



# Enhancing Research For Africa Network (ERFAN)

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

5-7 December 2023, Pretoria, South Africa



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

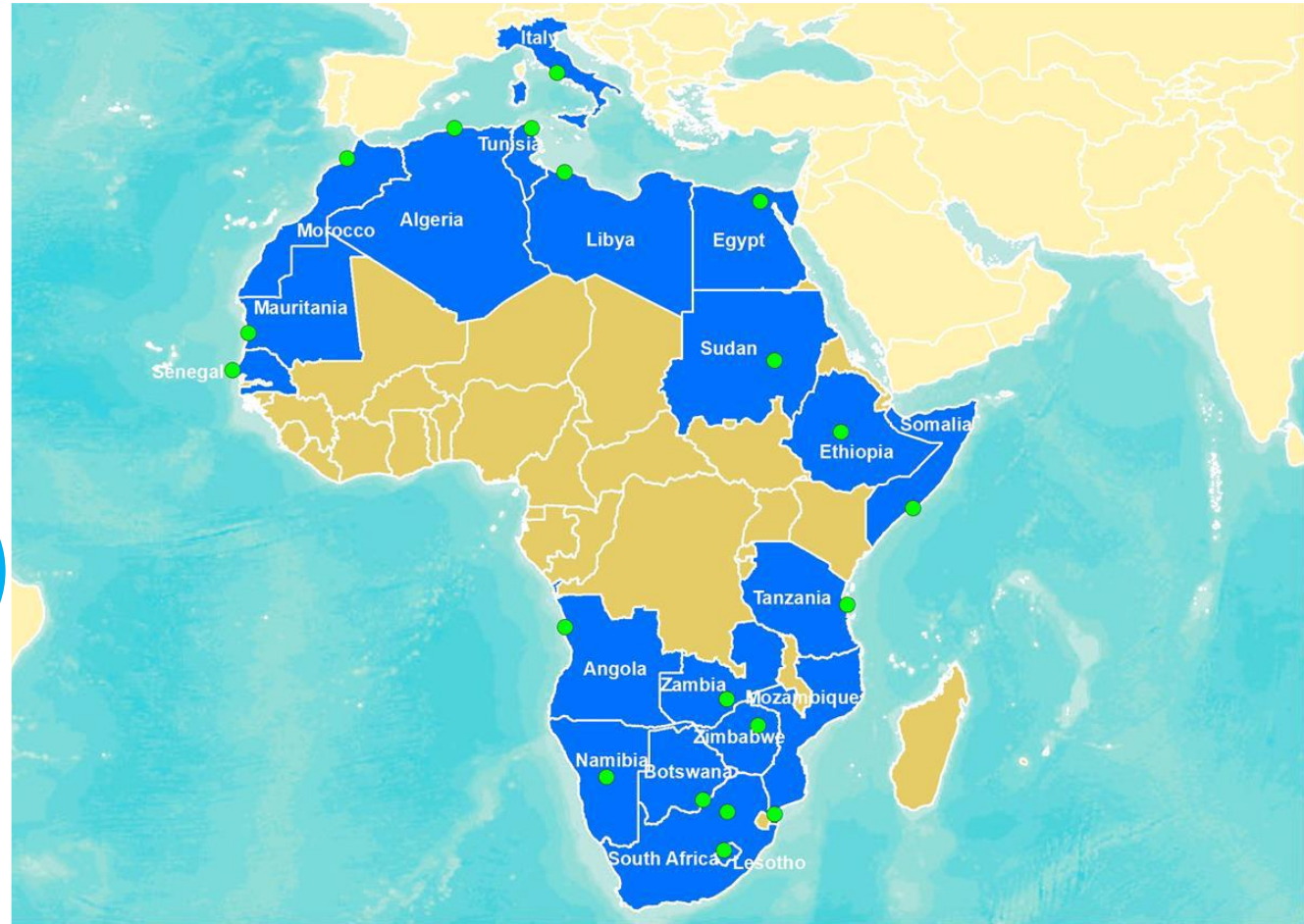
**OUR Network** funded  
by the Italian Republic  
and supported by  
**WOAH**

ERFAN Project  
“Phase 1”

Starting in 2019 and  
extended until  
April 2024

2017  
15 Partners  
13 Countries

37 Partners  
20 Countries



# PILLARS

- Improving **diagnostic capacities**
- Capacity building through **training** and sustainable technology transfer
- Capacity building through **research** programs

