



World Organisation
for Animal Health



Substandard and Falsified Veterinary Products Workshop

4 - 6 March 2025. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.



The
Fleming
Fund



Perspectives from farmers Organization

1st Workshop on Vaccines and Substandard and Falsified Veterinary products for WOAHO Focal Points for Veterinary Products and Regulators of Veterinary Medicinal Products in English-speaking Africa

Dar Es salaam, Tanzania 06 March 2025

**Presented by
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Programs Officer-PAFO**





How many reported cases in your country where farmers have used SFVP at least once?



PRESENTATION
OUTLINE

1. PAFO Background
2. Perception of farmers on Substandard and falsified veterinary products
3. Farmers encounter some/many parallel/unregulated markets and reasons
4. Challenges of access of good quality of veterinary products (presence of parallel/unregulated markets for accessing veterinary products)
5. Example of farmers accessing Substandard and falsified veterinary products (if any) and action for mitigation
6. Recommendations and conclusion

1. PAFO Background

❖ The Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) is a continental organization with a membership base composed of Regional Farmer's Networks.

Eastern African Farmers Federation (EAFF)

Regional Platform of Farmers' Organizations of Central Africa (PROPAC)

Network of farmers 'and producers' organizations in West Africa (ROPPA)

Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)

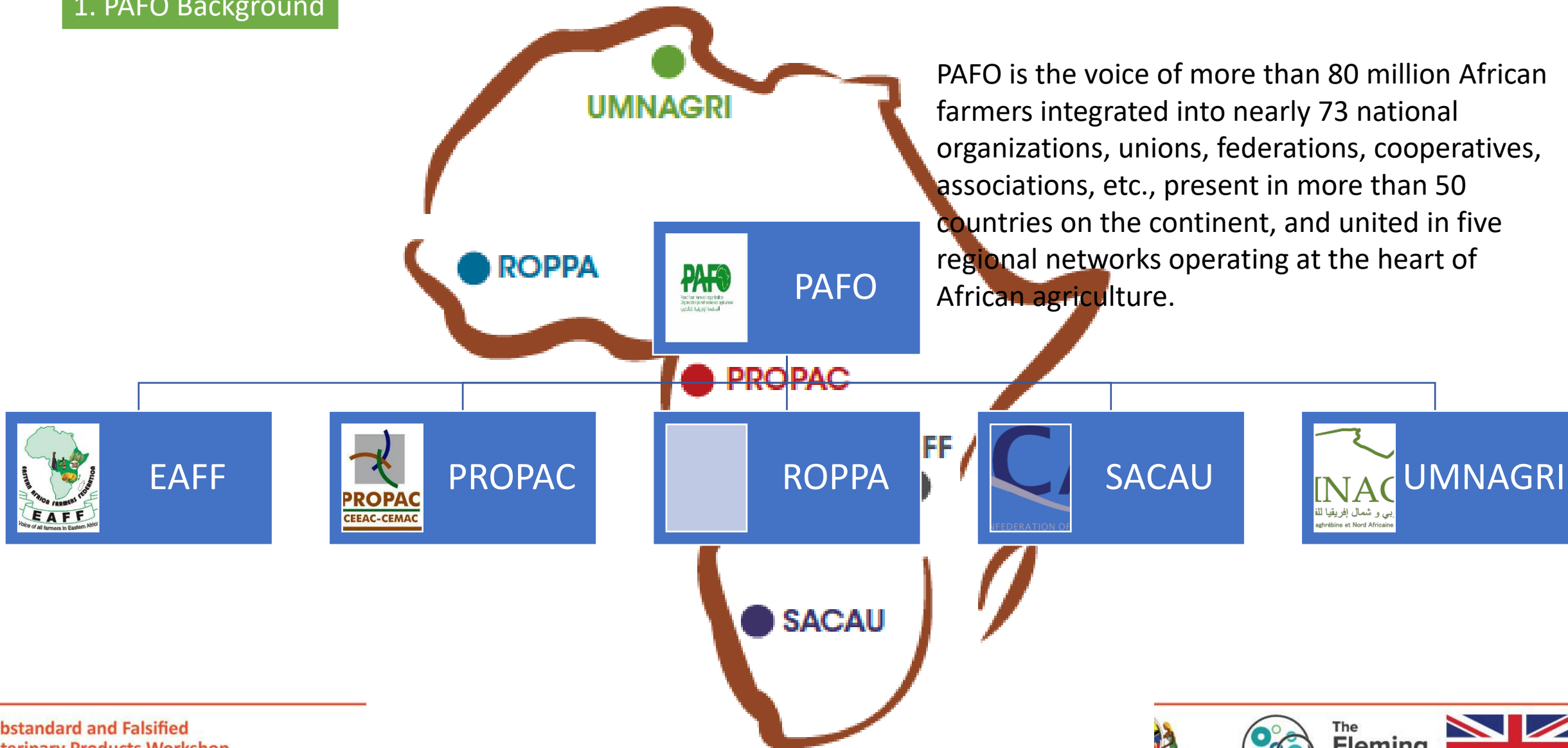
Maghrebian and North African Union of Farmers (UMNAGRI)

