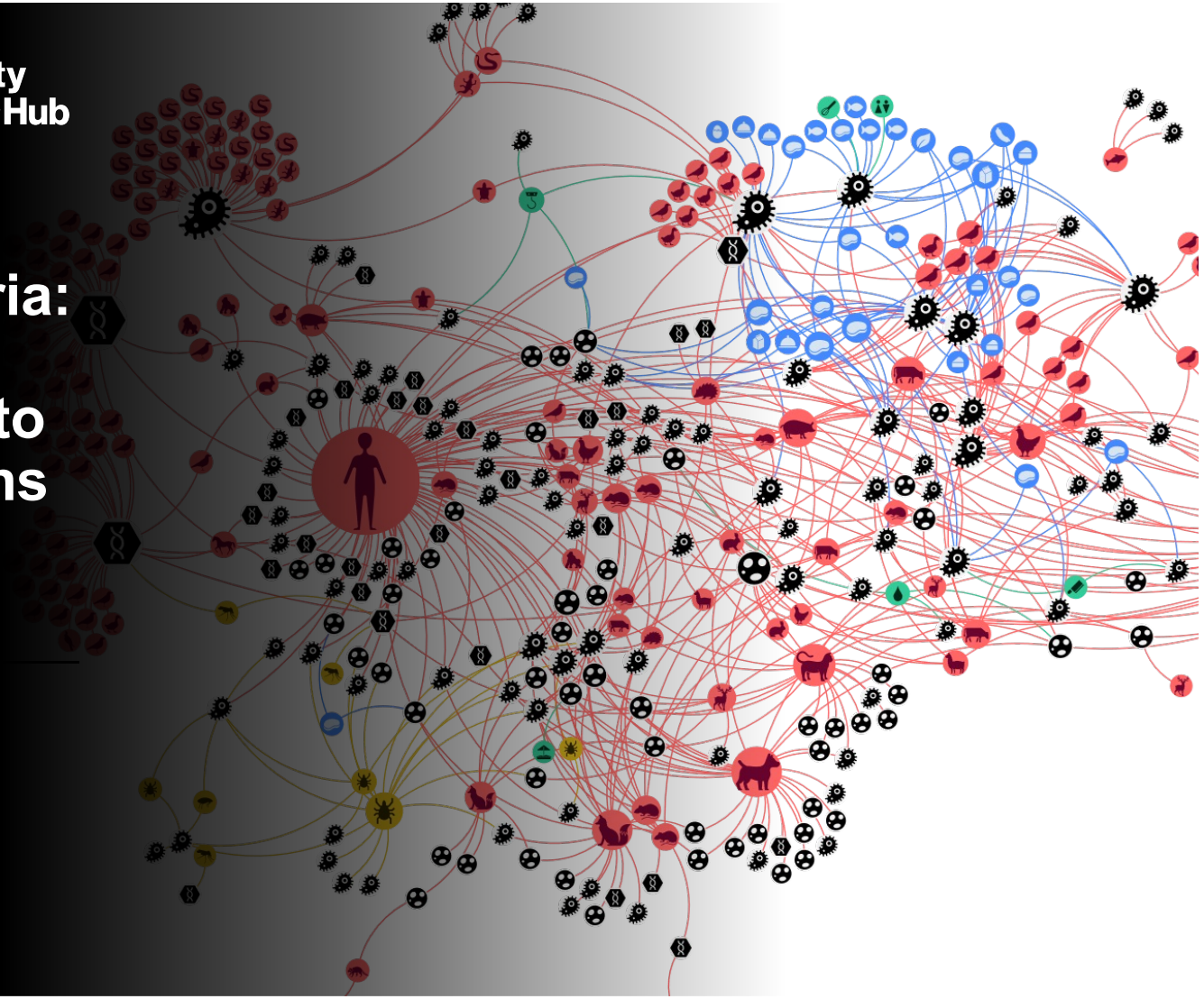
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Complexity Science Hub

One Health in Austria: networks in action, from collaboration to zoonotic interactions

Amélie Desvars-Larrive



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Situation

- Most European countries are lacking a central, independent, coordinating One Health entity.
- Generally, assessment of health hazards and management of health risks between various ministries remains fragmented.

