



Overview of reporting of aquatic animal diseases to WAHIS since 2018: shortcomings and needs

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1. WOAAH disease reporting requirements

1. Disease reporting requirements

2. Trends in aquatic animal disease reporting to WAHIS since 2018
3. Key takeaways: shortcomings and needs

WOAH missions



- **Transparency**
- **Scientific information**
- International solidarity
- Sanitary safety
- Promotion of veterinary services
- Food safety and animal welfare

Legal basis for animal disease notification to WOAH



NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES, AND PROVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Article 1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code* and in terms of Articles 5, 9 and 10 of the OIE Organic Statutes, Member Countries shall recognise the right of the *Headquarters* to communicate directly with the *Competent Authority* of its *territory* or *territories*.

All *notifications* and all information sent by the OIE to the *Competent Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent to the country concerned and all *notifications* and all information sent to the OIE by the *Competent Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent by the country concerned.

Article 1.1.2.

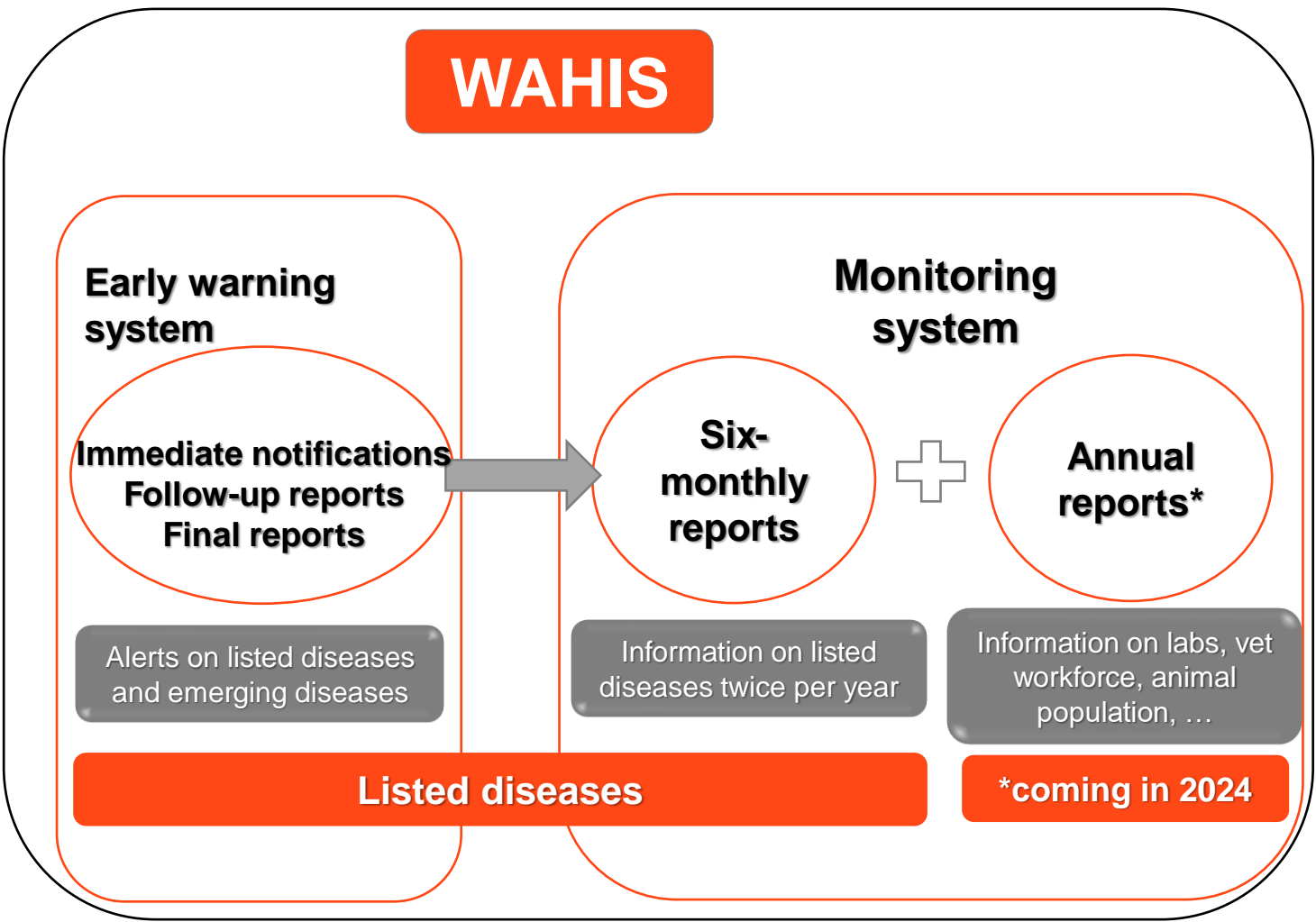
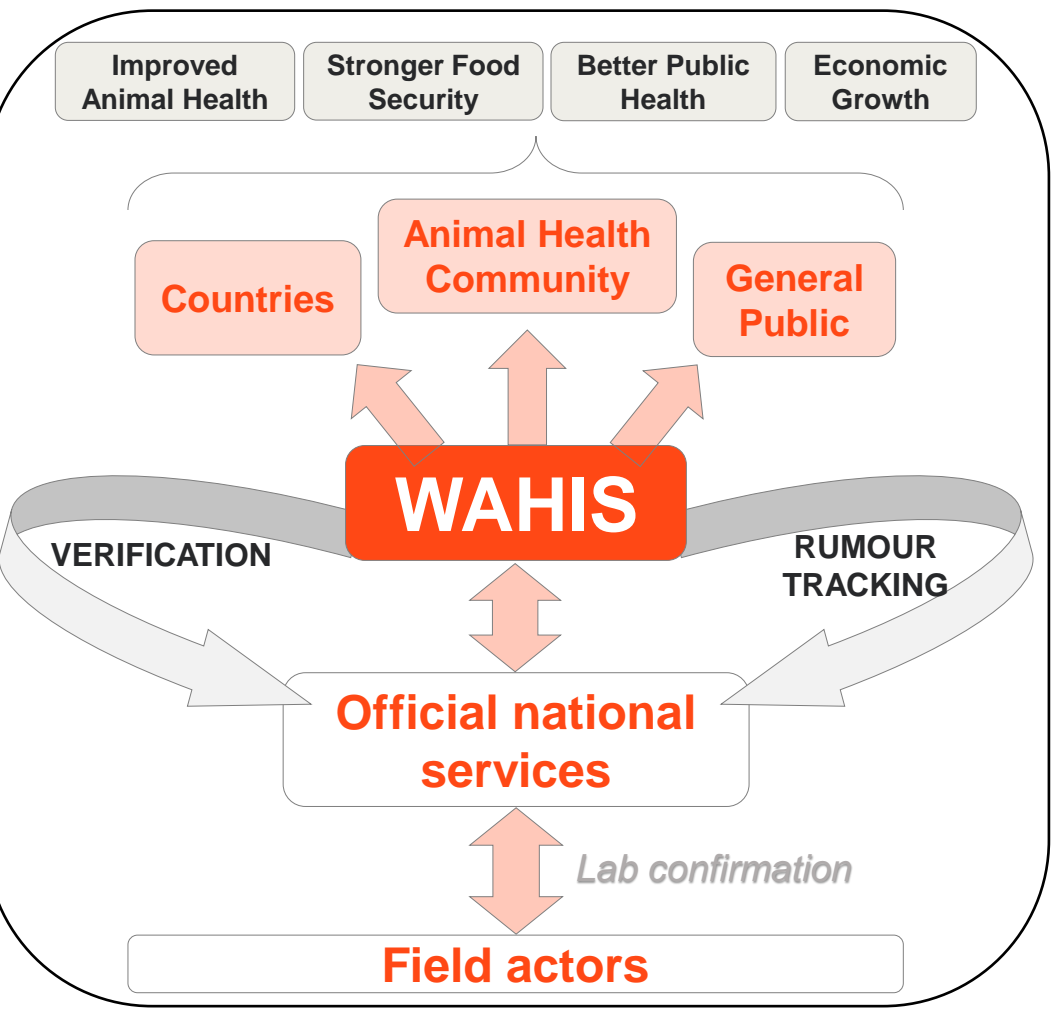
1. Member Countries shall make available to other Member Countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of important *diseases* of *aquatic animals* and their *pathogenic agents* and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these *diseases*.
2. To achieve this, Member Countries shall comply with the *notification* requirements specified in Articles 1.1.3. and 1.1.4.
3. For the purposes of this chapter an 'event' means a single *outbreak* or a group of epidemiologically related *outbreaks* of a given *disease* that is the subject of a *notification*. An event is specific to a pathogen and strain, when appropriate, and includes all related *outbreaks* reported from the time of the immediate *notification* through to the final report. Reports of an event include *susceptible species*, number and geographical distribution of affected *aquatic animals* and *epidemiological units*.