❖ Its Constitutive Assembly was held under the sponsorship of the African Union in Lilongwe, Malawi, from October 27 to 29, 2010. PAFO is recognized as the representative body of African farmers' organizations at the highest continental level



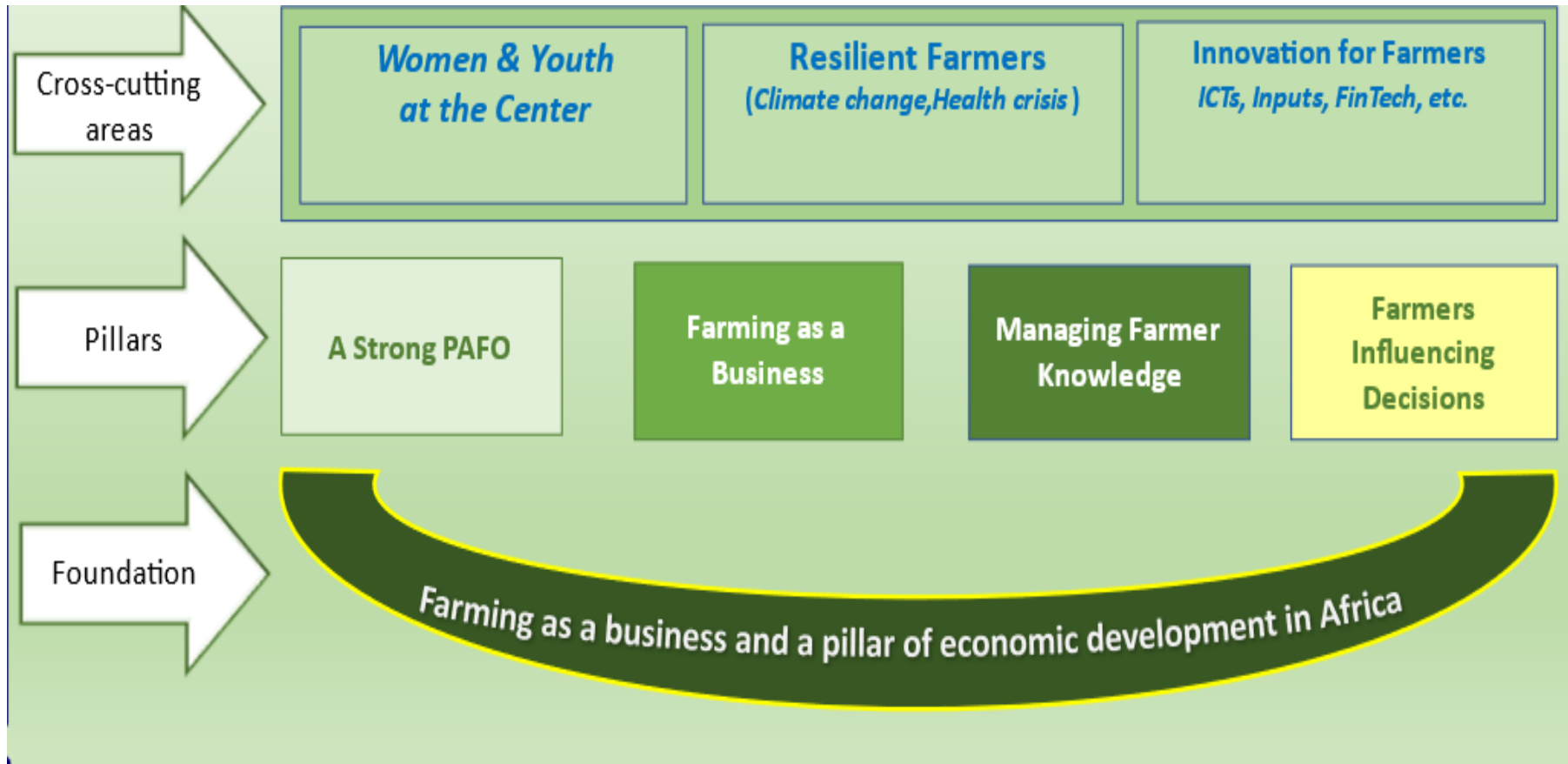


1. PAFO Background



1. PAFO Background (Con't)

PAFO Strategy (2021-2025)



Please visit www.pafo-africa.org for more details



2. WHY IMPORTANT: Perception of farmers on Substandard and falsified veterinary products

Human Health Relies on Healthy Animals



Milk, Meat and Eggs Boost Childhood Development

Healthy animals allow farmers to deliver a safe supply of milk, meat and eggs to their families and communities. A recent study found children in east Africa who regularly ate livestock-sourced foods, like milk and meat, show stronger cognitive, physical and social development.

Healthy Pets Mean Healthy Pet Owners

The joy and companionship pets add to our homes is only possible when pets are healthy and thriving. Studies show that pet owners have lower blood pressure, cholesterol and allergy levels, and report fewer visits to the doctor each year.

