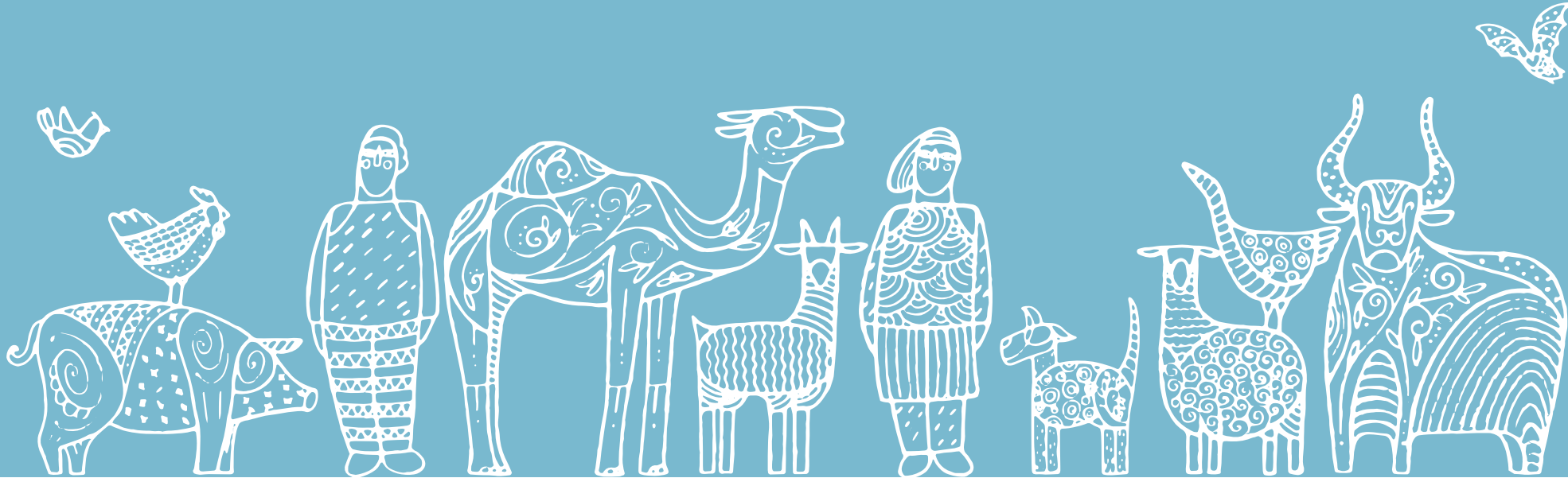




Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



REMESA 19<sup>th</sup> JPC  
9-10 December 2019, Larnaka, Cyprus

## Updates on RVF in East Africa

Etienne Bonbon  
FAO HQ / EMC-AH



RVF outbreaks have hit the region several times over the past two years: RVF infections have been reported in Uganda (in animals and humans, November 2017), South Sudan (in animals in December 2017 and humans in May 2018), Kenya (in animals and humans, May 2018), Rwanda (in animals, May 2018), Mayotte (in animals and humans, November 2018), Chad (in wild animals, May 2019) and Central Africa Republic (in humans, August 2019)

**Between May 11 and June 30, 2018, 106 human RVF cases (76 probable and 30 confirmed) were identified in three counties in Kenya**



## RVF Regional Technical Workshop in Eastern Africa, August 2018 - OBJECTIVES AND ATTENDANCE

- Share knowledge on current RVF situation in Eastern Africa
- Harmonize approaches to RVF preparedness and response including surveillance and vaccination
- Agree on outlines for national preparedness and response action plans, and a regional roadmap to achieve these goals

Co-organized by FAO and EAC

77 participants

11 countries including Burundi, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania

CVOs, CMOs, heads of veterinary laboratory diagnostic, heads of epidemiology units

AU-IBAR, EAC, ILRI, Agricultural Research Council - OVI, FAO, OIE, WHO, GIZ, USAID



## RVF Regional Technical Workshop in Eastern Africa, August 2018 - recommendations and implementation status – country level

	Ethiopia		Kenya		Rwanda		Uganda		Tanzania	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Establish RVF working groups within national OH platforms (disease control, surveillance, preparedness & response)										
Translate the OIE TAHC guidelines (chapter 8.15) regarding infection with RVF virus into national legislations										
Review national preparedness and contingency plans and related SOPs (awaiting formal approval)										
Review/ensure that vaccination is performed in strict compliance with international standards										



## RVF Regional Technical Workshop in Eastern Africa, August 2018 - recommendations – global/regional level and partners

Meeting recommendations	FAO-OIE-WHO-EAC-IGAD-AU IBAR-AU PANVAC-Donors
Formation of a RVF regional technical advisory group (RVF technical working group), <b>to be chaired by the EAC</b>	
Development and dissemination of reference guidance on various aspects of RVF management including mechanism of disease spread, risk assessment, risk communication, vaccination, surveillance and sentinel herds, response and post-outbreak recovery, food safety, public health risks and occupational safety, <b>to be led by FAO</b>	<b>Alignment</b> with the R&D/ roadmap and strategic goals/milestones
Studies to evaluate socio-economic impacts and demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of proposed prevention and mitigation measures – <b>FAO to support countries in conducting the studies</b>	<b>Cross-cutting issues</b> : RVF forecasting, early warning and risk communication
Support scientific researches in RVF vaccines and vaccination strategies	
Promote harmonization of regional approaches to develop and implement RVF strategies including surveillance, laboratory diagnosis, prevention/control – across	



