

National Rift Valley Fever Contingency Plan

Dr Austine Bitek
Zoonotic Disease Unit
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

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Contingency Planning

It is an emergency **preparedness** tool

- Looks at potential future event or situation to increase readiness to deal with potential crisis
- identifies **possible scenarios** of humanitarian crisis
- outlines **coordination and managerial** mode of operation
- establishes **priorities for action**
- identifies **resources** and **capacities** of actors
- Describe **how, who, when & where** actions will be performed

Contingency Planning...

A good contingency plan should

- Be comprehensive but not too detailed
- Strike a balance between being concrete and flexibility
- Provide guidance and direction on the intention and how to proceed
- Be well structured, easy to read and easy to update
- Clearly define roles, responsibilities and actions

Objectives of the Contingency Plan

- To serve as a national reference tool for RVF outbreak preparedness and response
- To provide information on risk including hot spots of the disease in the country
- To provide information on actions to be taken during the different phases of the outbreak response
- To provide coordination structures –MOH, MALF and other agencies
- To identify needs and facilitate the mobilization of resources for response

Contingency Plan Components

- Exhaustive and thorough disease description
- Necessary legal powers and provisions
- Financial provisions
- Chain of command
- International liaison
- National & local disease control centres
- Trained personnel
- Appropriate infrastructure
- Annexes, protocols and SOPs

CP Development Process

Should be country specific

- Participatory development (views from various units/sections in the department)
- Simulations – desktop and field simulations
- Trainings
- Expert opinion from other countries (secondary information)
- Discussions
- Review and regular updating

Tabletop Simulation, Nakuru, Kenya



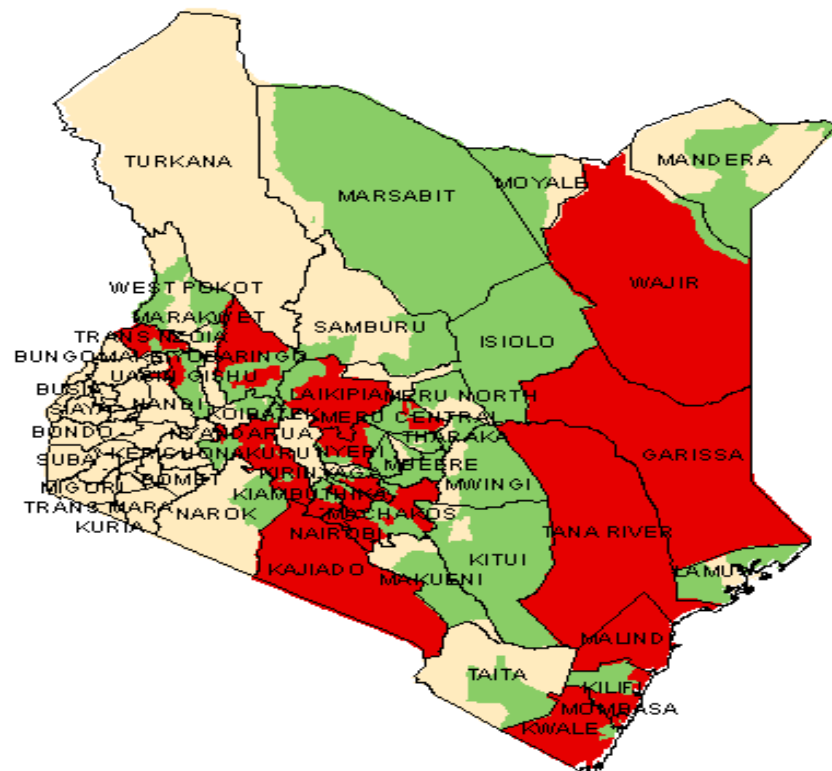
Why Update?