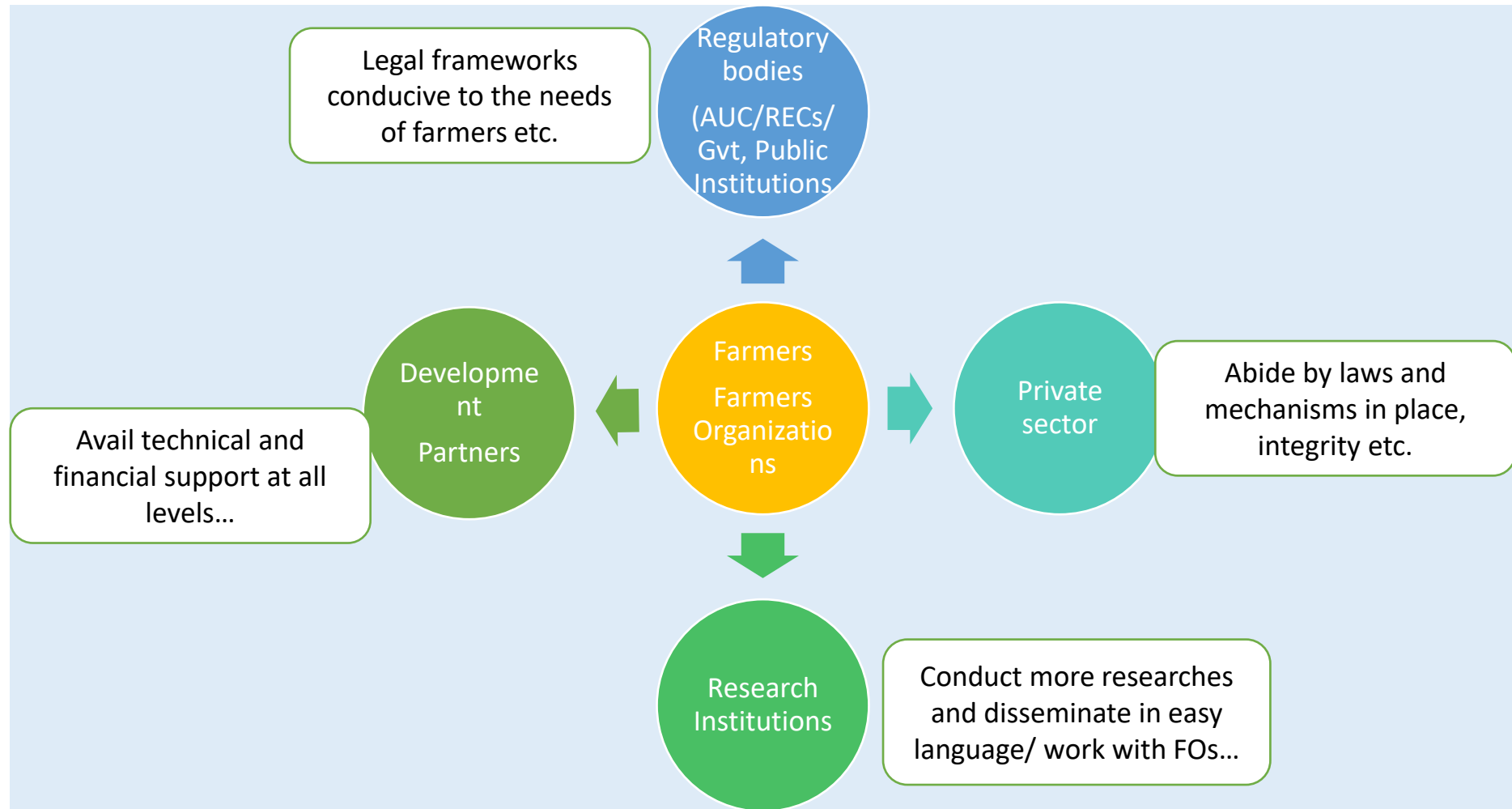
Animal Vaccinations Save Lives

Nearly all human cases of rabies are due to dog bites and this preventable disease kills one person every ten minutes. Vaccinating animals against rabies could save 60,000 people per year.

Controlling Animal Disease Protects Our Health

Each year, zoonosis – diseases transmitted from animals to humans – sickens 1 in 3 people around the world. Keeping animals healthy controls zoonosis and safeguards our wellbeing.

