of France during the ONE PLANET SUMMIT in January 2021 with the support of the President of the European Commission and of the FAO Director General.

PREZODE promotes a paradigm shift in the way we tackle emerging risks: by focusing on prevention and bottom-up design of health policies, in coherence with the recommendations of the report on biodiversity and pandemics published by IPBES (Oct 2020).

PREZODE aims to **contribute to the new One Health 'High-Level' Expert Panel (OHHLEP)** set up by the FAO, OIE, WHO and UNEP.



***We need to work closely with our international partners on research - in the spirit of the PREZODE initiative [...] which the European Commission welcomes.***

(European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen - OPS 11 January 2021)



## Bringing the community together and building synergies

### PREZODE: Ambition and Objectives

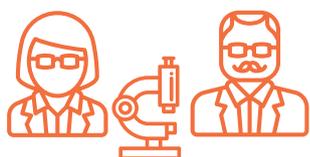
PREZODE will help coordinate a large portfolio of national, regional and international projects focusing on the emergence of zoonotic infectious diseases and implement innovative methods to improve prevention and mitigate emerging risks. It will bring actors together to create synergies with and in between programs currently conducted.

As an **international initiative** PREZODE will thus constitute:

- A scientific and operational **framework to coordinate** research projects, health networks and operational actions to strengthen the integrated approach and maximize the impact.
- A **platform for sharing knowledge** acquired through past, current and future projects and capitalizing on **success stories and pilot actions** in different regions of the world.
- A **resource center** available notably for the One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP), to facilitate in particular the development of recommendations for decision makers by the latter.

## Preparing the operational launch: How can you contribute?

PREZODE is an open initiative that intends to gather all interested and concerned actors willing to contribute to the prevention of zoonotic disease emergence. All actors can manifest their support by signing the **PREZODE declaration of intent**.



Already more than a  
**1,000** scientists involved



From **150** countries



**5** continents



A least **200 millions euros**  
of projected budget  
(2022-2025)

The year 2021 is devoted to building the initiative with all the interested partners, before an operational launch in 2022. This first step is based on a broad consultation of all the stakeholders (countries and authorities, national organizations, international organizations, research and development partners, other initiatives). To date, the participatory workshops that have been held have already gathered more than 1,000 participants from around 50 countries. More will be organized before the end of the year.

On a political level, governments signing the declaration of support will be invited to participate in the development of the initiative and to **join the institutional preparation committee**. This informal body made up of representatives of governments, research institutes and international organizations will directly contribute to the definition of the strategy and the establishment of the final operational governance of the initiative. A first meeting of this committee will be held in Autumn 2021.





**For more information, please visit**

<https://prezode.org>

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