



# **KAZA**

## **Animal Health Sub Working Group**

### **Workplan**

### **(rev. 2024)**

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# 1. KAZA AHSWG workplan: priority activities (2024 - 2028)

## Priority


Critical: most important

High: very important


Medium: important, needs to be done

Low: desirable, not urgent (long term)

## Status









 In progress, on track this year

 No action required this year








 Little to no progress

## Timeframe

 Priority for 2024

Topic	Objective	WP No.	Activity	Responsible	Location	Details	Priority	Status	Timeline				
									'24	'25	'26	'27	'28
ANIMAL PRODUCTION & LIVELIHOODS	Facilitate sustainable integrated land use & livelihoods in KAZA	1.1	Initiate, then expand, CBT-Herding for Health model (H4H) pilot sites across KAZA	PSs, H4Hope, communities, CLAWS, WEA, CI, PPF, VFWT, AHEAD	BW, ZM, ZW	Various stages from feasibility studies to implementation at production level (e.g. herding/kraaling pilots), with protocols & Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Involve policy makers & land authorities. Source funding to implement H4H in BW eastern panhandle (a priority), as per risk mitigation identified in phase 2 fencing disease risk assessment.			X	X	X	X	X
		1.2	Conduct State of Livestock Assessment for KAZA	van Rooyen (H4Hope), PS reps (contacts)	KAZA region	Phase 1 (gap analysis) to source data & assess gaps. Phase 2 (gap filling) thereafter, pending funding. PSs to provide points of contact for data needs. Consultation, field visits. Include: • livestock no's & distribution, cattleposts, water • spatial prioritisation for key WDAs, border areas & fences • info on current livestock ID systems in KAZA • assess regional abattoir capacity • assess CBT market opportunities for other KAZA sites • highlight regional synergies e.g. certifying abattoirs			X	X	X		
		1.3	Develop harmonised protocols & SOPs for dealing with illegal movement & trade of livestock, wildlife & their products	PSs (DVS & Wildlife)		Desktop. In partnership with law enforcement agencies. Assess existing protocols for opportunities for harmonisation across KAZA landscape.				X			
		1.4	Develop framework for a KAZA trade brand for livestock products	H4Hope, AHEAD, others		To be informed by KAZA state of livestock assessment. Brand to focus on products produced in a wildlife friendly, climate smart way that could facilitate local & international trade.				X			
		1.5	Develop framework for a KAZA trade brand for wildlife products	H4Hope, others		For example, for sustainably harvested products.				X			
PREPAREDNESS	Improve ability to mitigate disease risk (through analysis of control options)	2.1	Conduct survey of epidemiological capacity within KAZA	PS reps (epi), Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA region	Desktop. To better coordinate disease surveillance & investigation efforts across PSs in future. Survey request sent to AHSWG PS reps May 2022 by L. Rosen (limited response); resent Aug 2023. Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) to direct their epidemiologist (epi) to collaborate. KAZA Desk Officers can assist in sending formal requests.			X				
		2.2	Determine high/low risk areas and resource gaps	PS reps (TBD)	KAZA region	Progress envisioned once epi capacity survey completed. Focus on priority diseases. ID perception & resource disparities between countries.					X	X	
		2.3	Assess vaccination and other control measures	PS reps (TBD)	KAZA region	ID disparities between countries & develop MoUs, protocols, SOPs.					X	X	

