

## FAO's One Health Initiatives in the Asia-Pacific Region

Mary Joy Gordoncillo

Regional AMR Project Coordinator, FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

The intricate web of interconnected health risks happening against a backdrop of a shared interface demands convergence of expertise and commitments across related disciplines. One Health is an integrated approach aimed at tackling threats to health and ecosystems and optimizes the health of people, animals (wildlife & livestock) and ecosystems. One Health supports public health, animal health, food safety and security, disease prevention and control, sustainable development and aims to prevent further environmental degradation. Transforming food systems to be sustainable, climate smart, and more efficient in producing safe food is a major part of this broader challenge and at the centre of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) mandate. In the Asia-Pacific region, the FAO One Health Programme works towards: (1) improved livestock production; (2) strengthened policy dialogues and technical exchanges; (3) mitigation of antimicrobial resistance; (4) prevention and control of zoonoses and transboundary animal diseases; and (5) expansion of One Health beyond animal and public health stakeholders to include the wildlife and environment sectors.