

# **MASS MORTALITY EVENTS IN GHANA**

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# MANDATE OF THE REGULATORY BODIES

- Veterinary Services of MOFA – Prevention, Control, Treatment and Welfare of animal diseases(terrestrial and aquatic)
- Fisheries Commission of MOFAD- Fish production and anything fisheries ( Capture and Culture) Act 620 and L.I 1968 of 2010

# SPECIFIC SCENARIOS (I)

- 2014 – Mass Mortalities of fishes on the Volta lake in Ghana

Stratum 2



*Diagnosed as streptococcus agalactiae 1b in 2015*

# SPECIFIC SCENARIOS (II)

- 2017- Outbreak of *streptococcus agalactiae 1a* on the Volta lake enclave in Ghana

Stratum 1 & 2 and lower  
The Kpong Dam



Diagnosed in 2017( Two months)

# SPECIFIC SCENARIOS (III)

- 2018- Outbreak of *ISKNV* on the Volta lake in Ghana



Stratum 1 & 2 and lower  
The Kpong Dam



- Diagnosed early 2019

# RESPONSE ACTIONS

- Formed a team of Regulators- EPA, WRI-CSIR with the Fisheries Commission/ Veterinary Services the Ghanaian side and foreign partners- Icthopharma France, Ridgeways/ CEFAS, UK, Norway (Veterinary Institute) MSD.
- Water analysis by the WRI-CSIR
- Pathogen identification by foreign partners

# IMPLICATIONS

- Reportage system- apathy and non response from regulators
- Less skilled personnel (Field and Laboratory)
- Fish Health Services in adequate
- Minimal funding
- Weak legal support for enforcement of control measures (affected effectiveness )

# MEASURES INSTITUTED

- Closure of affected farms
- Sanitary Measures instituted on affected farms
- Sensitization of farmers and Public
- Ban on movement of live and dead fish
- Frontier Officials sensitize about introductions



# **MINIMUM EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESPONSE REQUIRED**

- Improved skills training in disease diagnosis and control both for the field and laboratory staff
- Improved laboratory infrastructure in the country
- Adequate and emergency funding for Fish Health activities
- Legal backing for enforcement of laws and regulations relating to control of disease outbreaks
- Institutionalize stakeholder coordination in the aquaculture industry.

**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**