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TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	Build surveillance, diagnostic & forensic capacity in KAZA	3.1	Conduct training needs assessment for KAZA	Rosen (AHSWG epi), Foggini (VFWT), PS reps (contacts)	KAZA region	Survey &/or interviews. ID training needs within KAZA & for which target group(s); ID existing capacities (for trainings). To inform capacity building interventions, incl. for field operatives & laboratory staff. PSs to provide points of contact.			X				
		3.2	Train field officers; animal health technicians	PSs (CVOs)	KAZA region	Pending training needs assessment. Capacity-building to focus on recognising, reporting and sampling for disease (surveillance & diagnostics), incl. in passive surveillance. Consider developing training manual (standardised).				X	X		
		3.3	Train laboratory staff	PSs (CVOs)	KAZA region	Pending training needs assessment. Capacity-building to focus on diagnostic testing and forensics.				X	X		
SURVEILLANCE	Improve decision making by making surveillance data more comparable across KAZA landscape	4.1	Collate existing SOPs for disease surveillance	PS reps (DVS, Wildlife), Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA region	Desktop. PSs to send digital copies (PDF) of SOPs to L. Rosen. Survey & info request sent to PS reps in May 2022 by L. Rosen (limited response); resent in Aug 2023.			X				
		4.2	Collate data on recent & planned surveillance operations within KAZA	PS reps (DVS, Wildlife), Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA region	Compile list of surveillance operations (where/when) to improve understanding of current scope of surveillance efforts across PSs. Data from 2022 onwards (passive & active operations); update annually. CVOs to direct their epi. to collaborate			X	X	X	X	X
		4.3	Assess existing SOPs to determine if updates &/or harmonisation would increase efficiency of surveillance procedures	PS reps (DVS, Wildlife), Rosen (AHSWG epi)		Desktop. Long term, lower priority.				X			
		4.4	Based on assessment, provide support to those countries requiring SOP development			Through inter-country support. Progress envisioned once assessment of existing SOPs completed.					X		
	Strengthen disease surveillance, monitoring & response	4.5	Promote & facilitate more rigorous passive surveillance	PS reps (DVS focal point, epi)		Through greater observation, reporting & sharing of data.			X				
		4.6	Undertake joint cross border harmonisation meetings	PSs (DVS), WOA, FAO, Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA region	PSs to start to plan collaboratively. To improve coordination & harmonisation of TADs prevention & control across borders. Process to eventually include development of strategies & implementation plans. Zambia to host next meeting (per resolutions from 2023 Namibia mtg). Ideally with representation from 5 PSs, WOA, FAO, AHSWG epi.			X	X	X	X	X
		4.7	Undertake joint (where feasible) targeted surveillance operations	PSs (DVS), AHSWG SC reps		PSs to start to plan collaboratively. Outcomes of cross border harmonisation meetings to inform strategies. Process to eventually include development of MoU & protocols/SOPs for shared operations.				X	X	X	X
		4.8	Develop good practice guidelines for disease surveillance in KAZA			Long term. To enable cost effective & focused surveillance. No entity/person identified to lead this activity.						X	X

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DIAGNOSTICS	Strengthen diagnostic & forensic capability to improve disease management & forensic ID	5.1	Conduct assessment of specific diagnostic testing needs in KAZA	Foggin (VFWT), Rosen (AHSWG epi), PS reps (contacts)	KAZA region	Survey of key stakeholders in KAZA. Identify specific testing needs within KAZA & ID which labs can or cannot perform them. Logical next step to lab capacity assessment. PSs to provide points of contact.			X				
		5.2	Promote use of regional (KAZA) facilities/labs	Lab directors	KAZA region	To increase efficiency esp. related to wildlife diseases & KAZA priority diseases. Progress envisioned once lab capacity & diagnostic needs assessments are completed. Lab director group is needed.				X	X	X	
		5.3	Improve efficiency of diagnosis of diseases of immediate public health concern	TBD		To include anthrax, rabies, poisoning. Progress envisioned as use of regional labs promoted.				X	X		
		5.4	Assess importance and provide diagnosis of other (emerging) zoonoses	TBD		Long term						X	
		5.5	Enhance forensic capacity in existing laboratories & collaboration	Forensic lab directors	KAZA region	Most forensics currently sent outside KAZA. To include equipment & infrastructure (note: lab staff training in Training & Development section). Collaboration between labs is needed.					X		
		5.6	Develop protocol for simplified permitting of diagnostic & forensic sample movement in KAZA	Rosen (AHSWG epi), Foggin (VFWT), PS reps (contacts)		Develop blanket permit. Start with proposal for wildlife sample movement using simplified procedures, for considerations by Directors. SOPs thereafter. May eventually require MoU. Consider forming small task team that works on modalities of sample movement within KAZA. Relevant PS reps: • AN - TBD • BW - DVS, Import/Export, Asst Dir DWNP, CITES office • NA - DVS, Import/Export, MEFT DSS • ZM - TBD • ZW - DVS DVTs, ZPWMA			X				
		5.7	Work towards official accreditation for select lab facilities (for select diseases/forensic tests) within KAZA	Lab directors, PS reps (DVS)		Long term. Progress envisioned once lab capacity & diagnostic needs assessments are completed & agreement on SOP for sample movement achieved. Official accreditation (for testing) via SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS)					X	X	X

