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OlE Webinar World Wildlife Day Global wildlife health 3 March 2022

Early detection systems for wildlife

Spotlight on the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)

WILDLIFE SURVEILLANCE: WHY BOTHER ?

AT LEAST 3 OUT OF 4 PATHOGENS

of *emerging* infectious diseases in man (including Ebola) are of animal origin : they are **ZOONOSES**



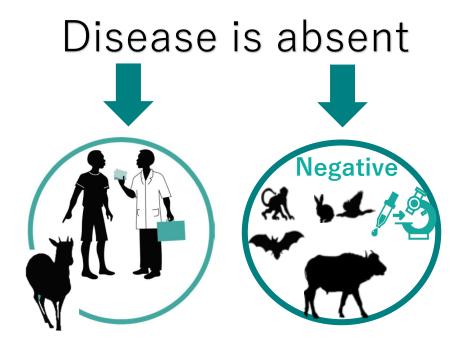
Fighting zoonotic pathogens at the animal source remains by far the most efficient and cost-effective way to protect people

> 60% of infectious diseases in people are of animal origin

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GOALS OF WILDLIFE SURVEILLANCE

One distinguishes 4 major goals of surveillance, based on whether a disease is present or not in a country



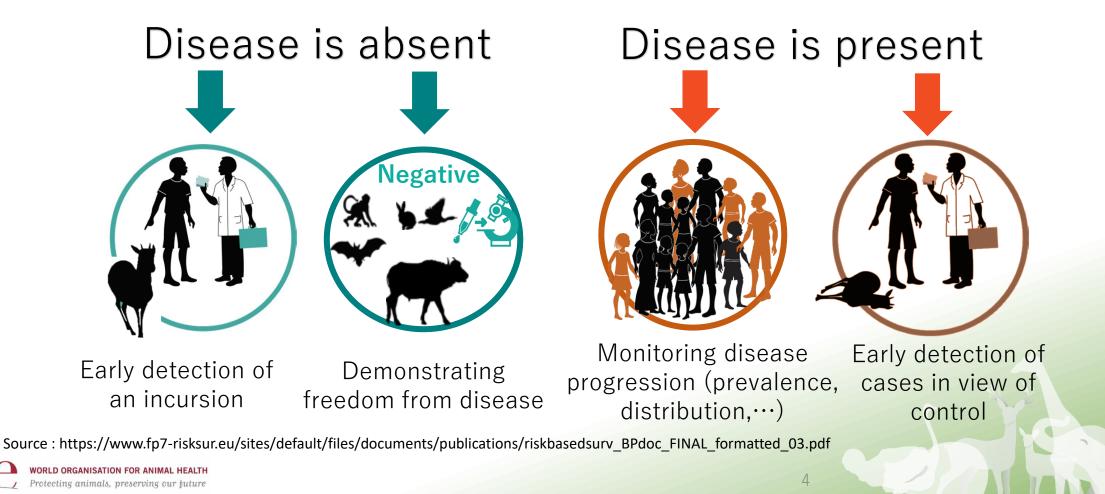
Early detection of an incursion

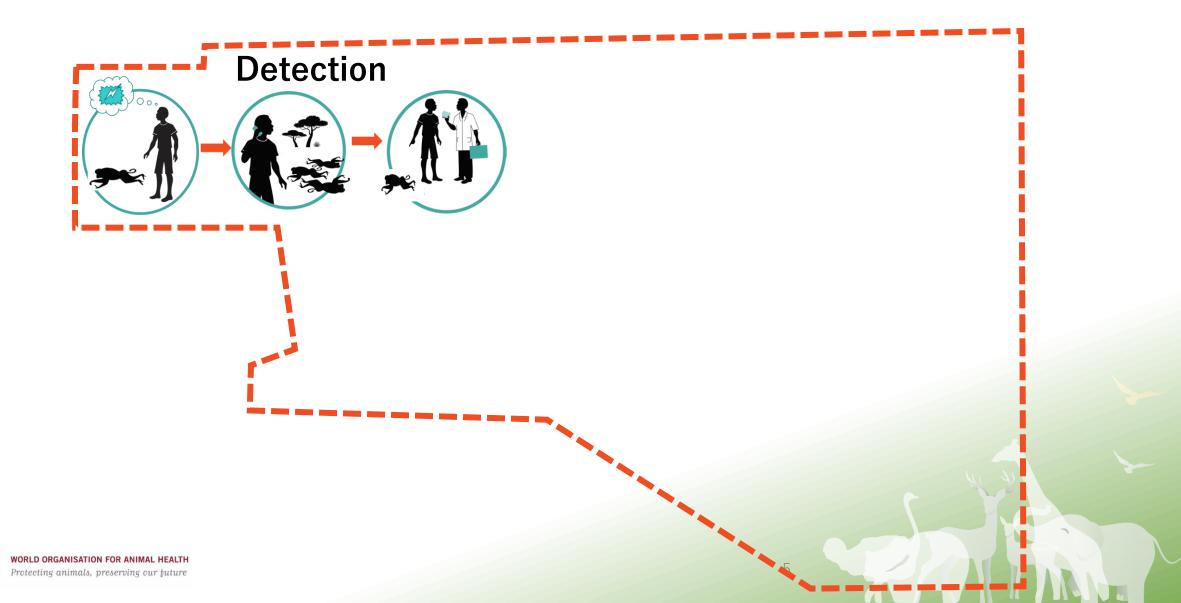
Demonstrating freedom from disease

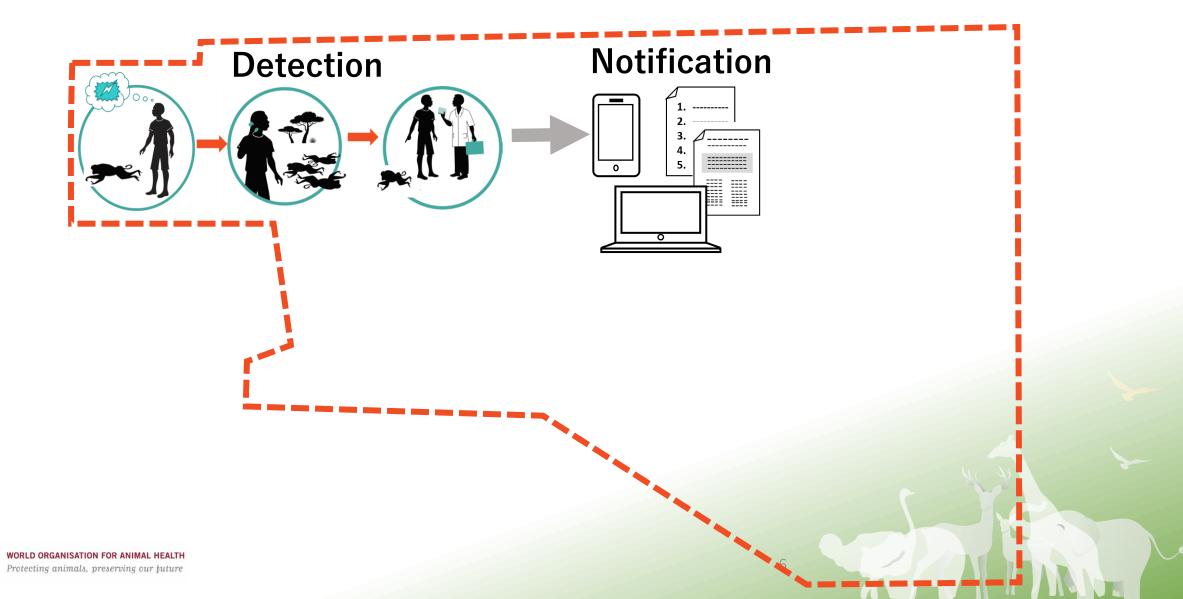


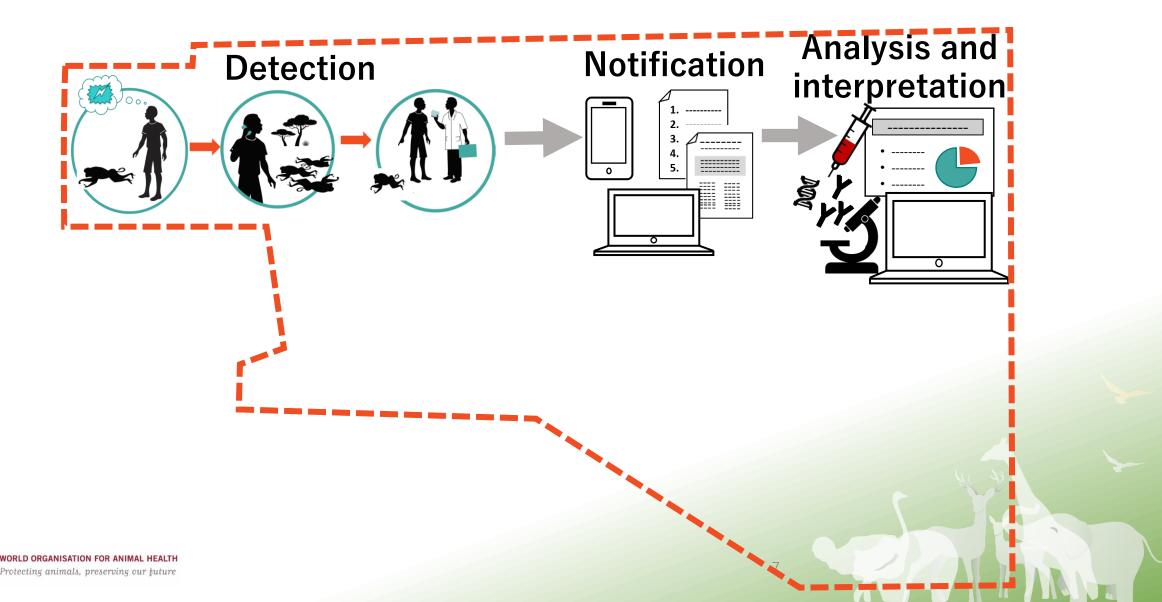
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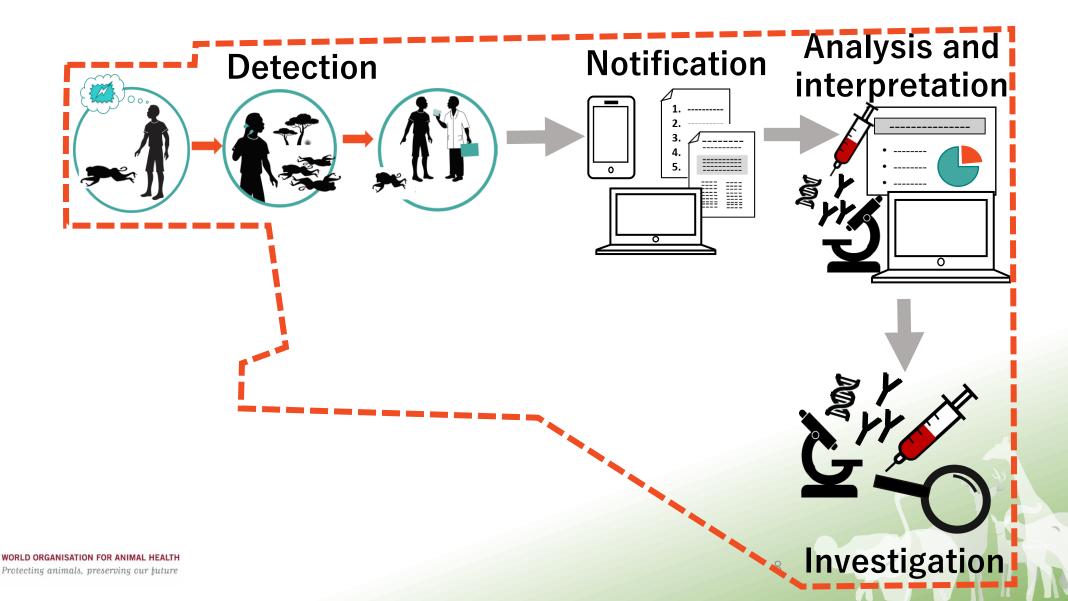
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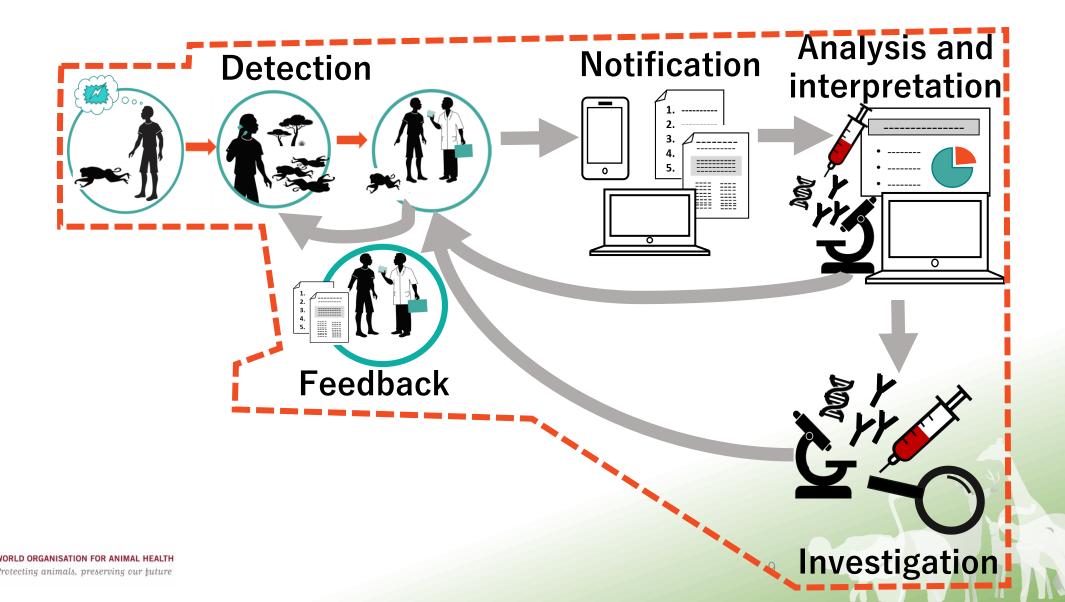












