From Research to Recommendation for environmental impact of drugs: Advancing One Health Drugs through Science, Policy and Industry.

Agenda: OHD Stakeholders Meeting
COST Action CA21111 – One Health Drugs (OHD)
6 March 2026 | COST Association, Brussels
Time: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Meeting Objectives

- Consolidate survey, scientific and regulatory evidence across the 4 pillars
  1. Awareness field evidence
  2. Environmental Scientific Evidence
  3. Regulatory Gap Analysis and Pillar
  4 Innovation, Feasibility & Sustainability
- Define the structure and key messages of the Position Paper for One Health Drugs
- Agree on drafting responsibilities and timeline toward July 2026
- Prepare the basis for a concise Policy Brief to be issued in September 2026

10:00 – 10:15 | Welcome & Opening Remarks
➲ Introduction of participants.
Speaker: **Wioleta Walentowska** (COST Action officer, **Maria Paola Costi** (Chair, COST Action CA21111 OHD)

- Scientific urgency
- OHD COST Action progress (updates from the Tbilisi meeting)
- Introduction of the 4 pillars
- Collaboration network building with other Actions in the field. Invited ENVIRANT COST Action.

10:15– 10:25 | Operational Roadmap: From Survey Evidence to Deliverables and Policy Impact
Speaker: **Theo Zacharis** – Stakeholder & Impact Strategy Lead

- Move from evidence consolidation to concrete deliverables.
- Structured stakeholder roadmap toward drafting the Position Paper.
- Clear pathway toward September 2026 policy visibility and sustained impact.

Pillar 1 – Awareness Field Evidence
10:25 – 11:10 | Session I – Survey Evidence & Environmental Gap
Speakers**:**

- **Clara Lima** – OHD Ambassador: Results from the "Veterinary Practitioners' Awareness of Environmental Impact" survey.

Discussion focus:

- Awareness and prescribing practices
- Disposal behaviour and environmental responsibility
- Practice-level gap between regulation and real-world implementation

Outcome**:** Consolidated behavioral evidence base for policy construction.

11:10 – 11:30 Coffee Break & Networking

Pillar 2 – Environmental Scientific Evidence
11:30 – 12:30 | Session II – Environmental Burden & Scientific Legitimacy

- **Martin Danaher** - Teagasc – (The Agriculture and Food Development Authority) ENVIRANT COST Action - Analysis of Anthelmintic Residues in Environmental Samples
- **María Martínez Valladares** - Chair, CA23154 COST Action ENVIRANT - COST Action "Environmental impact of anthelmintics in livestock and alternatives to minimize their use
- **Paul Selzer** University Tübingen - Balancing Benefits and Hazards of Antiparasitics in a Changing Ecological Landscape.
- **Ricardo Carpeto - Discussant.** AEMPS – Spain - Head of Area Environmental Risk Assessment - Parasiticides in the environment: Challenges in the authorisation

Discussion focus:

- Environmental persistence and toxicity impacts

- Regulatory and implementation gaps
- Needs for the integration of ecotoxicity evaluation early in the drug discovery phase.

Outcome**:** Scientific legitimacy for policy positioning.

12:30 – 13:30 | Networking Lunch

Pillar 3 – Regulatory Gap Analysis
13:40 – 14:20 | Session III – Regulatory Gap Analysis & Early Integration Pathways
Speakers:

- **Bruno Nunes** - Environmental risk assessment of medicinal products: beyond the guidelines.
- **Pieter-Jan Serreyn - Discussant –** Technical Director Animalhealth Europe **-** Feedback regarding the registration process and regulatory hurdles

Discussion focus:

- Timing of Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) in the current development pipeline
- Absence of mandatory early ecotoxicity screening
- Feasibility of early-stage integration
- Recommendations for the Position Paper and 2-page Policy Brief

Outcome**:** Agreed regulatory gap framework & deliverable structure. Technical roadmap aligned with regulatory feasibility.

Pillar 4 – Innovation, Feasibility *& Sustainability*
14:20 – 15:20 | Session IV – *Sustainability* & Impact Activation
Format: Strategic roundtable discussion with short 5-minute framing inputs.
Speakers:

- **Sheraz Gul** - Innovations in bio-assays employed in drug discovery (Fraunofher ITMP Hamburg)
- **Farah Gonul AYDIN** (Ankara University, AYDIN WAVMA Director for the Middle East, WAVMA, USA). vital role of Zebrafish technology in assessing the environmental impact of antiparasitic drugs
- **Eleni Chontzopoulou** - (Cloudpharm, Athens, Gr) AI for a Safer Environment. Predicting and Mitigating Ecotoxicity of Pharmaceuticals

Discussion focus:

- Validation and standardisation of predictive tools
- TRL level and innovation implications
- Case examples of early-stage integration
- Dissemination pathway and timeline toward July drafting and September 2026 policy visibility

Outcome**:** Innovation feasibility roadmap and defined sustainability pathway.

