

## HEALTH ISSUES

# HEALTH AND CLIMATE

Many regions of the world face security, socio-economic and population displacement challenges, but are also particularly affected by climate change (droughts, floods, etc.), due to their location and the pressure humans are putting on ecosystems (extensive agriculture, bushfires, sustained deforestation, etc.).

Climate change is currently one of the biggest health threats. It significantly impacts the fundamental determinants of health. The impact can already be seen across the world: increasing severity or emergence of particular infectious diseases, major climatic disasters, microbial resistance, but also an increase in chronic diseases, deterioration of mental health and food insecurity, significantly disrupting health system structures.

The burden created by these issues highlights the need to take a proactive, sustainable and integrated approach, the importance of adopting intervention methods based on multidisciplinary collaboration that enable linkages between human, animal and environmental health (One Health), and on contextualized and localized projects, based on local communities that include monitoring / evaluation and operational research components. In this sense, climate change is fostering new forms of health cooperation, at the international level and within communities, in order to improve the monitoring and documentation of health risks, to support mitigation and adaptation strategies and to contribute to identifying and implementing relevant interventions that allow communities and health systems to adapt to climate change, and to promote them to stakeholders, at the local, national and international levels.



# 60%

of pathogens that cause human diseases come from domestic or wild animals.

Human activity has profoundly changed 75% of terrestrial and 66% of marine ecosystems.

(Source: World Organization for Animal Health)



# THIELLAL PROJECT

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Senegal

## KEY INFO

-  **Duration:** 3 years (2021 - 2024)
-  **Fundind:** AFD (FISONG)
-  **Partners:** AVSF (lead), CASADES

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Three major activities were carried out in 2023 by Solthis:

- ▶ **training of human health professionals on the proper use of antimicrobials and the One Health concept;**
- ▶ **assessment of formal and informal distribution channels for human medicines;**
- ▶ **study on the quality of antimicrobial prescriptions by human health professionals.**

In addition, under the health promotion component, **community awareness on antimicrobial resistance issues continued and a communication tool on the use of pesticides and agroecology was produced.**

During the learning phase of the project, we noticed there has been gradual ownership of the One Health concept among beneficiaries. It is also important to note that there has been **growing institutional integration** of the project, particularly in terms of the Incident Management System (IMS) and the health district management team. Finally, **Solthis' approach to training adults (adult education principals, experiential learning, playful methods) and health promotion (co-creation, active participation) has been praised by stakeholders for strengthening beneficiaries' power to take action.**

**13,389**

people reached through

**1,119**

home visits and

**335** health talks

**23** human health professionals trained on antibiotics

**37** community actors trained on antimicrobial resistance tools

“ *In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is clear that humanity is evolving in a fragile and compromised world that requires us to rethink our approaches to managing threats and public health problems. It is therefore important to adopt a position that is oriented towards designing adapted, forward-looking and above all multidisciplinary and integrated solutions.* ”

**Babacar Gueye, Thiellal focal point, Solthis.**