Kenya Country Presentation

Avian Influenza Emergency Preparedness and Response

7th – 9th November 2005
Geneva - Switzerland
Overview of Kenya

- Area: 582,000 Sq Km
- Position: - East Africa, bisected by the Equator at the middle
  - Great Rift Valley traverses the country from north to South
- Human Population: 32 million
- Poultry Population: 30 million
  - 70% indigenous backyard,
  - 28% commercial,
  - 2% others (Turkeys, ducks, Geese, Quails)
Avian Flu Situation - General

- Kenya lies along the migratory birds route from Europe to Southern Africa
- Birds start to arrive in mid September and peak in mid November
- Kenya is a stop over point for migratory birds
270 species of birds migrate into Kenya every year

Migratory birds stop at water points and mix freely with local water birds.

Local water birds mix freely with domestic poultry
Migratory Bird Flyways
Migratory birds routes in Kenya

![Map of Migratory Birds Routes in Kenya](image-url)
Country situation – Human health

- Kenya is faced with a burden of communicable diseases that comprise 70% of all outpatient morbidity like Malaria, Typhoid, TB, HIV/AIDS.

- The country has adopted The Integrated Diseases Surveillance and Response (IDSR) Strategy in order to promptly detect priority diseases, re-emerging and emerging diseases.
Constraints in the health systems:

- Weak disease surveillance system (in timeliness, completeness, human capacity),
- Inadequate Emergency stocks of vaccine, anti-viral drugs and protective gear & other non-pharmaceuticals
- Inadequate laboratory capacity
- Low funding for research
Influenza trend in Kenya Monitored by Surveillance Network in Nairobi 2001 - 03

Type ‘B’ constitute 94% of all detected cases while type ‘A’ 6%
Country situation-Animal health

- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has not been diagnosed in Kenya.
- Retrospective analysis of avian diseases diagnosed between 1935 and 2004 do not indicate occurrence of HPAI in poultry.
- Studies looking for hemagglutinating viruses in wild birds, water fowls and domestic chicken only showed avian paramyxoviruses.
surveillance

- Kenya has an elaborate national epidemic-surveillance network comprising of both public and private veterinary professionals and other stakeholders including livestock keepers and traders.
- Public structures include district and provincial offices, national and sub-national laboratories, a central epidemiology unit and research institutions.
Diagnostic

- Public - one National and seven Sub-national diagnostic laboratories, research laboratories

- The laboratories collaborate with regional and international laboratories – Onderstapoor, South Africa, Weighbridge, United Kingdom
Risk of Avian Influenza

➢ Importation of birds, poultry and their products from affected countries

➢ Disposal of swill brought by Airlines and ships from affected countries.

➢ Migratory birds flying from affected countries and exposing our domestic birds and animals to the H5N1

➢ Nairobi is a hub for international travel

➢ Risk behaviour inherent in community practices:
  • High consumption of poultry and their products (preparation is the risk)
  • Consumption of birds when signs of illness appear
  • Living in the same dwellings with poultry

NB. These practices may expose our population to H5N1 virus infection
Preparedness

- Emergency Preparedness Plans for other human and animal diseases exists and can be used as a templates for HPAI

- In 1996, a legal notice making Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza a Notifiable Disease in Kenya

- Notification to WTO on emergency measures banning poultry and their products from countries that have reported outbreaks of avian flu

- Sensitization of veterinary & human professionals and public has started through seminars, official communication & media
A National multi-sectoral task force set up in 2004 to respond to the threat of Influenza outbreaks

The task force is using WHO/FAO guidelines to develop a national emergency preparedness & response plan

The plan facilitates mobilisation of emergency resources needed to mould an efficient & effective response
The Response Plan

The plan preparation is focusing on the following:

1. Epidemiological Surveillance
2. Information, Education, Communication and Social Mobilisation
3. Case Management
4. Laboratory and Research
5. Infection Prevention and Control
6. Co-ordination & Resource Mobilisation
7. Human Resource Mobilisation
   - Additional emergency staff
   - Training
Response activities are coordinated by the multi-sectoral task force through its 6 technical working groups.

National disaster response systems through the National Operation Centre of the Ministry of Special Programmes are in place and link with the established multi-sectoral task force.

International community are partners in the National Avian Influenza Multi-Sectoral Task Force.
The executive and the government have mandated the minister in charge of special programmes to implement measures and plans for disaster management in consultation with other organs of government.

Accordingly, there is linkage with structures in International and Local Organisations.
Main Issues Facing Kenyan Response

- Weak surveillance systems
- Inadequate support to both animal & human (national & sub-national) laboratories
- Inadequate human resources
- Inadequate medical equipments & supplies
  - Anti-viral drugs
  - Interpandemic Vaccines
  - Protective material
  - Pharmaceuticals & non-pharmaceuticals
  - Medical equipments
Issues contd...

- Weak biosecurity at farms, veterinary laboratories and at entry points
- Low funding for research
- Inadequate quarantine facilities for both animal & human - at ports of entry
- Inappropriate legal framework to respond to the challenge
- Unsynchronized Communication systems
Impact of Avian Influenza to Kenya

- Burden to the Human and Animal health infrastructure that is already strained
- Adverse effects to other essential services
- The threat is impacting negatively on trade and tourism
- Threat to food security, employment and economy
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<th>Disaster centre</th>
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<td>2 Infection Prevention &amp; Control</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Laboratory &amp; Research</td>
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Assistance From Int. Community

- Technical assistance (training, surveillance, diagnosis & case management)
- Mobilisation of resources (financial & materials)
- International liaison & coordination
- Harmonisation of monitoring and evaluation indicators – international & regional levels
- Strengthen the accredited & National laboratories (Kenya Medical Research Institute & Central Veterinary Laboratory) to a level of regional Influenza reference centres
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Thank You