



## The One Health One Caribbean One Love Project

The University of the West Indies, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) and the Ministries of Agriculture of Grenada, Guyana and St. Kitts & Nevis, has implemented a project entitled, “One Health, One Caribbean, One Love,” with funding from the European Union (EU) through the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP).

The goal of the project is to increase food security, animal health and production in Caribbean countries. To achieve this, the project promotes a “One Health” approach to zoonotic and food borne disease surveillance, diagnosis and response. The project will use participatory methods to identify key constraints and issues at the animal-human-ecosystem interface and will develop and test innovative One Health strategies to resolve these problems.

It involves a Leadership Series to train and connect a core regional group of One Health Leaders, selected from multiple sectors including government, non-government, academic and private organizations in the fields of health, agriculture, and the environment. The series will strengthen the capacity of Caribbean veterinary, public health and environmental services to design and manage One Health strategic plans, policies, and projects. This will develop more holistic, scientific solutions to endemic and emerging problems that limit food security, animal production and food safety.

An Animal Diseases Recognition and Response training series will be delivered to field veterinarians and senior animal health technicians with experience working with livestock diseases. Workshops have been carried out throughout the region.

To improve laboratory diagnostic capabilities across the Caribbean region, a training course will be conducted for veterinary diagnostic laboratory technicians in laboratory management and quality assurance. Also novel, fast and sensitive diagnostic laboratory techniques will be validated and introduced into selected diagnostic laboratories throughout the Caribbean region.

The project will conduct a regional workshop aimed at developing a Caribbean One Health Strategic Plan, with national input from member countries and respective ministries. The draft regional strategic plan will be presented to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to be ratified by Ministers of Agriculture, Health and the Environment. It will also provide the building blocks for the development of national One Health policies and strategic plans.

**Source: [www.onehealthcaribbean.org](http://www.onehealthcaribbean.org)**