



**African Union**

**Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources**

## **Interventions of AU-IBAR for prevention and control of Rift Valley Fever in support of livestock trade**

James Wabacha, Zelalem Tadesse, Henry  
Wamwayi, Samuel Wakhusama and Ahmed  
Elsawalhy



# Outline

- Mandate of AU-IBAR
- Impacts of Rift valley fever
- AU-IBAR Interventions in addressing TADs and in particular RVF
- ✓ RVF prevention and control within the framework of LiDeSA
- ✓ On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control



# Mandate of AU-IBAR

- The Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialized technical office of the AUC-DREA;
- AU-IBAR is mandated to coordinate the development and utilization of livestock, fisheries and wildlife as a resource for human well-being and economic development in the Member States of the African Union (AU)



# Impacts of Rift valley fever

- Livestock contributes significantly to the well-being of Africa's people and to the national economies;
- RVF is one of the most significant zoonotic disease problems in Africa;
- Productivity and access to livestock markets.
- Significant on local micro-economy due to human mortality and public panic;



## Impacts of Rift valley fever...2

- ❑ Domestic market ban in Garissa, Kenya, 2007-2008 was felt in every economic activity beyond livestock chain actors; Significant impact on trade of livestock and livestock products;
- ❑ Dramatic drop in the number of livestock exported and prices offered observed during the 1998 and 2000 bans;



## RVF prevention and control within the framework of LiDeSA...1

- To Fast track reforms in the livestock sector the Executive Council of AU (decision (EX.CL/Dec.792 (XXIV)), requested AUC to lead and coordinate the formulation of the Livestock development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA), covering 20 years to answer the current sector challenges;



## RVF prevention and control within the framework of LiDeSA...2

- ❑ The decision was based on the recommendation of the Ministers of Livestock (9th conference-Abidjan Cote d'Ivoire-April 2013) for a livestock development strategy;
- ❑ That will position the livestock sector as a key drivers for 6% annual growth in agriculture (Maputo declaration, reiterated in Malabo declaration);



# LiDeSA Vision



**A COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK  
SECTOR THAT SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTES TO A  
PROSPEROUS AFRICA**





# LiDeSA Goal



**TO TRANSFORM THE AFRICAN LIVESTOCK SECTOR  
FOR ENHANCED CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIO-  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EQUITABLE  
GROWTH**



# LiDeSA Strategic Objectives



- **To Attract public and private investments along the different livestock value chains**



- **To enhance animal health, and increase the production, productivity and resilience of livestock production systems**



- **To enhance innovation, generation and utilization of technologies, capacities and entrepreneurship skills of livestock value chain actors**



- **To enhance access to markets, services and value addition**



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...1

### **1) Support to improve information sharing**

a) AU-IBAR Compiles and disseminates sanitary information about sanitary status among the MS and RECs;

b) Rolling out of Animal Resources Information System (ARIS) in the MS through trainings on use and application of ARIS, and provision of information and communication equipment



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...2

RVF being addressed through two regional projects, SMP-AH and STSD projects and one with specific support for Somalia;

2) Support to improve RVF early warning system through enhancing surveillance functions:

### a) Improving Active Surveillance

- ✓ Enhance knowledge on the epidemiology of RVF and associated risk factors to aid decision making regarding prevention and control of RVF outbreaks
- ✓ determine the level of occurrence of RVF in the MS of IGAD region (cross-sectional survey in 8 MS of IGAD region)
- ✓ understand the major risk factors underpinning RVF occurrence



## **On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...3**

- ✓ **Develop RVF risk map to identify hotspots and areas with higher likelihood of RVFV circulation**
- ✓ **Improve disease reporting system of priority diseases (including RVF)**

### **b) Improving Passive Surveillance and Reporting**

- ✓ **Training on disease reporting**



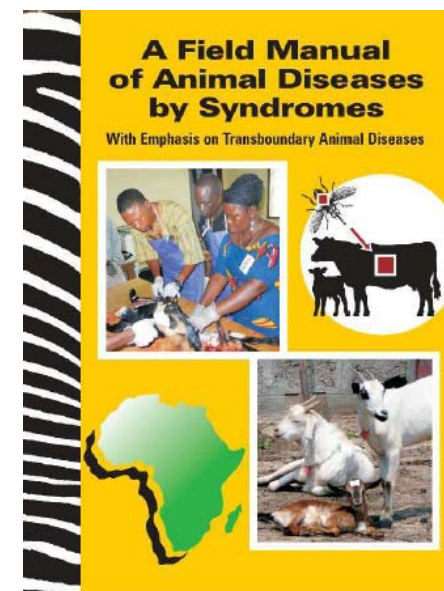
## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...4

