

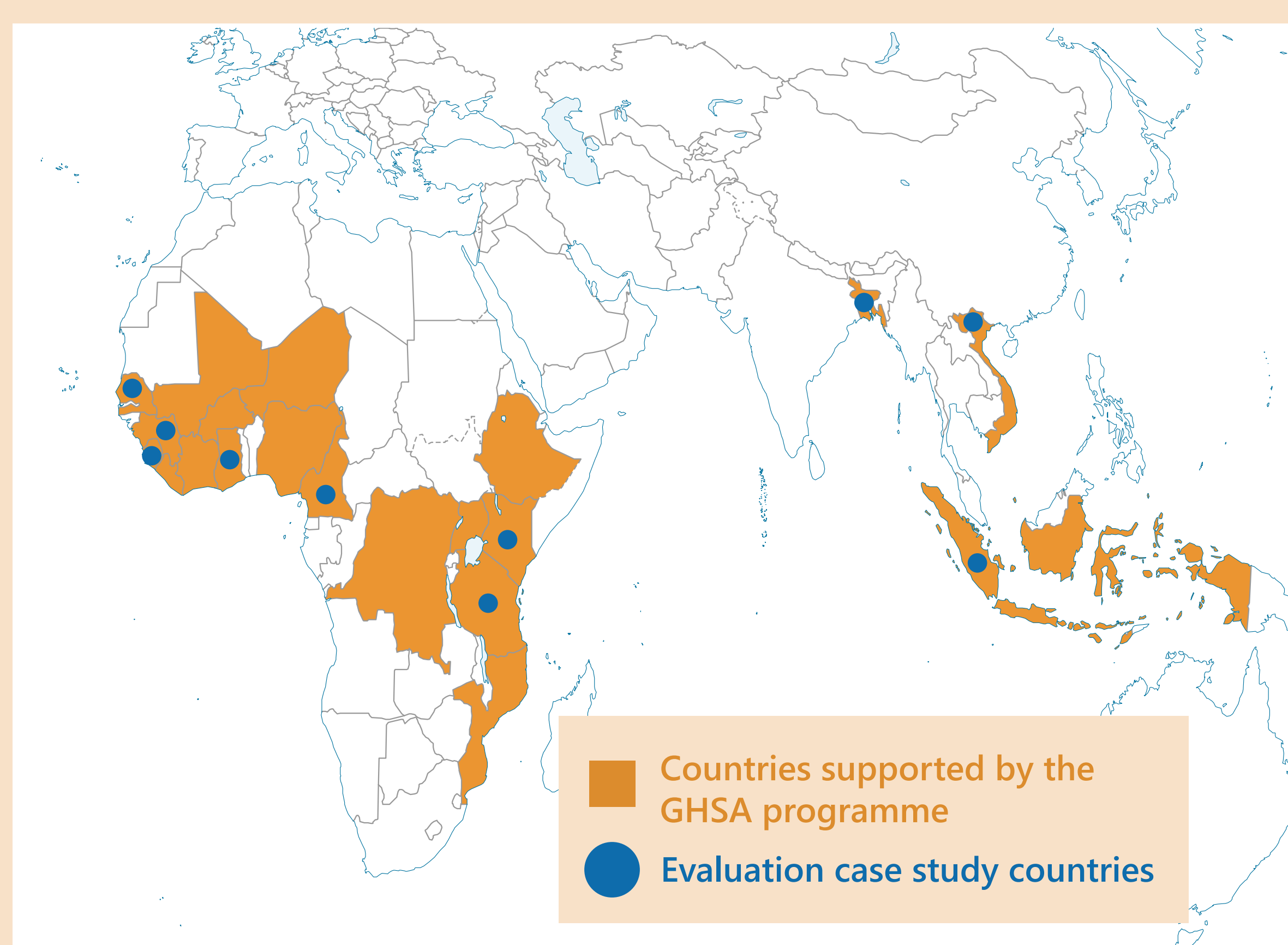
# Evaluation of FAO's support to the Global Health Security Agenda to address Zoonotic Disease and Animal Health in Africa and Asia 2020–2023



## Lessons learned and good practices in strengthening animal and public health systems in Africa and Asia

The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSa) was an eight-year programme funded by the United States Agency for International Development. It aimed to strengthen animal and human health systems in twenty countries in Africa and Asia.

The goal of this evaluation was to **identify lessons learned and good practices** to inform future One Health efforts.



Refer to the disclaimer on the bottom of the page for the names and boundaries used in this map. UN Geospatial. 2025. Map of the World. New York, United States of America. <https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world-1>

### Evaluation methods



**10**  
country case studies



stakeholder interviews



document reviews



**3**  
regional workshops

## Key findings

The evaluation found that **the GHSa programme enhanced animal health capacity** by **establishing expert teams** at both national and regional levels, **strengthening laboratory and surveillance systems** and **facilitating One Health collaborations**. These activities build on previous efforts and remain highlight relevant, as evidenced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Sustaining global health security requires ongoing efforts beyond individual programmes. Improved design, advocacy and funding diversification are needed.**

## Lessons learned and good practices

These examples highlight key insights from the GHSa evaluation. For the full set of lessons learned and good practices, country exemplars and recommendations, see the full report.

### Programme planning and design



Aligning global health security and national priorities, and finding synergies between these, builds country ownership.

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### Management and programme structure



A central repository for tools and data would facilitate the use of the tools and extraction of information.

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### Implementation and delivery



Applied, epidemiology training programmes were highly effective. Future efforts should strengthen local adaptation and ensure sufficient resources and sustained support.

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### Outcomes, impact and sustainability



Investing in countries' animal health sector improves their preparedness and response to outbreaks, as evidenced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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### Monitoring, evaluation and learning



The Joint Evaluation Exercise has gaps in wildlife and environment tracking. More comprehensive, One Health-specific tools are needed.

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### Communications and advocacy



Publishing in academic journals strengthened teams' analytical rigour and supported transparency and accountability.

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## Cross-cutting issues

### Gender, youth and inclusion



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Engaging youth expanded awareness of career paths in health and agriculture.

### One Health and partnerships



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National platforms promoting inter-ministerial coordination were key to institutionalizing One Health.

Note: Findings reflect common trends but may not apply uniformly across all countries due to differences in implementation.

## Recommendations

Based on these findings, the evaluation makes five recommendations for FAO to:



Ensure country-level work plans have clear priorities and linkages with initiatives, supported by appropriate teams



Collaborate with partners to optimize resource use



Conduct comprehensive assessments of the animal health component in global health security programmes



Promote locally relevant interventions and resource mobilization for sustainability



Revamp efforts to mainstream gender and youth inclusion



[Read the full report here](#)