Why the words ‘One & Health’ matter when developing food security strategy

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Three key questions

- What is the “One” in One Health?
- Whose food are we securing?
- How do we decide?

The Question of "One"
3 observations

- The 'One' of most One Health is us
- The One Issue is usually infectious environmental hazards
- The One Manager is typically one lead agency

Implications

- **One is us**
  - Nature is a source of harm rather than the primordial source of health to be cultivated by One Health programs
- **Infectious hazards**
  - Focus is on detecting and preventing hazards rather than human development, sustainability or health
- **Single agency**
  - Leadership without ownership – a challenging task
  - Partnerships critical for multidisciplinary collaboration
  - Value of collaboration as 'neutral' partners
    - Ex. Centre for Coastal Health

The Question of Whose Food? 3 observations

- One Health emphasizes animal agriculture
- A fundamental requirement for healthy animal protein sources is secure food for those animals
- The One Health focus in food security is mostly terrestrial due to the fixation on domestic animal pathogens and zoonoses

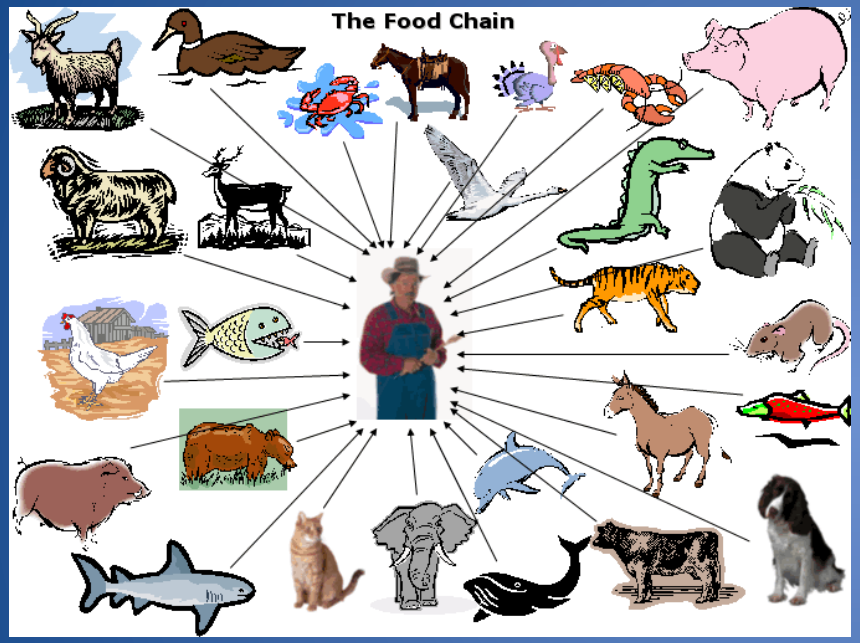
Implications

- Agriculture emphasis
  - Wildlife and fish conservation is mostly invisible on the One Health food agenda
    - They are seen as infectious risks to agriculture
    - Hunting and fishing are important for food security
- Food for food
  - Plants are not part of One Health
    - An ecosystem approach to food (plants, wildlife, domestic animals, people, habitats) is lacking
- Terrestrial
  - Inattention to marine and aquatic food neglects the facts that most of the world's poor live on coastlines

How do we decide how to answer whose food we secure?

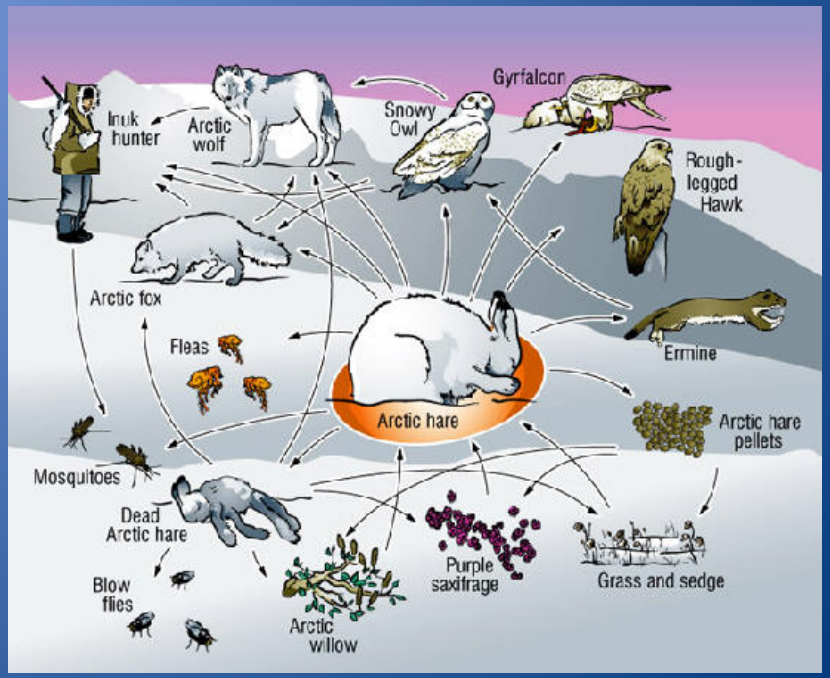
- To date – In response to economic impacts on developed countries from emerging diseases
  - Sent us down a biomedical, human focussed "find and destroy" approach
    - Technology rather than social and ecological systems
- But, it re-ignited a Hippocratic approach to health
  - Reconnected our health to the world around us
  - Inspired a renaissance of veterinary public health
  - Inspired people to think of how to implement the collective approaches to health protection and promotion

