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SESSION 1 | Setting the Scene for a Shared Understanding

Middle East/GCC – Africa Inter-Regional Workshop

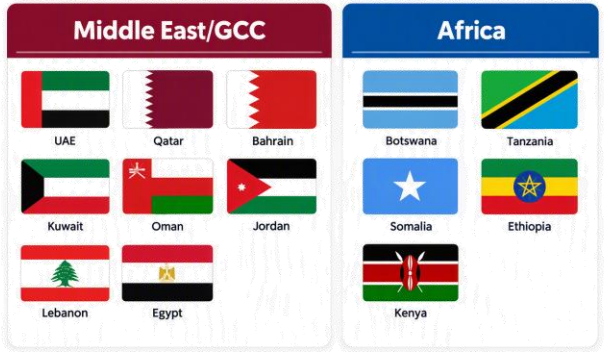
Towards Better Collaboration to Improve Cross-Regional Trade

and Address Trade-Sensitive Disease Threats

Asma Abdi Mohamed Shah
WOAH Sub-Regional Representative for the Arabian Gulf
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Who Is in the Room?

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



WOAH REPRESENTATION



WOAH Regional Representative for the Middle East



WOAH Sub-Regional Representative for the Arabian Gulf



Sub-Regional Representation for Eastern Africa



Sub-Regional Representation for Southern Africa

ORGANIZATIONS & PARTNERS

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ABU DHABI AGRICULTURE & FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY

IGAD

ILRI INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE

CGIAR

AFRICAN UNION INTERAFRICAN BUREAU FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES

GF-TADs GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

World Organisation for Animal Health

Kuwait Fund For Development

KISR معهد الكويت للأبحاث العلمية KUWAIT INSTITUTE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS



Charmaine Chng



Rahul Srivastava



Tarig Taha



Gilles Guillot



Nada Essawycv



Faycal Meziani



Ekta PATEL



Yohannes Girma



Satya Parida



Hassan Zackaria



Noura Alzarooni



Mehdi Brinsi

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THE STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Why this dialogue matters now

Safe and predictable trade depends on confidence throughout the animal health and livestock value chain.

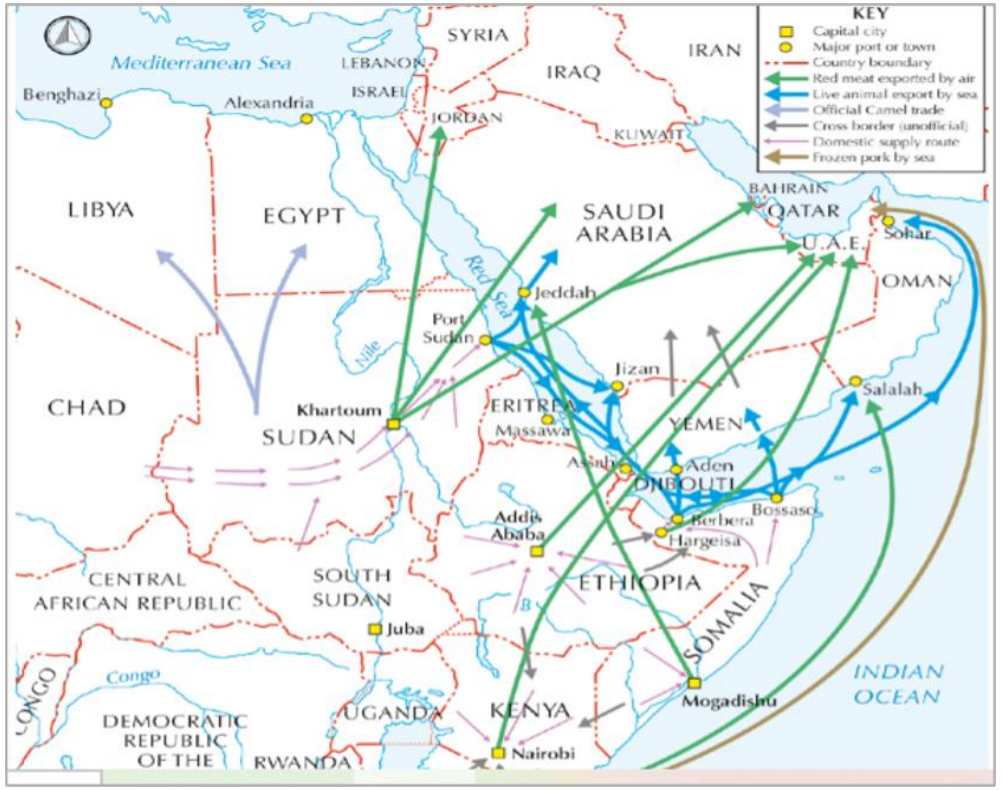
Why We Are Here

Geopolitical disruptions, transboundary animal diseases and changing trade conditions are increasing pressure on livestock supply chains across the Middle East/ GCC and Africa.

Importing countries may need to activate alternative suppliers and trade routes to maintain livestock availability and protect food security.

Exporting countries may face a build-up of livestock stocks when access to traditional markets is disrupted.

- These interconnected challenges require stronger coordination between exporting, transit and importing countries.
- GCC–Africa cooperation can support trusted trade partnerships, diversified supply routes and more resilient livestock value chains.



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THE PROBLEM TO SOLVE

What Is Blocking Safer and More Resilient Trade?

Day 1 is designed to establish a common, evidence-based view of the barriers undermining the following trade fundamental pillars: .

Governance & regulation

Harmonisation and trade continuity

Animal health & quality

Veterinary S. efficiency ,Animal production capacity and quality at source

Investment & value chains

Stakeholders' engagement, PPP, financing and enabling infrastructure

Digital transformation

Data, traceability and AI-enabled solutions

Our first task is not to defend existing positions, but to identify root causes, share concrete examples and address critical gaps.

