

# SMS RO-UA ROUA00136

DEVELOPMENT OF SCREENING AND MONITORING SYSTEMS FOR EMERGING DISEASES AND PREVENTION OF CROSS-BORDER EPIDEMICS IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT



## Newsletter 4 - Animal and human health: what you really need to know

This edition of our newsletter highlights the practical results of our recent workshop, where we turned expert knowledge into tools everyone can use. From short, easy-to-watch videos on emerging diseases to a clear and helpful information sheet on animal and human health, we focused on sharing simple, reliable guidance on prevention, risks, and what to do in case of infection. Our goal is straightforward: make important health information accessible, understandable, and useful for everyday life.

### Strengthening Cross-Border Monitoring of Animal and Zoonotic Diseases – Workshop in Izmail

On December 26, 2025, experts, practitioners, and local authorities gathered in Izmail to discuss monitoring and prevention of animal and zoonotic diseases, including rabies, African swine fever, leptospirosis, toxoplasmosis, feline and canine distemper, and avian influenza.

The workshop provided a platform for sharing observations on symptoms, transmission risks, and challenges in monitoring and reporting. Rabies and African swine fever were highlighted due to their high lethality and persistence in animals and the environment. Participants also discussed practical difficulties, including stray animal populations, wildlife management, and gaps in systematic surveillance.

The urgency of this cooperation is especially evident in the Danube Delta cross-border area, a unique ecosystem where migratory wild birds, domestic animals, and local communities coexist

## Inside:

- Workshop in Izmail on strengthening Cross-Border Monitoring of Animal and Zoonotic Diseases
- Information sheet “Animal and Human Health: What You Really Need to Know”
- 5 interactive videos

While rich in biodiversity, this environment also creates ideal conditions for the rapid spread of diseases across borders, making harmonized monitoring and prevention measures essential.

A key point raised by participants was the urgent need to raise awareness among the general public, not only pet and livestock owners. Educational materials should be adapted for all target groups, with particular focus on children and students, to improve understanding of disease risks and preventive measures.

This workshop represents an important step toward safer communities, healthier animals, and stronger cross-border cooperation.



Based on the results of the workshop, we have developed an information sheet titled **“Animal and Human Health: What You Really Need to Know.”**

The publication provides practical and easy-to-understand information on key diseases, their symptoms and transmission pathways, recommended actions in case of suspected infection, and essential prevention practices.

The information sheet is designed to help individuals and communities better understand health risks at the human–animal interface and respond promptly and responsibly.

The sheet you can find on our [website](#)

## ANIMAL AND HUMAN HEALTH: WHAT YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW

*If you love your animal, notice what it's trying to tell you.  
The first signals often save lives.*



### Raising Awareness Through Video

To make important health information accessible and easy to understand, the project team has produced five short videos dedicated to emerging diseases. Each video explains key topics such as how these diseases spread, how infections can be prevented, and what practical steps individuals and communities can take to reduce risks.

Designed for a broad audience, the videos present reliable information in a clear and visually accessible format. They will be published on open platforms, including the project website and Facebook page, and distributed to educational and healthcare institutions to ensure wide outreach and long-term impact.

Through this initiative, the project aims not only to inform, but also to empower communities with knowledge that supports safer and healthier environments.

The videos you can find on our [website](#)

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Programme's website: [www.ro-ua.net](http://www.ro-ua.net)

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