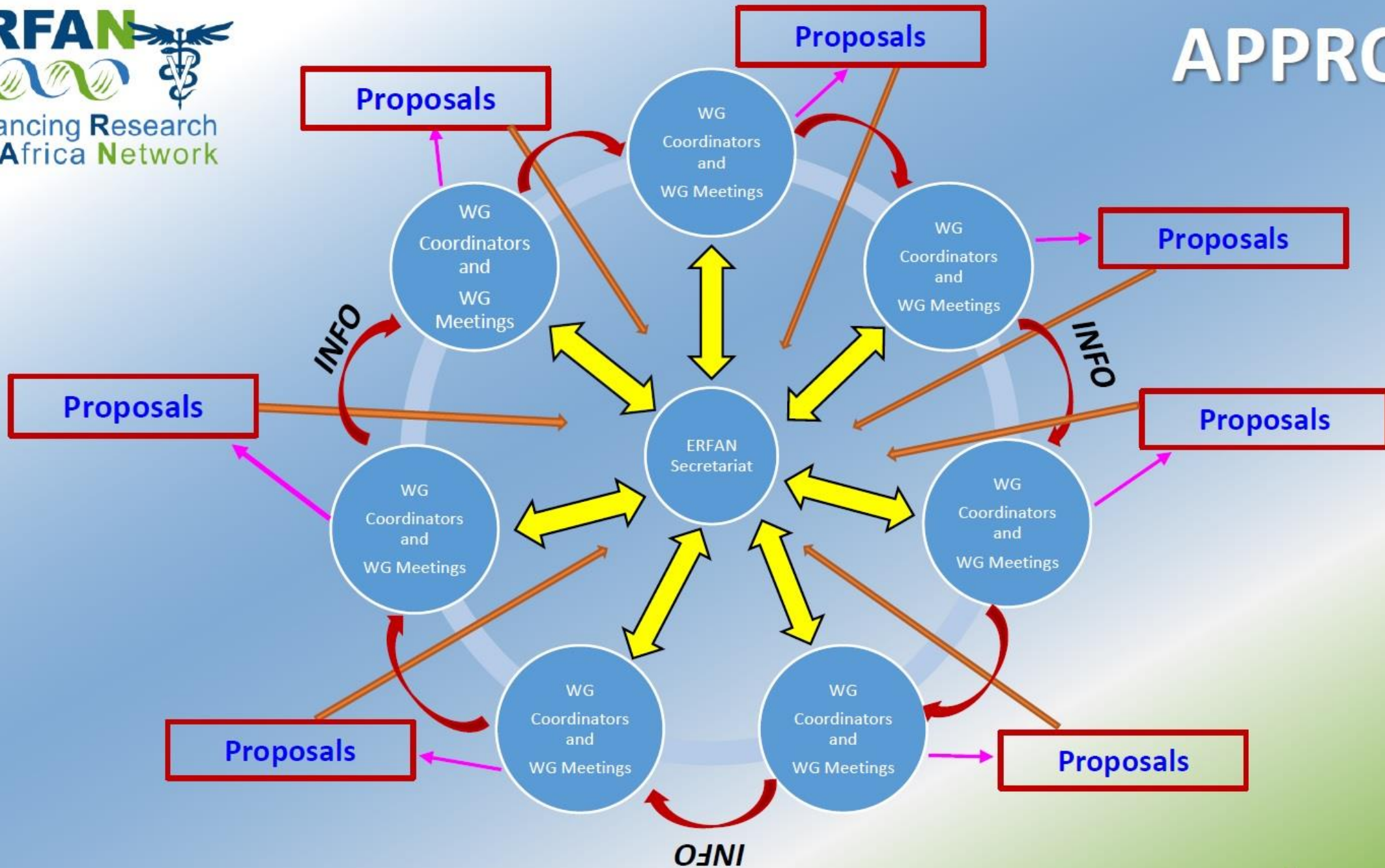
e- Health tools for veterinary remote assistance to be used by national veterinary services, veterinary labs, and field/abattoirs vets and technicians.

