# Global and regional FMD situation update

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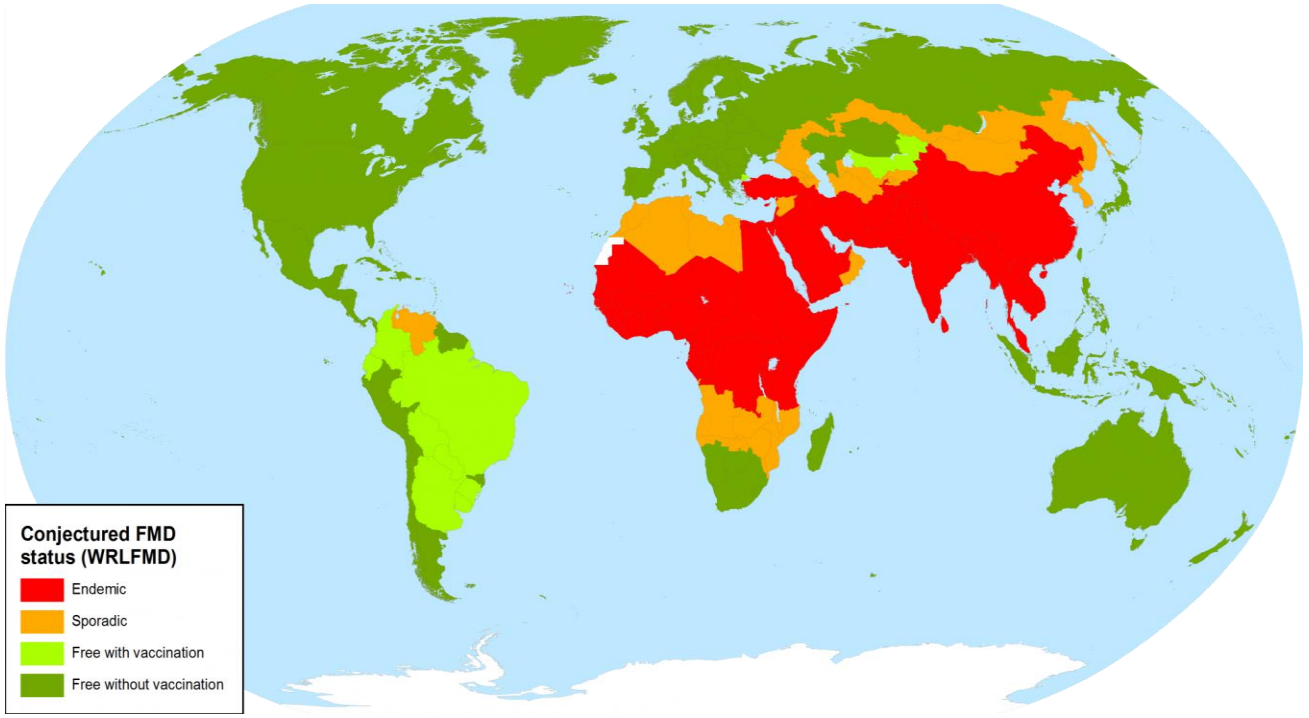
# Global FMD Situation & FAO's Activities

# Global FMD Situation

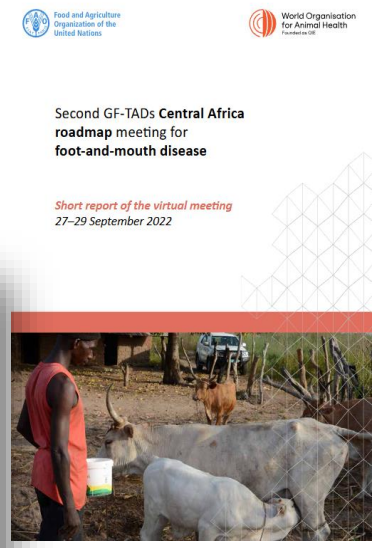
- **Europe:** FMD returned, 2025 outbreaks in Germany and Hungary involving Serotype O.
- **Southern Africa:** Outbreaks confirmed in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Eswatini, and Mozambique, causing economic damage and threatening livelihoods.
- **Endemic Regions:** Asia, the Middle East, and most of Africa.
  - **Asia/Middle East:** Serotypes O, A, and Asia-1 are prevalent.
  - **Africa:** Southern African Territories (SAT 1, 2, 3) serotypes are widespread.
- **Virus Dynamics:** Serotype O is responsible for most global outbreaks, particularly in Asia and the recent European cases. Serotype C has not been detected since 2004.

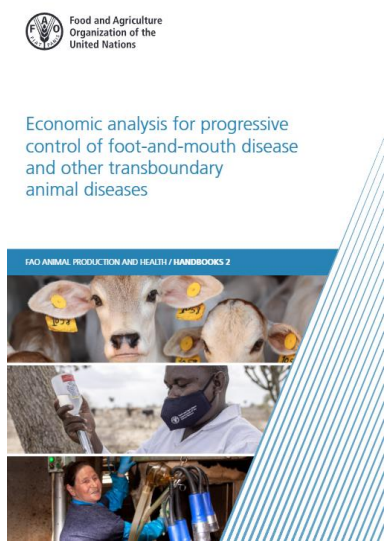


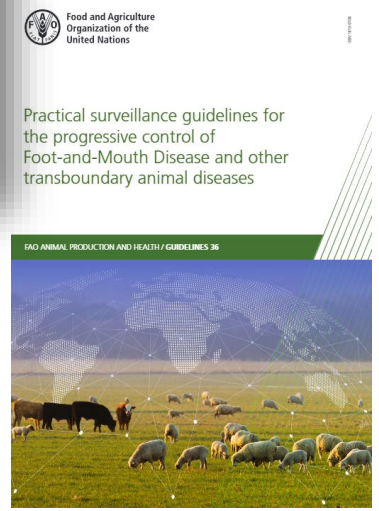

Source: WRLFMD (Not updated for recent outbreaks!)