Article 1.1.3.

The *Competent Authority* shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the *Headquarters*:

1. in accordance with relevant provisions in the *disease*-specific chapters, *notification*, through the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) or by fax or e-mail within 24 hours of any of the following events:
 - a. first occurrence of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
 - b. recurrence of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment* following the final report that declared the *outbreak* ended;
 - c. first occurrence of a new strain of a *pathogenic agent* of a *listed disease* in a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
 - d. a sudden and unexpected change in the distribution or increase in incidence or virulence of, or morbidity or mortality caused by the *pathogenic agent* of a *listed disease*, present within a country, a *zone* or a *compartment*;
 - e. occurrence of a *listed disease* in a new host species;
2. weekly reports subsequent to a *notification* under point 1 above, to provide further information on the evolution of the event which justified the *notification*. These reports should continue until the *disease* has been eradicated or the situation has become sufficiently stable so that six-monthly reporting under point 3 will satisfy the obligation of the Member Country. For each event notified, a final report should be submitted;
3. six-monthly reports on the absence or presence and evolution of *listed diseases* and information of epidemiological significance to other Member Countries;
4. annual reports concerning any other information of significance to other Member Countries.

WAHIS: reporting modules and information flow



















*New version of annual report module still under development



2. Trends in aquatic animal disease reporting to WAHIS since 2018

1. Disease reporting requirements
- 2. Trends in aquatic animal disease reporting to WAHIS since 2018**
3. Key takeaways: shortcomings and needs

Reporting of aquatic animal diseases through the early warning system (01/2018 – 08/2023)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Country	Report number	Disease	Reason	Start date	Report date
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Mozambique	IN	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	First occurrence in the country	2023/07/15	2023/07/27
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Malawi	FUR_2	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	First occurrence in a zone or a compartment	2022/07/08	2023/02/16
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	IN	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2023/01/25	2023/02/10
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_2	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2021/03/04	2022/09/21
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Malawi	FUR_7	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	First occurrence in the country	2020/06/16	2022/08/01
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Malawi	FUR_1	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	First occurrence in a zone or a compartment	2021/04/30	2022/03/16
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_1	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2021/07/01	2021/09/14
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_2	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2020/11/09	2021/09/03
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Cameroon	IN	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	First occurrence in the country	2020/11/30	2021/04/12
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Botswana	FUR_3	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	Recurrence	2020/07/31	2020/12/03
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_1	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2019/11/10	2020/10/20
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_1	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2019/11/03	2020/10/20
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_2	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	First occurrence in a zone or a compartment	2016/10/31	2018/02/02
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	FUR_1	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	Recurrence	2016/04/25	2018/02/02
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	IN	Koi herpesvirus (Inf. with)	Recurrence	2017/10/27	2018/02/02
<input type="checkbox"/>	 South Africa	IN	Aphanomyces invadans (Inf. with) (Epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	Recurrence	2017/05/10	2018/02/02

