

Third GF-TADs Regional Roadmap Meeting for Eastern Africa with Regard to the FMD-PCP

The role of Epidemiology network

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Presentation outline

- Genesis and milestone
- Membership
- Organizational structure
- Roles
- Achievement to-date
- Challenges associated with networks
- Envisaged contribution of EAREN& Sub network to FMD -PCP

Genesis & milestone:

Eastern Africa Regional Epidemiology network (EAREN)

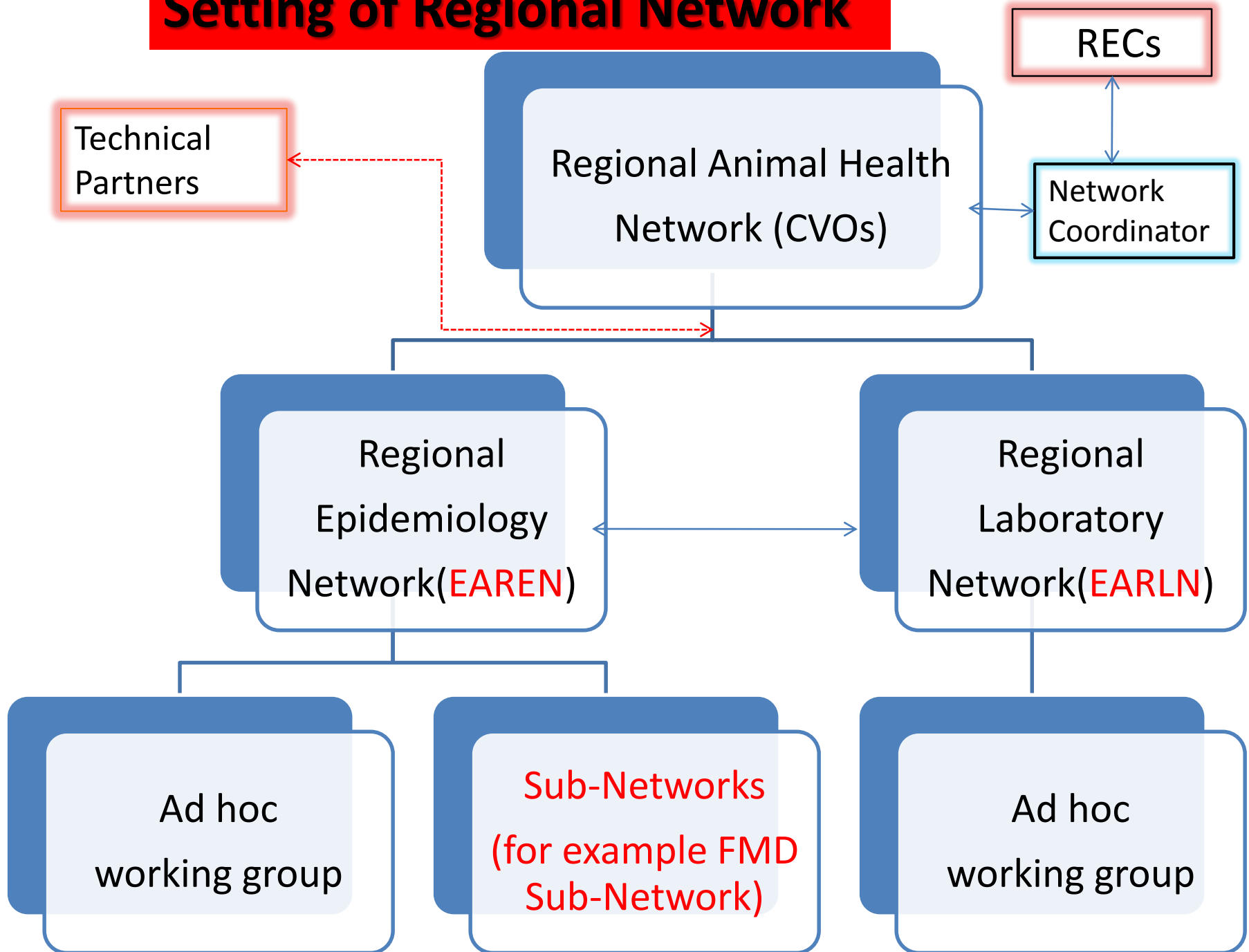
- 2009: CVOs Meeting in Mombasa, Kenya
- Resolved to establish Laboratory(EARLN) and Epidemiology (EAREN)network and sub-networks work in order:
 - to harness information sharing in the region, harmonise disease control strategies among others
- 2010: EAREN and EARLN networks officially launched in Zanzibar, Tanzania
- Managed to meet 7 times(annually) since 2010