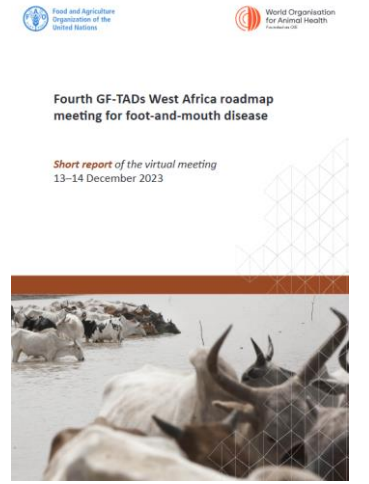
# FAO’s roles

- **Global strategy implementation:** FAO promotes and monitors the Global FMD Control Strategy with WOAH under GF-TADs, using the PCP-FMD to guide country progress.
- **Policy and regional collaboration:** With WOAH and regional partners, FAO supports policy development and coordinated implementation of FMD control strategies.
- **Country-specific support:** Through PCP-FMD, FAO supports stepwise, risk-based approaches.
- **Risk monitoring, risk assessment and preparedness:** FAO tracks global FMD risks & develops tools to strengthen preparedness.
- **Training and capacity building:** FAO strengthens veterinary services through training, surveillance networks, and improved outbreak response capacity.
- **Vaccination and biosecurity:** FAO facilitates vaccine procurement and distribution and promotes biosecurity.
- **Emergency response and resource mobilization:** FAO provides technical support and mobilizes resources for affected countries; Mobilizes partners and resources to ensure rapid vaccine access during outbreaks.

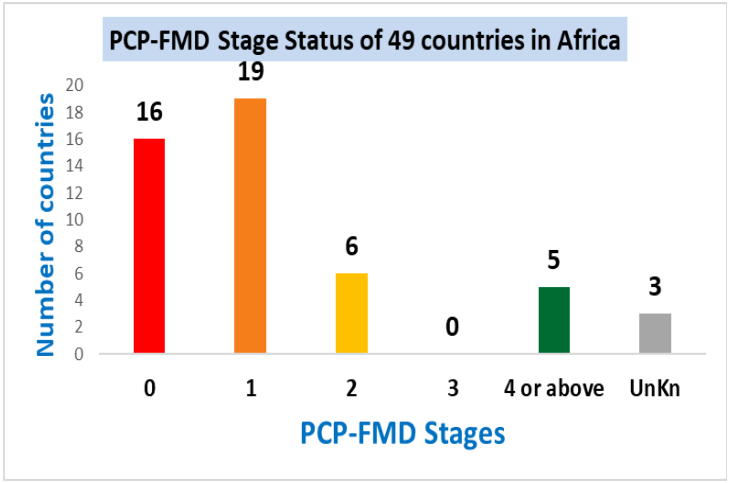
# Early Warning & Risk Assessment

- Global monitoring through EMPRES-i and regional intelligence networks
- FMD alerts, webinars
- Risk assessment to inform preparedness and contingency planning
- Cross-border risk analysis and strain monitoring
- Technical backstopping during outbreaks and crisis situations
- Decision-support tools (e.g. PRAGMATIS, OutCost, VADEMOS, EuFMDiS, etc.)

# Capacity Building and Technical Support to Countries

- Developed regional FMD control strategies for East & West Africa
- Promoted & monitored the FMD Global Control Strategy
- Working on a revised Global FMD control strategy
- Support countries advancing PCP
  - Development of national control plans
  - South Africa: Technical support offered in development & implementation of national strategy
- Published guidelines for FMD and other TADs:
  - Economic analysis guidelines
  - Practical surveillance guidelines
  - PCP-FMD Hub on VLC – a repository of resources for PCP-FMD practitioners
- Capacity building - Trainings & webinars
- FAO under DTRA-funded project, in 7 countries (Burkina Faso, Cote D'Ivoire, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone):
  - conducted animal mobility, risk assessment and socio-economic impact studies
  - strengthened capacity of field and laboratory staff






WOAH/FAO Foot-and-Mouth Disease Reference Laboratories Network

# Global and Regional Coordination


**For regional support FAO:**

- Convenes regional preparedness exercises to strengthen coordinated FMD response.
- Launches joint emergency control projects with national authorities to contain outbreaks and limit spread.
- Co-organizes GF-TADs Regional Roadmap meetings to align strategies and review risk.
- Supports national PCP-FMD workshops with partners to strengthen vaccination and preparedness.
- Facilitates cross-border coordination meetings to harmonize surveillance and control efforts.