12

Events reported as of August 2023

5

Reporting countries

2

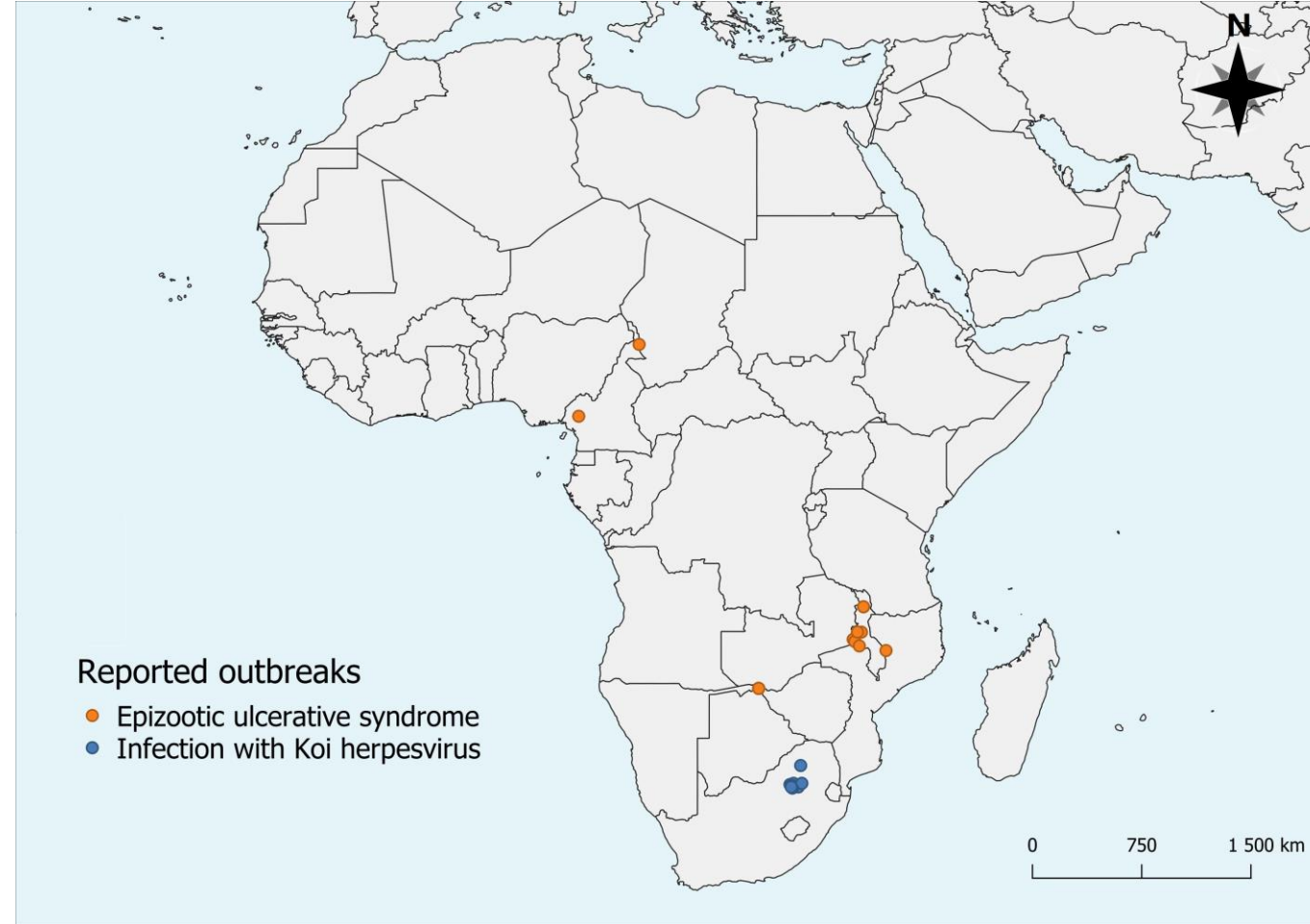
Diseases reported

19

Median delay (in days) between confirmation & notification (3 – 235)