2. SUMMARY: Perception of farmers on Substandard and falsified veterinary products



2. Perception of farmers on Substandard and falsified veterinary products

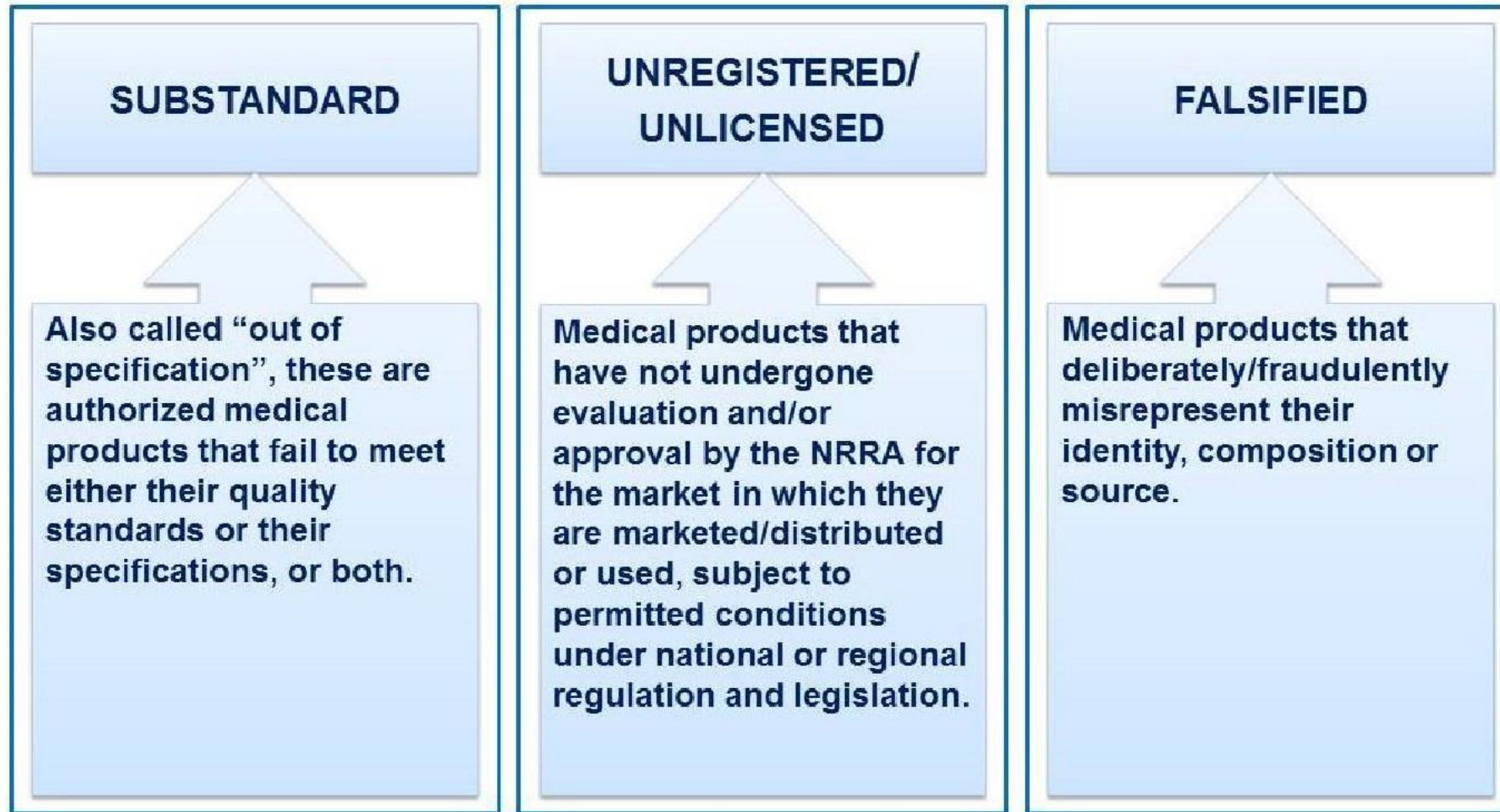
NOTING: Substandard, falsified, or unregistered/unlicensed veterinary products are a threat to the health and wellbeing of animals and humans. These products may contain unknown concentrations of the labeled drugs (possibly containing no active or too much active) and potential contaminants that may be unsafe (for example heavy metals and unlabeled drug substances). Serious adverse effects may be observed when these products are administered including the absence of disease control, worsening of disease, adverse reactions, or even death. (World Small Veterinary Association, 2020).

RECALLING: Substandard and falsified medical products pose significant threats to public health globally. They can be ineffective at treating the illness, as they may contain incorrect ingredients or incorrect dosages. They can even be directly harmful to patients if they contain contaminants or toxic substances. They may be indirectly harmful through increased risk of antimicrobial resistance. (WHO, 2024)

- Substandard and falsified medical products affect people all around the world.
- At least 1 in 10 medicines in low- and middle-income countries are substandard or falsified.
- Countries spend an estimated US\$ 30.5 billion per year on substandard and falsified medical products.
- Substandard and falsified medical products are often sold online or in informal markets (WHO, December 2024)

Classification of substandard, unregistered/unlicensed and falsified medical products

Source: WHO, 2017.



