

Commenter: Teres Pegger-Baur  
Affiliation: Four Paws International

**From:** Teresa Pegger-Baur [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2024 11:38 AM  
**To:** Pandemic Fund Consultations <[pandemic\\_fund\\_consultations@worldbank.org](mailto:pandemic_fund_consultations@worldbank.org)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Public Consultation on the Pandemic Fund's Draft Medium-term Strategic Plan

Dear Sir or Madame,

referring to the invitation to provide **feedback on the Pandemic Fund's Draft Medium-term Strategic Plan**, I would like to thank you for this opportunity and submit FOUR PAWS' input:

Our feedback pertains to the following sections of the strategic plan:

- 1.5 Five-year impact ambition
- 2.2 Deep dive on programmatic priorities

The vision of the Pandemic Fund is “a world in which all people are protected from the risk of pandemics and other health threats by strong, resilient health systems that can prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to infectious disease outbreaks.” No matter where a pandemic starts, all countries will suffer from it, and we can only be protected from the risk of pandemics with a globally supported and coordinated response. Therefore, it is in the interest of everyone to ensure that all governments, especially those with limited resources, are enabled to take the appropriate measures to prevent zoonotic disease (re)emergence and spillover at the source. Financial support to these ends would be a clear signal for improving global health justice. A yearly investment of USD 1.9–3.4 billion to strengthen animal health and human health systems would yield an estimated global public benefit of more than USD 30 billion annually, a return on investment of 9 to 1 or higher.

Research estimates the global value of lives lost due to zoonoses at a yearly USD 350 billion (at the lowest estimate) with an additional USD 212 billion in direct economic losses. At the same time, prevention tackling the root causes of pathogen spillover from animals to humans is estimated to require annual investments of approximately USD 20 billion. In other words, prevention would cost around 5% of the yearly value of lives lost from emerging infectious diseases. Researchers identify limiting deforestation and tackling wildlife trade as the most cost-effective ways to prevent pandemics. The measures for stopping deforestation consist of eliminating harmful subsidies, supporting the territorial rights of indigenous people and implementing direct forest-protection payments that economically outcompete deforestation. Tackling the root causes of zoonotic disease emergence to safeguard public health is the most sustainable and cost-effective investment we can make while simultaneously supporting global health and development outcomes. To be effective, the Pandemic Fund must therefore prioritise prevention

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measures that mitigate zoonotic disease (re)mergence, spillover and spillback via a One Health approach, by funding projects and initiatives which aim at

1. identifying high risk practices and activities for zoonotic disease (re)emergence, spillover and spillback so that those can be prioritized nationally. These measures include tackling wildlife trade, deforestation, habitat encroachment, live animal markets and land use change linked to factory farming;
2. addressing these high risk practices in the context of national One Health strategies;
3. working with communities in designing the steps of these One Health strategies to reduce risks,
4. supporting communities (especially in vulnerable situations) with transitioning to more alternative livelihoods so that they can protect themselves;
5. strengthening national interministerial One Health coordination and (academic) One Health networks for strategy development & implementation;
6. strengthening a multidisciplinary One Health workforce
7. ensuring support to tackle AMR by reducing the amount of antimicrobials being used in factor farming (where 73% of all antibiotics worldwide are used) starting with phasing out the use of antimicrobials for growth promotion or as prophylactic measures.

Sources:

- FOUR PAWS. Preventing Pandemics. 2022: [https://media.4-paws.org/6/5/5/f/655f0d3a1393fa4b036fbefb53944f6d86fae67e/2022-10\\_PAW\\_positioningpaper-long.pdf?\\_jtsuid=90151169624202320387473](https://media.4-paws.org/6/5/5/f/655f0d3a1393fa4b036fbefb53944f6d86fae67e/2022-10_PAW_positioningpaper-long.pdf?_jtsuid=90151169624202320387473)
- Bernstein AS, Ando AW, Loch-Temzelides T, Vale MM, Li BV, Li H, Busch J, Chapman CA, Kinnaird M, Nowak K, et al. The costs and benefits of primary prevention of zoonotic pandemics. *Sci Adv.* 2022;4;8(5):eabl4183. <https://www.science.org/doi/full/10.1126/sciadv.abl4183>. doi:10.1126/sciadv.abl4183.
- Dobson AP, Pimm SL, Hannah L, Kaufman L, Ahumada JA, Ando AW, Bernstein A, Busch J, Daszak P, Engelmann J, et al. Ecology and economics for pandemic prevention. *Science.* 2020;24;369(6502):379-381. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.abc3189>. doi:10.1126/science.abc3189

We thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and remain at your disposal for any further information.

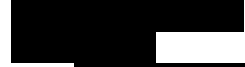
Kind regards  
Teresa Pegger-Baur

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*Billions of so-called farm animals suffer due to bad keeping conditions or during cruel transports. The European Commission intends to end caged farming for good and improve keeping and transport conditions for animals. Let's keep up the pressure!*

**#DoBetterForAnimals** and join our call for better animal welfare legislation: [four-paws.org/stop-cruel-live-animal-transport](http://four-paws.org/stop-cruel-live-animal-transport)

*Milliarden sogenannter Nutztiere leiden in schlechten Haltungsbedingungen oder auf grausamen Transporten in der EU. Die Europäische Union hat heuer die einmalige Chance, dies zu ändern.*

**#DoBetterForAnimals:** Fordern wir gemeinsam bessere Tierschutzgesetze in der EU! <https://help.four-paws.org/de-DE/stoppt-grausame-lebendtiertransporte>

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