Aquatic animal disease events reported through the early warning system in the region (01/2018 – 08/2023)

Reporting of aquatic animal disease through the early warning system (01/2018 – 08/2023)



Distribution of aquatic animal disease outbreaks reported through the early warning system in the region (01/2018 – 08/2023)

After the alert:

- **Follow-up reports** until the event is closed:



Transparency – WOAHA's mandate

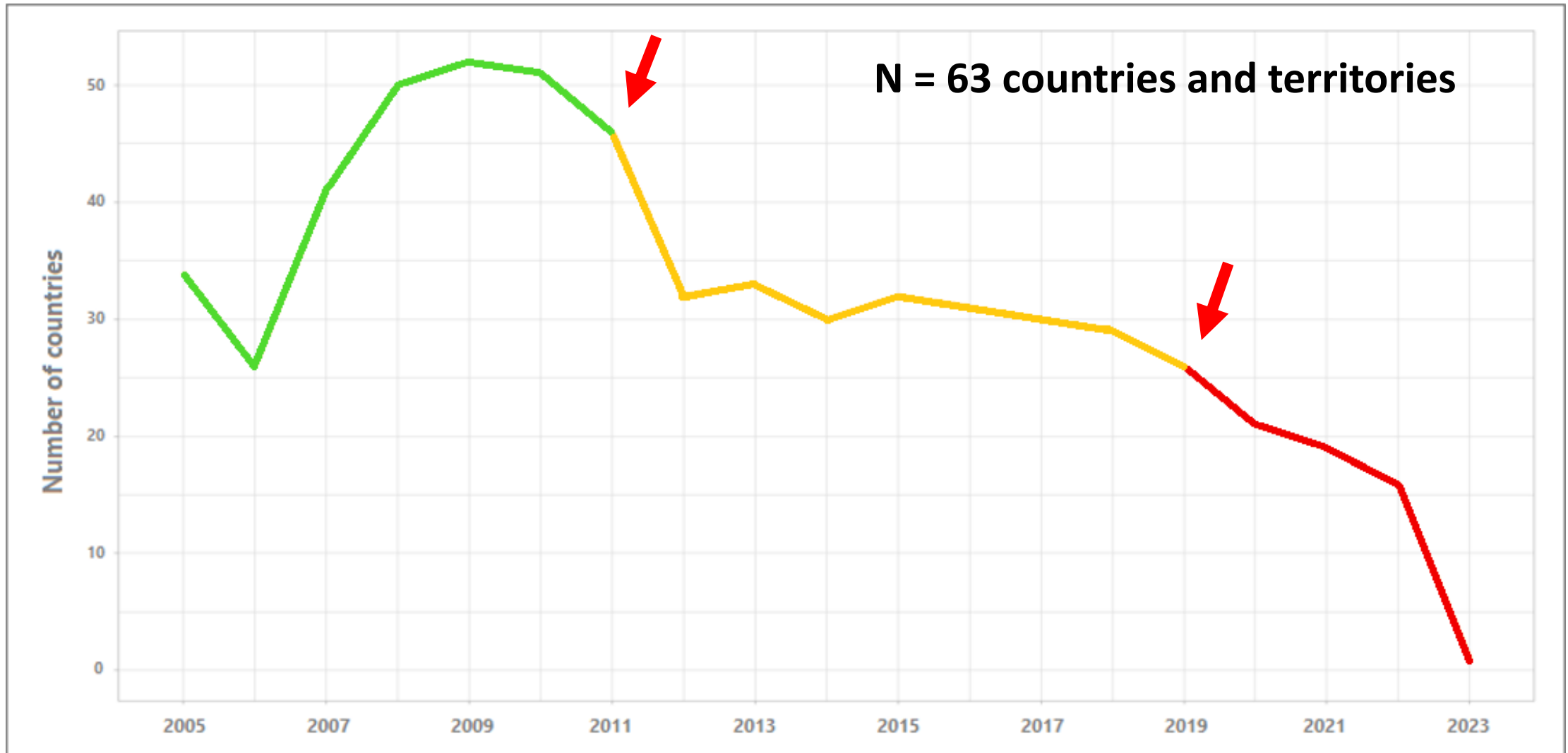
Opening trade after an event is resolved