Members

- 11 members from Eastern and IGAD countries
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Kenya
- Sudan
- South Sudan
- Ethiopia
- Somalia
- Djibouti
- Rwanda
- Burundi
- DRC Congo



Setting of Regional Network



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**EPI -
NETWORK**

Broad Roles of EAREN

- To provide technical advice to CVOs and contributes to the strengthening of surveillance and prevention of animal disease and zoonoses in collaboration with other partners
- Main activities include:
 - Capacity building
 - Developing quality assurance system
 - Harmonization of field based surveillance system
 - Improve collaboration
 - Facilitate robust information dissemination
 - Promotion of One Health (OH)
 - Sharing OH implementing progress
 - Updates on upcoming Pandemic threats

Specific Roles of epi-networks[1]

- Platform for disease information sharing
- Draw action for controlling priority diseases in the region
 - conduct risk analysis
 - establishing disease sub net working group
- Strengthening capacities
 - Training
 - Annual meeting
 - Assessing human capacities resources
- Promotion of one Health
 - Sharing OH implementing progress
 - Updates on upcoming Pandemic threats

Specific Roles of epi-networks[2]

- To work and report on tasks assigned by the REC (issues requiring technical input)
- Develop, review and recommend national and regional animal disease information systems
- Develop and recommend systems for animal disease early warning and early reaction
- Harmonize disease control and surveillance strategies in the region
- Network with regional and international organizations
- Promote the application of SPS/SMP guidelines/ measures to enhance safe trade in livestock and their products

Activities and achievements-[1]

Made inputs in development of;

- i. Priority list of diseases of regional interest
- ii. Surveillance Guidelines for 9 trade sensitive diseases in GHOA
- iii. Regional PPR Control Strategy
- iv. Cross-border disease control MoU
- v. Spearheading the establishment of Field epidemiology for veterinarian agenda
- vi. Country specific OH related activities – OH strategic plan, national AMR action plan

Network with regional and international organizations

- i. Attendance of **FMD Webinars** and join in discussion offered by other forums
- ii. Participated in the FMD PCP pathway meeting

Activities and achievement_[2]

- Contributed to the harmonisation and reinforcement of national surveillance in the region
 - Development of standard Methods and procedure i.e. surveillance guidelines for 4 trade sensitive disease in eastern and IGAD regions
 - The 4 trade sensitive diseases – **FMD**, PPR, Brucellosis and Rift Valley fever(RVF)
 - Development of export quarantine standard and guidelines-which is compliant to external live animal trade

Activities and achievement _[3]

- Supporting harmonization and coordination of veterinary activities for control of trade related **TADs** -**FMD** in cross border areas along the Kenya-Tanzania border, Kenya-Ethiopia border, Tanzania-Uganda-Rwanda border
 - Development of cross border MoU
 - Cross border engagements through meeting