- Manual on syndromic surveillance to support passive surveillance especially by grassroot stakeholders has been published and is being disseminated;
- Contains colour photos of RVF disease to aid in disease recognition and reporting



Discussion on disease recognition and reporting using the Syndromic manual with livestock traders in Adama, Ethiopia

[www.au-ibar.org](http://www.au-ibar.org)





# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...5

## **3) Support to strengthen Diagnostic Capacity for RVF and other TADs**

- ✓ Training on laboratory techniques for diagnosis of RVF;
- ✓ Provision of diagnostic kits and reagents
- ✓ Support to regional support labs services (CVL-Kenya and NAHDIC-Ethiopia);

## **4) Support to improve capacity for quality and quantity vaccine production**

- ✓ Support to regional vaccine production laboratories (NVI and KEVEVAPI);



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...6

5. Capacity of Public institutions to deliver and regulate animal health services;
6. Public, private and community partnerships in animal health services delivery;





## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...7

7. Developing a framework for Progressive Control of Neglected Animal Diseases (PROCNADA) following implementation of Vaccines for the Control of Neglected Animal Diseases (VACNADA) Project of which RVF is one of them;

- ✓ Consultations and validation in progress in the continent



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...8

### 8) supporting regional harmonisation and coordination of animal disease surveillance, prevention and control

- ✓ Based on the Standard Methods and Procedures (SMPs) approach and involves;
- ✓ Capacity building for laboratory testing, surveillance and disease control and two;
- ✓ Application of SMPs as protocols for the prevention and control of RVF in line with OIE standards (takes care of capabilities, resources and context)



# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...9

- Support to strengthen Cross border activities for harmonization and coordination of disease prevention and control;
- ✓ Cross border harmonisation meetings;
- ✓ Share knowledge and information;
- ✓ Agree on joint work plans





# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...10

Capacity building in Surveillance and epidemiology of RVF and other TADs



**Participants of a 13-weeks training course** in Surveillance and Epidemiology





# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...11

- Capacity building in Management Skills Development to support delivery of veterinary services- control of RVF and other TADs;
- **Participants of a 18-weeks training course** in Management skills development





# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...12

- Capacity building in Laboratory techniques
- Participants of a 20-weeks training course in laboratory work at the National Animal Health and Diagnostic investigation centre (NAHDIC), Ethiopia





# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...13

- Capacity building for quarantine personnel in inspection, certification and welfare as per OIE Code;
- 26 participants of a 5 days training;
- Practical session at Djibouti Veterinary Quarantine station





# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...14

## Application of SMPs as protocols for the prevention and control of RVF in line with OIE standards

### What is and SMP?

- SMPs for RVF: an **operational protocol- what and how to do it and consolidated in one protocol-** to support regional harmonization and coordination for control of RVF;
- Aim to create uniformity on RVF detection and control procedures, ie work toward regional harmonization of disease prevention and control;
- Outlines the minimum standards, procedures and goals, in line with OIE standards on how to deal with RVF surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory procedures, and control in the context of the GHoA (considers context and capabilities)



# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...15

Epidemio-Surveillance and Laboratory experts agree on the components of the SMP for PPR, road map and working modalities for the TWG agreed

TWG with Membership from the participating countries and with Technical support from OIE, ILRI, AU-PANVAC, FAO, IGAD, AU-IBAR constituted

