



FAQ on One Risk West and Central Africa

What is the One Risk capacity building program?

The program focuses on capacity building in the quantitative analysis of available surveillance data and risk modeling to strengthen assessments of health risks at the interface between production animals, wildlife and humans, and evidence-based response to these risks. See <https://epixanalytics.com/one-risk/> for more information about this program, and for details about applications, expectations and requirements, and timeline.

If you have questions that have not been addressed by the FAQ below, please send an email to: onerisk@epixanalytics.com, with the title: Request for more information on One Risk WCA.

FAQ

1. How are applicants selected to join this program?

Answer: Several criteria will be used, including but not limited to motivation for joining the program, mentored project ideas, data availability, geographical spread of applicant(s), applicant(s) background(s), disease(s) of interest, opportunities for collaboration with other scientists in the same country and/or region, and societal benefits.

2. Are there minimal educational requirements for application?

Answer: We are looking for candidates primarily involved in aspects of disease surveillance and prevention or response to health risks (including policymaking, and trade-related activities). This may include technical staff from health agencies, laboratory staff, researchers, epidemiologists and risk assessors, senior staff involved in policy development (including disease surveillance and/or protocol negotiation).

3. Do participants need to be located in West and Central Africa?

Answer: Yes, the One Risk West and Central Africa program is aimed at participants from the region hence, it is important that their current works focus on the region.

4. Are there any costs for entering the program?

Answer: There are no costs for participation to this program. The program does pay for expenses related to attendance to the two workshops. The program does **not** provide any salary to participants.

5. How many participants will enter the program?

Answer: Approximately 40 participants will be recruited for this cohort.

6. What is the focus of the One Risk program?

Answer: The focus of the One Risk program is on the assessments of health risks at the interface between production animals, wildlife, and humans, to inform evidence-based surveillance and



policy. The online training and mentored projects will focus on **risk modeling** and **quantitative analysis** of available surveillance data.

7. Where will the two workshops be held?

Answer: The initial workshop is currently planned to be held in Dakar, Senegal from June 10 – 14, 2024. The second workshop is planned for early 2025.

8. Could you expatiate on the online training phase of the One Risk program?

Answer: The first week is an introduction to R for participants who have never used R, or for beginner R users. Weeks 2 and 3 focus on the quantitative analysis of data, and risk modeling related to One Health, epidemiology, and surveillance. The online training will be conducted in June/July 2024.

9. How much time will the 3-week online training program typically take?

Answer: Based on our experience, you should expect to spend between 2-4hour per day on the online program.

10. Could you talk more about the mentoring phase of the One Risk program?

Answer: The mentored projects are a core component of the program and are planned from July 2024 until February 2025. The intention is that ten groups of 3-5 participants work on a practical decision-focused question related to their current work that can inform health decisions or influence policies, using quantitative analysis and modeling.

11. What team composition is expected for carrying out mentored projects?

Answer: We are looking for teams of 3-5 people each that include at least one person to perform quantitative analysis / risk modeling, and one person involved in decision-making based on the outcome of the analysis. We are also looking for collaborative teams, i.e. that involve people from at least two institutions, and that include at least one person working in the field of animal health.

12. Do you accept individual applications, or only team applications.

Answer: Although we will consider meritorious individual applications, we encourage applications from teams. Indeed, as the mentored projects are a key component of the training program, team-submitted applications will be prioritized. When possible, we will encourage individual applicants with similar interests to team up to resubmit joint applications.

13. Do I need to be familiar with certain software tools?

Answer: No! During the program, we will mainly be using the R statistical language (<https://www.r-project.org/>). However, the first week of the online class will be an introduction to R.



14. Is there any knowledge I should have before entering the One Risk program?

Answer: While we don't expect participants to have a minimum education level, we do expect some knowledge related to One Health, epidemiology, and human and animal health. Here are a couple of open-access resources that cover such concepts:

- "Surveillance, Epidemiology and Tracing" of the NAHEMS educational training materials: [USDA APHIS | NAHEMS Educational and Training Materials](#)
- "Basic Principles of Epidemiology" of the Merck Veterinary Manual: [Basic Principles of Epidemiology - Public Health - Merck Veterinary Manual \(merckvetmanual.com\)](#)

15. Will the course be available in any other language besides English?

Answer: Yes, the training will be delivered in English and French.

16. Upon submission of my application, what is the expected timeframe for notification of acceptance into the program?

Answer: We expect to reach out to all applicants with a decision by mid-April. In addition, if we have questions or clarifications on your application, we may reach out before this timeline.

17. What are the benefits and advantages of being chosen for the program? Do I stand to get personal benefits?

Answer: See <https://epixanalytics.com/one-risk/> for a list of reasons of why to participate in One Risk training program. Apart from career progress, you will be included in a list of select few experts in risk analysis and quantitative modeling to guide decisions in One Health, Public Health, Animal Health and other areas requiring decision analysis.

18. Will I receive a certificate on completion?

Answer: A successful completion of the program will attract a certificate of completion. However, in order to complete the program, participants have to meet certain minimum requirements, such as (1) attendance to *both* workshops, (2) *completion* of the online training and (3) *active participation* in the mentoring project. Note that redundant participants, and those who partially complete the program will not be issued a certificate of completion.

19. Are there opportunities for advanced coursework upon completion of this class, or are there any upcoming programs I should be aware of?

Answer: There are other training opportunities available within the EpiX Analytics training platform, and you will be notified of these opportunities in due course.

20. Can I find out more about the course schedule/curriculum before I submit my application?

Answer: You are encouraged to carefully go through the application process and the announcement page. If you have specific questions that have not been addressed, please send an email to: onerisk@epixanalytics.com; with the title: Request for more information on OneRisk WCA.

