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Advancing the One Health approach through the integration of digital environmental surveillance into a digital Surveillance Outbreak Response Management and Analysis System (SORMAS)

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A growing number of countries face the threat of climate change driven by infectious diseases. The World Health Organization advocates for the One Health approach, which links human, animal and environmental health to enhance surveillance and disease control strategies. In response, a new module for digital environmental surveillance has been developed in SORMAS.

SORMAS is an open-source digital system for epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response. The system allows routine disease surveillance, early detection and outbreak management.

Since its launch in 2015, SORMAS has been recognized as a Digital Public Good and is now used in multiple countries across five WHO regions. It is designed for health professionals involved in epidemic management at all levels - from community health workers to national health authorities and ministries. SORMAS facilitates real-time, multidirectional data exchange within and across borders and supports over 40 infectious diseases in both web and app versions, online and offline.

The environmental surveillance module in SORMAS enables the sampling of water, soil, or air; GPS-based sample tracking; coordination of laboratory transport; assignment of diagnostic procedures; documentation of results and responses and integration of environmental and human data.

This development sets the foundation for fully integrating the One Health approach into SORMAS 2.0, building the next generation of global digital surveillance and outbreak response.

Keywords

One Health approach; Digital Surveillance System; SORMAS 2.0

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Professional Status of the Speaker

Postdoc

Junior Scientist Status

Yes, I am a Junior Scientist.

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