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DISEASE CONTROL	Improve KAZA-wide disease management	6.1	Develop protocol for disease outbreak response in a transboundary setting	PS reps, Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA region	To ensure harmonised approaches to disease response across borders. Develop SOPs thereafter in line with existing guidelines & SADC/WOAH protocols.		○			X		
		6.2	Coordinate shared emergency response & reference lab confirmations	PS reps	KAZA region	Long term. Progress envisioned once protocol developed & capacity built.		○			X	X	X
		6.3	Coordinate vaccination campaigns (activities to be synchronised)	PS reps, Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA region	Initial step - develop calendar of vaccination campaigns & propose synchronised campaigns at select sites in KAZA – to facilitate transboundary engagement on disease prevention measures.		●	X				
		6.4	Facilitate access to resources to improve control of priority diseases	AHSWG reps, FAO, SADC Sec		To consider anthrax, rabies - urgent for some countries. For example, funding/technical support through FAO, SADC, World Bank.		●	X				
		6.5	Develop KAZA-wide disease control plan	PS reps (CVOs)		Long term. To base on risk assessment & ID of high risk areas.		○			X		
	Ensure fencing decisions are based on sound cross-sectoral cost/benefit analysis	6.6	Determine mechanisms in place in each PS for cross-sectoral engagement on fencing issues (start w/ key government authorities)	Individual countries (DVS reps)		Consultation with relevant stakeholders and written communication; specific activities to be determined thereafter. Some progress in BW & NA		●	X				
		6.7	Re-establish & maintain Botswana multi-sectoral National Committee on Cordon Fences to review fencing issues	BW (DVS & DWNP co-chairs), AHEAD (support)	BW	Meetings of Committee; input from technical experts on specific issues, as required. Consider fencing in BW land use planning, including NG1-NG4.		●	X	X	X		
		6.8	Conduct veterinary fences assessment (phase 1) - impacts on wildlife in KAZA's WDAs	AHEAD consortium in partnership with BW & KAZA Sec	BW & BW-NA border fences	Ground & aerial surveys; analysis of GPS collared wildlife. Draft report presented to BW national fencing committee (2020/2021). KAZA Secretariat/Defra awaiting official Botswana clearance to place final April 2022 report in the public domain.		●	X				
		6.9	Conduct veterinary fencing assessment (phase 2) – disease risk	AHEAD in partnership with BW & NA, AHSWG	BW & BW-NA border fences	Focus on fences identified as most problematic to wildlife movement (from phase 1). Report being finalised, based on May 2024 validation meeting recommended actions.		●	X				
		6.10	Conduct veterinary fencing assessment (phase 3) – community perspectives	AHEAD in partnership with BW & NA, AHSWG	BW & BW-NA border fences	Source funding. Focus on communities living near Northern Buffalo fence and Zambezi Border fence (east of Okavango River), as identified in phase 2 (disease risk) recommended actions.		●	X	X			
		6.11	Develop holistic KAZA-wide fencing strategy as part of broader land use planning process	PS reps (DVS, Wildlife), AHSWG	KAZA wide	Long term		○			X		