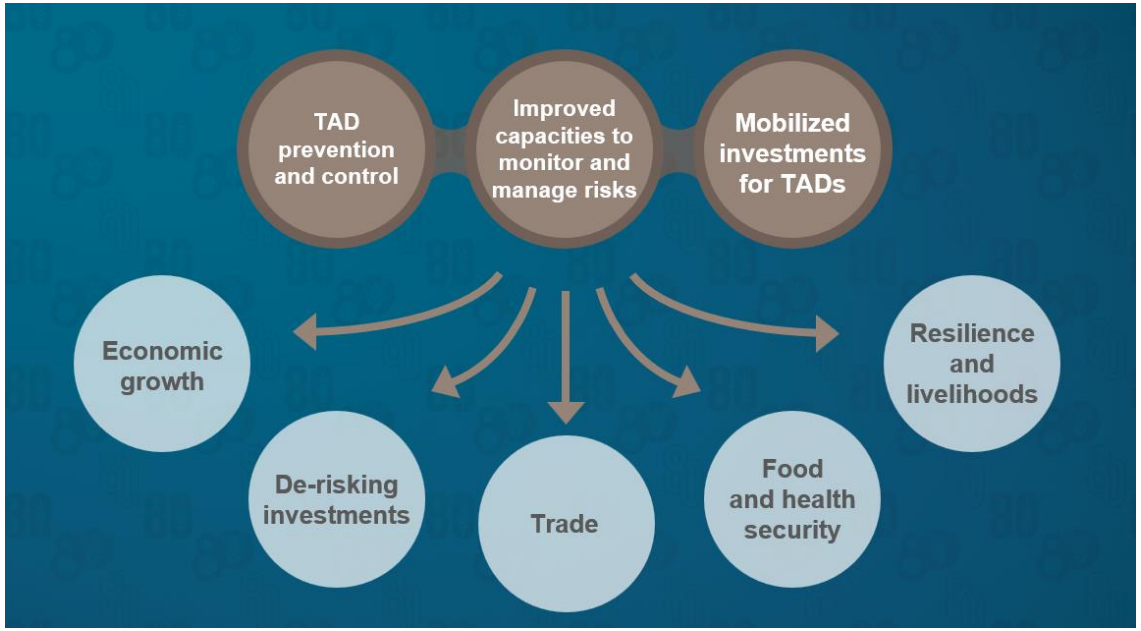
# GPP-TAD

## A new initiative


## Objectives

- **Achieve national, regional and global progress in the prevention and control of TADs** through locally owned, science-based action and enhanced cooperation.
- **Protect animal, human, and ecosystem health and businesses and investments** by improving capacities to monitor and reduce animal disease risks along value chains.
- **Mobilize collective investment** — uniting governments, the private sector, and partners to finance innovation and position TADs management as a global public good.

# A new way of working




**Before**

- Dependent mainly on one single donor
- Donor-driven
- FAO = implementing force
- Disconnected from the private sector and other stakeholders

**NEW 4-year programme:**

- Country-driven & country context-specific
- Countries implement (with technical support by FAO and implementing partners)
- Multi-partners
- In partnership with producers, private sector & financial institutions

# Country-owned, country-led

COUNTRY

REGIONAL

GLOBAL

*National Partnership*

**FAO acts as:**

1. Honest broker & convener
2. Matchmaker and enabler
3. Provider of normative guidance and technical assistance
4. Provider of last resort

**REGIONAL TAD HUBS**

**GLOBAL COORDINATION, INTELLIGENCE, POLICY & CAPACITY**

- Country-led implementation
- Early warning, surveillance & lab capacity
- Prevention, preparedness, vaccination & ergency response
- nvestments & leverage other resources
- ption of new technologies & ovations for TADs (Artificial lligence)