- Changing epidemiological situations (internally and externally)
- New disease threats
- Experiences (training, simulations, and feedback from stakeholders)
- Changes in settlement patterns / production systems and trade requirements (local or export)
- Legislation changes (government and medical /veterinary services)

RVF Outbreak Phases

- **Inter-epidemic phase**
 - When the situation seems normal in-between outbreaks
- **Pre-outbreak phase**
 - When there is prediction of RVF based on environmental conditions - local and international
- **Outbreak phase**
 - When there is laboratory confirmation of RVF
- **Recovery phase**
 - When pre-outbreak or outbreak phase has ended

Risk Map for Kenya



Risk classification by division

- Low
- Medium
- High

1:9,175,817

Inter-Epidemic Phase

- Developing early warning systems (sentinel herds, climatic monitoring, vector dynamics)
- Building livestock immunity through mass annual vaccinations in high risk areas.
- Funding-Advocacy for increased budget to ministry.

NB: Early warning systems that will be set in the normal phase will enable accurate prediction of a potential disease outbreak at which point implementation measures will be taken.

Pre-Outbreak Phase

- Monitoring of climatic parameters
- Monitoring of Vector Dynamics
- Monitoring of virus activity in sentinel herds
- Public awareness programmes
- Disease surveillance-active and passive
- Capacity building for Laboratory diagnosis
- Linkages between national, regional and world reference laboratories
- Strengthening liaison between MOH, MALF & stakeholders
- Strengthening links with veterinary authorities in neighbouring countries
- Annual vaccination in high risk areas
- Strategic reserve of RVF vaccine and funds

Functional Areas

1. Surveillance and Laboratory
2. Triage and Patient Care
3. Disease Prevention and Infection Control
4. Mass Fatalities Management
5. Psychosocial support
6. Mass Care For Human and Animals
7. Communications and Public Education
8. Command and Control and Continuity of Operations
9. Coordination and resources (Logistics, Security, Legislation and Finance)

1. Surveillance and Laboratory

- Objective is early detection and rapid response to RVF outbreak
- Components
 - Disease surveillance
 - Capacity building for laboratory diagnosis:
 - Linkages between national and international reference laboratories

2. Disease Prevention and Infection Control

Goal is to slow the spread of the disease, ending the outbreak and preventing occurrence of new cases

- ◆ Disease control in humans
 - ◆ Public Health Education
 - ◆ Implementation of infection prevention precautions
 - ◆ Active case search for referral and treatment of suspected cases
- ◆ Disease control in animals
 - Strategic livestock vaccination in specific hot spots
 - Imposition of quarantines in affected areas
 - Slaughter bans

3. Mass Care For Human and Animals

- Large number of individuals may become partially or fully incapacitated due to flooding
- RVF high risk areas prone to flooding
- May need to open temporary shelter facilities and institute mass feeding (including animals) and other mass care activities

