

# GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF  
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

*Africa*



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

African Union 

# RSC

# 12

## The FAO-WOAH Joint Advisory Committee for Rinderpest

### Workplan: updates

12th Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC12) of the GF-TADs for Africa,  
11 – 13 March 2025, Mbabane, Eswatini

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Member Joint Advisory Committee

## Outline of the Presentation

- ▶ **FAO and WOAHA mandates in the Rinderpest post-eradication era**
- ▶ **Progress in Sequestration and destruction of RVCM 2013-2023**
- ▶ **Achievements 2012-2024**
- ▶ **“Second phase” of the post-eradication era**
- ▶ **Recommendations from GF-TADs MC and RHF Network**
- ▶ **Objectives for the 3 years of the JAC’s mandate**

## FAO and WOAHA mandate in the RP post-eradication era

In 2011 FAO and WOAHA were asked by their Members to:

- ▶ Convene a Joint Advisory Committee
- ▶ Develop a preparedness plan
- ▶ Ensure the existence of reserves of RP vaccine
- ▶ Destroy or sequester the remaining stocks of rinderpest virus containing material (RVCM)
- ▶ Inspect, evaluate and designate *a number* of secure facilities to hold the remaining virus and vaccine reserves (Rinderpest Holding Facilities)
- ▶ Maintain awareness on rinderpest in new generations of veterinarians and policy makers

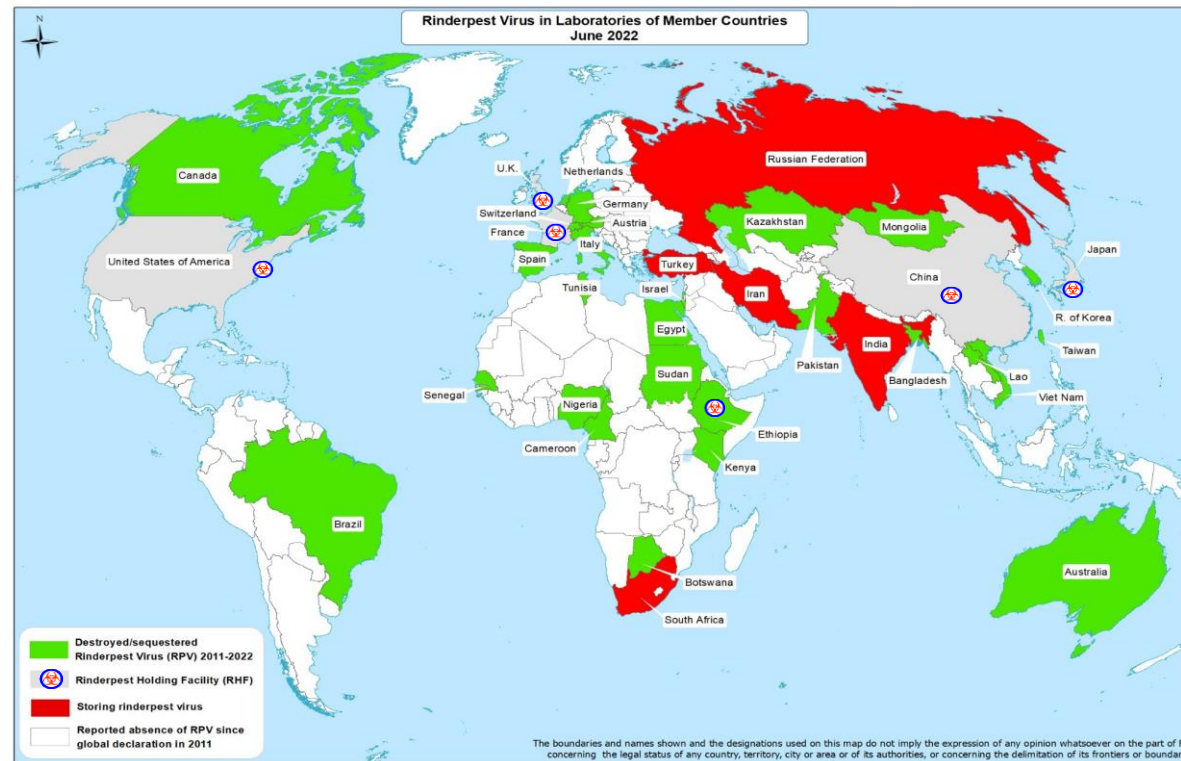
## Progress in sequestration and destruction of RVCM 2012-2024

Status in 2012: 44 laboratories in 35 countries were storing RVCM

Status in 2023: 5 labs in 5 countries storing RVCM

**7 Rinderpest Holding Facilities (RHF)** in 6 countries including:

- 2 vaccine reserves (AU-PANVAC, Ethiopia & NIAH, Japan)
- 1 vaccine seed bank (CIRAD, France)



# RSC Rinderpest Holding Facilities

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A. Rinderpest Holding Facility for Storing RVCM Excluding Vaccine Stocks	B. Rinderpest Holding Facility for Storing only Manufactured Vaccines, Vaccine Stocks and Materials Solely for their Production
AU-PANVAC, Debre-Zeit, Ethiopia	AU-PANVAC
(CIRAD), Montpellier, France	CIRAD
China Institute of Veterinary Drug Control/China Veterinary Culture Collection Center (IVCD), Beijing, China	IVCD
High Containment Facilities of Exotic Diseases Research Station, National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH), Kodaira, Tokyo, Japan	NIAH, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan
USDA-APHIS Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Plum Island, New York, USA	
The Pirbright Institute, United Kingdom	

