Input from WAVMA/AAH Practitioners from SADC Region

World Organisation for Animal Health

Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Network for Southern Africa (RAAHN-SA)

25 – 27 July 2023 Lusaka, Zambia

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Layout

Input from AAH Practitioners from SADC Region

Zambian Scenario

- Success stories
- Challenges
- Opportunities

Input from AAH Practitioners from SADC Region

- Information and Knowledge Sharing
- Capacity Building and Training
- Surveillance
- Research and Development

Information and Knowledge Sharing

Reference point disseminating regionally scientifically validated information including extension materials and implementation guidelines for all aspects related to AAH within the SADC region

Support aquaculture producers and fishers adopt best practices for AAH and aquatic ecosystem health. Do not leave smallholders – tailor systems/programs to ensure they are part of the process.

Create public awareness

Capacity Building and Training

Training to attain and sustain the critical level competent aquatic veterinary workforce (i.e. across all cadres from farmer to field practitioners, research policy makers) needed to achieve aquatic biosecurity and ecosystem health, bearing in mind this is a multidisciplinary field.

Establish and invest in appropriate systems (soft and hard) for holistic service delivery ensuring smallholders are not left to enable effective implementation of all recommended aquatic biosecurity control strategies, programs and actions.

Establish a SADC regional data-base of AAH practitioners with respect to facilitating the mobilization regional experiences and expertise.

Surveillance

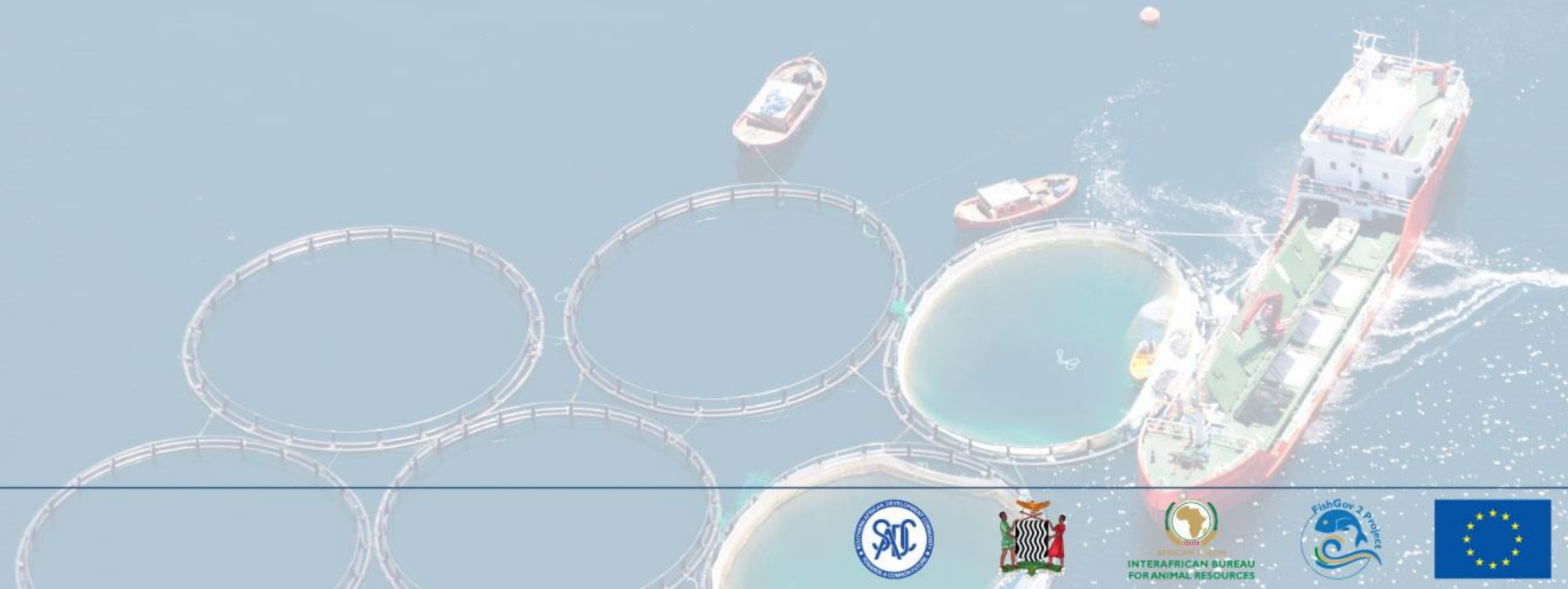
- Coordinate all surveillance programs
- Establish regional standards, protocols and guidelines for implementation –mobilize resources for implementation, etc.
- Establish a sustainable regional system for data collection (aside from WAHIS), passive surveillance, reporting, response and communication within the region bearing in mind the specific needs of the regions' aquatic animal sub-sectors and stakeholders.
- Visual aids for public (especially to aid passive surveillance and guide producers)