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OUR PURPOSE

What We Aim to Achieve Together

This is a working workshop, designed to produce decisions and a pathway for action.

1. **UNDERSTAND** — Agree the most relevant challenges and their root causes.
2. **DESIGN** — Develop practical solutions and clarify who must act.
3. **PRIORITISE** — Select the five solutions with the greatest potential impact.
4. **COMMIT** — Develop a roadmap with clear ownership, timelines, resource requirements and indicators of success.

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THE THREE-DAY JOURNEY

Challenges → Solutions → Roadmap

Each day converts the previous day's outputs into a more focused level of action.

DAY 1

CHALLENGES

Setting the scene

Shared understanding
Top challenges and causes
Initial interventions

DAY 2

SOLUTIONS

Tools and prioritisation

Technical and investment inputs
Investor conditions
Top 5 priorities

DAY 3

ROADMAP

Commitments and way forward

Actions and leadership
Timing and resources
Stakeholder commitments

Our final destination is a jointly developed draft roadmap supported by clear stakeholder commitments.

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HOW WE WILL WORK

Shared Responsibility for Practical Results

The quality of the roadmap will depend on the openness, evidence and commitment we bring into the room.

Be specific

Use concrete examples and identify root causes.

Think across borders

Consider what both regions need for confidence and continuity.

Focus on what can change

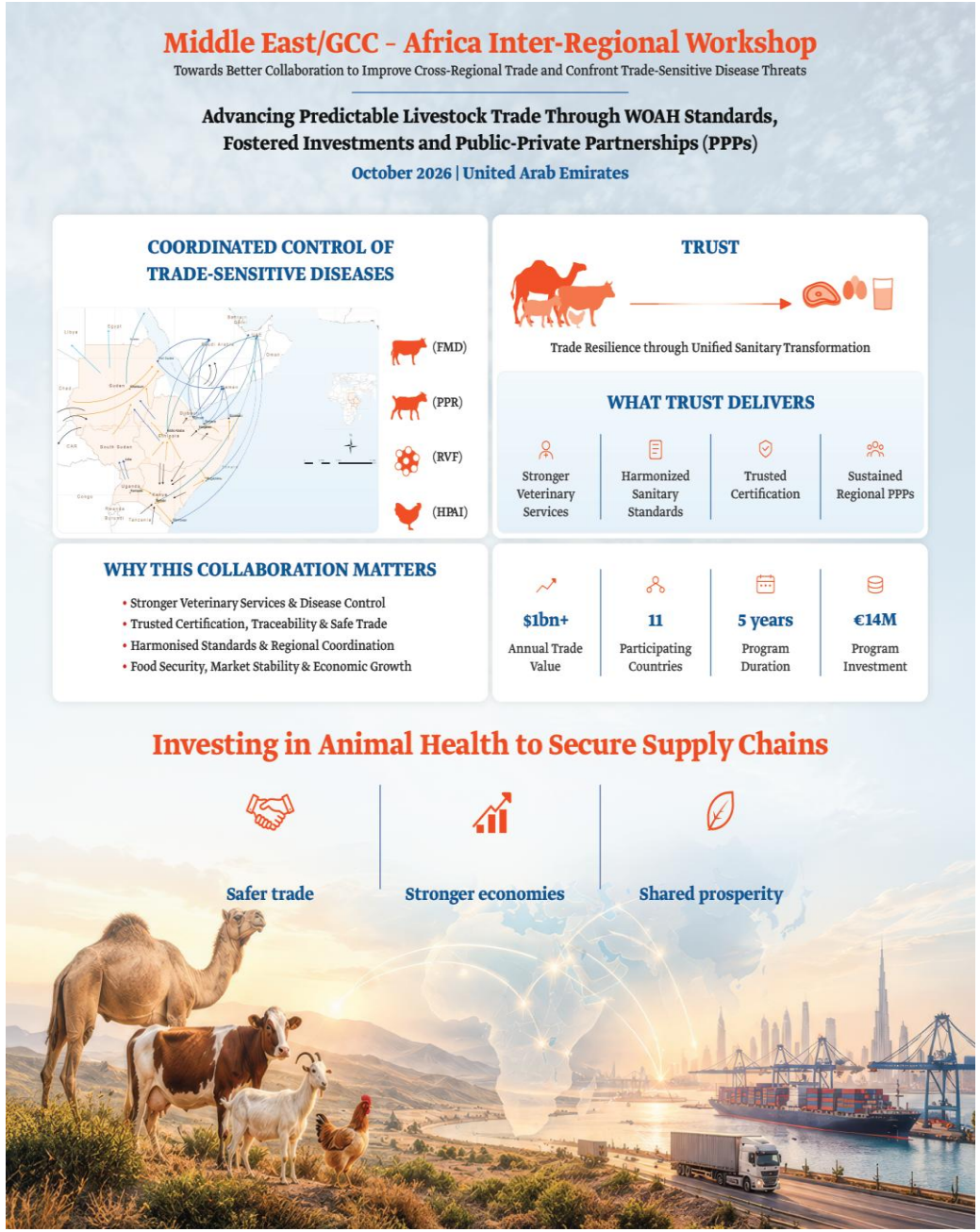
Distinguish quick wins from longer-term reforms.

Share ownership

Clarify the roles of governments, private sector, WOAH and partners.

Let us use these three days to build trust, define shared priorities and agree on a credible pathway to action.

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★ Together, we can transform shared challenges into coordinated action that strengthens animal health, facilitates safe trade and safeguards food security across the GCC and Africa.

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Thank you