Surveillance and Cross-Border D'se Control activities

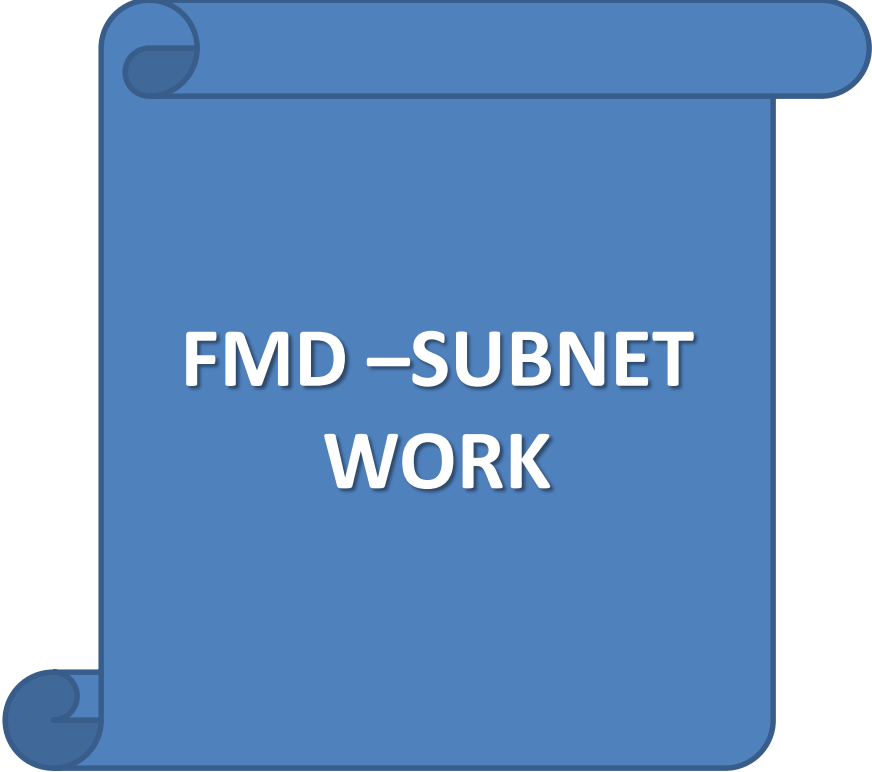
- Collaboration with Regional projects(AU-IBAR-SMP-AH, EAC)
- Involves
 - Supporting harmonization and coordination of veterinary activities for control of trade related TADs
 - Developing documents and standards
 - Developing joint MoU
 - Planning for joint vaccination activities
 - Disseminating and sharing information
- Meeting held
 - Tanzania/Kenya/Uganda- Mwanza, Sept 2014
 - Tanzania/Kenya/Uganda – Dec, 2015



Joint cross-border planning meeting,
Mwanza, Tanzania, Sept 2014



Animals & diseases do not respect
borders

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**FMD –SUBNET
WORK**

Objectives of EA-FMD Sub-net work

- To improve the quality of FMD lab. assays in Eastern Africa
- To complement activities towards fulfillment of the Progressive Control Pathway for FMD (PCP-FMD) objectives
- To understand global and regional FMDV circulation, research and make recommendations on labs, vaccines and FMD control

FMD-sub-network achievement_[1]

Trainings in;

- PCR in Tanzania to network member countries
- Sampling techniques to **ALL sub-network members** in 2010,
- Sampling techniques to Vets and Technicians in Burundi in 2011, to DRC in 2014 (NTC)
- Vaccine matching
- Series of Real-time field trainings (NTCs)– 22 within 5 years including local vets and wildlife staff

FMD-sub-network achievement_[2]

Participated in:

- PCP- FMD roadmap meeting in October 2014 Kigali, Rwanda.
- Validation workshop of SMP – AH for FMD March 2015 organised by AU-IBAR.
- Harmonisation of SOPs –FMD laboratory diagnosis organized by AU-IBAR, Ethiopia July 2015
- **WEBINARs – FMD sharing platform – although very irregular and limited to few dedicated network members**
- Training on vaccinology and PCP in Nakuru Aug. 2015

Other engagements related to FMD

Participation in;

- Global FMD Lab. network activities;
- Meetings and information sharing
- Collaborative projects and partnerships with; EuFMD, FAO, WRL-Pirbright
- Initiation of laboratory twinning processes (Ethiopia, Kenya)

Envisaged future activities relevant to FMD

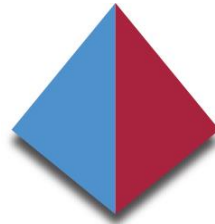
Input to/participate into;

- Local production of biological reagents = AU-PANVAC
- **Vaccine evaluation/matching – training and execution – with FAO/AU-IBAR/PANVAC**
- Proposal for **local** Proficiency testing- with AU-PANVAC
- Promoting Twinning with OIE Ref. Labs
- Striving Towards QMS (ISO/IEC 17025:2005) and 9001; training and accreditation
- Establishment of OIE regional Ref. laboratory for FMD
- Collaboration on research activities
- Continue/Upscale Regional FMD-PCP Roadmap activities
- Socio-economic studies on FMD – To gain political and social goodwill
- Strengthening regional collaboration-networking

Challenges of sustaining networks

- Frequent changes of national epidemiologists/ focal points leading to loss of institutional memory
- Timeliness of reporting; incomplete data
- Poor participation in e-mail discussions
- Poor attendance of network meetings if not funded
- Poor surveillance coverage at national level, reports not representative (under-reporting)
- Limited resources(Funding, human and physical)
- Cultural diversity

Acknowledgements



GF-TADs

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PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



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The End



Thank you and have a blessed day