Data consistency with six-monthly reports



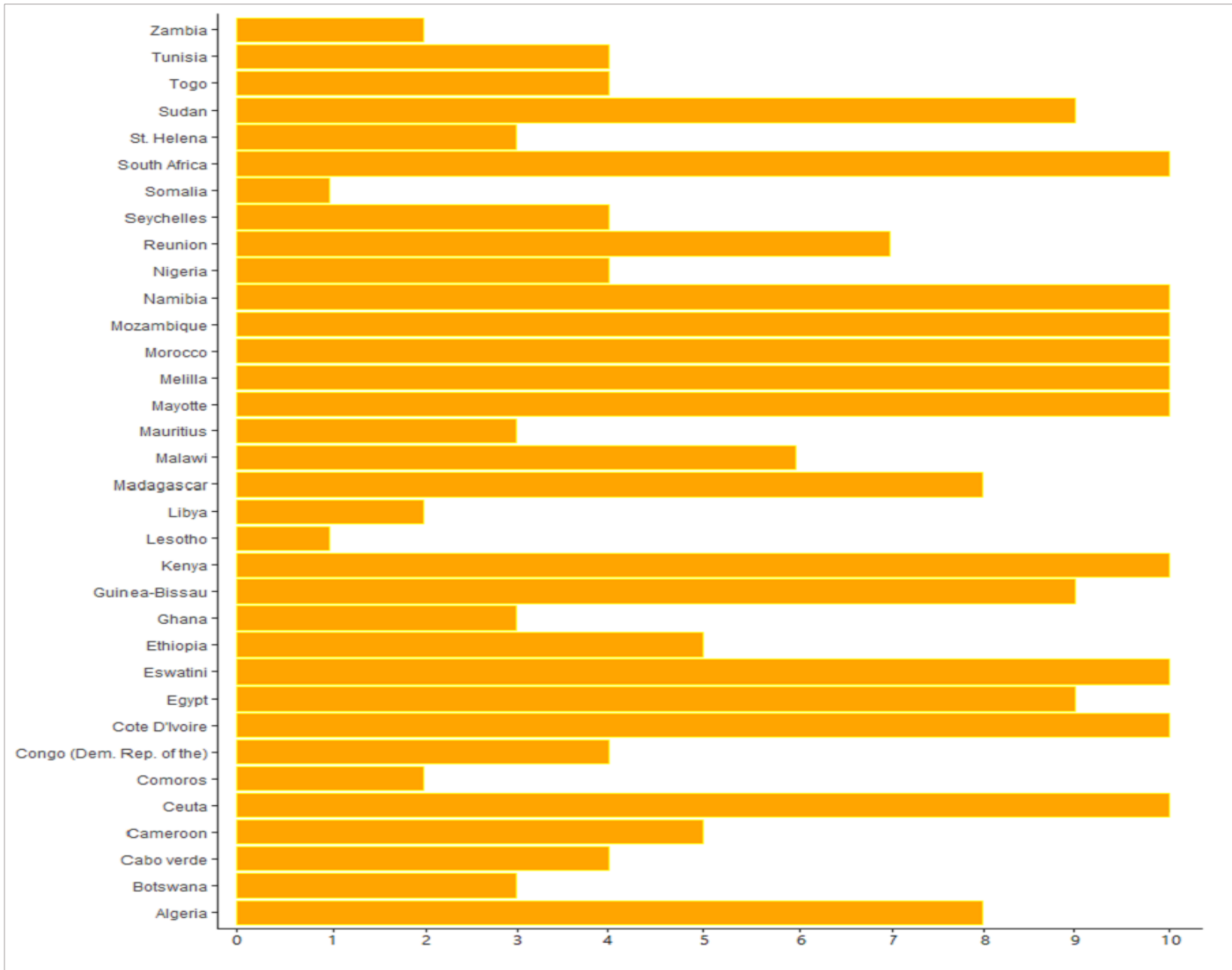
- **Six-monthly reports** (presence/absence/suspected...)
- If disease eradicated: **self-declaration of freedom**