# WORKING GROUPS

## **Working Group (WG)** **fundamental structure of the** **ERFAN approach**

The coordinators and WG participants played an important role in creating a productive and active WG

- Animal welfare
- Food Hygiene
- Vector born diseases, in particular Mosquitos and Culicoides
- Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia and Contagious agalactiae
- Brucellosis
- Anthrax
- Bovine tuberculosis
- Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies
- Project Design for International Cooperation

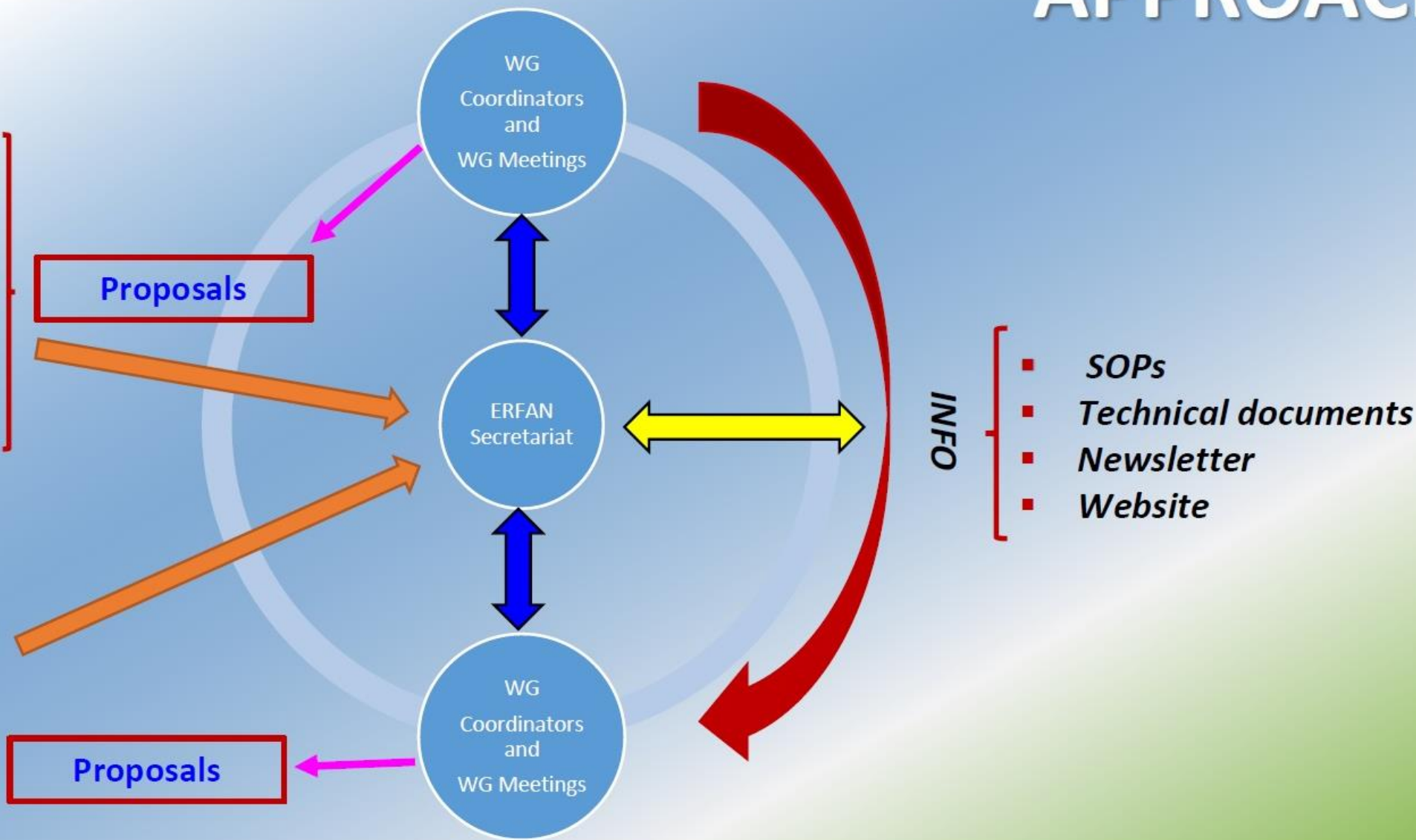




Enhancing Research  
For Africa Network

- Reference material production
- RT Organisation
- Onsite training
- Online training
- SSRP

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# APPROACH

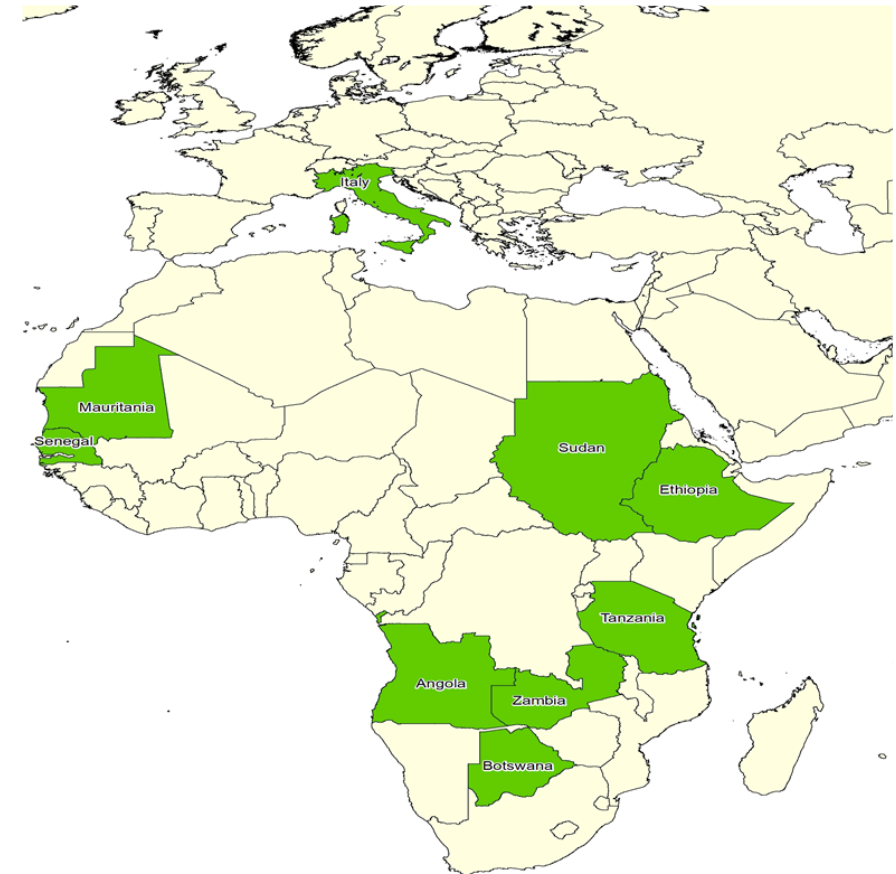
# PILLAR 1: Improving diagnostic capacities through networking activities



## OVERVIEW OF RESULTS ACHIEVED

- **50** Online WG meetings, **301** participants
- **20** On-site WG meetings, **250** participants
- **47** SOPs and Working Schemes shared between partners
- **Reference materials** produced by ERFAN partners for **CBPP** and **Brucellosis** diagnosis
- **3 Proficiency tests** organized: *Brucella* CVL Harare, **CBPP** BNVL Gaborone, **WND** IZS Teramo

# Training course on CBPP CFT Antigen production, BNVL, Gaborone-Botswana



13 participants, 9 **Veterinary Institutions**, 7 **African countries** and Italy, 2 **WOAH RL** for **CBPP**



# **PILLAR 2: Capacity building through training and sustainable technology transfer**

- **44** Online Training Courses organized
- **23** Scientific topics touched
- **144** Training days
- **483** Hours
- **109** Teachers
- **2869** Participants from **30** Countries
- **22** Online Dialogues delivered in asynchronous mode
- **8** On-the-job Training; **86** Participants, a total of **60** Institutions and **36** Countries

# Topics covered

- Animal welfare
- **Animal diseases** (Contagious agalactiae, Contagious bovine Pleuropneumonia, and other Mycoplasmosis)
- **Zoonosis** (Anthrax, Brucellosis, QFever, Rift Valley Fever, Sars-CoV-2, Bovine Tuberculosis)
- **Foodborne pathogen infections** (*Listeria monocytogenes*, *Salmonella* spp., *Klebsiella pneumoniae*)
- Antimicrobial resistance; Next-generation sequencing; Bioinformatics; Organization and management of Proficiency tests; Scientific article writing; Library research in veterinary and public health; Project design for international cooperation; Campylobacteriosis.

# **PILLAR 3: Capacity building through research programs**

- **43** funding opportunities submitted to the ERFAN partners by the Secretariat
- **32** research project proposals presented by the partners to the Secretariat
- **5 PhD and Master** funded; **14** Institutions involved, **4** WOAHC RC engaged, **12** participating Countries
- **4 SSRP funded**, **12** Institutions involved, **2** WOAHC RC engaged, **11** participating Countries

# Research programs: Small scale research projects

- **Baseline studies**, collecting scientific data and information among partners (including sample collection and slaughterhouse survey);
- Focused on **Regional priorities**;
- Using a **networking approach**;
- **Maximum dedicated budget: 35,000 Euro**;
- Designing and implementation of SSRP will enable the partners **to gain practical experience in project writing** following international rules.