→ Durable barriers to synergistic action



- Health professionals and researchers often operate in relative isolation, forming collaborations on an *ad-hoc* basis.
- While some nations have already implemented national One Health strategic plans, European countries, in general, are lagging behind the global agenda.
- “Implementation gap”.

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Motivation

- One Health networks can:
  - enhance communication between actors from public, private, and academic sectors
  - facilitate multidisciplinary collaborations at the regional, national, and global levels
  - drive scientific advancements
  - foster political commitments
- Strategic networking may unlock new perspectives, drive innovation, and strengthen collaborative capabilities.

Pivotal initial step to break disciplines and sectoral silos, and ultimately improve a country´s approach to achieve One Health

Khan *et al.* (2018). The growth and strategic functioning of One Health networks: a systematic analysis. The Lancet Planetary Health, 2(6), e264-e273.
Mwatondo *et al.* (2023). A global analysis of One Health Networks and the proliferation of One Health collaborations. The Lancet, 401(10376), 605-616.

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The workshop

National need for an entity allowing networking, multi- and trans-disciplinary exchanges.

Initiated by the Vetmeduni.

When, where: 22 February 2024, Vienna.

Objective

- Collaborate on the establishment of a One Health network in Austria.

Who: 39 participants from 21 different Austrian institutions.



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Challenges & priorities

- Collaboration across sectors and disciplines should strive for far-reaching impacts by embracing a **systems-based** transformation framework, at **local and global levels**.
- **Restructuring** well-established conservative systems, with entrenched disciplinary specialists, is generally challenging.
- Transitioning from competition to collaboration necessitates **clear, common goals and incentives**.



