



# Management of the response to the highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak in wildlife in 2023, Saint-Louis, Senegal

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## Context

An outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) occurred in wildlife in Saint-Louis in 2023 in the Langue de Barbarie National (PNLB) Park. The collaboration between various sectors and the coordination of the response to this epidemic was a major challenge. Strategies implemented by the Saint-Louis One Health Regional Committee under the leadership of the Senegal High Council for Global Health Security (HCNSSM-OH) put partners together. The aim of this study was to (i) describe actions taken in order to reduce the risks of the virus spreading to humans and animals, and (ii) suggest ways of improvement.

## Methods / Descriptions of activities

After a meeting organized by the HCNSSM-OH in 2021 in Saint-Louis, the governor of the region implemented a Regional One Health Committee. This committee proposed the creation of an Incident Management System (IMS) and an incident plan has been drawn up during the HPAI outbreak. Field teams supported by the Senegalese government and technical and financial partners (TFPs) collaborated and worked together using a One Health approach.

## Results / Monitoring and evaluation of results

The strategy improve biosafety measures with 30 decontamination sessions, the burial and management of 1,745 wild dead birds, community involvement with 40 home visits, raising awareness among schoolchildren, radio program sessions, 22 focus groups and acquisition of 1,300 PPEs. These measures have reduced the incidence of the disease and preserved economic activities of households and poultry farms. The pooling of human, material and financial resources remains a key success factor.



Fig 1: Access to the breeding island by little boat in PNLB

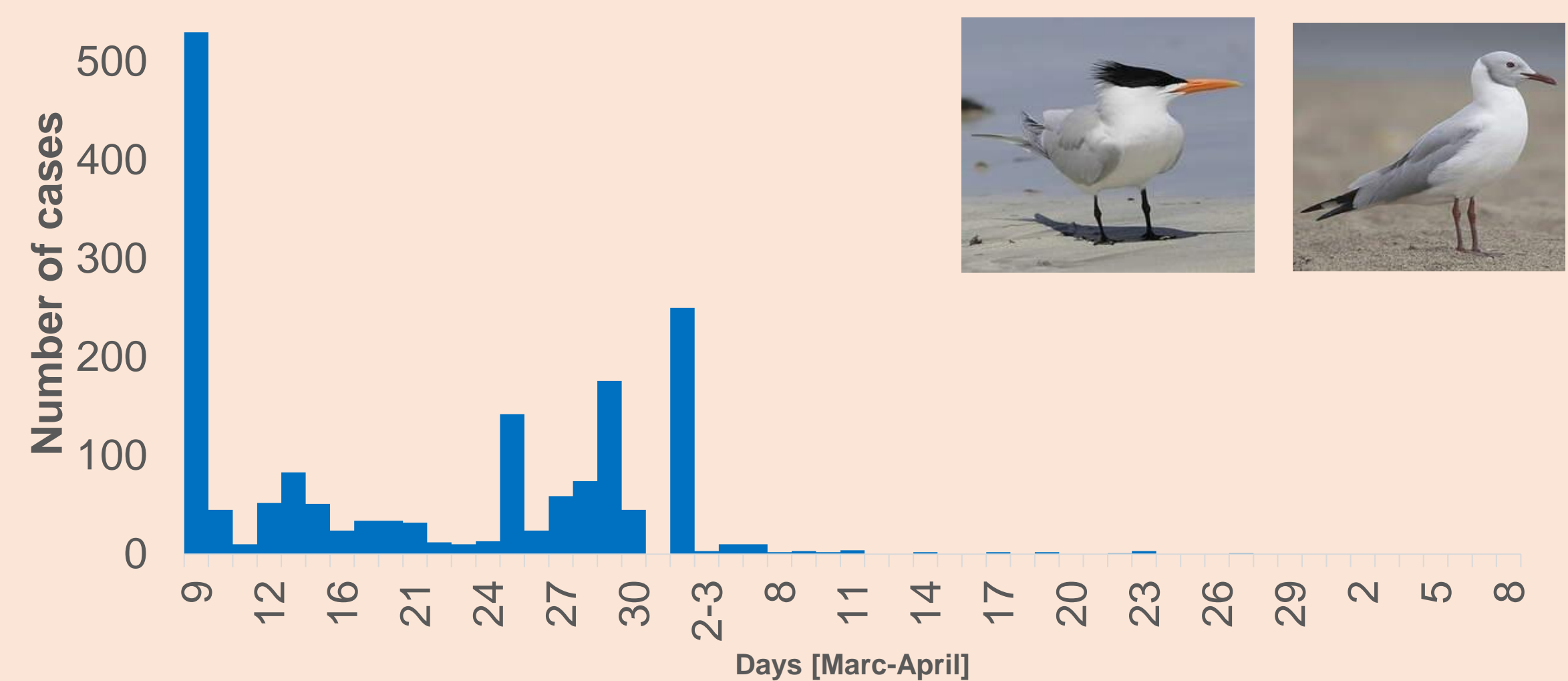


Fig 2 : HPAI epidemic curve at PNLB park in 2023



Fig 3: Focus group during community awareness

## Conclusions and recommendations

The success of HPAI outbreak management was due to the multi-sectoral collaboration and the expertise of the field teams.