Research and Development

- Atlas of conditions affecting aquatic animals in the region
- Standards and implementation guidelines for AAH monitoring and control
- Cost-effectiveness and socio-economic impacts.
- This would also include impacts for wild aquatic animal welfare

World Organisation for Animal Health

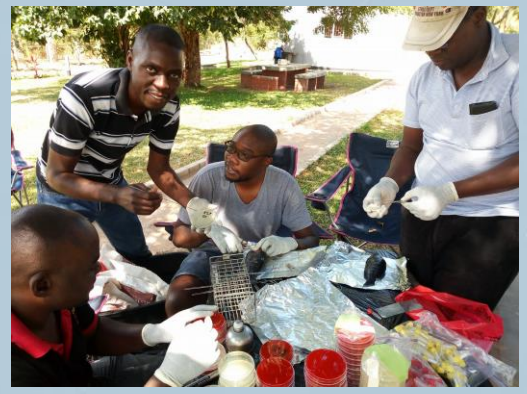
Zambian Scenario (Success stories)



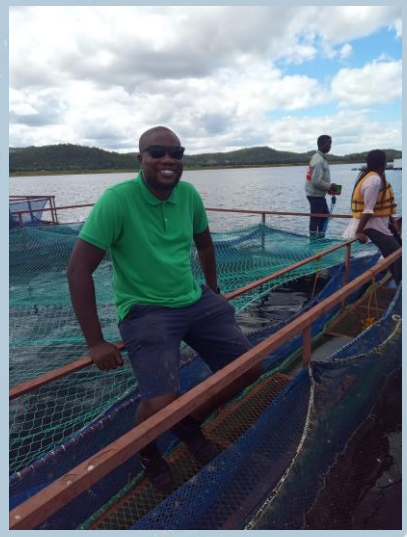
Disease Surviellance through Research

September 2014: UNZA through NMBU conducted the first bacteriological survey on Lake Kariba