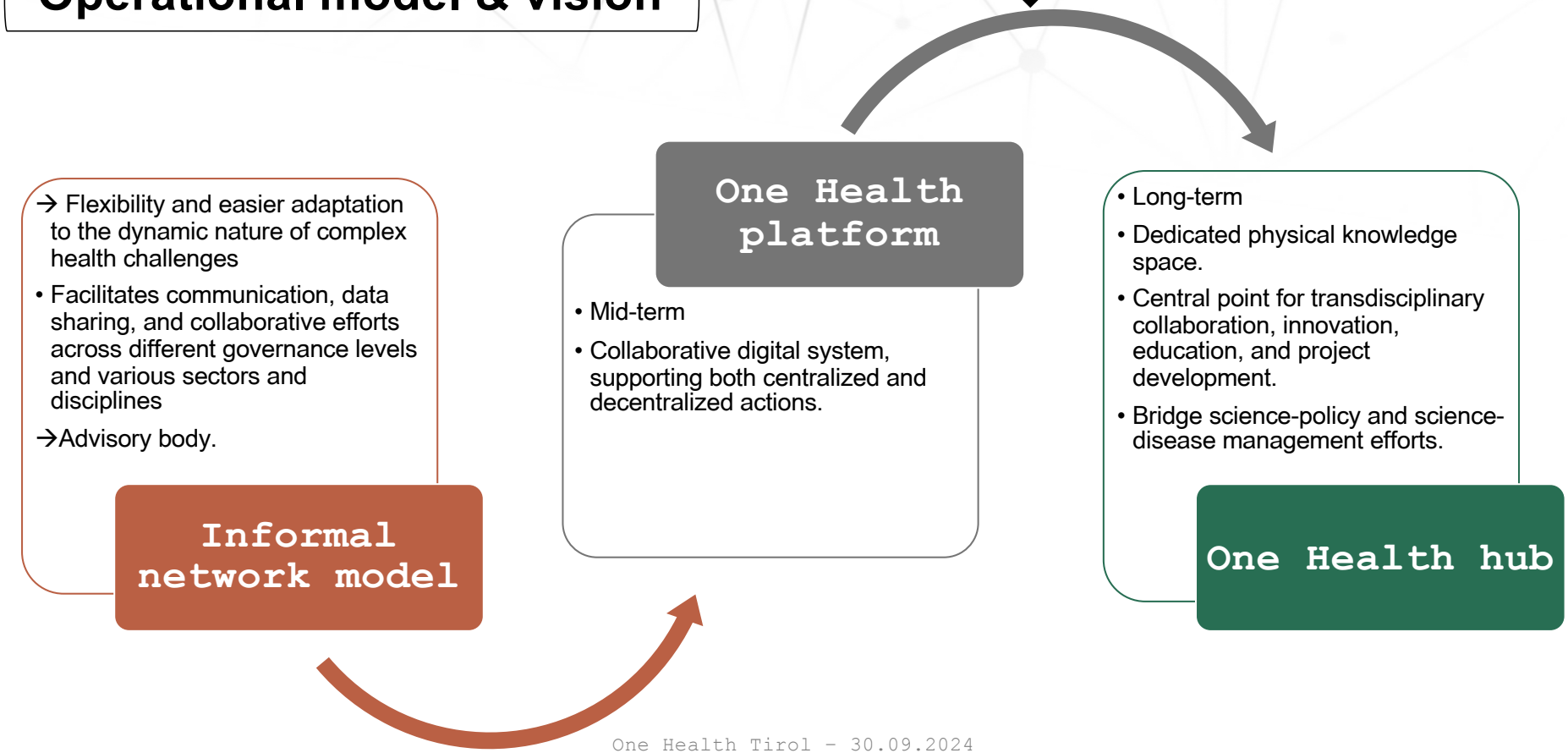




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One Health Network Austria

Operational model & vision



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Challenges & priorities

Building a One Health consensus

- Need to **increase the accessibility** of the One Health concept to diverse stakeholders, communities, and the general public.
- Need to showcase the **economic benefits of One Health** approaches and policies as a crucial factor in persuading government partners, stakeholders, scientists, and civil society.
- Importance of government commitment and engagement in establishing a sustainable long-term **One Health vision and mission statement**, particularly given that mandates are typically short-term.

→ Need for a **stable body** to guide and follow up on One Health questions.







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Challenges & priorities

Translating scientific outcomes into actionable policies

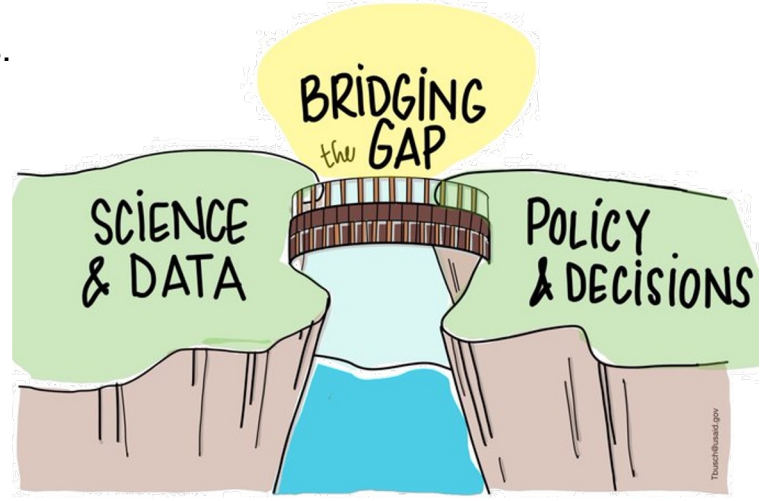
- Scientists may lack training in effectively communicating with policymakers.
- Politicians may face difficulties in deciphering data-driven policies.

→ Investing in science-policy interfaces

→ promoting dialogue between researchers and decision-makers

→ raising political awareness

can help **bridge the gap between One Health scientific knowledge and One Health policy implementation.**



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Challenges & priorities

Actively integrate One Health into education curricula

- Change in the education system, where a confrontation with One Health happens at an early stage (e.g., primary school), should be anticipated.



