

World Organisation for Animal Health

Regional Training Seminar for WOAH National Focal Points for Veterinary Laboratories (cycle III)

8 - 10 July 2025, Gaborone, Botswana



Co-funded by the European Union

Counter Proliferation & Arms Control Centre

From Laboratory Twinning Candidate to WOAH Reference Laboratory for CBPP: setting and achieving goals

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Introduction

- Botswana had a CBPP outbreak in 1995
- The 'Stamping Out' Policy was adopted in 1996 and 320 000 cattle were slaughtered
- Farmers were compensated with cash or cash+cattle
- It is estimated that the eradication exercise cost US\$97.5 million
- At the time the Botswana National Veterinary Laboratory (BNVL) did not have the capacity to test for CBPP
- The outbreak was confirmed by regional laboratories (Namibia, South Africa) and a local laboratory, Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI)
- IZS Teramo assisted with serology testing for surveillance activities
- Botswana declared free of CBPP by WOAH in 1997





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- WOAH Laboratory Twinning Programme was created in 2006 to promote an even global distribution of laboratory expertise in the domaine of animal health
- Strategy to improve global capacity for disease prevention, detection and control, through capacity building and networking

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Pre-Twinning 2008

- CBPP tests available at BNVL:
 - Histopathology
 - Serology (CFT, cELISA)
- Serology CFT accredited
- The Twinning Project for CBPP between BNVL and IZS A&M started in 2008 and ended in 2010; the objectives were:
 - Production of reagents for the serological testing
 - Isolation and identification procedures of the aetiological agent
 - Disease pathology and differential diagnoses
 - Conducting epidemiological surveillance





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During-Twinning



Start up meeting – June 2008 in Teramo

) May 2010

Back-stopping mission – May 2010 in Gaborone, Botswana (3 experts from IZS Teramo: reagents production, bacteriology, serology)

Laboratory Bench Training – September to November 2008 in Teramo (bacteriologist, serologist, epidemiologist)



Closing meeting – September 2010 in Gaborone, Botswana

Sep. 2010



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Post-Twinning Achievements

- New CBPP diagnostic tests introduced
 - Culture and isolation (media production)
 - PCR
- Developed capacity to produce CBPP antigen for CFT
- Ability to organise ring-trials (Proficiency Testing) for CFT and PCR
- Improved implementation of serological surveillance
- Status of WOAH Reference Laboratory for CBPP in 2012
- Coordinator of SADC CBPP Scientific Network (Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia) – AU-IBAR sponsorship in 2015
- Coordinator of ERFAN CBPP Working Group WOAH sponsorship in 2019 (4years)









Post-Twinning Challenges

- Some intended capacities of the CBPP Twinning Project not achieved
 - Haemolysin and complement production for CFT
 - Immunoblotting test
- Sustainability of antigen production
- Sustainability of ring-trial activities (CFT and PCR)
- Local recognition and appreciation of the demands of a WOAH Reference Laboratory
- Lack of or very low research output for CBPP
- Retention of critical personnel

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	Performanc	Performance of SADC Labs – CBPP Ring Trial (CFT)		
	Year	No. Participants	% Satisfactory Performance	
	2010	4	50%	
	2011*	4	50%	
	2012	4	50%	
	2013*	4	100%	
	2014*	3	100%	
)	2015*	5	100%	
	2022	4	100%	



Thank you