Trends in reporting through the monitoring system



Annual evolution of the number of African countries/territories submitting their six-monthly report for aquatic animal diseases (2018 – 2023)

Trends in reporting through the monitoring system



34/63

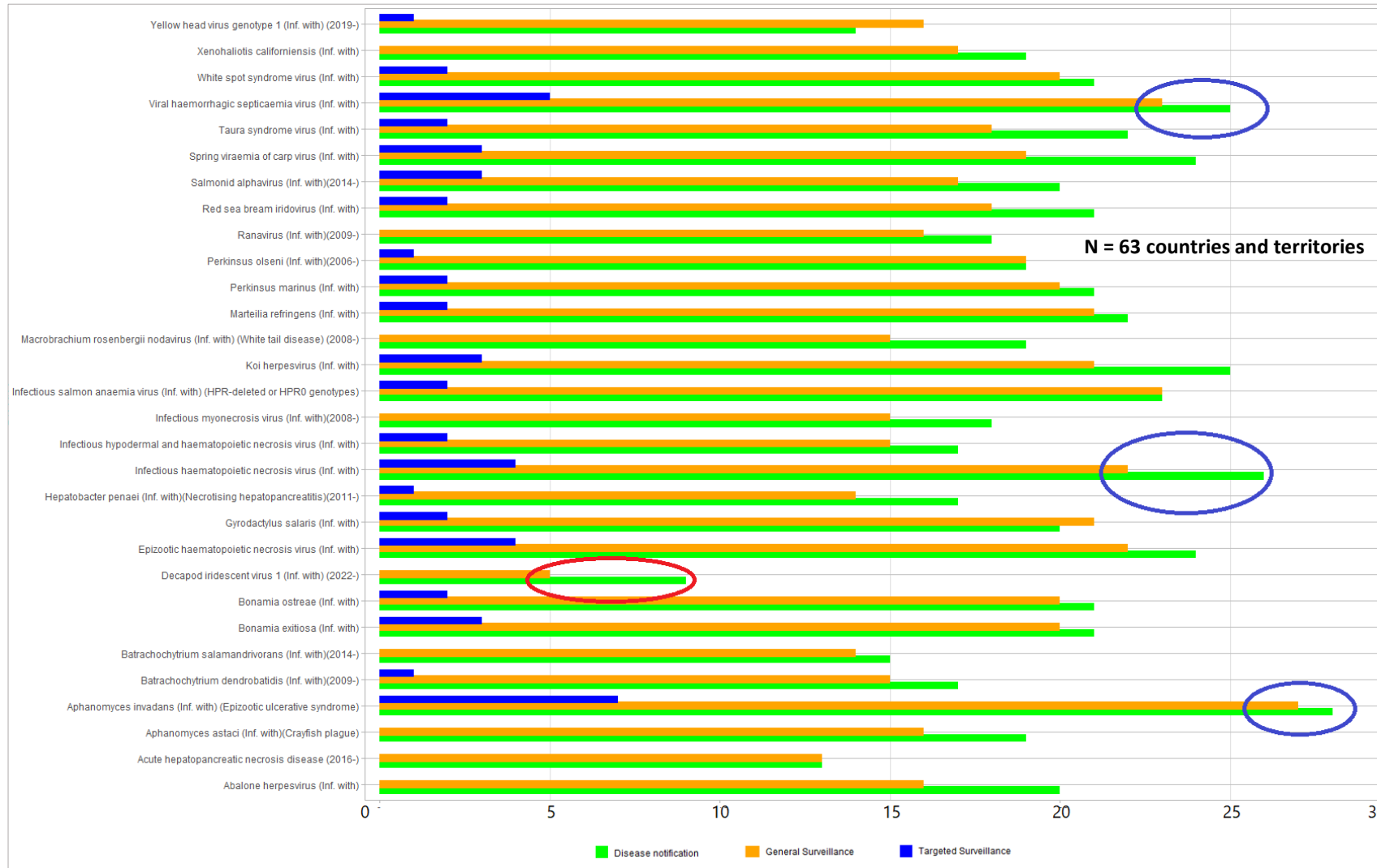
countries/territories having submitted at least one aquatic SMR since 2018