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Desvars-Larrive, A., Burger, P., Khol, J.L., Posautz, A., Schernhammer, E., Kutalek, R., Puspitarani, G.A., Schlippe Justicia, L., Springer, D.N., Ernst, D., et al. (2024). Launching Austria's One Health network: paving the way for transdisciplinary collaborations. One Health Outlook *6, 23. 10.1186/s42522-024-00116-6*.

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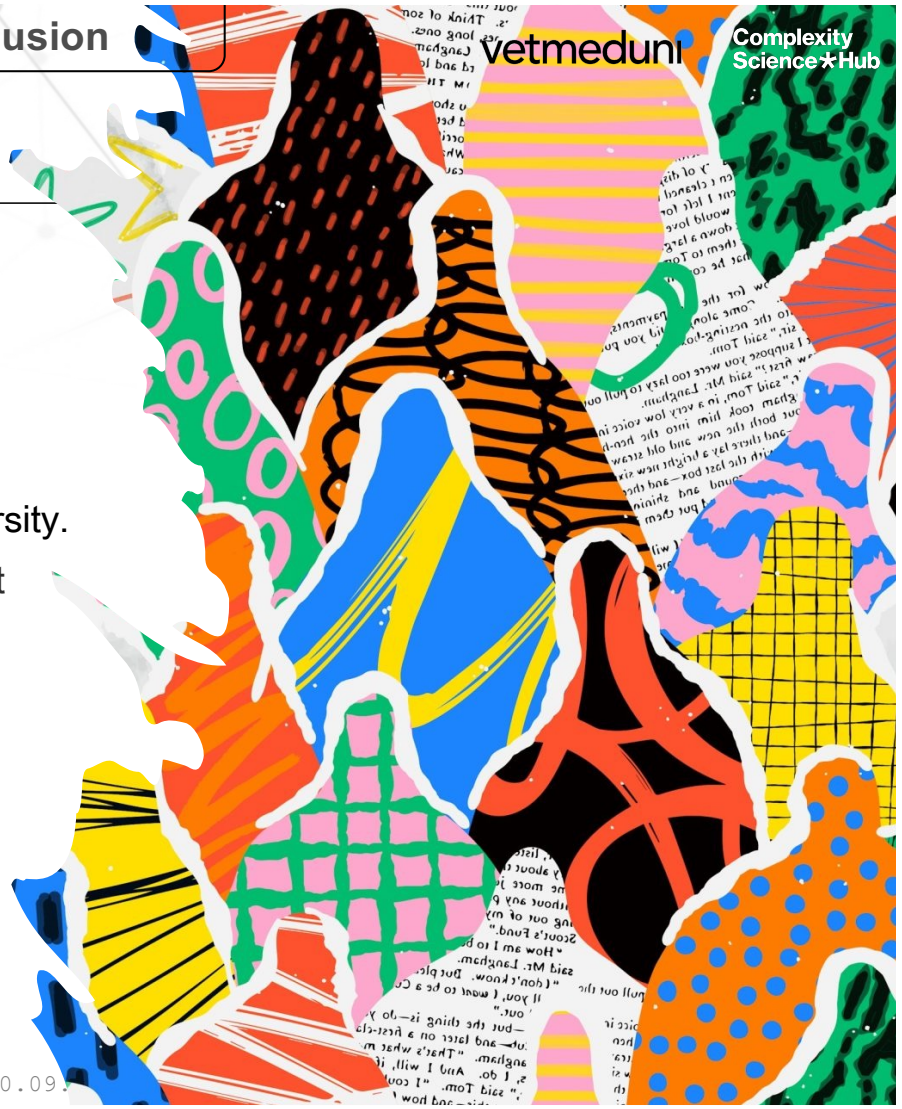
About diversity…

- Operationalizing One Health necessitates a **diversity** of knowledge, expertise, and methods.

- It also needs a range of human differences → group diversity.

→ Rooted in social identity and constructs, including (but not limited to) ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, race, or nationality.

#transdisciplinarity & **#diversity**
of One Health workforce.



One Health Network Austria



- Inaugural workshop (February 22nd)
- Stakeholder mapping Workshop (July 2nd)
- Second workshop (November 29th)