



**Consultancy Report on Sustainable  
Epidemiology,  
Socioeconomics and Biodiversity,  
Laboratory and  
Communication Networks  
for the Prevention and Control of TADs and Zoonoses in Sub-  
Saharan Africa**

**Roadmap costed Action Plan of Networks anchorage at RECs**

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# Presentation lay out

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# Objective of the presentation

- ❑ We believe Reports were circulated to all shareholders ahead of this meeting
- ❑ Our objective is then to:
  - Interact with Alive partnership stakeholders and other experts on networks roadmaps and
  - Receive observations and inputs to improve the final single consolidated report on four costed roadmaps



# Introduction

## ❑ **Consultancy objectives:**

- ❑ Formulation of a costed action plan/road map for strengthening the networks for controlling TADs and zoonoses in four identified RECs for incorporation in the continental framework of disease management actually undertaken by the AU-IBAR

## ❑ **Situation**

- ❑ Growing threat from emerging and re-emerging diseases,
- ❑ Role and responsibilities of labs, epidemiology, communication, socioeconomics and biodiversity functions undermined.
- ❑ Networks inexistent or non operational over RECs

## ❑ **Major constraints** to all networks include:

- ❑ policy framework and institutional arrangements,
- ❑ funds, and Expertise, technology, and logistic facilities,

# Network objectives

- ❑ To provide complete, timely and accurate information to stakeholders,
- ❑ To contribute to leveraging livestock in to development policies to make a significant contribution to economic development, food security and improved livelihoods of livestock keepers.
- ❑ **Capacity building**

# Methodology

## Review of documents:

- ALive consultants' report on SEB, laboratory and epidemiology networks,
- WHO-AFRO laboratory networks report (web based),
- FAO network for HPAI control in RECs, OIE/PVS, FAO-ECTAD Bamako workshop proceedings on communication, RESECOP, laboratory and epidemiology networks.
- SIPNAP workshop proceedings on communication
- Alive Consultancy report on communication
- FAO/ECTAD Gaborone Consultancy report on communication

## Interviews with some networks' stakeholders

## IRCM meetings in RECs:

- SADC (23-24 April 2010) 13/15 Member States
- ECOWAS (3-4 May 2010) 13/15 Member States
- ECCAS (8-9 June 2010) 9/10 Member States
- EAC/IGAD (9-10 August 2010) 7/9 Member states

**Limitations: No Field visit for data collection**

# Findings

## **-Labs and Epi nets:**

**existing in all RECs. Development stages vary over RECs: advanced in SADC; well organized in EAC and IGAD; based on HPAI in ECCAS and ECOWAS; networking with public labs and Institut Pasteur in ECCAS (Ebola). To be strenghtened**

**-SEB: inexistent over RECs ; to be established; ECOWAS: agreement in 2008 (Abidjan) but nothing effective**

**-COMM : only an empty shell in ECOWAS. To be strenghtened in ECOWAS, established in other RECs**

## ECOWAS

- ❑ Coordination of surveillance not structured and generally weak,
- ❑ Two laboratories with regional reference laboratory status. (Nigeria-Vom, and Senegal)
- ❑ Epi-Nets in all MS not operational
- ❑ No SEBNET
- ❑ COMNET not functional

## SADC

- ❑ Integrated disease surveillance system,
- ❑ Linkage between epidemiology and laboratory networks although not yet structured,
- ❑ Harmonizing laboratory procedures and diagnostic tests, on process
- ❑ Two Regional Reference Laboratories (Botswana and South Africa)
- ❑ Embraced OIE initiated laboratory twinning,
- ❑ The Regional Animal Health Centre (RAHC) to streamline the GF-TADs.
- ❑ No COMNET
- ❑ No SEBNET

## ECCAS

- ❑ Limited capacity of national AH laboratories,
- ❑ Public health laboratories testing emerging and re-emerging diseases such as Ebola
- ❑ “Institut Pasteur” networking with their counterpart laboratories in France,
- ❑ Epidemio-surveillance and laboratory networks for (HPAI),
- ❑ Weak coordination and organization of diagnosis and surveillance
- ❑ National laboratories (Cameroon-LANAVET and Chad) under consideration for Regional Reference Laboratory status.
- ❑ Absence of SEB and COMNETs

## EAC/IGAD

- ❑ Vibrant livestock trade within and outside MS
- ❑ Urgent need for harmonization of procedures and reporting systems in both EAC and IGAD,
- ❑ Laboratory and epidemiology networks in EAC, but none covering IGAD member states,
- ❑ A number of laboratories (Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia) for Regional Reference Laboratory status.
- ❑ No communication Network
- ❑ No SEB Network
- ❑ Technical capacities

# Challenges

- ❑ Good Governance
- ❑ Limited and sustained resources –human and financial
- ❑ Reliability and quality of standards, facilities and equipment,
- ❑ Production of relevant and comprehensive data and dissemination to target audiences
- ❑ Low activities and weak collaboration between Labs, Epi, Socio-economy and biodiversity, communication and field VS,
- ❑ Absence of agreement on priority diseases.
- ❑ Weak ownership and leadership to ensure timelines of activities,
- ❑ Understanding of SEB and COM by value chain stakeholders and policy-makers
- ❑ Perception of the importance of networks by governments
- ❑ Linking Communication and SEB to TADs and zoonoses control
- ❑ Adequately addressing TADS related SEB and communication issues.
- ❑ Leveraging policies
- ❑ Visibility of animal health communication and socio-economics and biodiversity functions
- ❑ Effective use of socio-economic information in TADs prevention control plans.