Food Security for All



Old View
Everything feeds us
Agri-food perspective

True One Health View
Co-dependent food chains
Ecological perspective

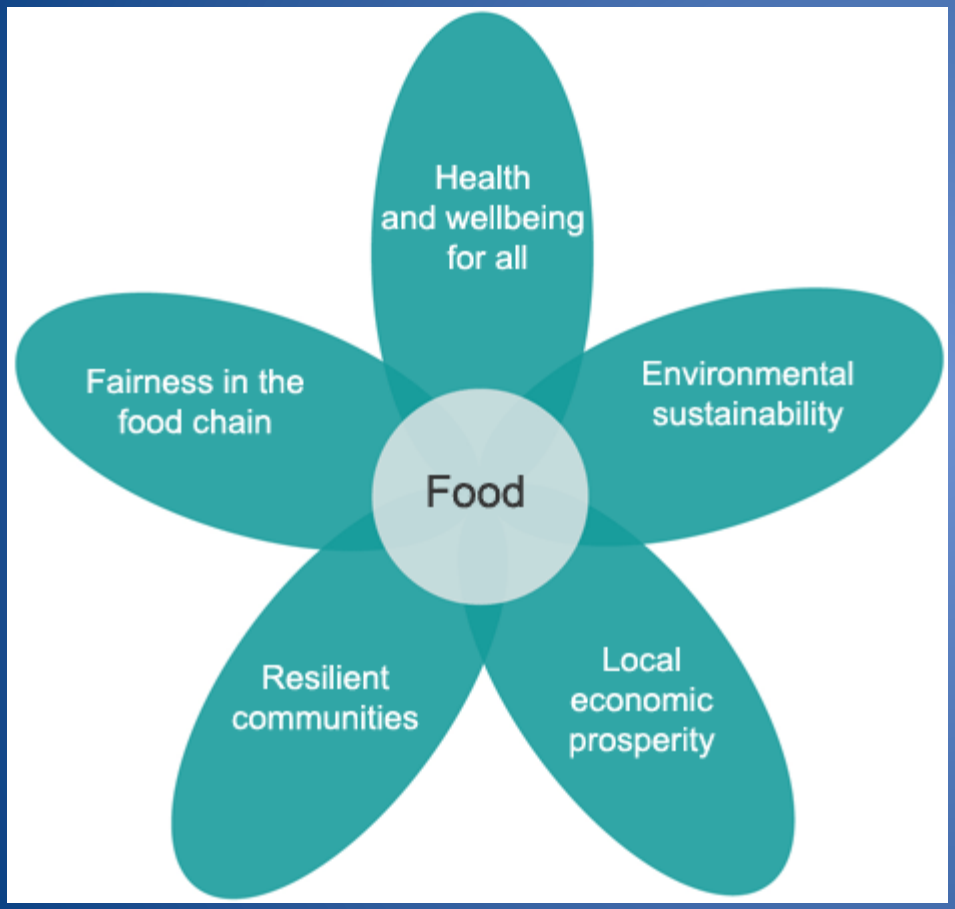


Food cannot be secure if we worry only about human disease and needs

http://www.puttingfarmersfirst.ca/get-involved/learn-more-about-food-security/

- One = All (not One as singular)
  - all species
  - 9 billion people cannot be fed without reciprocal care
- Health
  - Food security and health are both socio-ecological outcomes

Health is not the absence of disease



http://www.soilassociation.org/sustainablefoodcities/thefivethemes

- Health is
  - Access to the needs for daily living (FOOD)
  - Ability to cope with change and stress
  - Ability to meet expectation
- Primordial prevention
  - Horizontal management of the fundamental sources of health
- 'One' and 'Health' inform a food security strategy that is forward looking, holistic, protective and promoting well-being of all in the food chain