A FEW TYPES OF SURVEILLANCE SUITABLE FOR WILDLIFE

PROS AND CONS



TARGETED / SCHEDULED SURVEILLANCE (ACTIVE)

 Consists in actively searching for a circulating pathogen (antibodies or the pathogen itself).

Pros

- Diseases can be detected even when no clinical signs are apparent (sampling and lab analysis)
- Allows for the detection of diseases that are either asymptomatic or exhibit non-specific symptoms

Cons

 For rare and exotic diseases, sampling sizes can be considerable, leading to higher cost

EVENT-BASED (OPPORTUNISTIC) SURVEILLANCE (PASSIVE)

- Most common method for the surveillance of rare and exotic diseases.
- Consists of a reporting system in which farmers, veterinary personnel, medical personnel or rangers notify authorities of a diseased individual.

Pros

- Can cover a major part of the target population
- Can be integrated into routine tasks of health care workers, veterinarians and wildlife personnel. If done well, costs can be limited

Cons

- Risk of underreporting when:
 - The participation and motivation of the assigned professionals is weak
 - Dealing with diseases for which clinical symptoms are not very specific or even absent (asymptomatic)
- Potential exposure of farmers and the wider public to zoonoses

INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE





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Animal health



Requires the participation of communities and health facilities, at all levels of the health system.

Pros

- Well integrated into the One Health approach
- All components associated to a sanitary event are integrated