APPRECIATING: the Treaty of the African medicines Agency (AMA) as a specialized agency of AU Adopted by thirty-second ordinary session of the assembly, held in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia 11 Feb 2019 focuses on: **enhance capacity of states parties and RECs to regulate medical products in order to improve access to quality, safe and efficacious medical products on the continents**

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT: All other continental and regional policy frameworks and initiatives such as The African Union Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre (AU-PANVAC) among others,

Farmers through regional FOs and PAFO **Substandard and Falsified Veterinary Products as:**

- ✓ Substandard and falsified medical products are by their **very nature difficult to detect**. They are **often designed to appear identical to the genuine product and may not cause a visible adverse reaction**. They, however, **often fail to properly treat the disease or condition for which they were intended and can lead to serious health consequences, including death**.
- ✓ Different countries **have put in place adequate regulatory bodies. Some work well with possible equipments to detect while others they don't have such regulations**.
- ✓ Thus, we acknowledge the **political will at global, continental, regional and national levels**
- ✓ However, the implementation of the policies have not been effectively resolved the **issues on the ground. We can still witness the products being outdated, rejected in some countries while farmers somewhere don't get those products because of habitation and geopolitical situations**.







3. Do farmers encounter some/many parallel/unregulated markets and why they believe that is the case?

- Generally, African farmers use available veterinary services and products available in their areas
- Small holder farmers use modern products as per government instructions depending on financial means and accessibility of such products
- In most of rural areas, farmers use traditional products made from herbs to cure diseases. This has been traditions from elders in many countries
- In town or urban areas, the products are available and big farmers as they are educated can check the contents and ask for clarifications
- Some products seem expensive to farmers or veterinarians can charge a lot because of long distances in rural areas
- The preponderance of informal sector where farmers often drugs, and which sometimes offer substandard and adulterated materials
- As a result, there are some cases where farmers encounter some or many parallel/unregulated markets because it's their cultures, political situation of their countries, financial means or fear of modernization



4. Challenges of access of good quality of veterinary products

1) POLITICAL/REGULATORY

- ✓ Outdated laws which don't address the current problems
- ✓ No laboratories or regulatory frameworks in some countries
- ✓ Presence of parallel/unregulated markets for accessing veterinary products)
- ✓ Geopolitics: relief/mountainous and long distances...
- ✓ Infrastructures

2) ECONOMIC

- ✓ Small holder farmers choose what is cheap

3) CULTURAL/EDUCATIONAL

- ✓ In rural areas, the traditional products are believed to be strong because of traditions
- ✓ It goes with literacy rate which is low in most of rural areas

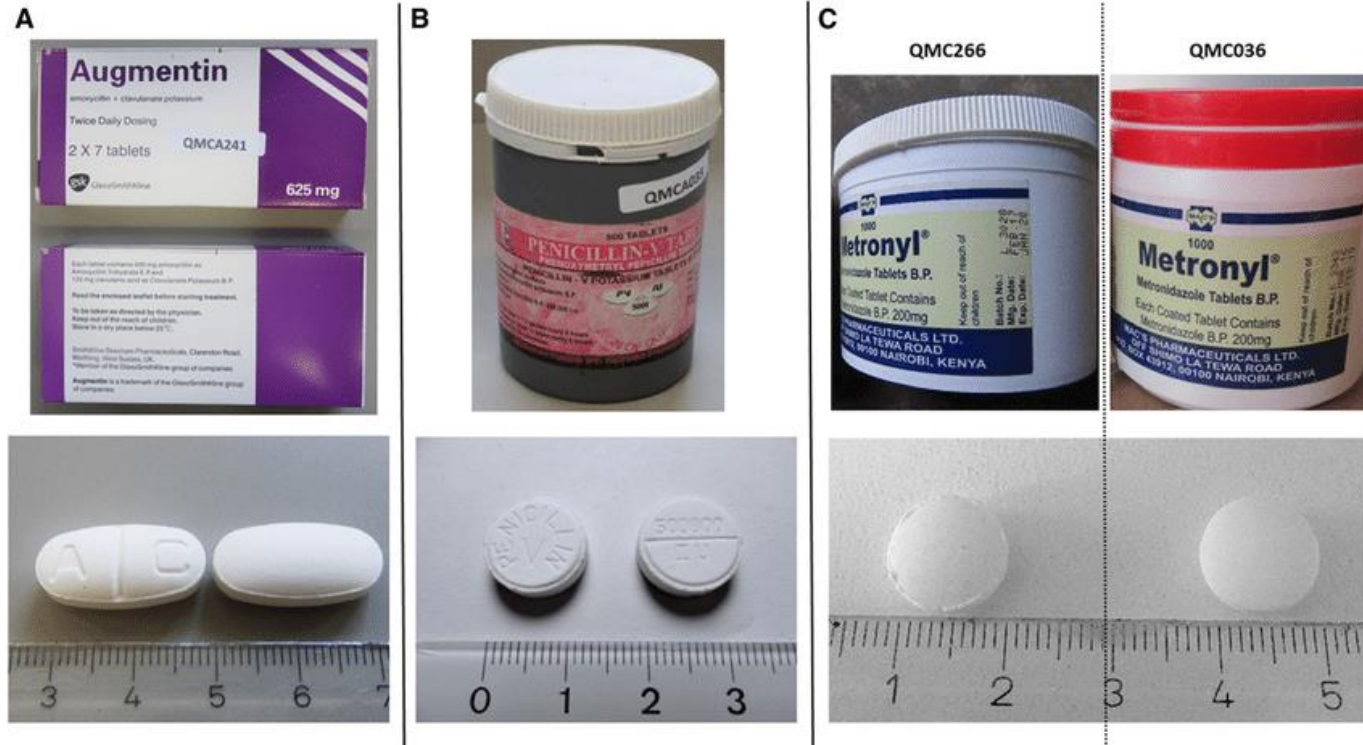
5. Example of farmers accessing Substandard and falsified veterinary products (if any) and action for mitigation