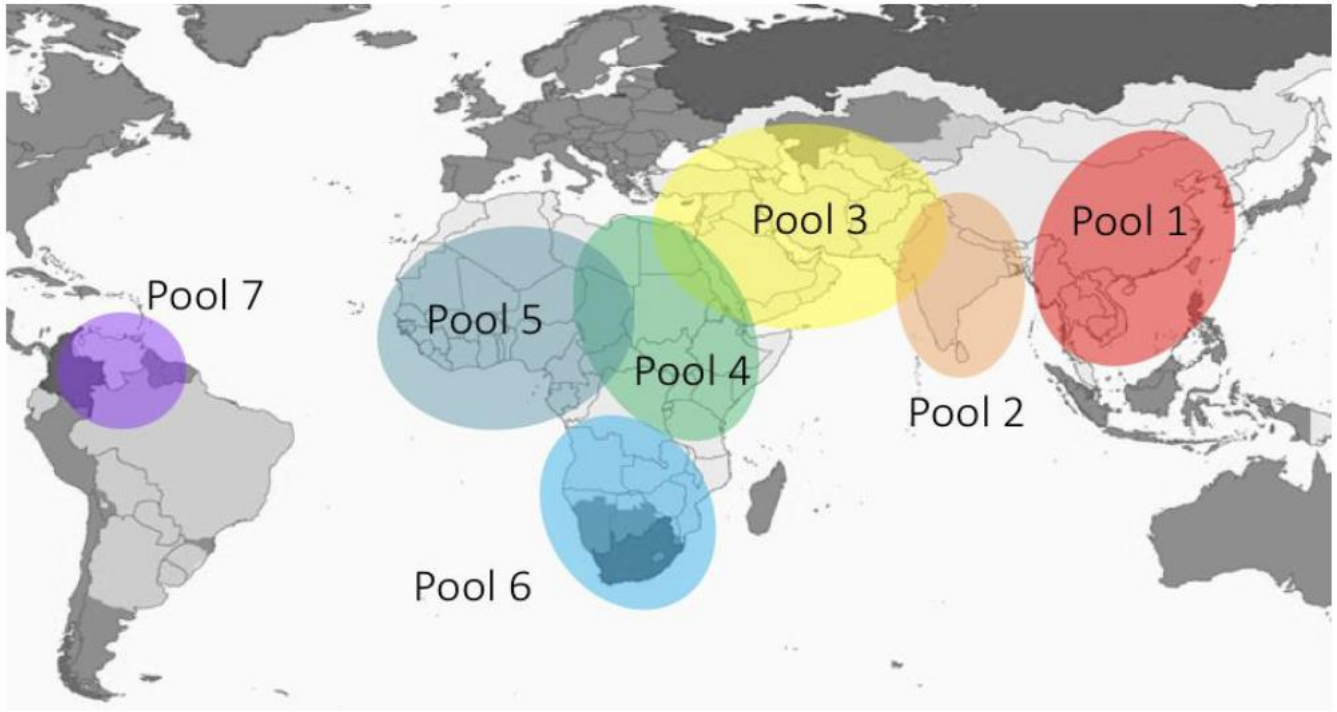
- rmation sharing
- ional coordination
- Partnerships & Innovation

- Matchmaking
- Provider of last resort *(in crisis)*

# FMD Situation in the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

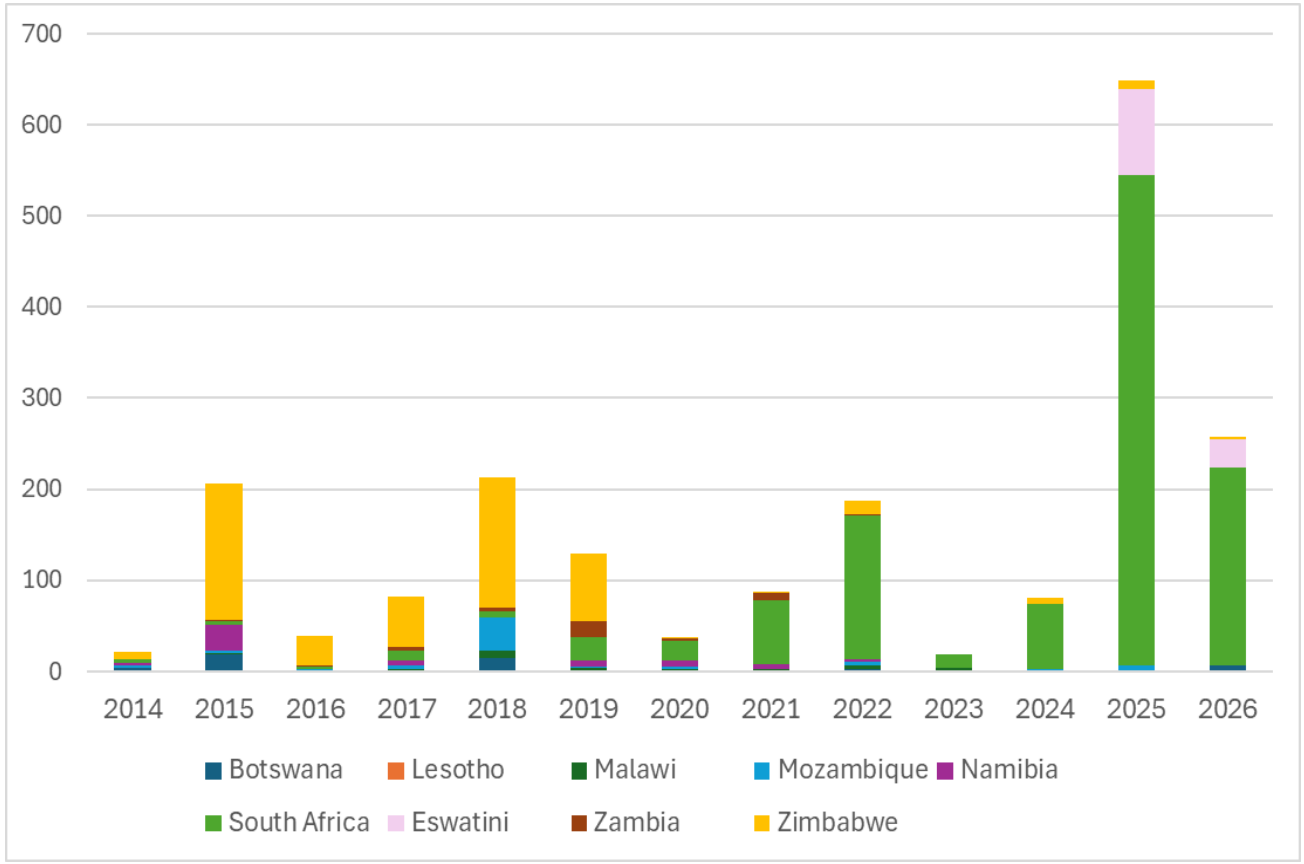
# FMD Virus Pools and Transboundary Risk in Southern Africa

- Southern Africa hosts Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) virus Pool 6.
- Transboundary animal movements associated with trade have occasionally led to incursions from Pool 4.
- A recent instance includes the introduction of FMD serotype O into northern Zambia.