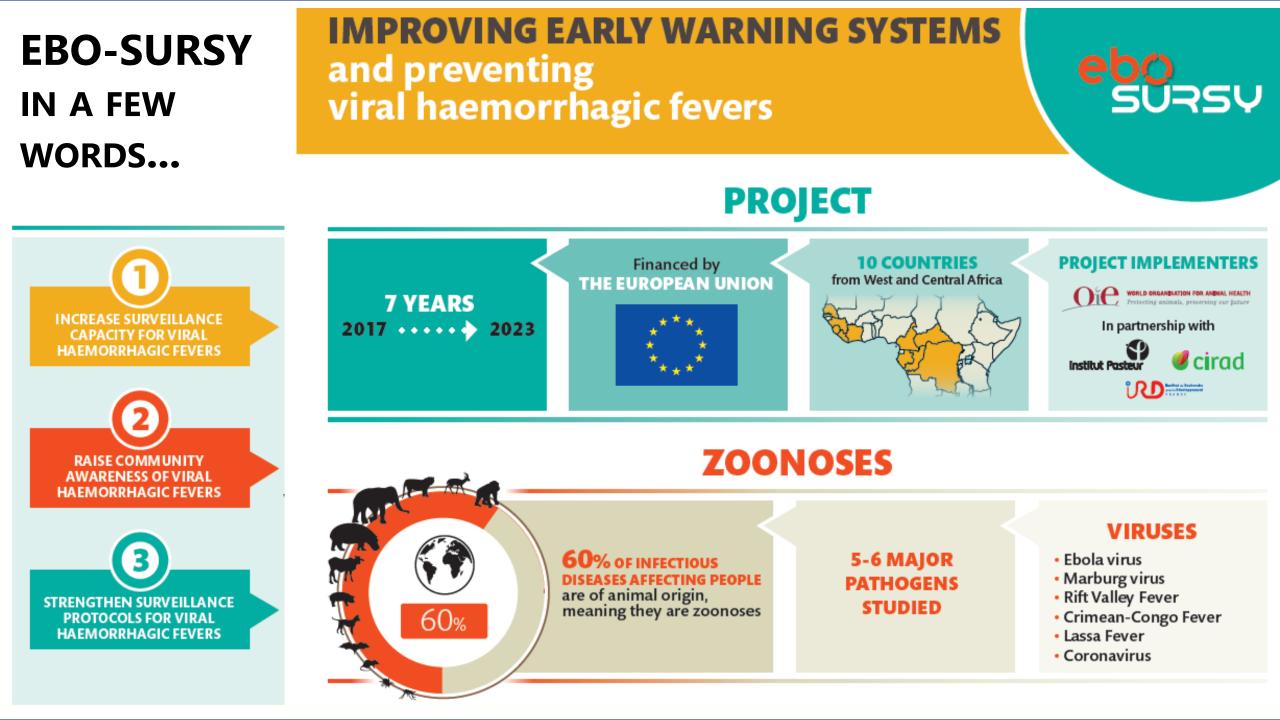
Cons

- Elevated training needs
- Elevated cost

A FEW CHALLENGES

- Most often, information on wildlife population size, structure and distribution is lacking
- Certain types of survey require the capture of animals
- Regular monitoring and sampling of wildlife may be challenging
- Large species diversity





COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS OF COMMUNITIES

1,000+ people made scientific aware papers

15 communication tools and products

> 20 conference presentations

16



Serious game ALERT

- Raise awareness among local communities and strengthen collaboration with the technical services entrusted with the system.
- Strengthen the commitment of all stakeholders in the system and thus its effectiveness on a participatory basis.
- Develop simple, sustainable and widely deployable tools and training approaches on good surveillance practices, by national partners.





MATÉRIEL

- 1 plateau Emergence de la maladie
- 1 disque en bois *Curseur de maladie*
- 20 cubes en bois *Point de victoire*
- 27 cartes Aléa : 18 Aléas négatif (rouge) et 9 Aléas positif (bleu)
- 117 cartes Action :
- 44 cartes orange (1^{er} niveau local : village), 20 cartes rouges (2nd niveau local : chef-lieu), 28 cartes turquoise (niveau régional), 16 cartes violettes (niveau national) et 9 cartes grises (journalistes et médias)



Results : strengthening surveillance protocols



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Results : Ebola research outcomes



Antibody prevalences approaching 1% have been detected in bats and - despite the large number of samples tested using PCR - to date, the presence of the Ebola virus in tested bats has not been demonstrated.

(IRD TransVIHMI)



The results of analyses of more than 4,600 non-human primates in Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo, have shown that non-human primates are not a reservoir, but rather intermediate hosts and victims of the infection.

(IRD TransVIHMI)





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