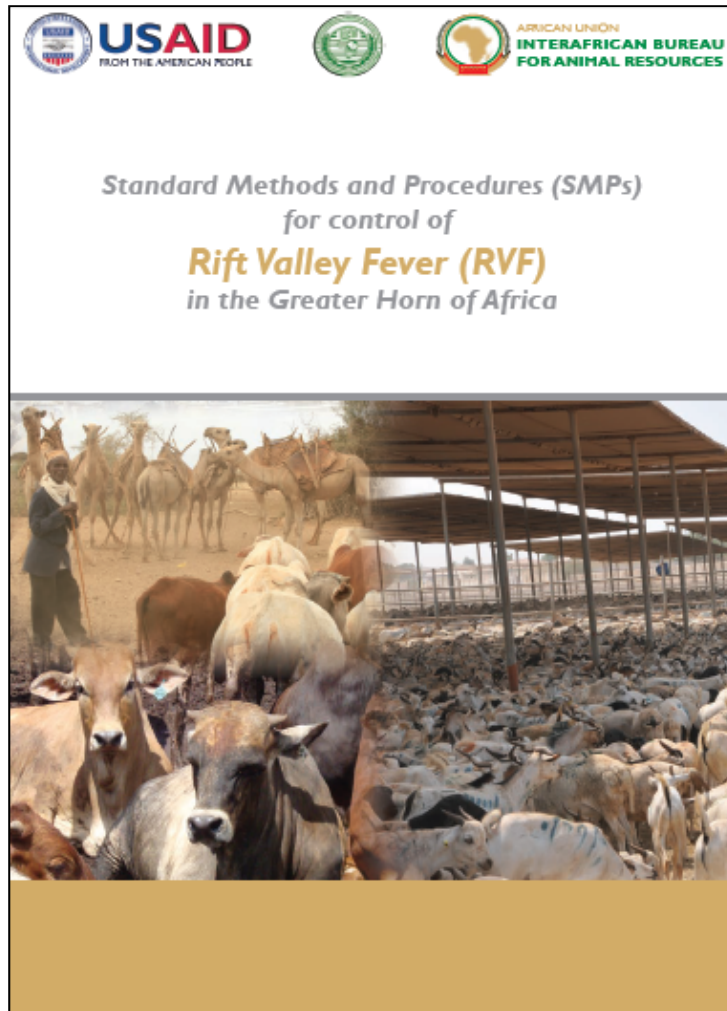
TWG held three meeting on 24 – 26 April , 2013, 24th - 26th January 2013 and on 1st - 4th July 2013 and online discussions

SMPs Peer reviewed

SMPs validated



# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...16



## Components

- A. Introduction
- B. Definitions
- C. Surveillance and epidemiology
- D. RVF Laboratory Detection, Diagnosis
- E. Disease Control
- F. Disease reporting and Information management
- G. RVF and Trade
- H. Risk Analysis and Risk mapping



# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...17

## Coordination of common position on animal health standards

- Permanent Secretariat in place at AU-IBAR to coordinate contributions to the OIE standard setting process;
- Pool of experts assisting Secretariat in analysing issues of common interest
- 1 Annual CVOs meeting and 2 experts meeting to adopt common positions
- Common positions to OIE GS and **code commission meetings** (started 2011)



# On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...18

## Veterinary Governance

- **Building upon PVS and GA**
  - Main expected outcome is to have policies & strategies in place and integrated national action and investment plans (through CAADP process) + appropriate legislation enhanced
- **3 phases strategic approach:**
  - Advocacy and awareness raising for policy change
  - Formulation of policies, strategies, legislations
  - Implementation of policies, strategies, legislations
- **Cross-cutting issues: OH, PPP**



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...19

- To enhance coordination, communication and information sharing on livestock trade among countries in the GHoA, AU-IBAR and ICPALD are supporting a livestock commodity association, the North Eastern Africa Livestock Council (NEALCO).



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...20

**Enhancing communication between the GHOA and the Trading partners:**

**Previous two meetings held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates,**

- Some Recommendations made during the workshops:
  1. Promote regional harmonisation and coordination of TADs prevention and control- the use of standard methods and procedures based on OIE standards;
  2. Trading partners to formalize and maintain continuous communication at all levels among others



## On-going interventions supporting RVF Prevention and control...21

Proposed follow up workshop

- **Where?** In Egypt or Jordan;
- **When?** First two weeks of October 2015;
- **Who are the participants?** Participants Private and public including livestock traders



# Thank You



**Providing Leadership in the Development of Animal Resources for Africa**

[www.au-ibar.org](http://www.au-ibar.org)