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COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION & OUTREACH	Enable more effective transboundary communication & collaboration	7.1	Set up & maintain WhatsApp group for field level operatives	Ramsden (AHEAD), 1 admin per PS	Virtual	Initiated (2019). Include PS reps (DVS, Animal Prod, Wildlife) & private sector. Develop rules of communication.			X	X	X	X	X
		7.2	Institute veterinary officer meetings (field level)	PS reps	Virtual	For DVS & wildlife officers stationed in KAZA. Initial step: brief &/or write to superiors in PSs. Use existing mechanisms where possible e.g. TBNRM forum. Some ad-hoc comms at field level, but no deliberate KAZA meetings yet. One virtual meeting in 2024; more frequently thereafter.			X	X	X	X	X
	Promote effective communication & information sharing, with emphasis on One Health partners	7.3	Invite relevant human health reps to AHSWG, as required	AHSWG to advise KAZA Sec	KAZA wide	To improve coordination with human health agencies				X	X	X	X
		7.4	Evaluate existing databases & determine feasibility of establishing shared database	PS reps, AHSWG SC, Rosen (AHSWG epi)	KAZA wide	Long term. Consider filters to WAHIS database (look at USGS National Wildlife Health Center database as example). Short term - develop Excel contact lists of AHSWG members, PSs epi & field officers stationed in KAZA. Share with respective groups, incl. KAZA Desk Officers.			X		X	X	
		7.5	Consider developing One Health framework for funding opportunities under World Bank	TBD		Initially gather task team; confirm if the proposal needs to be at the KAZA level or individual PS level. To include HPAI. Defer to 2025/26 given competing priorities.				X	X		
		7.6	Consider developing AHSWG strategic framework	AHSWG SC; AHEAD		Use elephant framework as a rough guide (short, lay-friendly). Can be used to mobilise resources for AHSWG work. Defer to 2025 given competing priorities.				X			
RESEARCH	Guide research to address knowledge gaps & inform science-based decision making	8.1	Engage regional universities/institutions to help inform research questions & facilitate research under AHSWG	WWF-NA, AHSWG, KAZA Sec		To improve ability to mitigate disease risk, including, for example, interface issues of relevance to KAZA. Initial step - WWF-NA to share report from workshop hosted by UNAM that might assist, incl. on data management & research.			X				
		8.2	Identify research gaps & priorities	PS reps (DVS, Wildlife, Animal Prod), AHSWG		Preliminary list prepared by AHEAD & shared with SC for expansion in 2019. Next steps - PSs to review existing research permits & create list of current research of relevance to KAZA. AHSWG to prepare lists of research gaps & priorities.				X			
		8.3	Conduct further research on maintenance of FMD virus in cattle	AHSWG		Initial steps - engage regional universities/institutions conducting FMD research (e.g. UNAM, OVI, NUST, CIRAD, ORI, CLAWS) & create list of existing/ongoing research.			X				
		8.4	Further research whether FMD serotype O can be carried/spread by buffalo	PS reps (DVS, Wildlife), AHSWG		Literature to date points to very low likelihood, but this has not been looked at in detail in KAZA. Initial step – gather info on research to date.			X				
		8.5	Harmonise research & policy priorities across working groups & partners in KAZA	TBD		Long term						X	X

## 2. Priority diseases for KAZA

### Tier-I diseases

Anthrax  
Foot and mouth disease (FMD), incl. serotype O  
Bovine tuberculosis (BTB)  
Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP)  
Rabies  
Peste des petits ruminants (PPR)  
Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)  
African swine fever (ASF)

### Tier-II diseases

Bovine brucellosis  
Canine distemper virus (CDV)  
Trypanosomiasis (Angola)  
Bacterial septicaemia (incl. Bisgaard taxon 45, *Pasteurella multocida*) - elephants  
Malignant catarrhal fever (MCF) - wildebeest  
Rift Valley fever (RVF)  
Epizootic ulcerative syndrome (EUS) - fish