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BACKGROUND (1):

- Diseases transmitted from animal to human (zoonoses) are a major public health problem and a direct human health risk resulting in mortality.
- The One Health approach has been advocated as the global framework for strengthening a collaborative, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary approach that works at the local, regional, national, and global levels to achieve optimal health outcomes by understanding the interconnections between humans, animals, and the environment in which they all live.
- In a health surveillance system, integration has been defined as the sum of all surveillance activities which add up to the broader surveillance system. This may include many functions using similar structures, processes, and personnel.
- The Ethiopia CORE Group Polio Project (CGPP) integrated the active polio surveillance and the priority zoonotic diseases (PZDs) using the long standing and existing polio infrastructure.
- The purpose of this review was to explore the Processes, Opportunities, Successes and Challenges of the integration of PZDs surveillance and the polio program where community-based surveillance (CBS) is the pillar of the polio program.

RESULTS

Existence of Mapped Cross-border Sites: CGPP strategically focused on the international border areas which are hard to reach, pastoral and porous. The communities living in border areas have routinely crossed the border for different purposes, sometimes with their animals. Locations were mapped using a Global Position System (GPS) and information was stored in the CGPP ODK server to be utilized for PZDs surveillance efforts and planning.

Major successes of integration of PZDs surveillance to the existing polio surveillance were: (A) Integrated training, (B) Community engagement, and (C) Surveillance of priority zoonotic diseases

METHOD (2):

- Data were collected through document reviews of each implementing partner project reports, minutes of the CGPP secretariat and desk review of CGPP secretariat staff.
- In addition, field-level project coordinators were interviewed using open ended questions to verify the ground level project implementation process, successes, opportunities and challenges

RESULTS

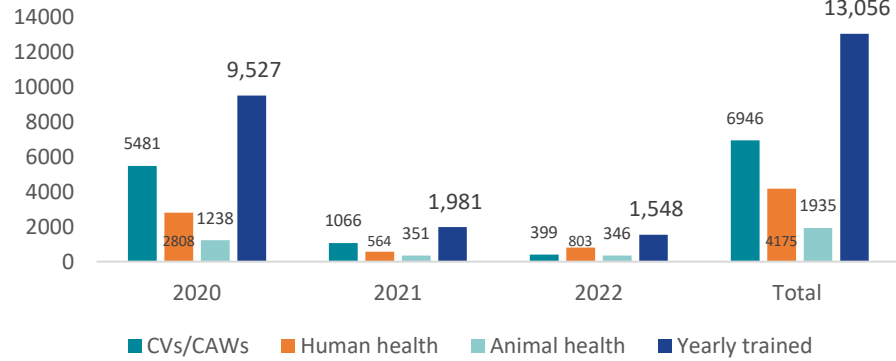
The process of integration were:

- Plan harmonization for both activity and budget,
- Development of PZDs community-based surveillance training guideline and manuals,
- Facilitated training of Trainers (TOT) for 168 government human and animal health experts and CGPP project field staff
- Production and distribution of 10,000 community-based surveillance training manual in four languages,
- Cascaded training for 5,481 community volunteers, 2,808 frontline human health and 1,238 Animal Health Assistants (AHAs)

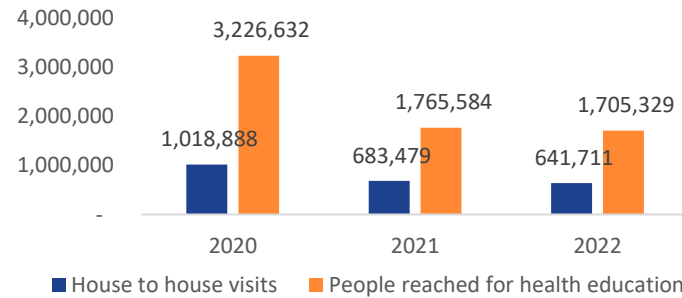
Benefits of the Integration:

- **Budget synergizing;** Since the project had already allocated funds for Polio surveillance in the polio project, it was made easier to add the PZDs (Anthrax, Rabies, and Brucellosis) at a relatively low additional cost. In addition, with the PZDs budget retraining was done on Polio for community volunteers and frontline workers.
- **Existence of Trained Community Volunteers:** Before the integration of PZDs surveillance, CGPP trained and established networks for more than 10,000 CVs on community-based surveillance using Polio budget. The ability to tap into this already established network is a key resource for the integrated PZD surveillance work
- This has provided access to a highly trained and competent CBS system

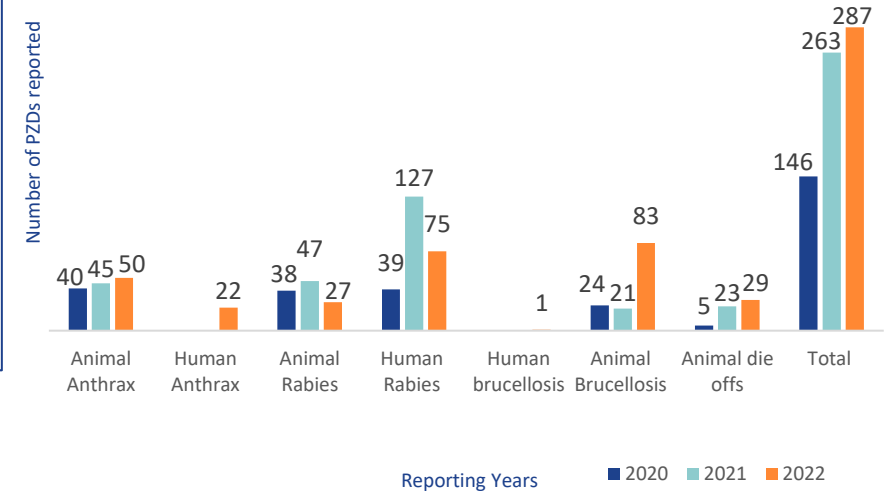
A. Yearly trained frontline workers by CORE Group Polio Project and GHS projects



B. Community engagement through trained community volunteers



C. Surveillance of priority zoonotic diseases



CHALLENGES OBSERVED DURING THE INTEGRATION

Challenges observed during the integration that a bit slow the speed of the integration process and success were delayed multisectoral after action review, COVID 19 Pandemic, local security problems and lack of multisectoral project monitoring.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

Utilizing all available opportunities and following appropriate integration were vital for the effective and efficient implementation of for the integrated one health approach

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