# P.3 SSRP founded on Food Hygiene

## **LISAK**

***May 2022- March 2024***

*Baseline regional study on:*

*“Listeria monocytogenes, Salmonella spp. and Klebsiella pneumoniae prevalence and AMR in meat products and environmental samples in Botswana, Namibia and Zambia”*. Botswana, Namibia and Zambia National Vet Labs supported by WOAHA CC for FH at IZSTE

# P.3 SSRP founded on Brucellosis

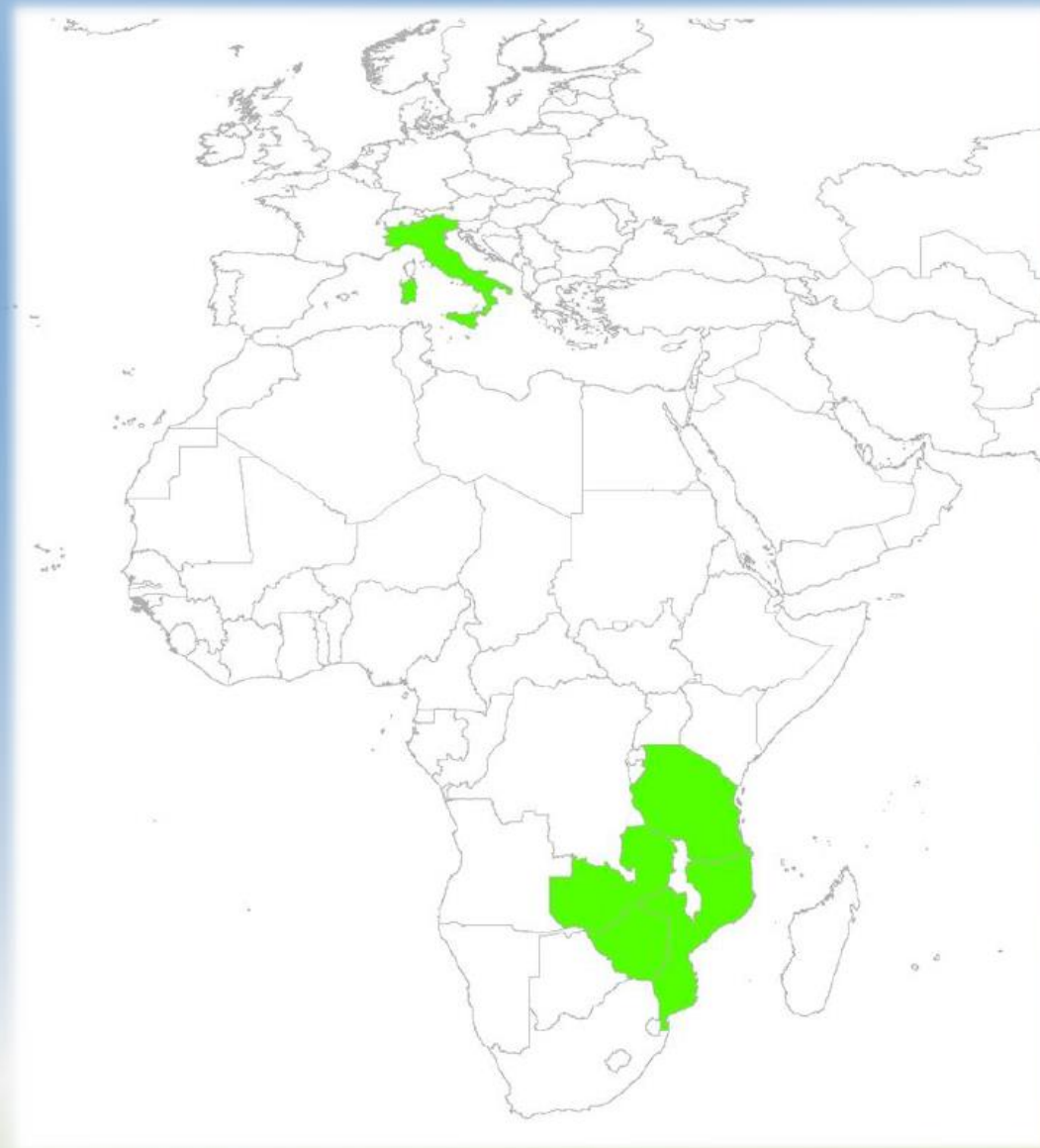
## **BSA**

**August 2023- March 2024**

*Baseline regional study on:*

*“Regional Brucellosis  
Surveillance”*. Mozambique,

Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe  
National Vet Labs supported by the  
WOAH RL at IZSTE





THANK YOU!