Virbac Funded Surviellance: 2017 in Lake Bangweulu and Lake Kariba

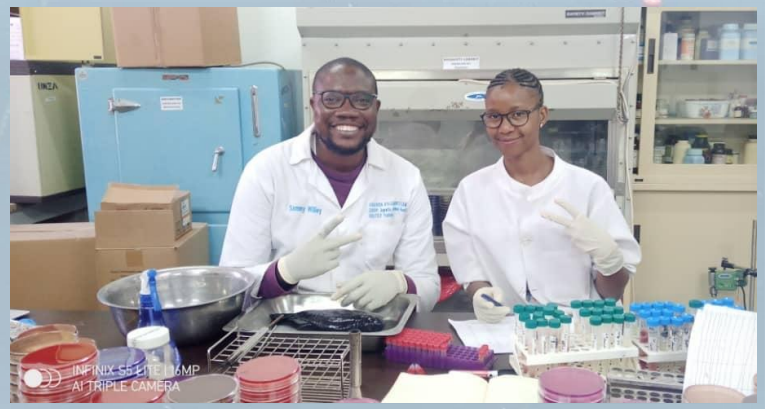


May 2018: Collaborating from UNZA and MSc Student in TRAHESA project

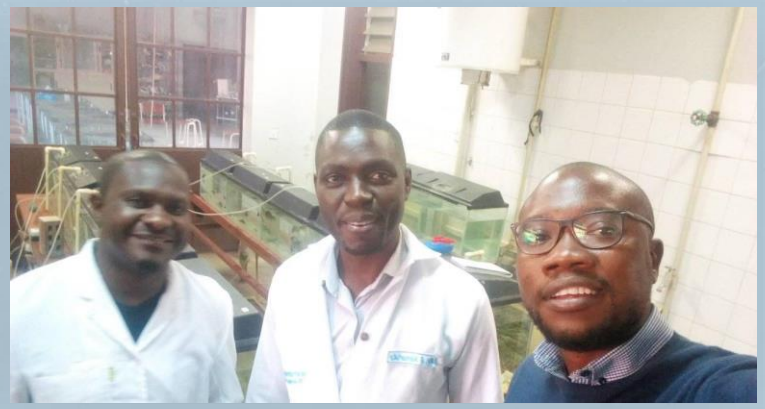


USAID funded project through Mississippi State University and UNZA studying Disease in Small scale Cage Culture