## October-December 2019 - The Sudan, *Rift Valley fever (RVF)*

- On 13 October 2019, the country notified one outbreak of RVF in goats in Arbaat dam area, in Red Sea state. Human cases were confirmed in the same state.
- Up to now, no updates on animal cases, the events are considered closed in OIE WAHIS.
- Humans - confirmed: According to WHO, since the onset of the disease on 28 September up to 21 November 2019, a total of 319 RVF cases, including 11 deaths, were reported in River Nile (n=186), Red Sea (n=128), Kassala (n=2), Khartoum (n=1), White Nile (n=1) and Gedaref (n=1) states.



## October-December 2019 - The Sudan, *Rift Valley fever (RVF)*

- **Sudan:** FAO HQ is regularly in contact with FAO Field officers for sharing additional info on the event;
- An Emergency Room for RVF was established and FAO was nominated as a member: coordination with veterinary authorities at federal and state levels was activated;
- FAO Sudan is supporting shipment of samples (to Soba Central Lab) and resource mobilization for importation of vaccines;
- GLEWS+ platform was activated for sharing Epidemiological updates (human & veterinary situation);





## October-December 2019 - The Sudan, *Rift Valley fever (RVF)*

- **Egypt:** Egyptian Animal Health Research Institute said that a mobile laboratory equipped with a veterinary and technical team has been installed in Aswan to address the RVF issue related to the outbreak of the disease in Sudan. The team collects samples from different places in Aswan governorate to carry out the tasks entrusted to it, in accordance with recognized standards and controls that determine the methods of sampling to ensure transparency in analysis and verification. From the results of analysis and prompt reporting of these results, appropriate decisions can be made to protect Egypt's livestock.
- The awareness and understanding of farmers and breeders dealing positively with the preventive measures are praised; this includes the progress of the RVF vaccination campaign of livestock, required to defend the health of citizens in the Aswan governorate.





## October-December 2019 - The Sudan, *Rift Valley fever (RVF)*

- On 16 October 2019, FAO issued an Alert message to the Central Veterinary Officers (CVOs) of the region and FAO Representatives
- An Incident Coordination Group (ICG) have been created by FAO EMC-AH, in order to coordinate communication (awareness messages, preventive measures, recommendations) to ensure that messages sent to countries and national authorities are aligned and consistent.
- FAO EMC-AH is developing/updating key messages on disease transmission and vector control to be shared with countries and partners.
- A FAO EMC-AH Preparedness & Assessment mission was sent in Djibouti (11-14 November 2019).



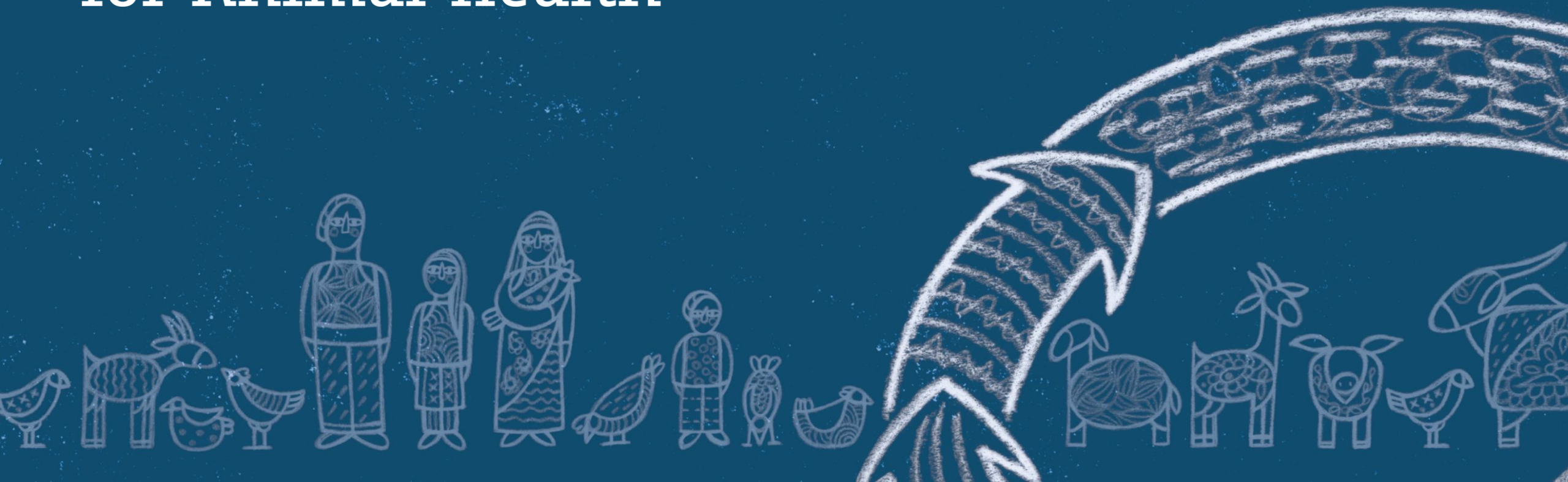
## October-December 2019 - The Sudan, *Rift Valley fever (RVF)*