# FMD situation in Southern Africa: 2014-2026

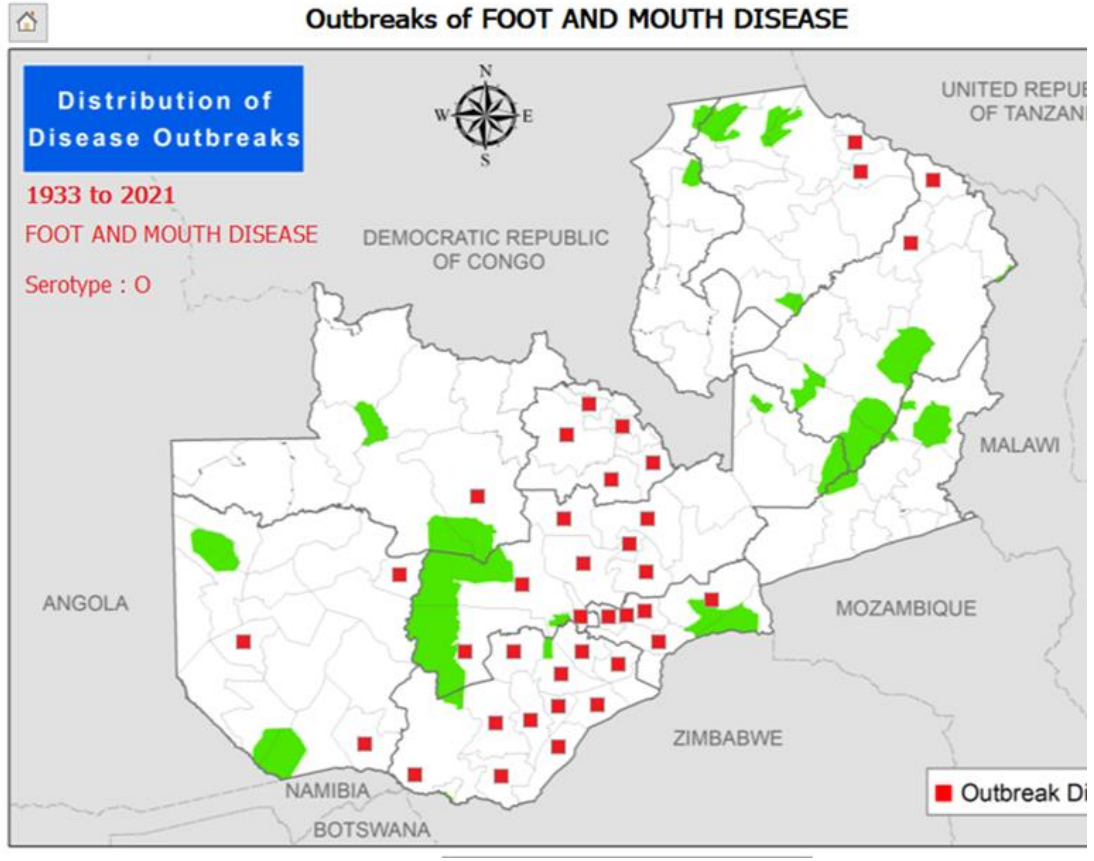
- Since 2014, there has been a rise in the incidence of FMD, with all SADC countries reporting at least one outbreak to date.
- From 2018, South Africa has experienced a renewed increase in FMD outbreaks.
- The FMD status in Angola remains uncertain, likely due to insufficient reporting.