## Additional achievements 2012-2024

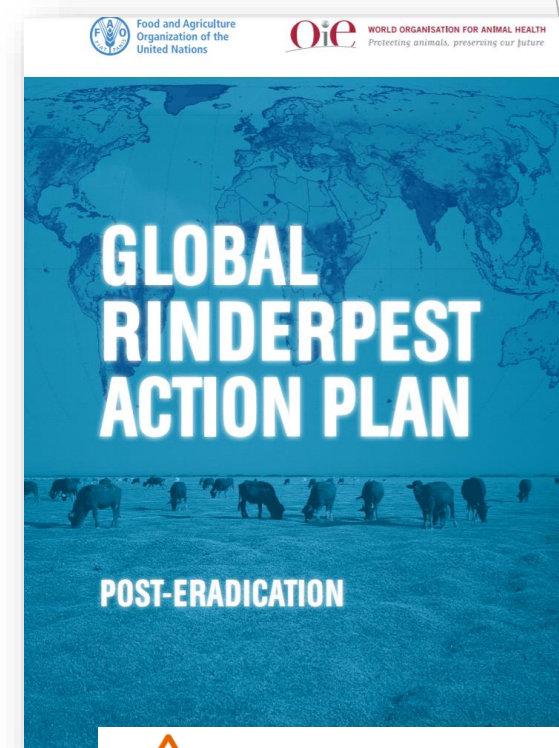
- Process for inspection and designation of RHF's
- Research application form and review process:
  - Cross-protection RP x PPR vaccine (Pirbright)
  - Cross neutralization between LA AKO and RBOK vaccines (NIAH)
  - Sequence and destroy (CIRAD, Pirbright, FADDL, IVDC)
  - Vaccine production (NIAH)
  - Development/deployment of non-infectious control for molecular test (FADDL)
  - Development of new cELISA (Pirbright)
- Global vaccine reserve and vaccine seed bank (AU-PANVAC, NIAH and CIRAD)
- Development of SOPs for handling, destroying, shipping, receiving RVCMI




# RSC Additional achievements 2012-2024

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- RVCN online database and reporting mechanism (2017)
- Creation of the RHF Network (2018) and organisation of biennial meetings
- 2 international simulation exercises (2017 and 2018)
- Publication of the GRAP (2018)
- 6 international advocacy meetings (2015-22)
- Publication of the Rinderpest History Book (2022)
- Risk assessment of re-emergence (2023)
- Numerous communication tools and e-learning
- Regional community outreach activities
- Update of the WOAAH Code and Manual chapters



 Rinderpest VIGILANCE  
Let's make sure rinderpest stays history

Let's make sure rinderpest stays history


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### Inventory

#### RHF List

Name	Category	Country	Biosafety Level
AU-PANVAC	(A) (B)	ETHIOPIA	3
NIAH National Reference Laboratory	(A)	JAPAN	3
USDA-APHIS (FADDL)	(A)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	3
The Pirbright Institute	(A)	UNITED KINGDOM	4
NIAH: Biological Research	(B)	JAPAN	2
CIRAD: Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement	(A) (B)	FRANCE	3
China Institute of Veterinary Drug Control	(A) (B)	CHINA (PEOPLE'S REP. OF)	3

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Ask for Help



## Second phase” of the post-eradication era

- ▶ Strategy to reduce the number of RHFAs to a minimum - Category A could be progressively extinct
- ▶ Explore options for additional Rinderpest Vaccine Reserves (RVR), increase the number of vaccine doses and development of arrangements between FAO and RVR for vaccine deployment
- ▶ Development of a non-infectious c-ELISA (surveillance for proof of freedom)
- ▶ Destruction of RVCM while keeping the genetic information
- ▶ Support to maintain awareness of rinderpest among veterinarians, livestock keepers, and academia
- ▶ Resource mobilization to continue biothreat reduction

# Recommendations : GF-TADs MC 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Meetings

## MC 47

RP JAC to consider developing an opinion on the capacity to produce vaccine in the absence of infectious virus -*discussion already initiated at RHF meeting - “No need to prioritize new RP vaccines as the risk of the live attenuated vaccine does not justify the investment or the workload”*

## MC 48

To the RP JAC to assess the risk materials held by Iran, India, Russia, South Africa and Türkiye, and provide a science-based reply

# Recommendations : RHF Network Meeting

- Create SharePoint
- Launch call/funding for sequence and destroy proposals to encourage countries holding RVCM to apply
- Calculate cost of being a Rinderpest Holding Facility
- Simulation exercise for vaccine request and deployment
- Create SOP for vaccine request and deployment for each RVR
- Communicate to national vet labs that they can have access to the non-infectious diagnostic tools and use them as leverage in advocacy
  
- Essential RVCM = vaccine, vaccine seed, serum samples
- Liaise with PPR Secretariat to share SOP on testing historical PPRV samples for RPV contamination + develop a recommendation regarding the systematic testing of such samples.
- Increase the exchanges with the PPR community and encourage them to start a global inventory as soon as possible

# Objectives for the 3 years of the JAC's mandate

- 1. Issue science-based advisory statement to each of the 5 countries still holding RVCM**
- 2. Issue opinion on the definition of “essential RVCM”**
- 3. Issue opinion regarding the capacity to produce vaccine in the absence of infectious virus**
- 4. Devise strategy to reduce the number of RHF to a minimum - Category A could be progressively extinct**

# 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of JAC - 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024



## Acknowledgements

**FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Secretariat**  
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**GF-TADs Global Secretariat and Management Committee**  
**Partner organizations**  
**Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini**