

Review of: "The Imperative of a Comprehensive One Health Approach for Mosquito-Borne Disease Control in Indonesia"

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There is no doubt that the application of the One Health principle to vector-borne disease control provides added value to the development, implementation, and evaluation of vector control strategies. From this point of view, the editorial line adopted by the authors in this article to strengthen vector control in Indonesia is highly relevant and of contemporary interest.

As the authors point out, this approach requires the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders, as recalled both in the paragraph "Understanding the One Health Approach". However, while the paragraph "Interconnectedness of Human, Animal, and Environmental Health" emphasizes the contribution of the veterinary sector to this One Health approach, the environmental health sector is virtually ignored, even though it plays a major role in the spread of vector-borne diseases.

But the weakness of this article lies in the fact that the current shortcomings of vector control in Indonesia, as reported, are not so much a lack of a One Health approach as in the fact that the basic mechanism of integrated vector control, as recommended by the WHO in particular, is not operational and has many failings, as the authors point out.

From this point of view, rather than making a general recommendation for a One Health approach to strengthen vector control in Indonesia, it would have been preferable first to carry out a real assessment of the current system, in all its components - integrated surveillance, vector control, social communication, inter- and intra-sectoral coordination - in order to identify its strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement. Based on these results, it would then have been possible to identify more precisely how and in what way a One Health approach could improve vector-borne disease control in Indonesia.

Indeed, the One Health approach, with its systemic vision, should make it possible to decompartmentalize and strengthen the interconnections and complementarities between the various stakeholders involved in vector control. To do this, however, we need to draw up a functional map of these players and compare it with the present system. The One Health approach is still all too often wishful thinking. It needs to be put into practice by clearly and precisely identifying the areas it is designed to strengthen.