



**JOINT SADC/AHEAD WORKSHOP  
RECONCILING LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND  
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION GOALS IN  
SOUTHERN AFRICA: STRATEGIES FOR  
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

**SADC TADs PROJECT: SCIENTIFIC SESSION**

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN SADC

13<sup>th</sup> November 2012

PHAKALANE, GABORONE, BOTSWANA

M. Mulumba and B. Hulman



## **FMD BACKGROUND**

**Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)** is the most economically important TAD in the SADC region.

Each outbreak of the disease causes severe and expensive disruptions to trade in animal and animal products in the affected country.

Surveillance systems for FMD in all countries in the region are largely passive, contributing to the late detection of outbreaks and delays in instituting control measures.





## FMD CONTROL

- Effective control of FMD, requires a thorough understanding of the disease dynamics across the host spectrum.

- Considerable FMD research done on cattle but a lot remains to be understood concerning the virus transmission in the main carrier host, the African Buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*).

### Vacuum.

Main reasons for this vacuum include :

- inadequate interaction between the veterinary and wildlife sectors
- expense and logistics involved in capturing and sampling buffaloes
- Maybe not enough cooperation and collaboration between the main reference laboratories on FMD on this matter.



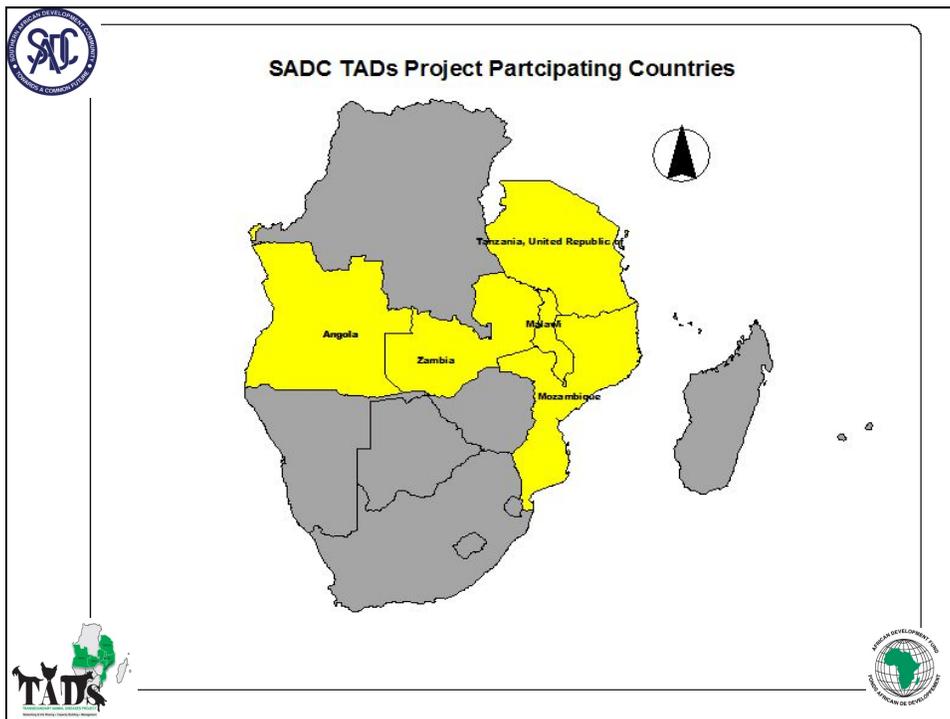
## MOVING FORWARD

- The SADC TADs project initiated the annual buffalo sampling exercise involving SADC Secretariat, the three FMD reference laboratories (BVI, OVI and WRL, Pirbright) and six SADC MS (Vet and Wildlife authorities)

- Clear need to address this vacuum in a holistic manner involving region's vet services, wildlife authorities and reference laboratories

- Main aim of the sampling was to **map the distribution of various FMD viruses circulating in wild buffalo populations in the region.**





- Most of the presentations today will be reporting on the results achieved **so far** in the exercise.
- There are yet more results to come from the 3 years of sampling in the six countries.
- These results will further inform the development of an accurate FMD control strategy for the region
- It is also very encouraging to note that the Ministers of Agriculture and Livestock have committed their countries to make annual buffalo sampling a mandatory exercise for continental SADC countries.





## VACCINE QUALITY

- From vaccine development/production perspective, the continuous mapping of circulating virus strains will assist BVI with the knowledge of which virus stocks to store and therefore easily reconstitute when producing vaccines batches
- Hopefully, the results of this work will result in quicker vaccine production process following outbreaks.



**I TRUST YOU WILL ALL ENJOY THE  
PRESENTATIONS AT THIS WORKSHOP**

**THANK YOU  
MERCİ  
MUITO OBLIGADO**

