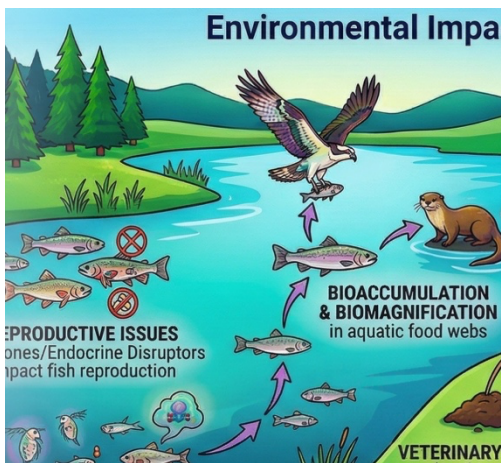


Brief updates about OneHealthdrugs March 2026



The topic of our network and our activities is related to providing new, safer drugs specifically in the field of anti-parasitic diseases. However, what we discover within the field of anti-parasitic diseases will also be of broad interest to other fields. Another very important aspect is our capacity to build a network and a platform that can help bring together researchers from different areas and fields with the intention of working on the environmental impact of pharmaceuticals.

Our aim is not only to deliver tools, but also to influence and provide important information to foster new recommendations within the regulatory area. We have realized over the past few years that without clear indications delivered by regulatory organizations—such as the European Commission, the European Medicines Agency, and others—it is impossible to translate what is identified and discovered in research into practical, daily use within the drug development process. Furthermore, it is impossible to convince stakeholders working in the field to adopt strategies and tools that ultimately deliver safer drugs to the market.

To provide a quick overview: this is where our participants come from. As you can see, while this is intended to be a European action, it is actually worldwide. We no longer have 320 participants, as that figure was from ten months ago; we now have 360 participants. Our overall network, including everyone participating in our activities, numbers around 1,000. Thanks to the efforts of a very active group within the action, we have achieved excellent dissemination of our work. Interest is growing continuously; since the beginning of our activities, we have reached a very high level of understanding and awareness regarding these issues.

As I mentioned, we have research coordination objectives and capacity-building objectives. Our project was organized in a stepwise manner: the first year was dedicated to raising awareness, the second year focused on integrating different activities, and in the third year (last year), we began measuring what we had achieved to determine what remained to be done. This current year is the year of exploitation. During this year, we need to conclude as many started projects as possible. Simultaneously, we must interact actively with regulatory entities and industry partners to establish a stakeholder team with which we can collaborate to develop important documents, such as position papers, guidelines, and ultimately, a policy brief.

We have also started parallel activities alongside the experimental work you have already seen. I will skip the details for now to close our presentation, but as you know, our action is project-based. This means we organize our activities into sub-projects rather than just traditional work packages. Any network participant willing to contribute can join these sub-projects. These are typically focused on drug discovery, which is the main aim of this COST Action, and we aim to integrate ecotoxicological evaluation into all aspects of the drug discovery process.

To achieve this, we have one project based on building a compound database; the first phase was the composition of a targeted database. We have another project, which has already been mentioned, regarding animal models and the transition to environmentally friendly approaches. A fourth project is related mostly to veterinary drugs. Finally, we have a very successful side project based on the harmonization of language among scientists from different disciplines.

For each of these projects, we have specific outcomes. As time passes, we are achieving the objectives of each project, and some are expected to conclude by the end of this year. I won't speak about each project in depth to save time, but I want to anticipate that we will soon describe the status and achievements of the ongoing projects in more detail. This will demonstrate how it is possible, even in a COST Action, to provide concrete outcomes.

One of the most significant outcomes is the setup of a database featuring 20 targets currently under evaluation for docking studies in the Ljubljana laboratories. They are exploring a large library of compounds from both inside and outside our network using advanced strategies. The outcome will be a scored list of compounds, and the targets will be purified and tested against them so that medicinal chemistry programs can begin from there.

This is just one example, but there are others. I believe the collaboration of many people in the network is providing excellent results and generating new project opportunities for participants. While today's workshop focused on biodegradability, it also touched upon closely related areas like simulation. We have had a glimpse today of what we can implement and integrate into our medicinal chemistry projects, and we try to do this as much as possible.

I hope I have been clear and provided interesting insights into what we can do. On a practical note, we have published more than 110 papers resulting from this action and have secured at least two patents based on the tools we have delivered. Other results will be connected to the ongoing projects. Thank you very much for listening, and thank you to the organizers and all the participants of this meeting.