Kingsley, P 2015, 'Inscrutable medicines and marginal markets: tackling substandard veterinary drugs in Nigeria', Pastoralism: Research, Policy and Practice, vol. 5, no. 2, 2.<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13570-0140021-6>

In a focus group held in a village in Plateau State in Nigeria's middle belt, livestock owners reflected on the quality of veterinary drugs available to them. In particular, they were concerned about drugs to treat the cattle disease trypanosomiasis: **'Before the drugs used to be strong, now you can't predict which ones will work' (interview with a Fulani cattle owner in his 40s, in Maiyanga, Plateau State, 29 April 2014)**

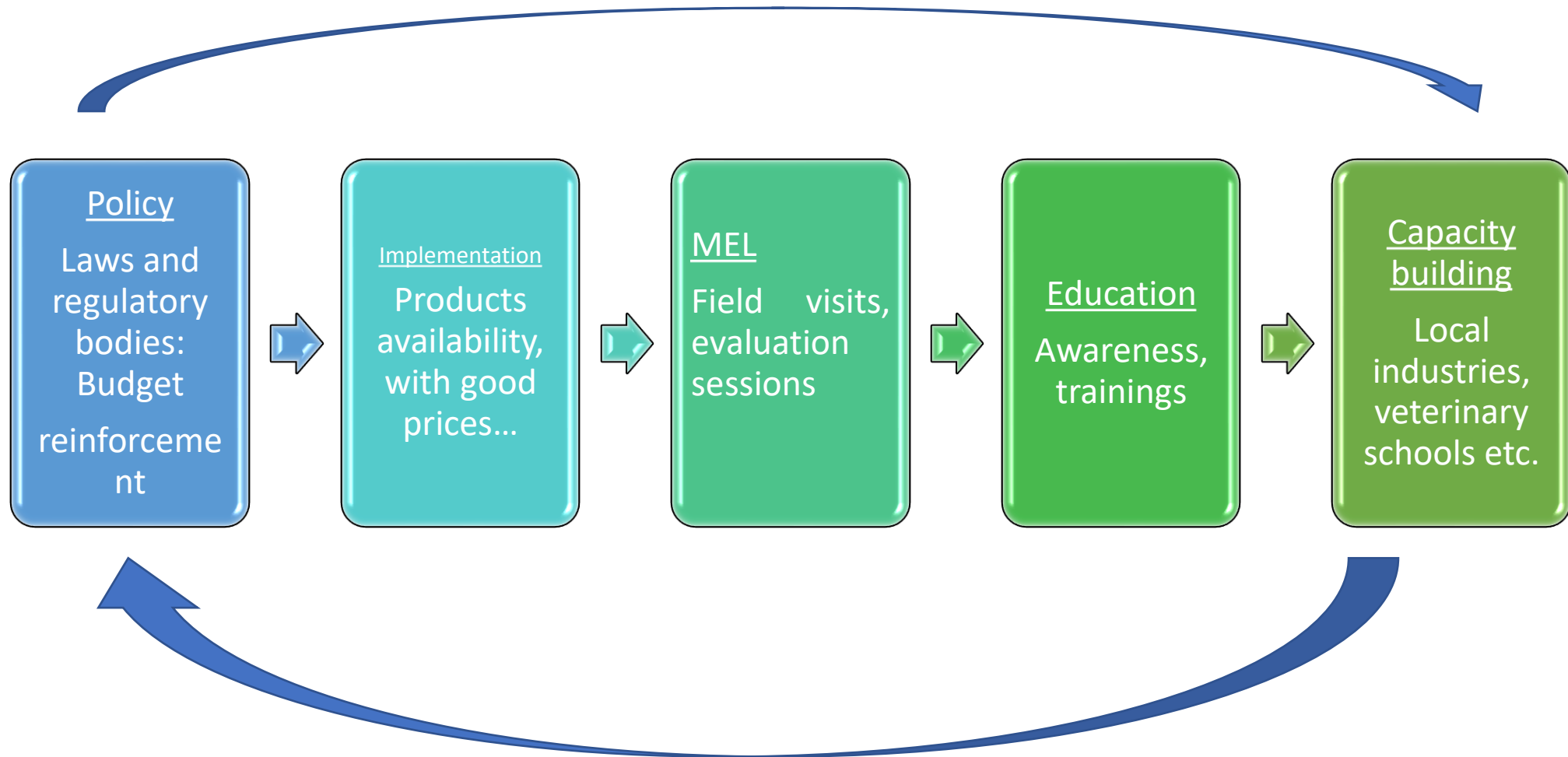
'They are the largest selling class of cattle drugs in Nigeria. Trypanocides used to form a large part of our turnover, but in the last three or four years, it has plunged. And in the last five years, all sorts of trypanocides have come into the country, from Asian countries, China, India, Egypt, The Middle East, all sorts of trypanocides, very cheap, we don't know whether they are effective or not.' (interview in Lagos, 15 April 2014)

Substandard and Falsified Antibiotics and Medicines against Non communicable Diseases in Western Cameroon and Northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo



