

# GF-TADs Foot and Mouth Disease Risk Assessment Training Workshop

19 - 21 September 2023 Johannesburg, South Africa





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# Foot and mouth disease country profile 2023: Malawi

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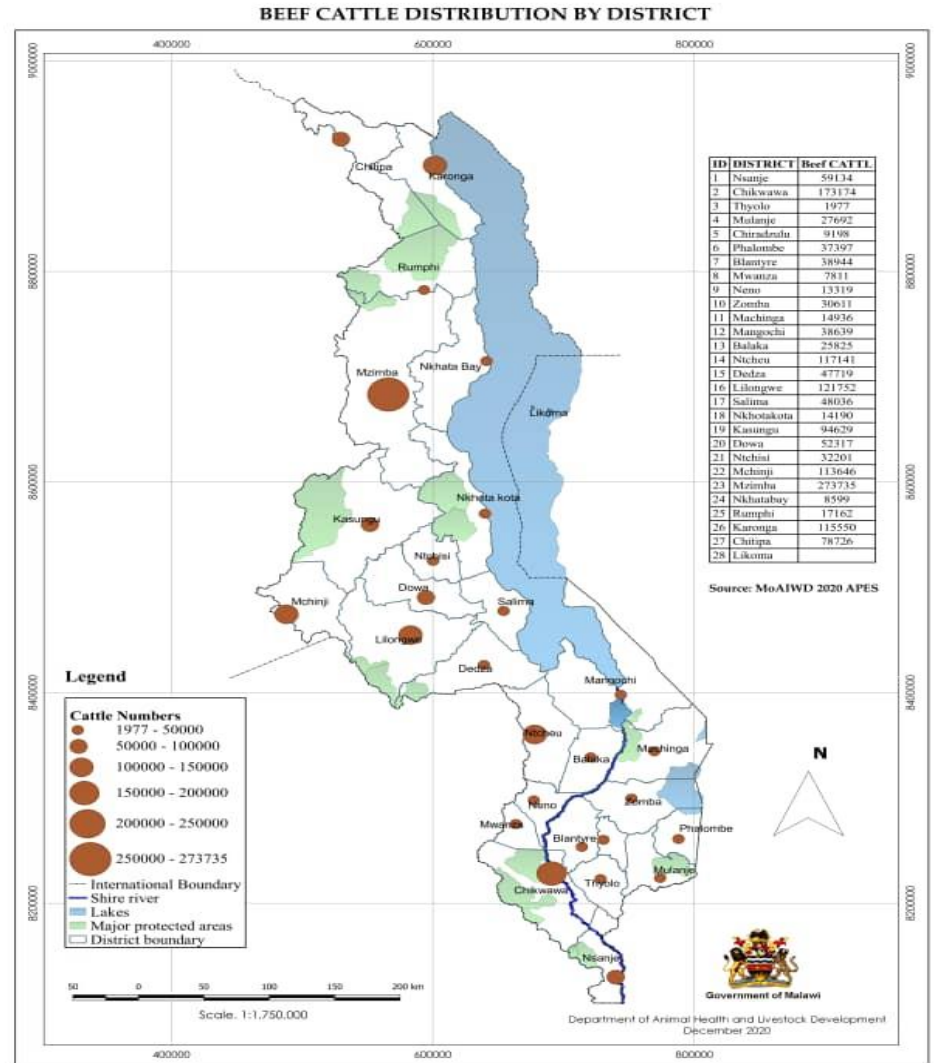
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Malawi



# Introduction

- Foot and Mouth Disease is a trade sensitive disease with socio and economic implications and mainly occur and reported in cattle in Malawi.
- The disease sporadically occurs in Shire Valley (Southern Malawi) which is a major beef producing area in the country.
- This disease usually occurs between dry months when there mixing of buffalo and cattle at watering and grazing points.
- In the year 2023 we had 3 outbreaks in the months of April and May (Chikwawa, Balaka and Dedza districts)
- SAT 2 confirmed from BVI







# FMD current situation



- We used SAT 1, 2, 3 for ring vaccinations (primer and booster)
- Formulated a risk based control plan and validated in June 2023
- No active cases are reported to date.
- Six monthly vaccination to be carried out in districts affected by FMD Type O in 2022



| Year | Month | Cases | At Risk | Vaccinated |
|------|-------|-------|---------|------------|
| 2023 | March | 32    | 15000   | 9184       |
| 2023 | May   | 17    | 18262   | 0          |
| 2023 | June  | 27    | 1567    | 451        |





# FMD surveillance

- Conduct periodic active surveillance in high risk areas for FMD in the country
- Passive surveillance for FMD and other priority diseases of Cattle and small ruminants
- Use of EMA-i mobile application for disease reporting from the field staff and data storage at the EPI Unit.
- Trained frontline staff (AVO and AHSA) in disease surveillance for transboundary animal diseases
- Trained laboratory staff in disease diagnosis using serology and PCR in south Africa to aid in disease diagnosis





# Control measures

- Mapping the extent of spread and demarcated the zones i.e. infected, surveillance and clean zones
- Sensitization meetings with the farmers
- Movement restriction of all cloven hoofed animals (cattle, goats, sheep and pigs)
- Suspension of slaughter for all cloven hoofed animals in the area
- Sanitary slaughter of cattle from abattoirs from established farms
- Emergency vaccination for the buffer zone using Trivalent vaccine (SAT1, 2 and 3) based on historical occurrence of the disease in the area
- Disease surveillance continued to detect new infections
- Mounted roadblock within the communities for disinfection and patrols





# Monitoring and reporting

- Use of disease reporting forms for emergency reporting
- Use of EMA-i mobile application for disease reporting from the field staff and data storage at the EPI Unit.
- Disease notification and follow up report for outbreaks to WOAHA
- Monitor trends of diseases occurrences through monthly reports
- Field visits in high risk areas for risk factors for outbreaks
- Follow WAHIS notifications for disease outbreaks in the region

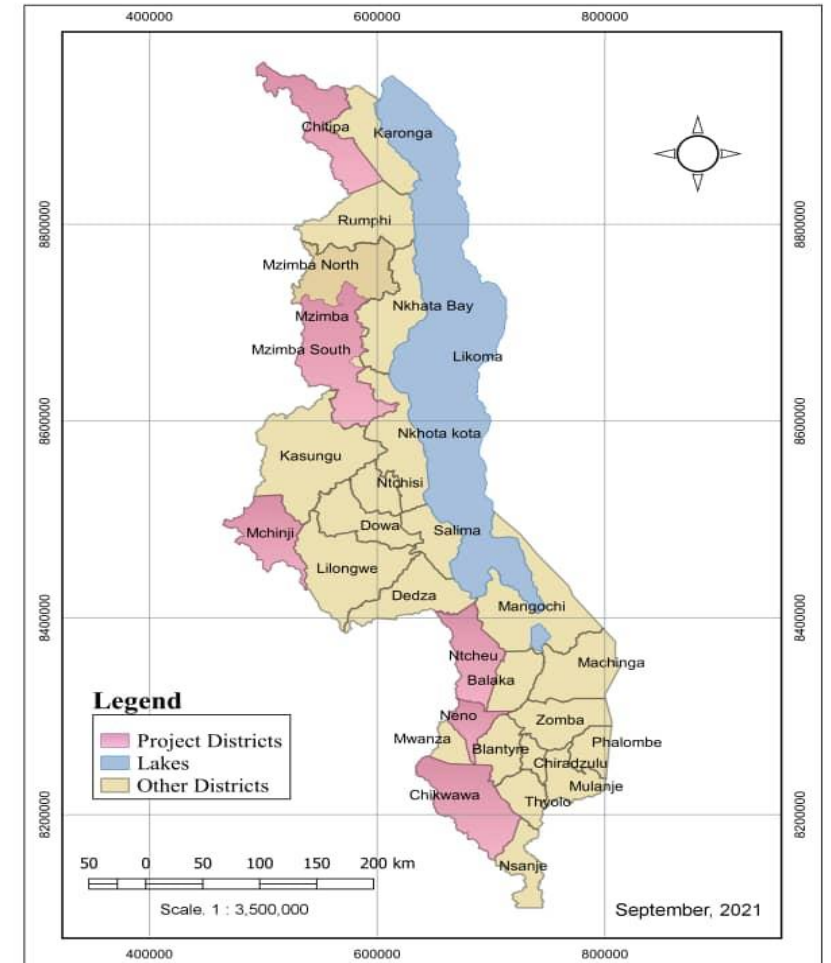


# Opportunities

- Presence of FAO TCP for FMD in event of outbreaks
- Government commitment in procuring vaccine for routine vaccination in endemic area (Shire valley)
- Formulated an FMD-Risk base control plan for effective control of FMD
- BVI response to FMD typing and vaccines
- Cross border collaboration with Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania
- CVL staff trained in various diagnosis skills (serology, PCR)
- Field staff trained in surveillance and use of EMA-i in 6 districts for reporting (more to be trained)
- Presence of government projects on livestock disease control



EMA - I PILOT DISTRICTS ON DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AND REPORTING







## Needs

- Infrastructure development to capacitate the diagnostic services at country labs
- Enhance capacity of staff in early disease detections in the field through training in disease diagnosis, and surveillance
- The need to provide adequate funding for the prevention and control of important TADs
- Need for concerted efforts and commitment by all stakeholders in the control of TADs
- Harmonised approach in the prevention and control of such TADs within the Region.



# Challenges

- Late reporting of the outbreaks by field personnel
- Timely availability of vaccines (during incursion of Type O)
- Illegal movement of animals during outbreaks
- Farmers understanding of the disease and control measures put in place
- Porous borders allowing free movement of animals across the border





# Thank you

