

# Beyond FMD – Broader Benefits of FMD Control for Animal Health Systems

TAFS Conference:

“Strengthening FMD control capacity and  
enhance resilience”

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# FMD: a high-impact transboundary disease

FMD is a high-impact, devastating transboundary disease with far-reaching consequences



Controlling FMD is not just about FMD – it strengthens the entire animal health system

# FMD control - a catalyst for broader animal health benefits

- Increasing awareness, improving farm practices
- Strengthening veterinary services
- Promoting preventive approaches
- Mobilization of resources
- Institutional strengthening



# Increased awareness

- Improved biosecurity and farm practices
- Stronger farmer engagement and awareness around disease signs (early detection)



# Strengthening of veterinary and surveillance systems

- Increased laboratory capacity
- Improved disease surveillance and reporting systems
  - earlier detection of emerging diseases
- Increasing capacity among veterinarians and para-vets
  - more staff and better training and further education
- Improved infrastructure for disease prevention and control
- Investment in animal identification and movement control
- Stronger regulatory framework
  - emergency preparedness

# Promoting preventive approaches

FMD control shifts the mindset toward prevention

- Regular vaccination campaigns establish infrastructure for other diseases
- Improved herd health management
  - Biosecurity, housing, etc.
- Greater acceptance of preventive treatments
  - e.g. deworming, vaccinations

# Mobilization of Resources and Funding Opportunities

FMD control attracts attention and resources that spill over:

- National funding often increases and can be used for integrated health programs
- International donors (e.g. FAO, WOAHA, EU) support broader capacity building
- Public-private partnerships established for FMD often extend to other disease priorities

# Institutional Strengthening and Policy Improvements

FMD programs drive long-term system improvements

- Better inter-agency coordination
  - Animal health, border control, trade
- Policies for emergency response, vaccination strategy, and animal identification
- Frameworks and platforms created for FMD can be reused for other diseases
  - ASF, PPR, etc

Example:

## Strengthened Surveillance Systems through the PCP-FMD

- Surveillance platforms developed for FMD were adapted to track other diseases
  - Rift Valley Fever (RVF), Brucellosis, and PPR
- Field training for FMD syndromic surveillance improved recognition of other diseases in livestock
- Mobile-based reporting tools introduced during FMD programs allowed faster detection and reporting of zoonotic outbreaks
  - e.g. anthrax, RVF
- Establishment of multi-disease surveillance teams due to cross-sectoral training initially funded under FMD programs
  - veterinary and public health staff

# Example: Diagnostic Capacity Improvements in Southeast Asia

- Laboratories upgraded for FMD RT-PCR and virus isolation were later used for detecting other diseases
  - Avian Influenza, Classical Swine Fever, and African Swine Fever
- Training of lab personnel improved overall lab readiness for emerging disease threat
- Regional networking fostered under FMD programs (e.g. SEACFMD) enabled rapid knowledge sharing when new diseases appeared

# Why public private partnerships matter for disease control!

Public Private Partnerships bring together complementary strengths that no single sector can deliver on its own:

## Public sector contributes

- Policy leadership, regulation, and legitimacy
- National surveillance systems and outbreak response authority
- Long-term public health and food security objectives

## Private sector contributes

- Vaccines, diagnostics, logistics, and innovation
- Operational efficiency and field experience
- Investment capacity and rapid scale-up

 Effective disease control depends on structured collaboration between public authorities and private partners.

# PPPs strengthen the entire animal health system

Well-designed PPPs generate system-wide benefits:

## Stronger surveillance & early detection

- Shared data, laboratories, and field networks
- Faster outbreak detection for FMD and other priority diseases

## Capacity building & resilience

- Training of veterinarians and para-professionals
- Stronger preparedness for future animal health emergencies

## Improved vaccination & service delivery

- Better vaccine availability, cold chain, and coverage
- More predictable planning and sustainable programs

## Economic & social benefits

- Reduced losses for farmers and value chains
- Increased trust, transparency, and shared ownership



Investing in PPPs for diseases control delivers long-term returns for animal health systems, livelihoods, and food security.

# Conclusion and Take-Home Messages

- Controlling FMD brings system-wide improvements
- Investments in FMD = investments in resilience
- The goal is integrated, sustainable animal health systems

Let's use FMD as a  
platform to build stronger  
defenses for all diseases

Thank you for your attention!