# FMD Serotype O Incursion in Southern Africa

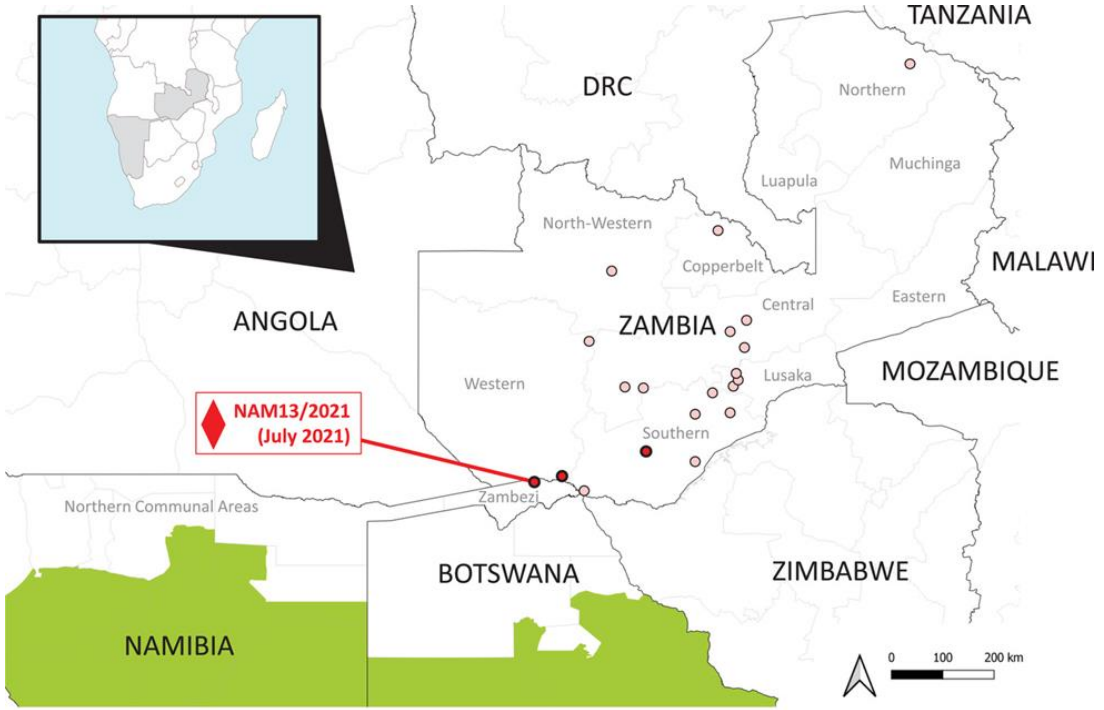
- The initial outbreak was identified in Chisamba district, in April 2018.
- The virus was classified as Type O (Topotype EA-2) by both BVI and WRLFMD.
- By 2019, the virus had spread to Monze and Mazabuka districts in the Southern Province.
- Between 2019 and 2020, the virus expanded to most provinces, including Central, Copperbelt, Lusaka, and Western.
- Ultimately, the virus reached Kazungula district around March 2020.

***NB: Prior to 2018, outbreaks due to serotype O were restricted to the northern province of Zambia (Banda et al)***



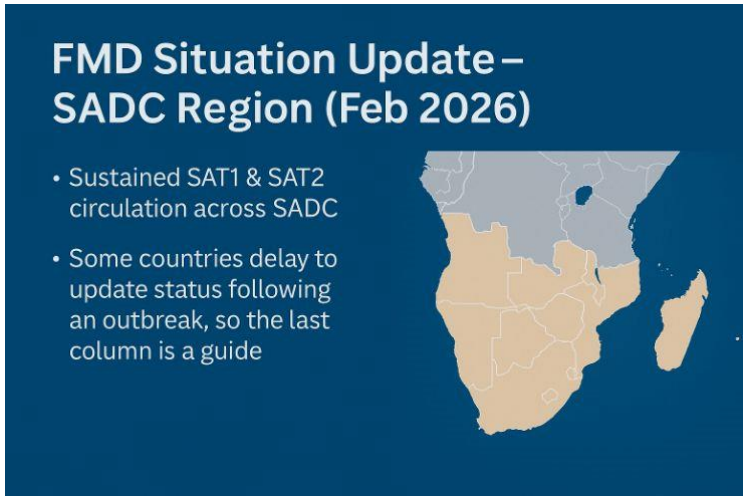
# FMD Serotype O Incursion in Southern Africa cont:

- Incursion reports in Namibia were documented in June 2021.
- The sequences shared the highest nucleotide identity (99.5%) with FMDV isolates obtained from western Zambia.
- Malawi confirmed serotype O infection in March 2022 within the Mchinji district.
- Mozambique reported serotype O infection in May 2022.
- Currently, serotype O has not extended beyond these four countries.



