



World Organisation
for Animal Health



Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory Network for Africa (RAAHLN-AF)

5 – 7 December 2023 Pretoria, South Africa



FAO/WOAH World Reference Laboratory for FMD (WRLFMD) Network

**Mohamed M. Sirdar, WOAH Southern Africa
Member of the Global FMD Working Group**

The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs)

- **GF-TADs** is a **Coordination mechanism**, joint initiative of FAO and WOAHA
- Its **Vision** is to reduce the threat from transboundary animal diseases (TADs) through multi-stakeholder cooperation.
- **FMD Working Group** established in 2011. its primary task is to promote and monitor the implementation of the **Global FMD Control Strategy**

FMD-Working Group is part of GF-TADs



Reference Laboratories

WOAH and FAO have designated reference laboratories with scientific and technical expertise within the areas of animal health, public health and zootecnics to help prevent, control and eradicate major animal diseases.



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



Reference Laboratories

The Reference Laboratories are designated to pursue all the scientific and technical problems relating to a named disease. The Expert, responsible to WOA and its Member Countries with regard to the disease, should be a leading and active researcher helping the Reference Laboratory to provide scientific and technical assistance and expert advice on topics linked to diagnosis and control of the disease for which the Reference Laboratory is responsible. Reference Laboratories should also provide scientific and technical training for personnel from Member Countries, and coordinate scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories or organisations, including through the Laboratory Twinning programme.

WOAH Reference Laboratories ToRs

- To use, promote and disseminate diagnostic methods validated according to WOAHS Standards;
- To recommend the prescribed and alternative tests or vaccines as WOAHS Standards;
- To develop reference material in accordance with WOAHS requirements, and implement and promote the application of WOAHS Standards;
- To store and distribute to national laboratories biological reference products and any other reagents used in the diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases;
- To develop, standardise and validate according to WOAHS Standards new procedures for diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases;
- To provide diagnostic testing facilities, and, where appropriate, scientific and technical advice on disease control measures to WOAHS Member Countries;
- To carry out and/or coordinate scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories, centres or organisations;
- To collect, process, analyse, publish and disseminate epizootiological data relevant to the designated pathogens or diseases;
- To provide scientific and technical training for personnel from WOAHS Member Countries;
- To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity relevant for the pathogen and the disease concerned;
- To organise and participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the WOAHS;
- To [establish and maintain a network with other WOAHS Reference Laboratories](#) designated for the same pathogen or disease and organise regular inter-laboratory proficiency testing to ensure comparability of results;
- To organise inter-laboratory proficiency testing with laboratories other than WOAHS Reference Laboratories for the same pathogens and diseases to ensure equivalence of results;
- To place expert consultants at the disposal of the WOAHS.



Animal health

 Areas of work  Our programmes  Situation updates **FAO Reference Centres ▾**  News and Events ▾  Resources ▾



FAO Reference Centres

The FAO Reference Centres for animal health are institutions designated by the Director-General to provide specific and technical device and services to FAO Member Countries on issues related to FAO's mandate. FAO invites institutions and universities to apply to become a reference centre in any of the 23 thematic areas that are critical for the Member Countries. Other areas will be identified as needs arise.

Designated Reference Centres

- AMR Reference Centres

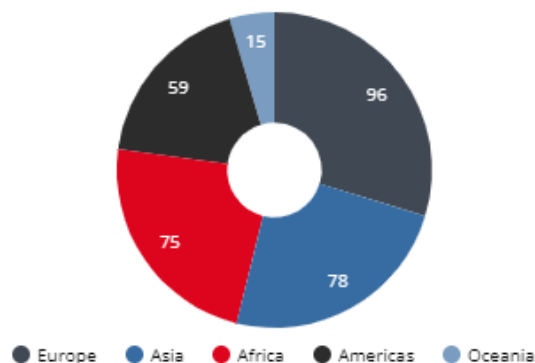
Related documents

FAO Reference Centres ToRs

FAO Reference Centres are expected to provide assistance and expertise in:

- preventing and detecting transboundary animal diseases, including zoonoses, and improving risk and disease management;
- enhancing the understanding and analysis of factors that contribute to disease emergence, maintenance and spread;
- supporting safer animal production, as part of economic development, food security, food safety and poverty alleviation efforts;
- improving veterinary public health services;
- guiding policies related to animal health.

