



One Health, One Delta

Protecting Communities Across the Borders

When the Delta Froze

In the winter of 2017–2018, the Danube Delta froze in a way locals had rarely seen before. As ice covered the waterways separating Romania and Ukraine, the natural border between the two countries temporarily disappeared.

Wild animals moved freely across the frozen channels.

When spring arrived, veterinarians began to notice new outbreaks of animal diseases in the Delta.

It was a clear reminder that in a shared ecosystem like the Delta, **health threats do not stop at national borders.**



A Shared Challenge

The Danube Delta is one of Europe's **most complex natural environments**, where wildlife, livestock, and local communities coexist in a delicate balance.

Yet, before the project, monitoring systems differed between Romania and Ukraine. Data collection methods were not aligned, and cooperation between institutions was limited.

Detecting and responding to emerging diseases quickly requires more than national efforts.

No single country could address this challenge alone.

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Three organisations combining their expertise ...

**Youth Public Organization
'New European Generation'**
from Odesa, Ukraine



overall project coordination
and community engagement

**Odesa State Agrarian
University**, from Odesa, Ukraine



scientific research and
laboratory expertise

**Veterinary Sanitary and Food
Safety Directorate Tulcea**
(DSVSA) from Tulcea, Romania



field experience and
monitoring capacity

... and the project

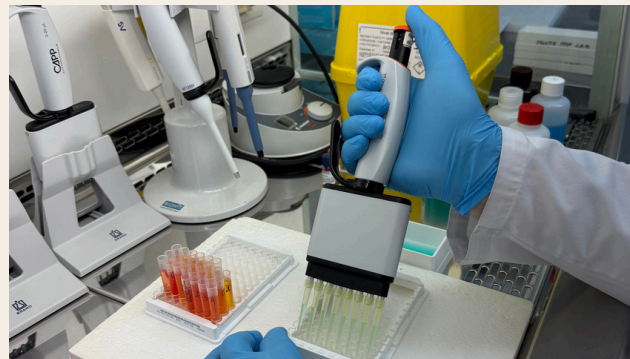
***Development of Screening and Monitoring Systems for Emerging
Diseases and Prevention of Cross-Border Epidemics in the Current
Context (ROUA00136)***

To respond to this shared risk, partners from Romania and Ukraine
launched this initiative that follows the **One Health approach**,
recognising that the health of people, animals, and the environment
are closely connected.

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- **Equipping laboratories** in Odesa and Tulcea to strengthen the capacity to detect diseases affecting the region, quickly and accurately.
- **Connecting experts from both countries** – veterinarians, researchers, and public health specialists – in seminars, workshops, and conferences.
- **Improving data sharing** with a GIS platform being developed to harmonise surveillance data and support evidence-based decision-making across the border.
- **Engaging communities** in workshops and awareness campaigns to learn how to better protect animals and prevent the spread of diseases.



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What changes with the project ...

In communities, residents gain practical knowledge on animal care, vaccination, and disease prevention, helping reduce risks for both livestock and people.

Inside the institutions, veterinary laboratories improve their diagnostic capacity, and professionals strengthen their expertise in monitoring and responding to emerging diseases.

Across the border, Romanian and Ukrainian veterinary institutions exchange information more effectively and coordinate their responses to early detection and preparedness.



... and the lessons learned

Cross-border ecosystems require **shared monitoring systems**.

Cooperation between institutions improves **early detection and response**.

Training and knowledge exchange strengthen **long-term capacity**.

Community awareness is essential for **preventing disease spread**.

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Project partners explain how the results will continue beyond the project and how the experience can be applied in other regions

"The cooperation built during this project allows us to share information and expertise much more effectively.

The monitoring tools developed here will continue supporting veterinary services on both sides of the border."



Scan and watch ...

Project Info

- Implementation period
18 months
- Start / End
June-25 to Dec-26
- Budget 418,063 EUR (376,257 EUR grant)
- Contact Ms. Tania Pasmarnova - Project manager
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Upgraded laboratories, trained professionals, and strengthened cooperation mechanisms will ensure better preparedness for future health risks.

In a region where nature connects two countries, health protection is a collective responsibility, not only a national duty.

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