13/63

countries/territories up to date with their aquatic SMR (at least one SMR of 2022 submitted)

Number of aquatic SMR submitted per country in the region between 2018 and 2022 (as of 17/08/2023)

Surveillance of aquatic animal diseases in the region



Based on the last report submitted by each country in the region (different years)...

Number of countries/territories in the region applying surveillance measures for aquatic animal diseases (last submitted report)

Surveillance of aquatic animal diseases in the region

According to the last data submitted from each country in the region (different years):

Disease notifiable/under surveillance in the **highest** number of countries/territories

- Epizootic ulcerative syndrome : **45% / 43%**
- Infectious haematopoietic necrosis : **41% / 35%**
- Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia : **40% / 36%**

Disease notifiable/under surveillance in the **lowest** number of countries/territories

- Decapod iridescent virus 1 (Inf. with) : **14% / 8%**



3. Key takeaways: shortcomings and needs

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Surveillance and reporting indicators in the region

Indicators → **limited compliance with WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health Code**

Early warning :

- **limited reporting** of aquatic animal diseases through the early warning system :
 - 2 of 31 diseases, and 5 of 63 countries/territories since 2018 (as of 17/08/2023)
- **delays** between confirmation and notification to WOAHA :
 - **19 days** (WOAHA Standards require 24h after confirmation)
- **irregular/delayed follow-up reports** (WOAHA Standards require weekly until event is closed)

Surveillance and reporting indicators in the region

Indicators → suggest no compliance with *WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Code*

Monitoring :

- overall trend → decreasing number of countries submitting their aquatic SMR
 - particularly since 2011 (terrestrial and aquatic reports started to be submitted separately)
- limited surveillance of aquatic animal diseases
 - most monitored disease is under surveillance in less than 50% of countries/territories
- limited reporting of aquatic animal diseases through the monitoring system:
 - only 34 of 63 countries have submitted at least one aquatic SMR since 2018
 - only 13 of 63 countries up-to-date with their aquatic SMR (at least one report of 2022 submitted)

Main conclusions

- Aquatic animal diseases under surveillance and notifiable in a low percentage of countries/territories: does this indicate a limited capacity for surveillance?
- Decreases in the submissions of SMRs:
 - Need to **understand the barriers** to aquatic animal disease reporting
 - This is one of the activities of **WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Strategy**
- **Room to improve** the reporting of aquatic animal diseases
 - As surveillance is a key element for disease prevention and control:
 - **explore** ways to **improve national surveillance systems** and
 - **build** a **culture of timely and accurate reporting** in accordance with both **national priorities** and WOAHS Standards

How can we help you to better report ?

How does WOAAH support Members in notifying data?



Training activities

Support desk

- <https://wahis-support.woah.org>

Email

- information.dept@woah.org

Support materials

- F.A.Q. [Click here](#)
- **Video** tutorials [Click here](#)

One-on-one training support

- Deepen understanding of new functionalities
- Highlight best practices between Focal Points
- Share difficulties with the trainers



Additional support

Assist in data extraction and analysis

Production of disease distribution maps upon request

Provide support at regional level with WAHIS RR/SRR champions



How can we help you to better report ?



WAHIS Catalogue of services

➤ <https://wahis-support.woah.org>



Request one to one virtual session for: (i) Immediate notification and follow up report; (ii) Six monthly report;



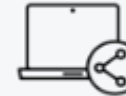
Request the guiding tour on WAHIS Public interface and Analytics



Request to implement Annual map update or assist you to generate disease situation map



Request weekly data extraction from Immediate notification and follow-up reports



Request more information about WAHIS APIs



Are you interested to invite us to participate in your business event? Please let us know

Thank you for your attention !

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