

# National Aquatic Animal Health & Biosecurity Strategy: Malawi Case



## Training of National Focal Points for Aquatic Animal Health (Cycle IV)

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By  
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# Introduction

- Harmonised SADC AAHS published in 2016
- Malawi started drafting its NSAAH the same year
- Until 2019, when Malawi was first hit by EUS, the process was slow and inadequately consultative
- In 2020, several workshops and meetings took place to finalise the AAH& BS

# 2016 Malawi NAAH & BS darft

- The ever first Malawi NAAH was drafted in 2016
- This was harmonised and domesticated from SADC NAAHS
  - using the SNRL (a SADC and GIZ project)
- Processing shortfall:
  - the drafting consultant did not consult/inlvoe relevant stakeholders
    - i.e. the WOAHA compentent authority n the country (DAHLD)
- Content shortfall:
  - The draft had no SWOT for aquatic animal health
  - List of aquatic pathogens not prioritized in accordance with local situation
    - included oceanic pathogens and some with least risk of incursion in Malawi
  - silent on AMR

# Triggering Events

- Fish industry grew and become notable in the country
  - With international development partners involved
  - A university with center of excellence in aquaculture
- In 2019, Malawi registered its first outbreak of EUS.
  - This was the first ever notifiable aquatic disease outbreak in the country
  - By then Malawi-NAAH&BS was just a draft with undiscovered issues
    - thus; among other things, no contingency plan for EUS

# Reactions

- 2020: DAHLD and SADC consultant
  - conducted a Comprehensive national assessment on AAH and Biosecurity plans (including plans, equipment, strategies, procedures)
- outcome:
  - SWOT analysis, diagnostic requirement listed and other gaps highlighted
    - i.e. need to develop the prioritised list of pathogens, and contingency plans for these pathogens
- 2021:
  - Financial support to fund AAH&BS was identified
    - FAO (through TCP) and WorldFish under fDB Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Watershed Management (SFAD-WM)
- Development of EUS surveillance protocol

# Going forward with AAH&BS development

- Stakeholders shared responsibilities
  - Stakeholder mapping was done
  - Responsibilities were shared based on particular stakeholder capacity ( as shown in the slides to follow)

Area	Responsible institution(s)	Lead institution(s)
1. Executive summary	Fisheries	Fisheries
2. Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Current status of aquaculture development and aquatic animal health management in Malawi.</li> <li>b. SWOT analysis.</li> </ul>	Fisheries and DAHLD  All stakeholders	Fisheries  Fisheries
3. AAHS content		
3.1 Purpose	All stakeholders	Fisheries
3.2 Vision	All stakeholders	Fisheries
3.3 Guiding principles	All stakeholders	Fisheries
3.4 Overview of implementation mechanisms	Fisheries	Fisheries

3.5 Overview of the program	Fisheries	
a. Policy, legislation review, biosecurity governance and harmonization with SADC protocols	Fisheries and DAHLD SNRL	Fisheries, SADC
b. Enforcement.	Fisheries	Fisheries
c. Risk analysis	Consultants	LUANAR/WF
d. Review of pathogen list	All stakeholders	DAHLD
e. Disease diagnostics	DAHLD and LUANAR	DAHLD, LUANAR
f. Boarder inspection and quarantine	DAHLD, Fisheries MBS	DAHLD Fisheries



<p>g. Capacity building for disease surveillance, monitoring and surveillance (staff and farmer trainings)</p>	<p>DAHLD, LUANAR, MUST, World Fish and Fisheries</p>	<p>DAHLD</p>
<p>h. Emergency Preparedness and contingency plans development for key priority diseases.</p>	<p>Consultant</p>	<p>Fisheries</p>
<p>i. Infrastructure development (laboratory equipment and reagents)</p>	<p>DAHLD, LUANAR, MUST and Fisheries</p>	<p>DAHLD</p>
<p>j. IEC (Information Education and Communication)</p>	<p>Fisheries, World Fish, LUANAR</p>	<p>WF</p>
<p>k. Elaboration of guidelines for bio-secure farms.</p>	<p>World Fish, DAHLD, LUANAR and Fisheries (Consultancy)</p>	<p>World Fish</p>

k. Elaboration of guidelines for use of veterinary drugs to avoid microbial resistance (AMR) and drug residues.	DAHLD and LUANAR WF	DAHLD
l. Early Warning Systems	All	LUANAR
m. Regional and International Corporation	Fisheries. DAHLD, SNRL	Fisheries, SNRL
n. Research and development	LUANAR, Fisheries and MUST WF	LUANAR
o. Review of the draft strategy	WF	WF

# Challenges

1. Inadequate coordination in the implementation of AAH&BS development
  - i.e. the shared responsibilities have not been followed up since 2021
2. AAH competent authority recognition
  - WOAHA recognises DAHLD as competent authority whilst department of fisheries claims the authority also

# Summary

- Initial AAH&BS draft is currently undergoing major revisions by a group of stakeholders.
- the development of Malawi AAH and BS Strategy is ongoing and is expected to end by November, 2023.

# The END

- Thank you very much
  - Zikomo kwambiri