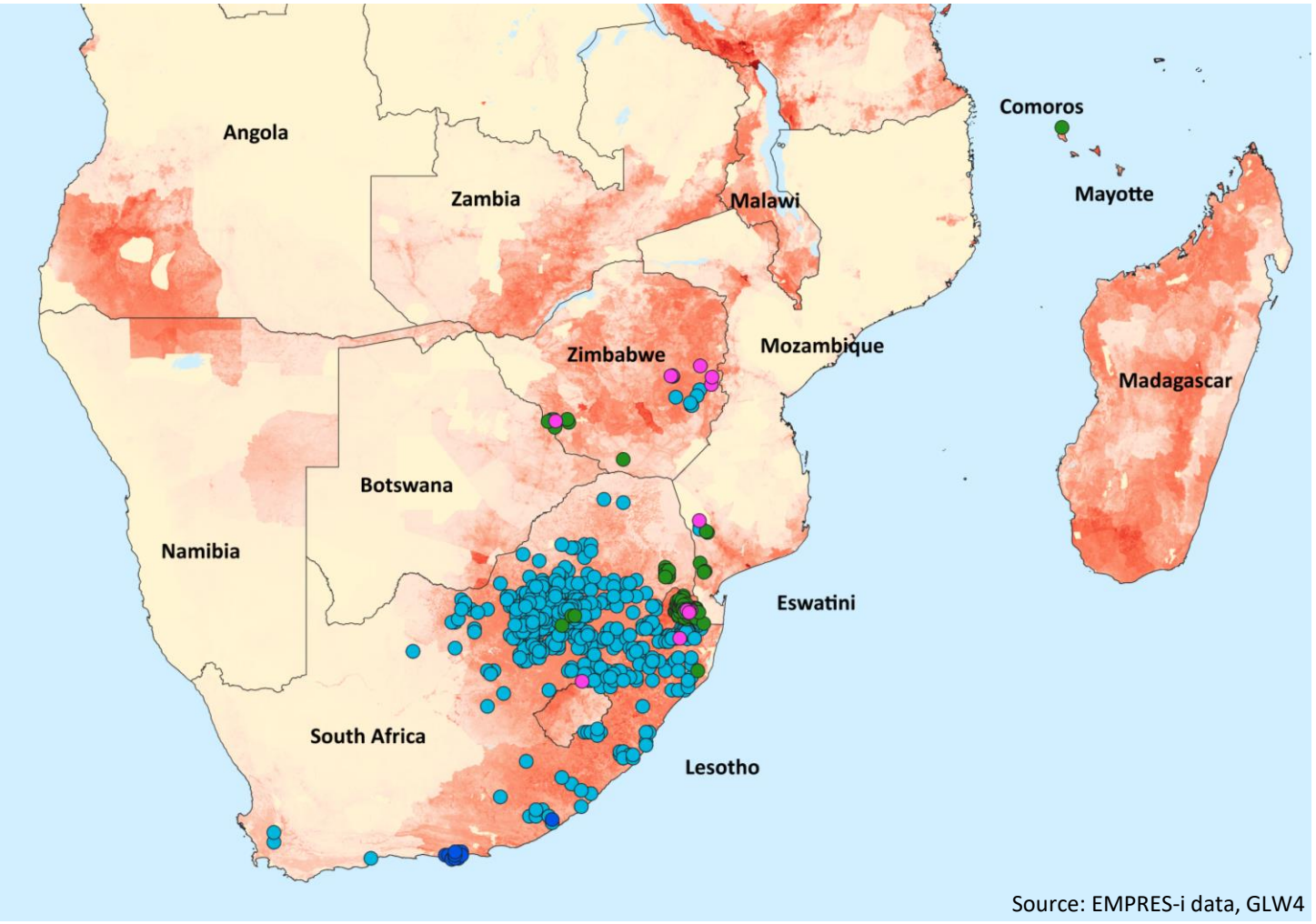
# FMD Situation Update – SADC Region (Feb 2026)

- In 2026, six countries experienced outbreaks: Botswana, Eswatini, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Lesotho.
- Of these, all except Botswana and Lesotho, had also reported outbreaks in 2025.




| Country | FMD serotype | Start Date | Report Date | Outbreak Status (According to the |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Botswana | SAT1 | 25/01/2026 | 01/02/2026 | Ongoing |
| Eswatini | SAT2 | 12/05/2025 | 26/01/2026 | Ongoing |
| Eswatini | SAT1 | 19/09/2025 | 26/01/2026 | Ongoing |
| Mozambique | SAT2 | 03/06/2025 | 28/01/2026 | Ongoing |
| South Africa | SAT1 | 01/10/2025 | 03/02/2026 | Ongoing |
| Zimbabwe | SAT1 | 05/01/2026 | 16/01/2026 | Ongoing |