- **Djibouti:** A FAO EMC-AH Preparedness & Assessment mission was conducted (11-14 November 2019). Based on the outcome of the mission, the risk of incursion from neighboring countries of RVF is considered negligible to low and risk of spread within country is low. Risk of introduction and spread at the quarantine station is negligible to low.
- The below actions has to be implemented from the country:
  - 1) to hold national study to identify risk zones;
  - 2) to generate risk maps for RVF;
  - 3) to develop and disseminate preparedness and response plan;
  - 4) to work on awareness campaign.



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# Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health



# What does the EMC-AH do?

## PILLARS

### PREPAREDNESS

*Support countries to enhance their readiness for the management of animal health emergencies*



### RESPONSE

*Support countries at risk or affected to respond to animal health emergencies*



### INCIDENT COORDINATION

*Develop leadership and expertise and support national, regional and international coordination of animal health events*



### COLLABORATION AND RESOURCES MOBILIZATION

*Develop strong collaborative networks and resource availability for a timely and effective management of animal health emergencies*



## ACTIONS

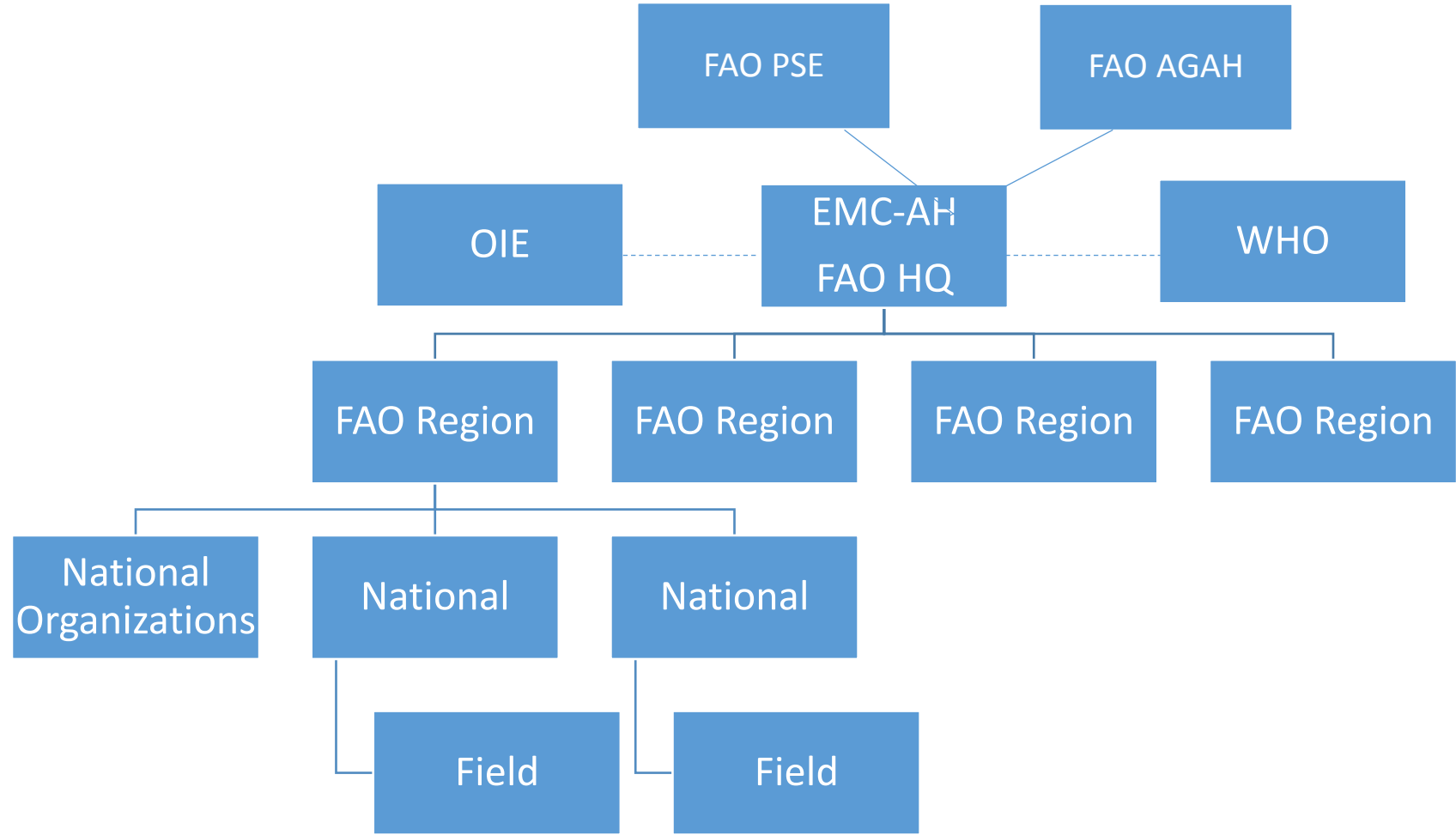
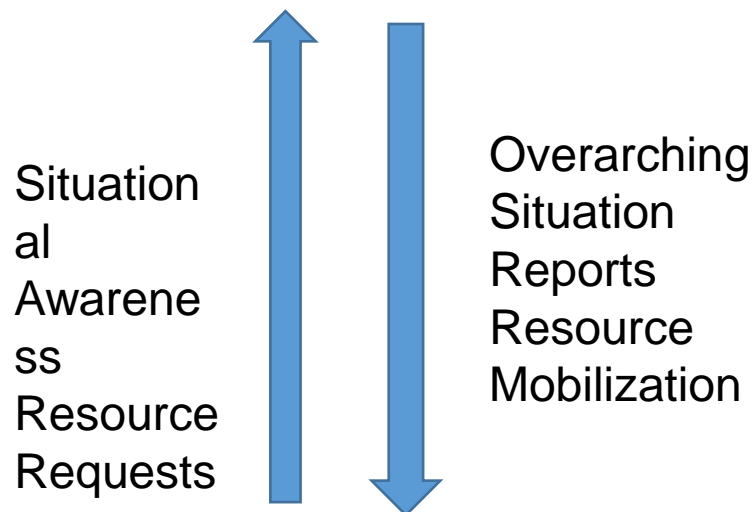
- Building Emergency capacities
- GEMP workshops