15:20 – 16:00 | Conclusions & Next Steps
Maria Paola Costi

- Confirmation of deliverables.
- Confirmation of Position Paper and Policy Brief drafting teams.
- Agreement to reconvene in Brussels in July 2026 to review and refine draft documents ahead of September policy visibility.
- Agreed timeline toward the September 2026 policy milestone.

List of Participants

Ricardo Carpeto discussant. Area Environmental Risk Assessment, Agencia Española de Medicamentos y Productos Sanitarios (AEMPS) - Spain (ES) – **Event 1 topic -Parasiticides in the environment: Challenges in the authorisation** Jefe de Área de Seguridad Ambiental / Head of Area Environmental Risk Assessment Departamento de Medicamentos Veterinarios / Veterinary Medicines Department Coordinador del Plan Nacional frente a la Resistencia a los Antibióticos en Medioambiente (PRAN) Miembro del CVMP y del ERAWP / CVMP & ERA Working Party member (EMA).

Bruno Nunes
The assessment of the ecotoxicological effects posed by medicinal drugs is framed within strict requirements, both for human and veterinary use substances. However, such regulatory framework is conditioned by a series of limitations, both of scientific, technical, and legal nature. Despite the objectiveness of the in-force guidelines, the mentioned limitations challenge the characterization of the potential ecotoxicological posed be medicinal substances and do not encompass subtle effects that occur at low, but environmentally realistic levels of exposure. The present presentation intends to discuss the future of the regulatory framework of medicinal substances, including possible approaches that may, in the future, complement the already implemented toxicological assessments.

Farah Gonul AYDIN
Given my ongoing involvement with FAO/WOAH-related discussions, the AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform, and international veterinary networks, I can contribute to strengthening the governance alignment and long-term sustainability dimension of the OHD outputs. In particular, I see strong relevance in framing our Position Paper within broader global One Health and AMR policy architectures, and in highlighting the importance of structured young professional engagement to ensure continuity and long-term implementation. At the same time, there is a strong connection with within Pillar 3 – Regulatory Gap Analysis & Early Integration Pathways, particularly in relation to early ecotoxicity screening feasibility and the integration of aquatic models such as zebrafish into earlier stages of drug development. These two pillars are closely connected strategically.

Sheraz Gul
Drug discovery professional with experience in academia (University of London), industry (GSK), and the largest European applied research organization (Fraunhofer Institute).
Extensive insight in the pre-clinical drug discovery domain across the common therapeutic areas with particular focus on target validation, biological reagent design, assay development, screening, Hit validation and their progression to Lead and Clinical Candidate molecules. Led multiple collaborations and ensured milestones were met in accord with Target Product Profiles, project cascades and budgets. Managed resources and supervised teams up to Post-Doc level. Advised drug discovery companies, Member of Editorial, Review and Conference Organizing Committees.

Paul M. Selzer
Changing Ecological Landscape.
Para Consulting, Haeg-Ehrsberg, Germany
Antiparasitic agents are essential for health but pose two major risks: drug resistance and environmental contamination.
While toxic compounds like imidacloprid and fipronil are banned in agriculture, they remain widely used in companion animal treatments. Recent studies link this ongoing use in pets to significant pollution, particularly in aquatic ecosystems, contributing to global biodiversity decline.
There is an urgent need to balance therapeutic benefits with ecological safety by developing agents with lower environmental persistence and integrating non-chemical strategies into parasite control programs.

María Martínez Valladares
Dr. María Martínez Valladares is a Senior Scientist at the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). Her research focuses on helminth parasite infections in ruminants, particularly on the detection of anthelmintic resistance and the development of sustainable parasite control strategies. She has authored more than 90 publications in high-impact international journals.
She currently serves as Chair of the COST Action ENVIRANT, Environmental impact of anthelmintics in livestock and alternatives to minimize their use, an international network bringing together more than 300 researchers from over 40 countries, and as Vice-Chair of the Livestock Helminth Research Alliance (LiHRA). In 2019, she received the Peter Nansen Young Scientist Award from the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology. She is also a Full Member of the Young Academy of Spain.