# Geographic distribution of FMD virus in Southern Africa Region




## FMD virus detections by serotype

01 January 2024 – 19 February 2026

- Not available
- SAT1
- SAT2
- SAT3

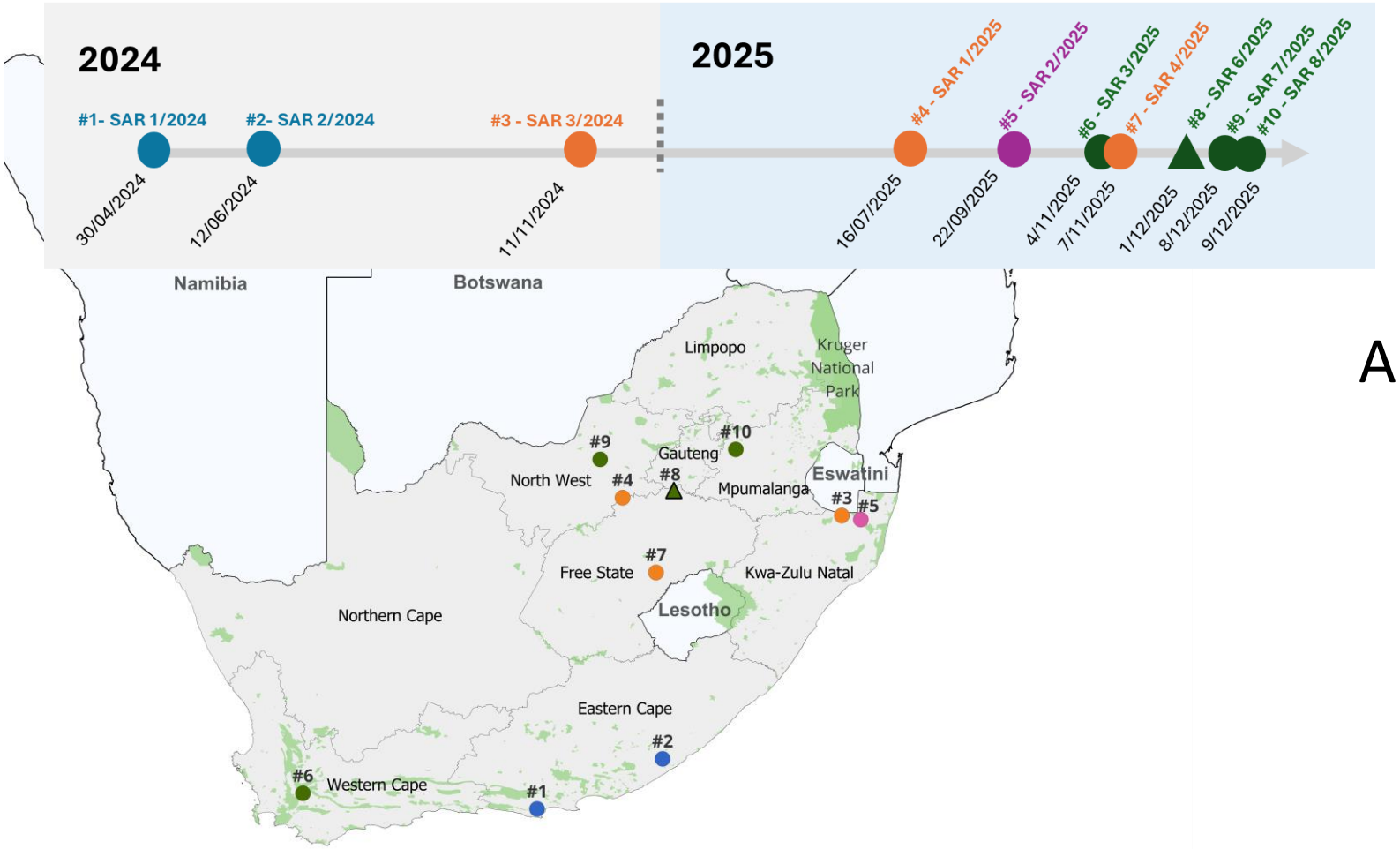
FMD virus serotypes

175+

0

Cattle density (heads/km$^2$)

# Geographic distribution of FMD virus in South Africa




## FMD virus detections by serotype and topotype

April 2024 - December 2025

Cattle
Pig

SAT1 Topotype II
SAT1 Topotype III
SAT2 Topotype I
SAT3 Topotype I

National Protected Areas are shown in light green. Source: WRLFMD report; UN World Map; South Africa Geo Portal, 2026).

# FMD Situation Update – South Africa

## South Africa Overview

- High outbreak burden in South Africa
- **24,400+** cases reported in 2025 (record high)
- 8/9 provinces affected, SAT1/SAT2/SAT3 present
- Mass vaccination campaign starting Feb 2026


## Economic Impacts in South Africa

- Beef exports projected to drop to 13,000 tons in 2026
- Export losses may reach R2.6 billion by end-2026
- Dairy sector losses exceed R1 billion
- Knock-on effect expected on the other countries in the subregion

# Key issues to note

- The involvement of wildlife in the epidemiology of FMD in Southern Africa complicates effective disease management.
- Five of the seven FMD virus serotypes (O, A, SAT 1, SAT 2, and SAT 3) are currently present in Southern Africa, with varying geographic distributions.
- The extensive genetic diversity, encompassing over 60 strains across the seven serotypes, necessitates ongoing evaluation of vaccine effectiveness.
- The illegal movement of livestock across borders significantly contributes to the transmission of FMD within SADC countries.

# Key issues to note cont:

- Ineffective prophylactic vaccination programs lead to disease re-emergence and further spread.
- Vaccination costs are notably high, especially when implemented in response to outbreaks.
- There is a low rate of sample submissions to WOAH reference laboratories.
- Challenges in transporting samples to reference laboratories persist, as many countries lack the capacity for safe handling and transport of infectious materials.

# Reflection & Way Forward

- The rising frequency and spread of TADs events in the region necessitate a coordinated, more vigorous, and sustained response from all countries.
- Transparency is crucial, given the unprecedented impact on the livestock sector, including export restrictions, job losses, and threats to livelihoods.
- There is a need to consider harmonizing vaccination programs, especially in border areas.
- Countries are encouraged to collaborate on joint post-vaccination sero-monitoring studies to assess vaccine efficacy.

# Reflection & Way Forward cont:

- Research and development of new vaccine strains that closely match the circulating viruses in the region should be prioritized.

- It is expected that this meeting will inspire confidence in countries to implement robust systems for improved FMD management and facilitate open, candid discussions.

- FAO stands ready to provide technical assistance through its decentralized offices and headquarters.

# Reflection & Way Forward cont:

**Success requires:**

- Strong political will
- Appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks
- Effective veterinary services with technical capacities for animal disease control and compliance with international standards, and
- Adequate financing

# In Conclusion

- Foot-and-mouth disease remains a **strategic regional risk**, with growing economic, trade, and livelihood impacts across Southern Africa.

- **No country can manage FMD alone**—transboundary movements and shared ecosystems demand coordinated regional solutions.

- Sustained progress requires **political leadership**, transparent reporting, and alignment of national policies with regional commitments.

- **Investment in prevention pays off**: risk-based vaccination, surveillance, and strong veterinary services are more cost-effective than crisis response.

- FAO, with WOAH and partners, is committed to **supporting country-led action**, SADC Secretariat's regional coordination, and rapid response—**but success depends on national ownership and collective commitment**.


FAO
Thank you