- Emergency missions
- Alert missions
- Surge support for protracted emergencies

- Coordination platform for local, regional and global animal health emergency
- Incident Coordination Groups (ICG)

- Partnership with OIE, WHO, INTERPOL

# Incident Coordination of AH Events



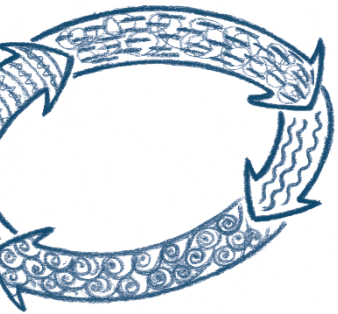
## Purpose

- Connect the efforts of international animal health personnel at the national, regional, and global sector
- Ensure the coordination and delivery of consistent messages to the public and media
- Contribute to cooperation and collaboration among animal health emergency institutions and stakeholders
- Set the overall strategy for the response to animal health incidents

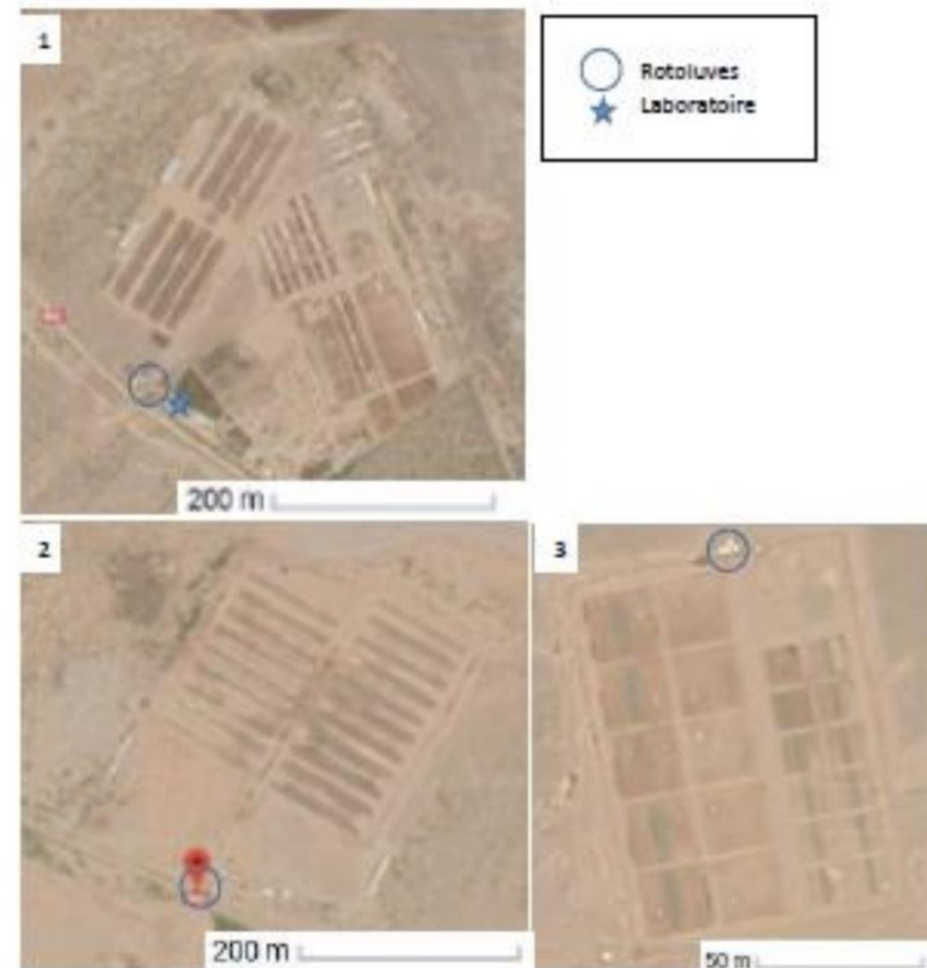
## Activities

1. Maintain situational awareness and share updates from multiple sources,
2. Coordinate risk communication among animal health personnel
3. Offer recommendations for development of policy and risk communication materials
4. Support local offices, national veterinary services, regional offices, and headquarters
5. Provide guidance and tools for emergency response, as warranted, and
6. Assess response progress and strategies.





# November 2019: Preparedness mission in Djibouti





## Animal identification

- *For the country*

No animal identification is in place.

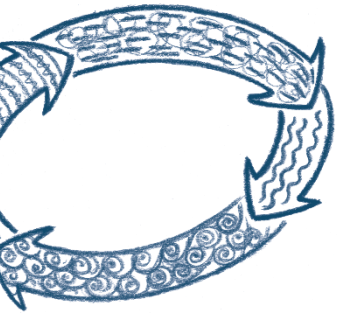
- *For the quarantine station*

All animals (small ruminants, camels and bovines), only **males**. Animals come mainly from Ethiopia and Somalia. **No commercial link with the Sudan exists.** Health certificates (only from Ethiopia) are controlled by the official veterinarians.

They are received in a pre-quarantine station where they stay for few days.

Once received in the quarantine station (composed of 3 different stations A, B and C), all animals **are individually identified (individual numbers and colours by trader).**





## Surveillance

- *For the country*

Sentinel herds in the past. The last data available is from 2016 – 1,500 small ruminants in total covering the 6 administrative regions.

Vector surveillance is implemented by MoH (malaria surveillance and control activities). Vector breeding sites are active all year long in Djibouti City, while in the rest of the country (rural areas) two seasons are suitable for vector abundance and malaria outbreaks: February to May and October to mid-December.

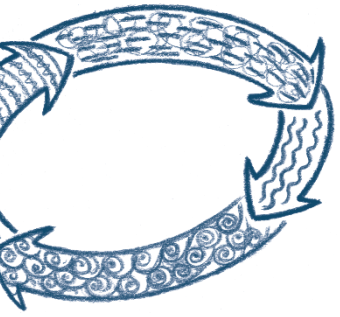
- *For the quarantine station*

Depending on the trading partners requirements, animals remain in quarantine between 14 and 21 days. Every 3 months vector surveillance is in place.

Date	Location	Animal Type	Count	Other
287	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	484	
