

# SMS RO-UA ROUA00136

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



## Newsletter 7 - One Health Events and Cross-Border Collaboration Highlights

This newsletter presents key recent activities implemented within the project, highlighting One Health awareness initiatives, capacity-building events, and stakeholder engagement activities aimed at strengthening cross-border cooperation, knowledge exchange, and public health preparedness in the region.

### Study Visit and Training Seminar organized in Murighiol, Romania

In April 2026, the Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate of Tulcea organized two key activities in Murighiol aimed at strengthening cross-border cooperation, knowledge exchange, and institutional capacity in the monitoring of emerging and re-emerging diseases: Study Visit No. 2 and a Training Seminar.

On 22 April, the Training Seminar brought together around 60 participants, including project partners and representatives of public institutions from education, research, public health, environmental protection, and related sectors. The event provided a platform to present and discuss key project activities, focusing on disease surveillance, diagnostic methods, epidemiological monitoring in the cross-border area, interinstitutional cooperation under the One Health approach, and strengthening response capacity to health risks. The discussions highlighted the importance of coordinated, cross-sectoral action for effective disease monitoring and control.

### Inside:

- Study visit and training seminar in Romania
- One Health awareness activities
- Interactive Workshop on Animal Health and Epidemiological Risks

The Training Seminar was complemented by Study Visit No. 2, which focused on the exchange of good practices and applied field experience. Participants discussed sampling procedures, logistical challenges in remote areas, and the importance of harmonised methodologies and data exchange between Romanian and Ukrainian partners. The visit also included an educational component, with students from Odesa State Agrarian University gaining practical insight into cross-border cooperation in animal and public health.

Together, the two activities strengthened professional dialogue and cooperation, contributing to a shared understanding of epidemiological challenges in the Lower Danube region and supporting continued joint efforts under the project.



## One Health Awareness Seminar – Reni (17 April)

The second One Health information seminar took place in Reni, bringing together local stakeholders, including pet owners, breeders, animal keepers, and healthcare representatives. The event focused on raising awareness of zoonotic and vector-borne diseases such as rabies, leptospirosis, Lyme disease, toxoplasmosis, and West Nile virus, as well as promoting responsible animal care.

### Key results

- Improved awareness of zoonotic diseases
- Better understanding of transmission and prevention
- Promotion of responsible pet ownership
- Clarification of common misconceptions
- Strengthened understanding of the One Health approach

The seminar supported community awareness and preventive health behaviour.



## Interactive Workshop on Animal Health and Epidemiological Risks

On 24 April, an interactive workshop was held to foster dialogue and joint problem-solving among stakeholders in animal health, animal welfare, and epidemiological monitoring.

The event brought together more than 105 participants, including representatives of Odesa State Agrarian University, the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection (regional and district levels), veterinary services, local authorities, and communal institutions.

The workshop focused on analysing the current epidemiological situation, identifying key challenges, and developing the structure of a joint Action Plan. Through group work and discussions, participants prioritised key issues related to epizootic risks, veterinary response systems, and animal welfare.

As a result, participants reached a shared understanding of the current regional situation and outlined a preliminary framework for the future Action Plan, which will be further developed during upcoming workshops.



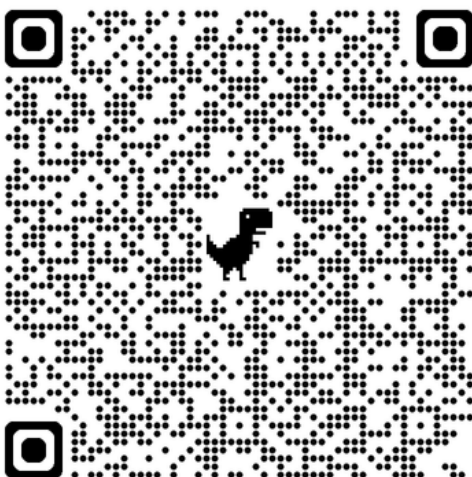
## Project featured in the "Project Stories" section



We are pleased to announce that the SMS-RO-UA project project has been included in the newly launched Project Stories section on the Interreg NEXT Romania-Ukraine programme website.

This inclusion represents an important recognition of the value and relevance of the project's activities, implemented jointly by Odesa State Agrarian University, Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate of Tulcea, and Youth Public Organization "New European Generation". It reflects the significance of the partnership and its contribution to strengthening cross-border cooperation in the field of emerging disease monitoring and prevention.

The published story highlights key project achievements and ongoing efforts to enhance collaboration between Ukraine and Romania in addressing shared epidemiological challenges.



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

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