

Meanings and mechanisms of One Health partnerships: Lessons from a critical review



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Take home messages

- One Size does not fit all. In order to sustain, One Health partnerships need to be tailored to individual contexts
- This means accommodating (and not ignoring) local political dynamics including power hierarchies
- This also requires One Health to be open to redefining its focus, including addressing non-health outcomes

Introduction

One Health aims to bring together multiple sectors with different perspectives, agenda, and capacities

However, it remains difficult to operationalise at the ground This is partly due to weak conceptualisation

Objectives

Examine the different ways in which multisector partnerships have been conceptualized across multiple fields and

Identify lessons for the science and practice of One Health

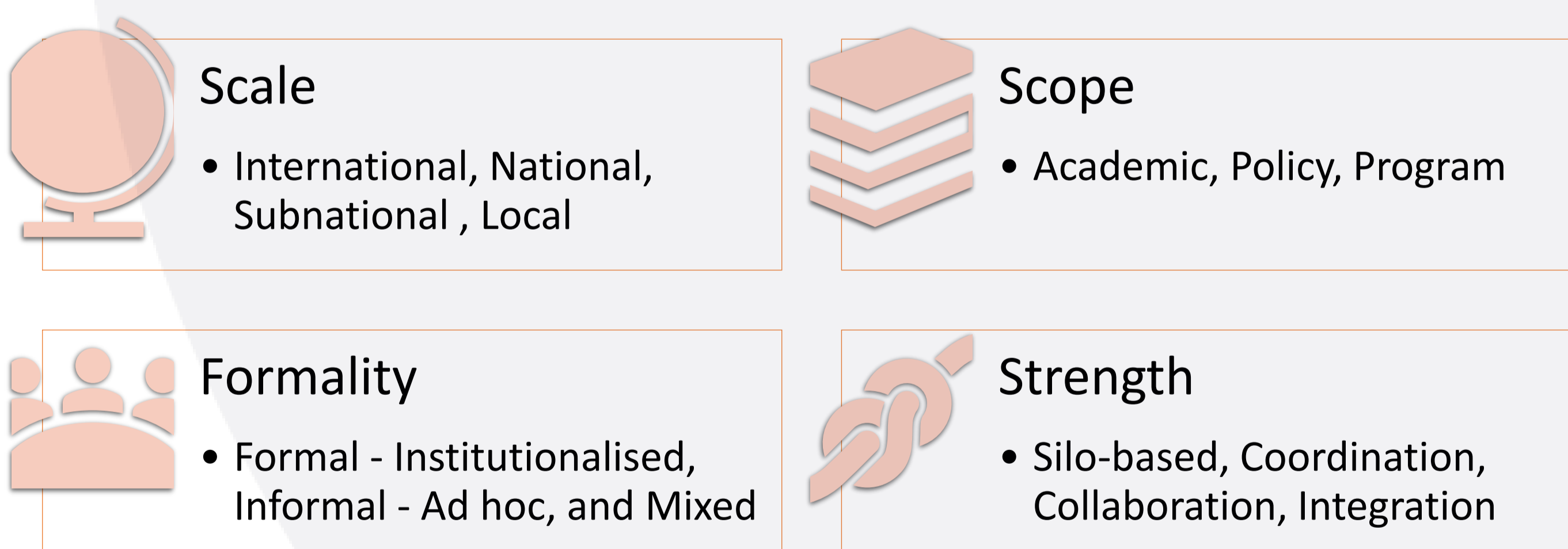
Methods

Design: Critical literature review

Started with six index articles that reviewed conceptual frameworks on multisector partnerships

Conducted backward citation tracing to identify additional literature

Conducted thematic analysis to identify shared patterns or insights which could be generalised to One Health



Results

58 papers from the fields of global health, infectious diseases, management, nutrition, and sustainability sciences

Thematic analysis revealed that multisector partnerships can assume a variety of forms

These can be categorised partnerships by scope, scale, formality, and strength

Multisector partnerships are motivated not by shared objectives but driven by competing agendas of collaborating actors

Partnerships are often triggered by sector failure when the information and resources required are beyond the capacities of any individual sector

One Health is a political enterprise

- Putting together a committee in a room does not result in successful or sustainable collaborations
- Interpersonal and inter-institutional dynamics, networks and prior history imp.

