

GF-TADs for Africa, what's not to like ?

An overview (2021 – 2022)

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Introduction

After a long hiatus of 7 years, the GF-TADs mechanism in Africa was relaunched in 2021 with the adoption of the Regional Strategic Plan 2021 – 2025 and subsequent governance and technical committee meetings, i.e. the *Regional Steering Committee (RSC)* and the *Standing Groups of Experts (SGE)*. The *Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases* or GF-TADs is a global collaborative platform led by FAO and WOA, bringing together stakeholders in the animal health sector, including private sector, farmers and donors.

In Africa, the leadership for the remaining two years is entrusted to the African Union *Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR, Presidency of the RSC)*.

Regional Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025

The regional strategy aims to ensure progress in the progressive control of five diseases of major interest to the global economy and the African continent :

- African Swine fever (ASF, linked to the Global Initiative)
- Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD, linked to the Progressive Control Pathway or PCP)
- *Peste des ruminants* (PPR, linked to the Global Eradication Programme)
- Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia (CBPP, of major concern to most countries in Africa)
- Rift Valley fever (RVF, of major concern to many countries in Africa, zoonotic)

In addition, the Strategy aims to strengthen Veterinary Services across the board, to handle yet non-existent emerging diseases, and is keeping a close eye on the sequestration of rinderpest-containing materials in holding facilities, as well as re-emerging diseases such as a high pathogenicity avian influenza

Milestones/achievements

RSC 10	October 2021 (online)	Adoption of Strategy and new ToR Establishment of the SGE for ASF
RSC 11	June 2022 (Nairobi)	Establishment of the SGE for CBPP and adoption of the ToR
SGE ASF 1	March 2022 (online)	Establishment of a work programme
SGE ASF 2	September 2022 (online)	Topic : value chain (analysis)

Conclusions

GF-TADs is a coordination mechanism, not an implementation entity and has functional working/advisory groups for rinderpest, FMD, PPR and ASF, most of which are replicated at regional level. In Africa, HPAI, AHS and RVF (the latter under the Quadripartite) are diseases of interest to the membership, considered as re-emerging diseases



Group photograph of the 11th RSC held in Nairobi



African Union award to Dr K. Tounkara (rinderpest)



View of the meeting room at AU-IBAR (host)

Other

Members to continue implementation of recommendations from RSC 9, 10 and 11 and report progress of implementation of the recommendations in upcoming RSC 12. Collaboration of the RSC with the *Partnership and Financing Panel (PFP)* to ensure that Africa's needs and inputs are considered. Start including HPAI and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) as priorities.

Future Plans

Next steps are the inaugural meeting of the SGE for CBPP (Lusaka, April 2023), the 12th Regional Steering Committee (June 2023) and the third meeting of the SGE for ASF (Abidjan, August 2023), in addition to Regional / Virus-pool Roadmap meetings (PPR, FMD)