Pictures of the three samples identified as falsified medicines. (A) Falsified Augmentin (sample no. QMCA241), containing no detectable active pharmaceutical ingredient (API). (B) Falsified penicillin V tablets (sample no. QMCA035), containing 50 mg paracetamol. Note that the API is misspelled on the label. (C) Left: falsified Metronyl (sample no. QMC266); manufactured date: February 2017, batch no: L3028, containing 93 mg metronidazole benzoate. Right: Metronyl (sample no. QMC036); manufactured date: March 2016, batch no: K2343, complying with U.S. Pharmacopeia 41 specifications for metronidazole tablets (Article 2020, [Simon Schäfermann](#), [Cathrin Hauk](#), [Emmanuel Wemako](#), [Lutz Heide](#))

6. Recommendations and conclusion



Acknowledgment

1. We thank WOAHA for the invitation
2. We appreciate the work and initiatives of WOAHA and other partners

SFVP

1. PAHO stands with governments and development partners to minimize the risks of the SFVPs and promote reliable products
2. We encourage Governments, private sector, research Institutions etc. to make sure we have safe and scientific products

Way forward

1. We should look at sustainability of veterinary products in terms of availability, use and human health as well as humans consume the animal products
2. PAHO assures its commitment and facilitation where possible.

Was my presentation helpful, if yes score it. Thank you



Enkosi
Ngiyabonga
Amesege'nallo'
Zikomo Kwambiri
Siyabonga kakulu
Thank You
Asante sana
Ndatenda
Murakoze
N'itumezi
Masvita
Kea leboha
Zikomo