Regional Distribution



Laboratories by Region

RESOLAB (West and Central Africa Veterinary Laboratory Network for Avian Influenza and other Transboundary Disease)	23	<div style="width: 23%;"></div>
ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)	14	<div style="width: 14%;"></div>
LABNET (SADC Central Veterinary Laboratories)	13	<div style="width: 13%;"></div>
RELABSA (Animal Health Laboratory Network for North Africa)	5	<div style="width: 5%;"></div>
SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)	4	<div style="width: 4%;"></div>

1 - 6 / 6 < >

Laboratories by Regional Network

WRLFMD Purpose & Objectives

This Network arose from a meeting of the OIE ad hoc group of Antigen and Vaccine Banks (in Paris 2004) where it was decided to generate two forums to coordinate international activities: a vaccine bank network (now the IVSRN), and this Foot-and-Mouth Disease Reference Laboratory Network.

The purpose of the Network of WOA/FAO FMD Reference Laboratories is to make available accurate and timely data to support global surveillance and control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

The goals of the Network are:

- Understanding global Foot-and-mouth disease virus distribution and patterns in order to identify threats and make vaccine recommendations
- Improving the quality of laboratory tests from international and national reference laboratories
- Building up local capability in support of regional control programmes



OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory
Network for Foot-and-Mouth Disease

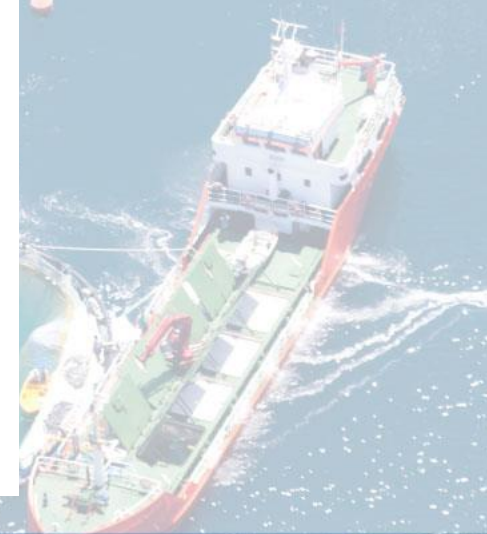
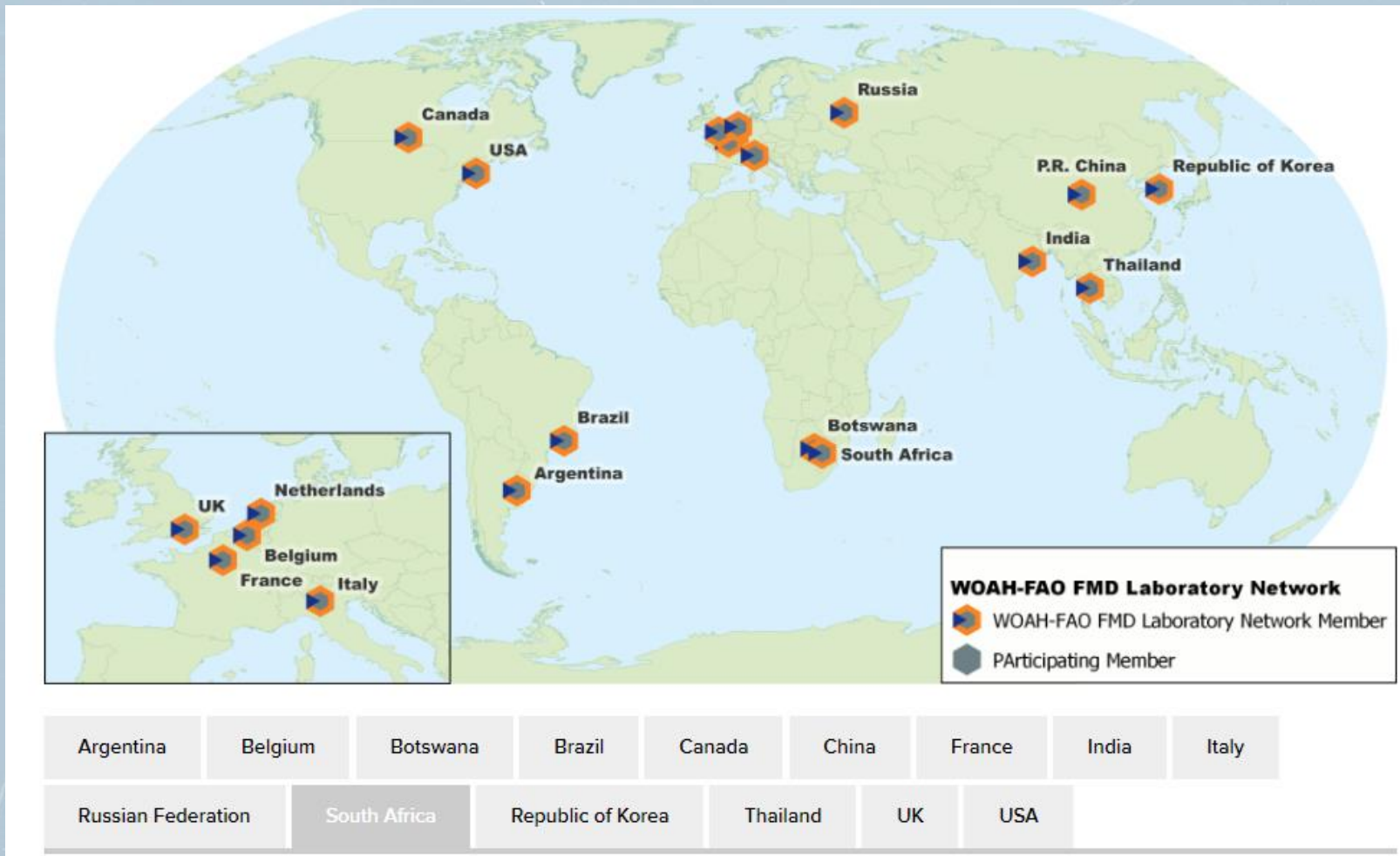