288	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	264	
289	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	117	
290	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	87	
291	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	492	
292	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	449	
293	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	495	
294	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	207	
295	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	536	
296	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	124	
297	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	551	
298	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	104	
299	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	521	
300	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	473	
301	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	483	
302	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	506	
303	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	475	
304	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	107	
305	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	72	
306	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	473	
307	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	484	
308	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	495	
309	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	292	
310	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	502	
311	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	250	
312	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	13	
313	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	44	
314	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	234	
315	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	44	
316	R.V.C. Camp	sheep	43	



## Diagnostic



- *For the country*

**ID Screen RVF Competition Multi-Species by IDVet** was used in the latest surveillance campaign of 2016 in the national veterinary laboratory housed in the Veterinary Services.

- *For the quarantine station*

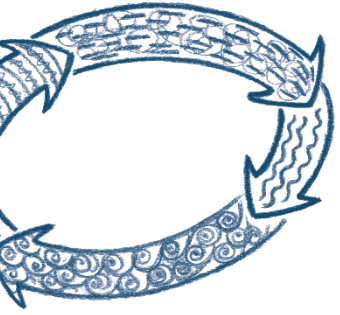
**ID Screen RVF Competition Multi-Species by IDVet** is currently used in the quarantine laboratory. There is **not PCR (or RT-PCR)** capacity currently in the laboratory.

**No inter laboratory essay** is implemented and laboratory SOPs are not existing (they were not updated after introduction of the IDVet competitive ELISA test in May).

**Positive animals sera are not tested for IgM** (animals are just excluded from shipment once found seropositives).

**Samples are not kept** after analysis is performed.

## Biosecurity



- *For the country*

Most of the farms are extensive and nomadic (90%) with limited biosecurity measures.