Myth of shared vision

- Competing or conflicting mandates
- Shared interests not common goals drive partnerships

Adaptiveness

- Ring-fenced objectives don't allow the partnership to adapt to partner needs or changing external conditions
- No guidance on how to adapt to country context

Fig: How to make One Health sustainable

Conclusions

All multisector partnerships – including One Health - are political enterprises

For partnerships to sustain, these politics needs to be addressed

This can be done by encouraging managers to adapt One Health in a form that is **Context specific** and **Adaptive**

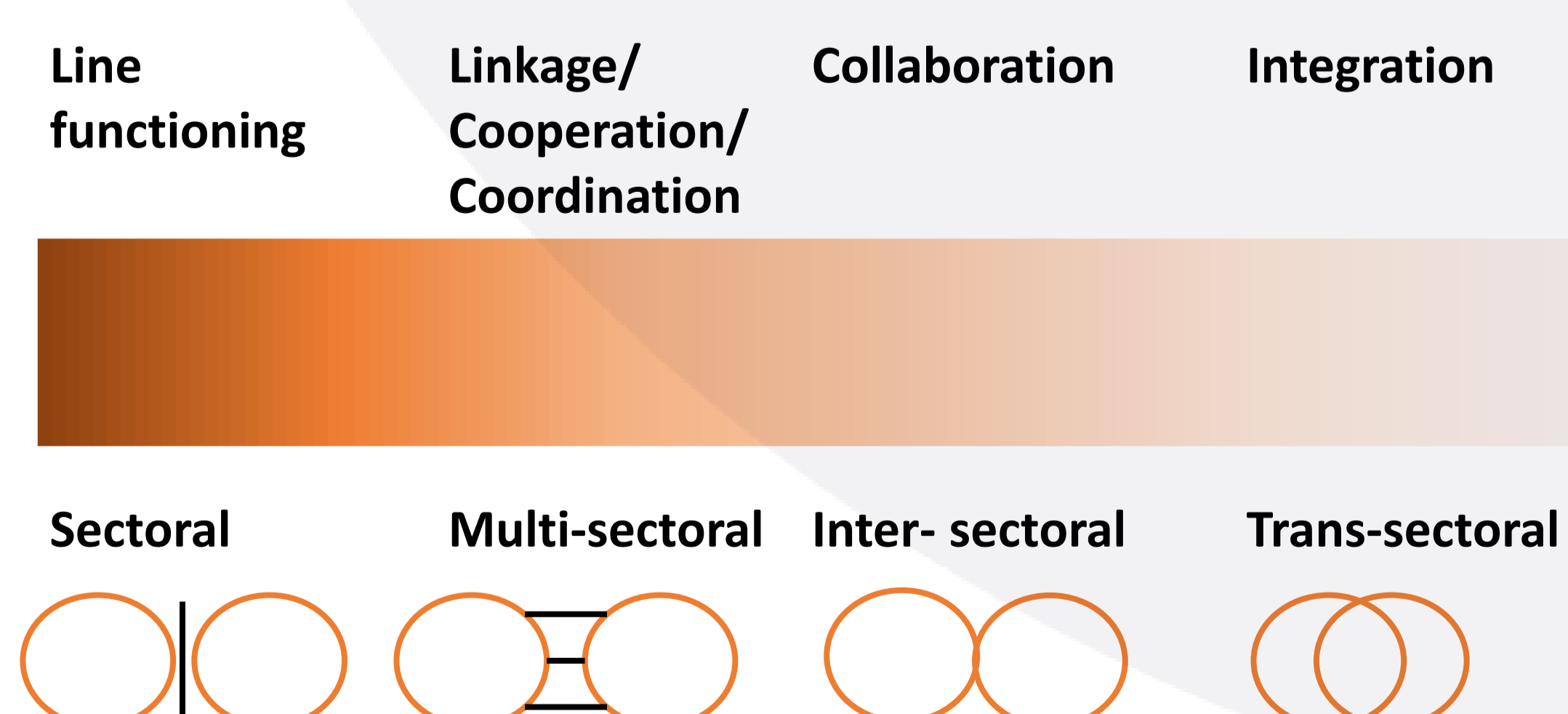


Fig: Possible types of One Health partnerships



For more details, read our paper: Abbas,S.S., Shorten,T., Rushton,J. Meanings and mechanisms of One Health partnerships: insights from a critical review of literature on cross-government collaborations, *Health Policy and Planning*, Volume 37, Issue 3, March 2022, Pages 385–399, <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czab134>



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