World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE



THE
Pirbright
INSTITUTE

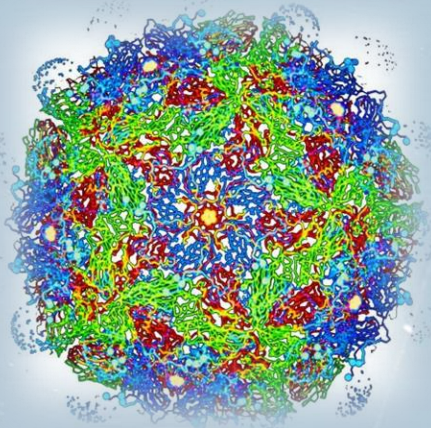
Network Members



Network Members



Network Activities



Annual Meetings

Vaccine Producers

FMD Road Maps

Vaccine Potency Testing

Vaccine Matching

IVSRN (International FMD Vaccine Strategic Reserves Network)

FMD Nomenclature

FMD Prototype Strains

FMD Science and Tools

Lineage Specific PCR

Sample Shipments

Annual Meetings

18th Meeting in Winnipeg, Canada.

Hosted by National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD), Winnipeg, Canada and online by video conferencing on 10th - 12th October 2023.

[Meeting Minutes, Agenda and Network annual report](#)



Annual Meetings

**WOAH/FAO
Foot-and-Mouth Disease
Reference Laboratories
Network**



**The 17th Annual Meeting of the WOA/FAO FMD Reference
Laboratory Network**

29th November to the 1st December 2022

17th Meeting in Lelystad, the Netherlands.

Held at The Wageningen Bioveterinary Research Institute, Lelystad, the Netherlands and online by video conferencing on 29th November - 1st December 2022.

[Meeting Minutes, Agenda and Network annual report](#)



Annual Meetings

12th Meeting in Pretoria, South Africa

Held at ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, Pretoria, South Africa; 28th - 30th November 2017

[Meeting Minutes, Agenda and Network annual report](#)



**OIE/FAO Foot-and-Mouth
Disease Reference Laboratory
Network**

Annual Report 2017

FMD Tools



OIE/FAO Reference Laboratory
Network for Foot-and-Mouth Disease

HOME FMD LABORATORY NETWORK ▼ VACCINES ▼ FMDV NOMENCLATURE ▼

ABOUT US SCIENCE ▼ EXTERNAL LINKS CONTACT

Online Tools

Foot-and-Mouth Disease analysis tools



The **FMDV Toolbox** is collection of bioinformatics resources developed at Pirbright by the **Integrative Biology and Bioinformatics group** in collaboration with the OIE/FAO Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) Reference Laboratory Network.

FMDVToolbox

Other online Foot-and-Mouth Disease data resources



Disease BioPortal®

Disease BioPortal at the University of
California, Davis



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

OIE's, World Animal Health Information
System (WAHIS)



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

FAO's, EMPRES Global Animal Disease
Information System (EMPRES-i)

- <https://www.foot-and-mouth.org/about-us>
- <https://empres-i.apps.fao.org/laboratories>