- *For the quarantine station*

The pre-quarantine station is located 3 km away from the rest of the quarantine station. Wheel dips (TH4, changed every two days) are present at the entrance of the 3 different premises (pre-quarantine, station A /B and station C) constituting the quarantine station.

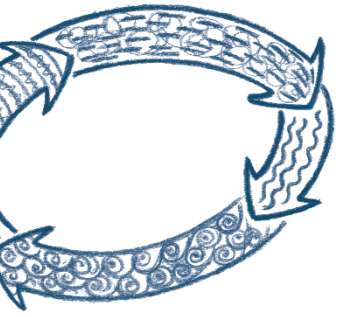
Triple fenced. Specific staff.

Rodent control programmes are applied.

Specific trucks are washed and disinfected at the end of the shipment activities.

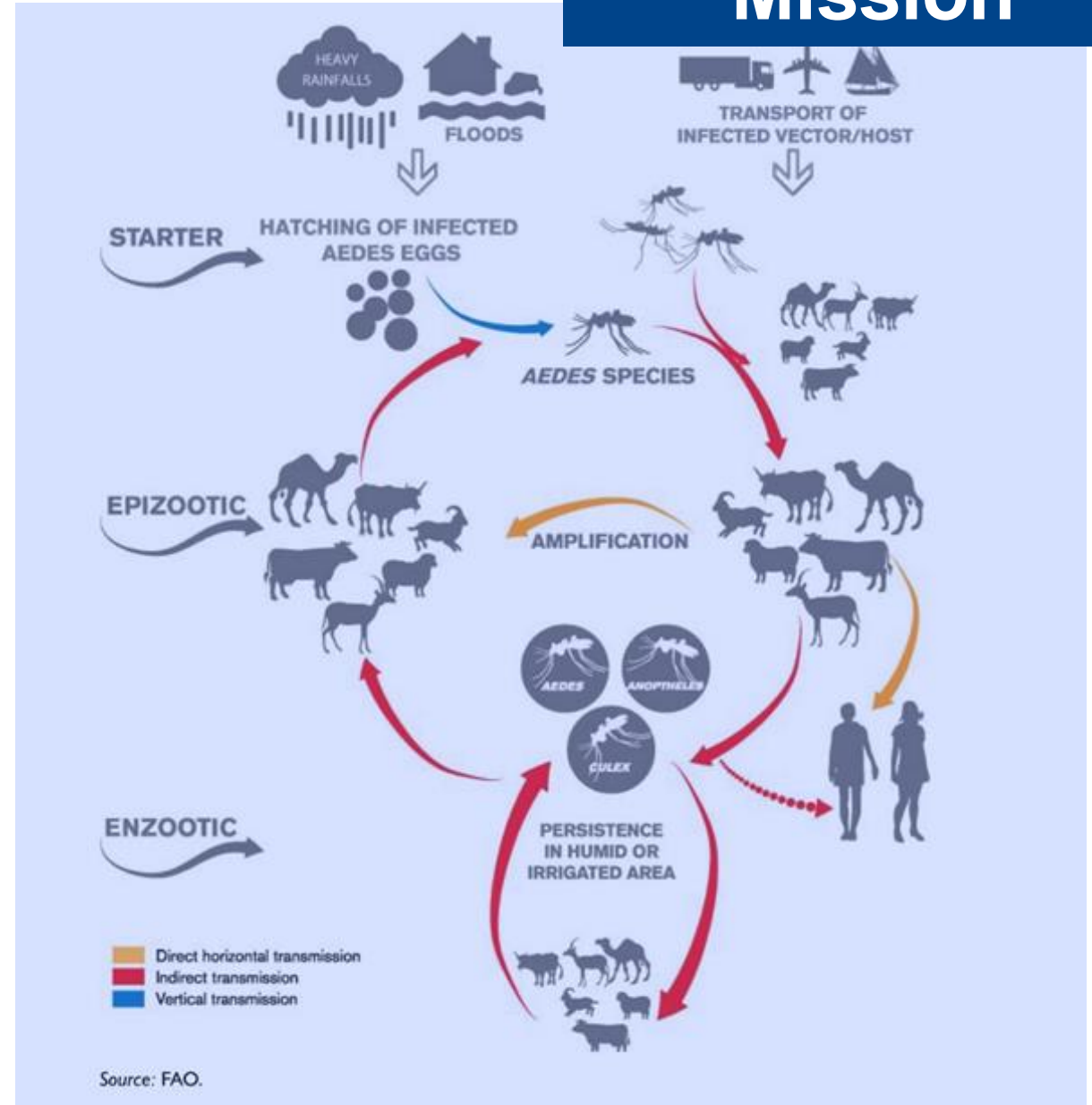
Pens are disinfected and disinsected after the batch is gone