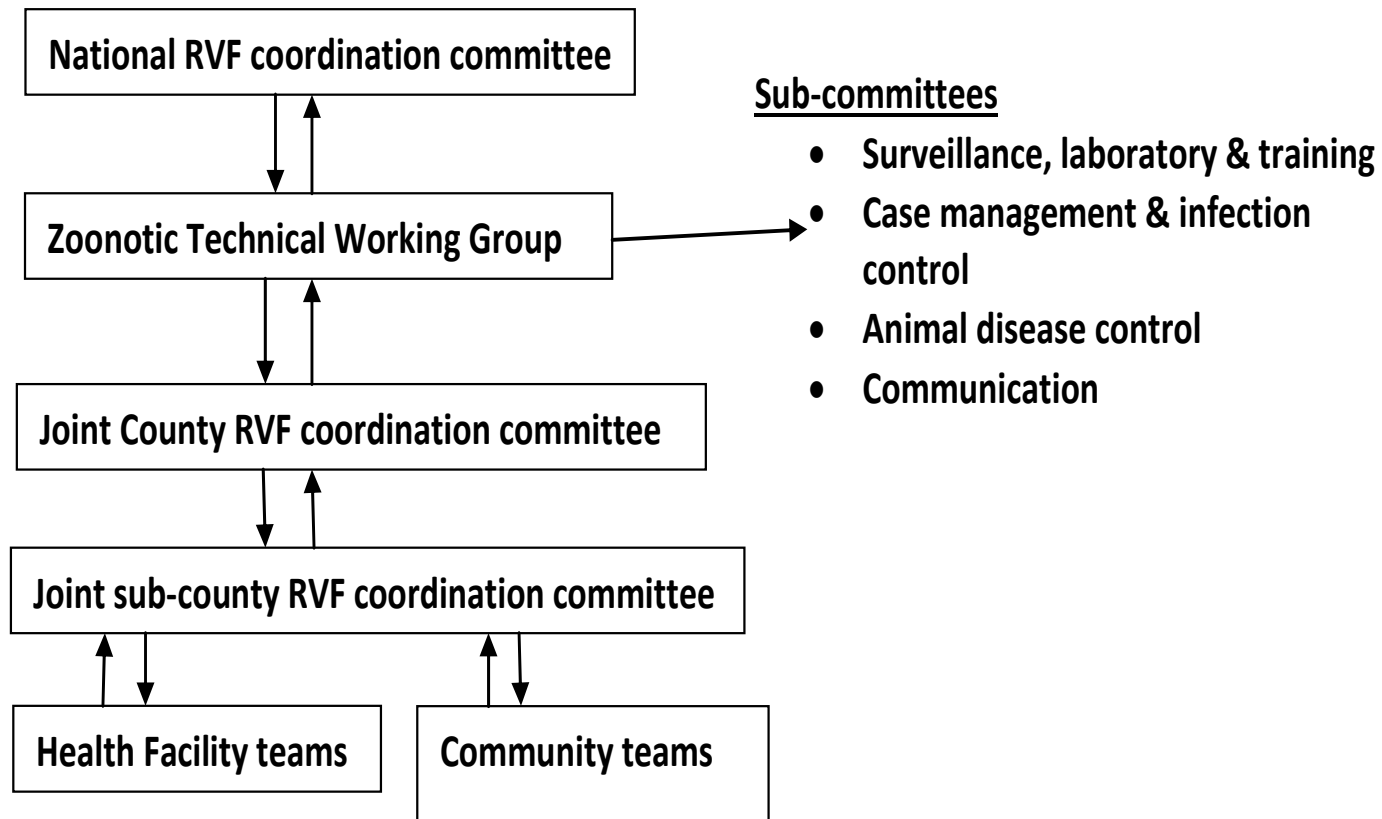
Situation in 2006/07 RVF Outbreak



4. Communications and Public Education

- Dissemination and sharing of timely & accurate information to the media and the general public one of the most important aspects of managing an RVF outbreak
- Main purpose to provide timely, accurate, and easily-understood information
- Circulation of conflicting information, misinformation, and rumors, must be adequately addressed.
- Communication must be coordinated among all relevant agencies to ensure consistent messages to the general public.

5. Coordination Structure



6. Coordination and Resources

- **Logistics**
 - Well thought logistic plans need to be in place in preparation for response to a RVF outbreak
- **Security**
 - Maintenance of law and order
 - Physical security commodities, physical facilities and personnel.
 - Enforcement of livestock movement restriction during the RVF outbreak

Coordination and Resources...

- **Finance**

- Provide for mechanisms for the immediate provision of contingency funds to respond to the outbreak
- The conditions under which funds will be released should be specified in advance.

- **Legislation**

- Laws and regulations needed to carry out all necessary disease control actions

Protocols & Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs)

- SOP for quarantine measures for the control of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) outbreaks
- SOP for simulation and training for Rift Valley Fever Outbreak Management
- SOP on collection, packaging & transportation of samples from suspected RVF Patients
- SOP for livestock vaccination against RVF
- SOP for RVF case management
- SOP for RVF active surveillance
- SOP for establishment and operationalization of the RVF Rapid Response Teams(RRTs)
- SOP for vector surveillance for RVF Control
- SOP for personal protection against RVF Infection during outbreak management
- RVF communication Protocol
- Command Structure and responsibilities for RVF Preparedness and Response

Support Plan-Legal framework

- The Animal Diseases Act Chapter 364 –
 - Provide the legislative framework and power to carry out all necessary disease control actions needed to control notifiable diseases in Kenya.
- Public Health Act Cap 242
 - Safeguarding public health
- Meat Control Act Cap 356
 - Control of meat and meat products intended for human consumption, import & export
- Procurement and Audit Act
 - Facilitates procurement of material resources.

Annexes

- List of key government institutions and their contact details
- Regional and international reference laboratories
- International and regional organisations for possible assistance