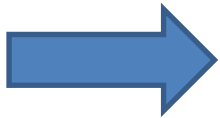
# Roadmap to sustainable Networks

- ❑ Institutional arrangement and operational options,
- ❑ Sustainability
- ❑ Anchorage to RECs,
- ❑ Meetings (Inception and annual),
- ❑ Trainings and workshops:
  - ❑ Strategic planning
  - ❑ Laboratory quality, Laboratory twinning
  - ❑ Data management,
  - ❑ Communication, networking and information exchange,
  - ❑ Comply with International (FAO /OIE /WHO) regulations,
  - ❑ M&E

REC Commission



Livestock Unit



Network Institutional coordination

Livestock Technical Committees

Livestock Technical Sub-Committee

M&E

EPI-Surveil Net

SEB Net. (multidisciplinary)

Laboratory Net

Communication Net (multidisciplinary)

Technical support

RAHC plaufom: OIE-ECTAD-IBAR

Alive plaufom

Regional Expertise Data base

Regional specialists Task teams

MINISTRY IN CHARGE OF LIVESTOCK

Socio-Economics Biodiversity

Laboratory

Epidemio-Surveillance

Communication

M&E



Chief Veterinary Officer

National Expertise Data base

National Networks

National specialists Task teams

# Operational options

- 1. Networking**
- 2. Policy framework**
- 3. Capacity building**
- 4. Research, commissioned studies, consultancies**

## 1. Networking Modus operandi based on RECs existing operational models

- Annual meetings of networks sub-committees
- Quarterly and annual reports
- Yearbooks and manuals
- Baseline information on Networks national Chapters,
- Data management system and transmission,
- Networking through e-mail, websites, and e-conferencing,
- Partnerships,
- Visibility: Special events, fliers, leaflets and logos as required.

## 2. Policy framework

- Partnership with policy institutions,
- Advocacy and platforms for dialogue with policy makers,
- Policy briefs,
- Leveraging of policy recommendations into timeline plans,
- Harmonization of policies and procedures,
- Advocacy for resource mobilization and leveraging for networks

## 3. Capacity building

- Standardization of methodologies and reports,
- QA, SOPs and internationally recommended guidelines,
- Capacity to respond to emerging and re-emerging TADs and zoonoses.

## 4. Research, commissioned studies and consultancies

- ❑ Make use of resources and expertise available in RECs
- ❑ Set up and implement a competitive grant system for regional networks national chapters,

Commission studies on:

- ❑ national contingency plans,
- ❑ performance indicators,
- ❑ impact assessment of networks on policies and measures on livelihoods and nominal value of livestock

## Funding arrangements

- ❑ RECs, MS to create a budget line to sustain networking, at national and regional levels
- ❑ Assign technical staff to the network where necessary as a way of cost sharing,
- ❑ Development partners (FAO, OIE) to provide technical assistance where and when needed
- ❑ AU/IBAR should contribute to resource mobilization for visibility and credibility to ensure competitive funding.
- ❑ Funding under a five years project
- ❑ Income generation activities

# M&E systems

- ❑ Strengthen existing M&E Units and establish an M&E Task Teams where needed
- ❑ Prepare
  - ❑ a M&E plan
    - ❑ **A set of core indicators for every Network: outcome, output, etc.**
      - ❑ SOPs
      - ❑ Monitoring
      - ❑ Mid-Term evaluation (external)
      - ❑ End period evaluations (external)
      - ❑ Knowledge management
      - ❑ Documentation of best practices
      - ❑ Quarterly journals,
      - ❑ Websites
- ❑ On-the-job training on supervision, monitoring and evaluation.

# Assumptions

- RECs and Member States are willing to:
  - ❑ Own and lead networks
  - ❑ Invest in networks, commit resources,
  - ❑ Participate in activities and implement procedures;
  - ❑ Identify competent specialists, including the private business to participate in capacity building;
  - ❑ Collaborate with all the stakeholders involved in the networks.
- Consensus among Development Agencies:
  - FAO/OIE/WHO: technical backstopping in initial year
  - IBAR: Oversight and inter RECs coordination

# Conclusion and discussion points

- Some RECs ready to own their networks (EAC, IGAD, ECOWAS)
  - Leadership: Core capacities, funding, tools...?
- National chapters as cornerstone of Networks
  - Leadership: Core capacities, funding, tools...?
- What Institutions engage in technical backstopping? For which Network?
- What type of backstopping?