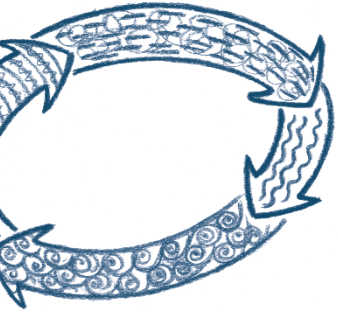




## Awareness

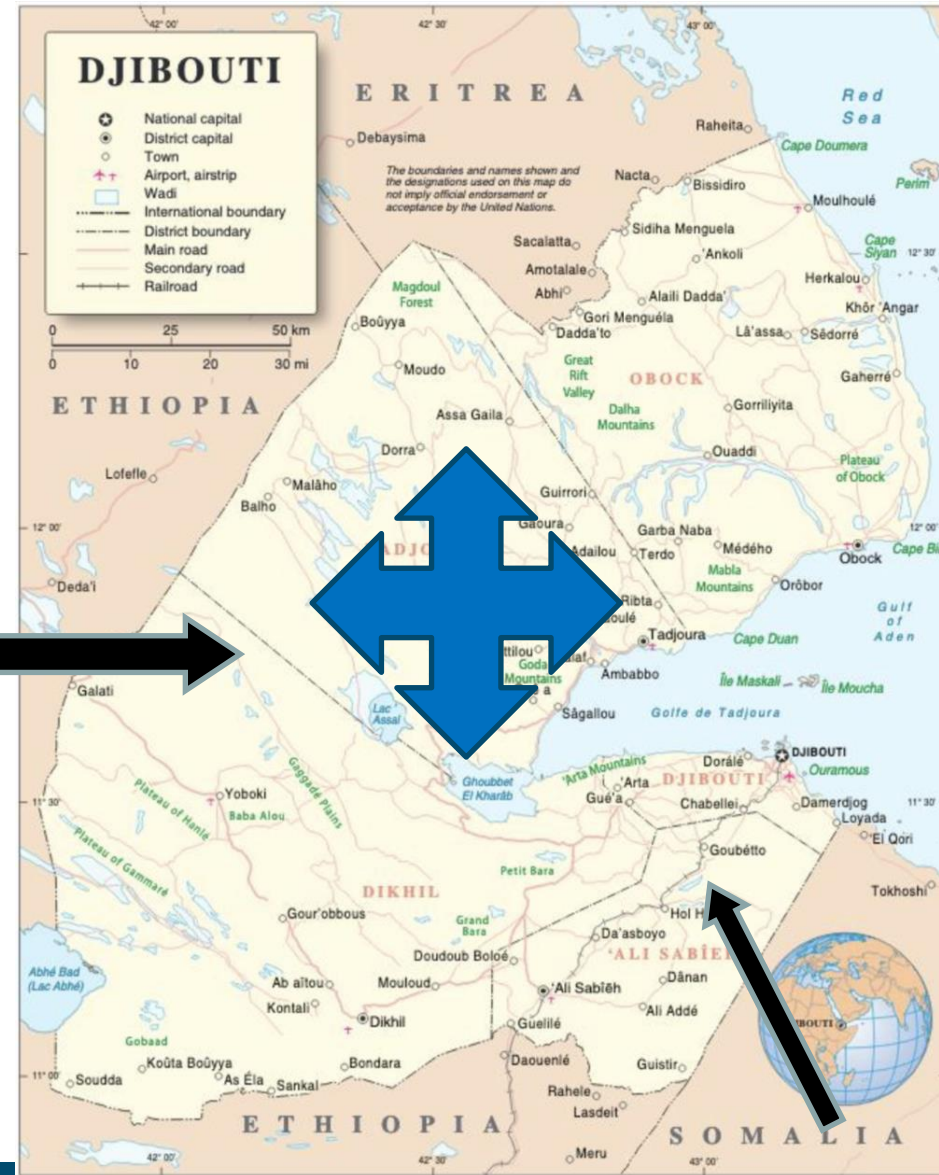
Awareness on the disease (symptoms, exposure pathways, risk factors) needs to be addressed.





