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European partnerships and Global FMD surveillance: networking between European NRLs for improvement of support to FMD surveillance in Africa and Asia

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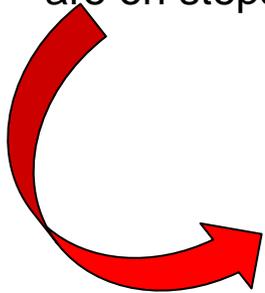
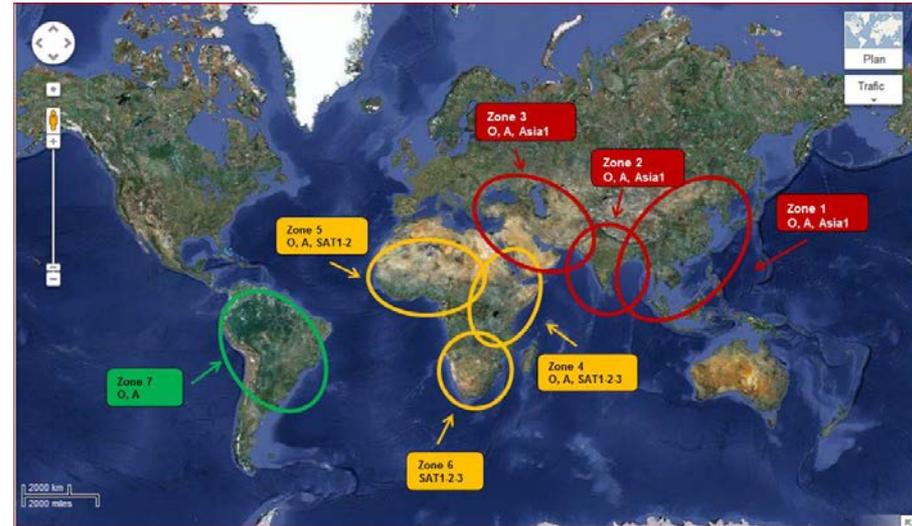
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Background

- FMDV still circulating in endemic areas and still a threat for free countries in Europe,
- It still gaps in knowledge on FMD viruses circulating in Pools 4 and 5 (Sub-Saharan East and West Africa), for risk assessment and PCP progress,
- According to the Progressive Control Pathway for the control of FMD (PCP-FMD), the countries of this part of Africa are on steps 0 or 1.



Many efforts are needed to assist these countries to obtain basic data on their FMD situation to improve their FMD control policies.

Background

The European FMD laboratories:

- have individual collaborations with African laboratories (in West and Central Africa),
- provide training, reference services and undertake research on FMD with partners in Africa and Asia



How to work together more effectively in support of the Global Strategy on FMD Control?

Proposal

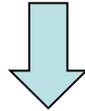


Under the umbrella of OIE, FAO (and/or EU-FMD) to create an open network of expertise encompassing the OIE and FAO Reference Centers (Pirbright Institute, ISZ Brescia and CODA-CERVA) and other FMD-active European labs (ANSES, CVI, FLI, DTU,...) and African laboratories in certain West and Central African countries,

Objectives for the Consortium



Better coordinate, highlight and integrate the individual initiatives that the European labs have developed in the same regions of Africa



- To share and offer technical advice, training and veterinary expertise to African countries
- To assist in the prevention, diagnosis, surveillance and control of FMD;
- To exchange scientific data and biological materials (including virus strains) within the network, to analyze such data, and to share such information with the wider scientific community;
- To highlight FMD surveillance and research needs, promote their development and ensure co-ordination;
- To improve and facilitate the FMD surveillance programmes already put in place by the existing African regional laboratories networks.

Expected results



- ✓ Capacity building to establish FMD diagnosis methods and associated FMD epidemiology expertise in the collaborative centres,
- ✓ Improve classic and molecular epidemiology in order to deliver guidance,
- ✓ The better selection and use of vaccine,
- ✓ Minimum biosafety guidelines for laboratory workers and strategic guidance on FMD in Africa
- ✓ Provide expertise in FMD diagnosis and research to already existing African networks (REMESA, RESOLAB, EARLN-FMD ...) recognizing they are led by regional economic communities or FAO/OIE for their regions.

Thank you for your attention