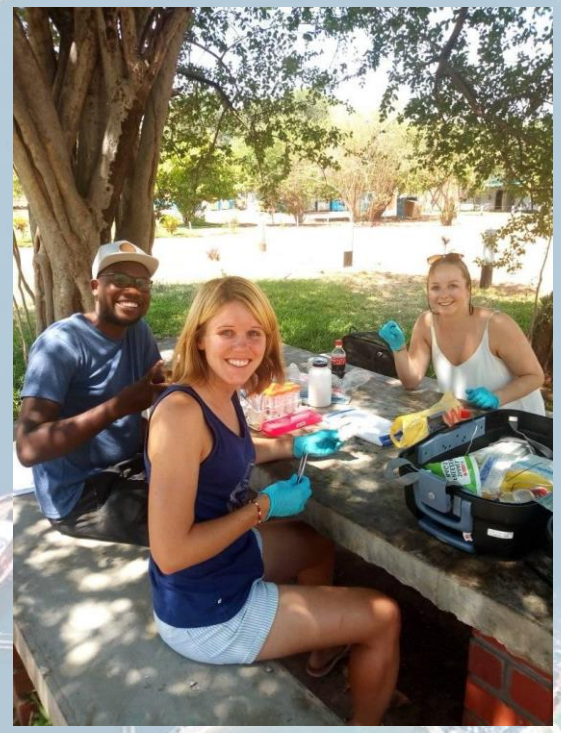
Student Mentorship



MSc One Health Food Safety from UNZA



MSc AAH Sokoine University

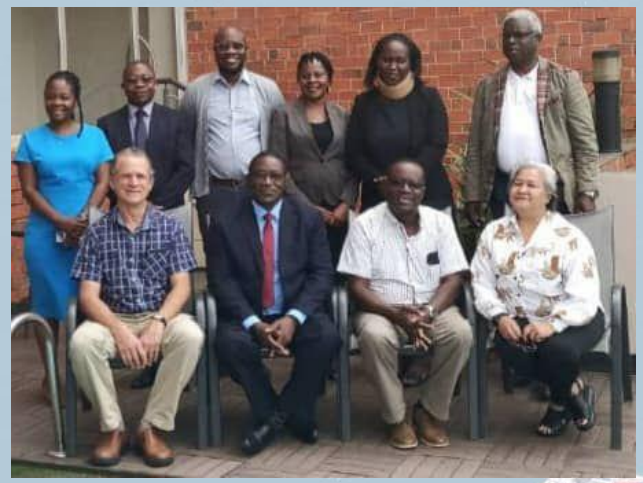


DVM from NMBU

Participation in Government Activities

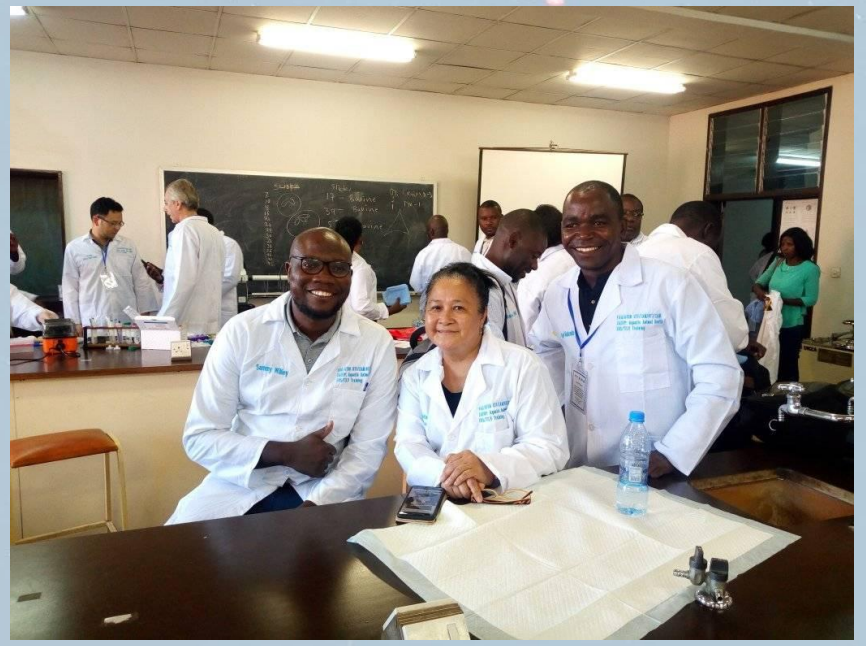
July 2023: Development of Disease surviellance SOPs

June 2023: Developed AAH course module at Fisheries college for para-professionals

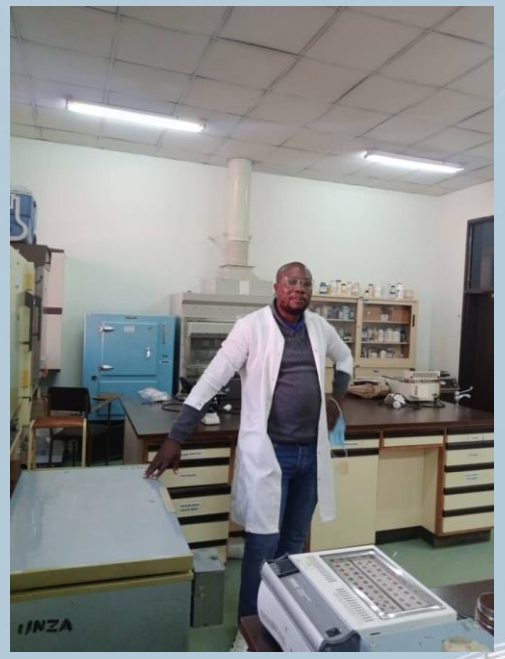


May 2023: Development of National Pathogen List with FAO

Capacity Building



October 2019: 12-Point surviellance Plan training



2019: Awarded Scholarship by GRZ
to pursue PhD in AAH at UNZA

Challenges

- Lack of Public Awareness on best management practices
- Biosecurity Issues among small scale producers
- Insufficient fish veterinary specialists in the private sector to meet the demands of the expanding aquaculture industry.
- Fish farms not free sharing disease information

Opportunities

- Inspire more veterinarians to specialize in Fish health management
- Continuous improvement to the BVM curriculum (UNZA) to accommodate AAH courses
- Development of fish disease treatment guideline
- Leverage the use of technology to offer AAH services to many fish farmers e.g BUNA Fish Health

Thank you