Risk  
assessment  
– country –  
**NEGLIGIBLE**  
to **LOW**

$P_i=N$

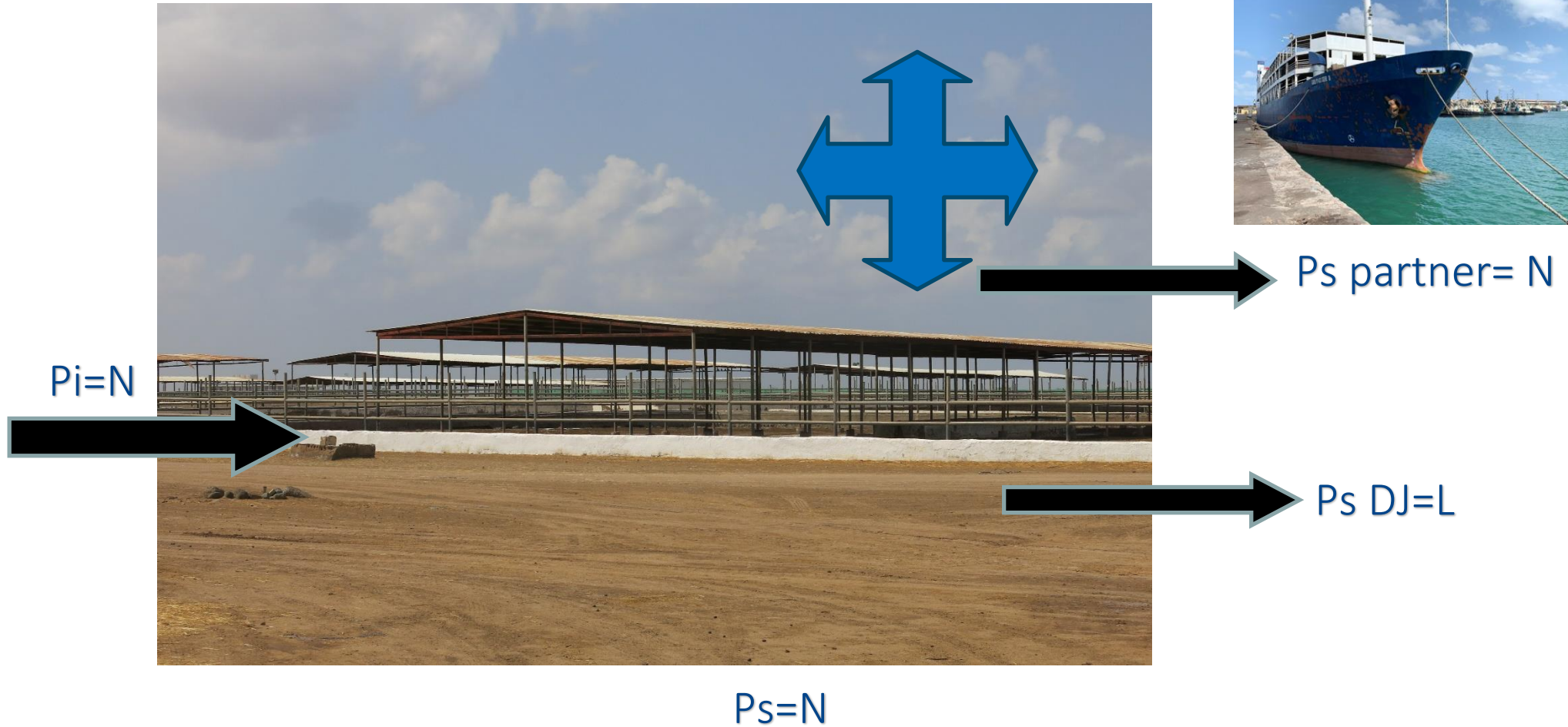
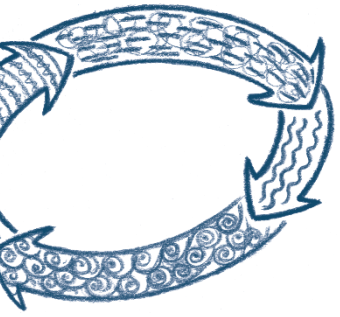


$P_s=L$

$P_i=L$



## Risk assessment – quarantine - NEGLIGIBLE



## Emergency workplan – for the country

Objectif 1 : Augmenter les capacités du pays a prevenir et repondre a la FVR														
Activites		mois 1	mois 2	mois 3	mois 4	mois 5	mois 6	mois 7	mois 8	mois 9	mois 10	mois 11	mois 12	Ressources
<b>1.1. Augmenter les connaissances du risque FVR dans le context Djiboutien</b>	Mener une enquete nationale de determination des zones favorables aux vecteurs													DSV (FAO)
	Identifier les zones a risque													DSV (FAO)
	Dresser les cartes du risque FVR													DSV (FAO)
	Conduire une enquete de surveillance basee sur les cartes du risque													DSV
	Rediger le rapport de surveillance													DSV
<b>1.2. Preparer un plan national de preparation et de reponse a la FVR</b>	Conduire une enquete de sensibilisation sur la maladie													DSV (FAO)
	Conduire une serie d'ateliers pour rediger le plan de preparation et de reponse a la FVR													DSV (FAO)
	Tester le plan par exercices de simulations au niveau national et local													DSV (FAO)
	Finaliser le plan, valider au niveau politique et diffuser par une serie d'ateliers													DSV (FAO)
<b>1.3. Augmenter la sensibilite des partenaires etatiques, commerciaux et regionaux</b>	Preciser dans les certificats sanitaire les resultats des test IG pour les animaux													DSV
	Discuter des possibilites de recourir a la vaccination de 100% des lots destines a l'export													DSV (FAO)
	Creation d'une plateforme "Une Sante" avec le ministere de la sante													DSV/Direction de la sante
	Continuer les discussions regionales sur la RVF													DSV
	Discuter de l'harmonisation des procedures et exigences de quarantaines et exportations vis-a-vis de la FVR													DSV (FAO, IGAD, OIE,...)



# Thank you



*Protecting people, animals, and the environment everyday*