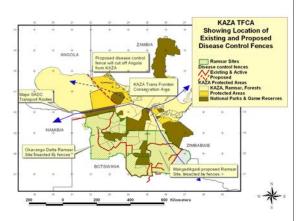
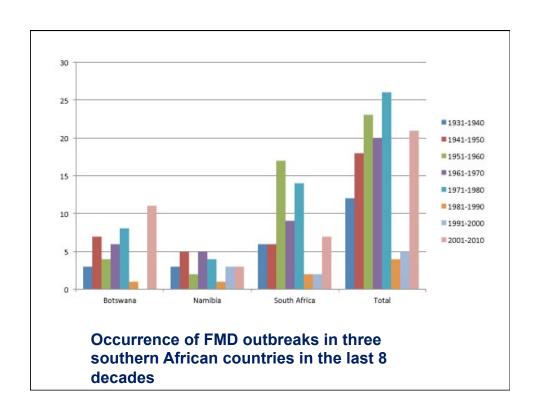
Joint SADC/AHEAD Workshop: Gaborone, November 2012

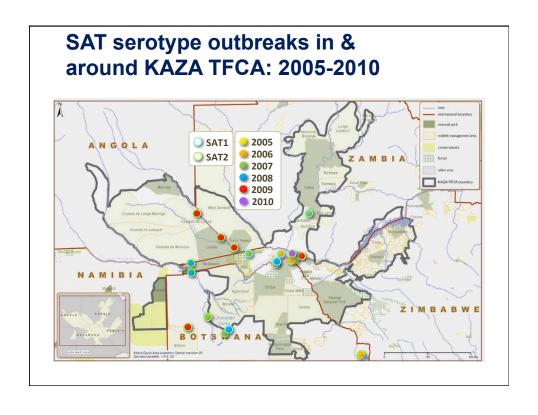
Management of FMD in Southern Africa: Status, challenges & opportunities



Gavin Thomson & John Bashiruddin

Status

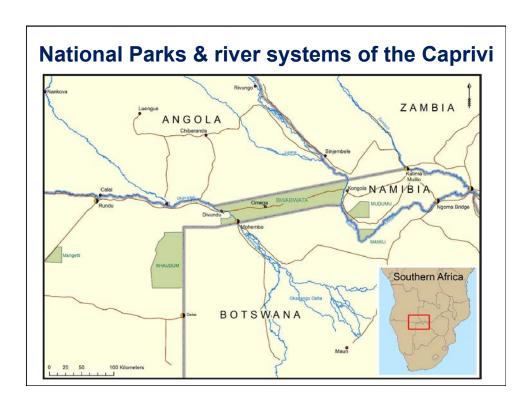


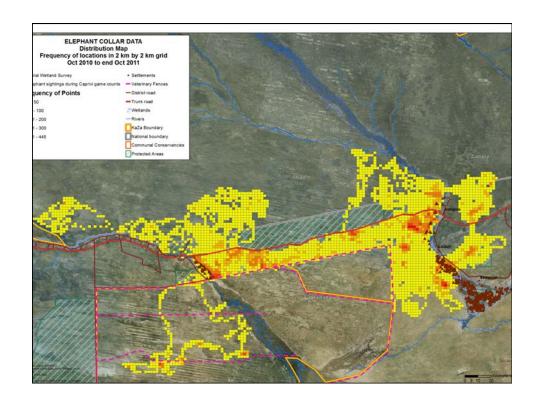


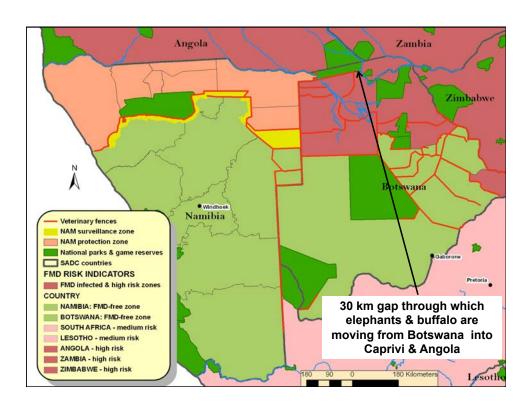
Recent major events with regional implications

- Occurrence of SAT outbreaks in unexpected locations 2009-2012
- Zimbabwe/Mozambique/Botswana: Viruses on same SAT2 lineage cause outbreaks in Gaza & Maputo Provinces (Mozambique), Matabeleland South (Zimbabwe) & Zones 6 & 7 (Botswana)
 - indicative of very widespread occurrence of lineage in southern Africa probably derived from Zimbabwe (source unlikely to be buffalo), i.e. indirect evidence of cattle endemicity
- South Africa: Occurrence of SAT2 in cattle in northern KZN that reportedly subclinical

 costing SA's livestock industry around R 4 billion per annum (FMD-free zone lost)
 - export of breeding animals (domestic & wildlife) also stopped







Challenges

Major issues

- Regional information gathering & interpretation
 - WAHID not detailed enough for effective analysis
 - Southern African FMD Bulletin currently unfinanced
- Vast range of antigenic variants within SAT serotypes (renders prophylactic vaccination programmes problematic & threatens exports)
 - buffalo virus collection exercises not enough
- Vaccine related issues
 - Outbreaks in vaccinated cattle populations: what's the reason?
 - Difficulty in developing new vaccine strains (30 years ago was not a problem)
 - Lack of auditing aimed at vaccination programmes

Major issues (cont.)

- The FMD research programme outlined at this meeting is a virological exercise; not oriented to address practical problems of the region, especially not the trade problem
- Goat issue reported by Botswana at this meeting
- Over-hyped attitude of international community towards FMD (the 'manufactured plague') – based on repetition of misinformation originating in Europe & N America & not countered by us
 - 'most highly infectious disease'
 - 'deadly disease'
 - these are half-truths if not straight lies!



UK - 2001

Perceptions of the impact of FMD



Shakawe, Bots - 2009



Bahr-el-Ghazal, S Sudan - 2005

Opportunities

- Doubtless many problem is identifying practical opportunities & combining with capacity & determination
- Most serious problem in our region is (arguably) lack of institutional team-work among the fine institutions that we have (sub-optimally utilized resource):
 - FANR Directorate (SADC) & projects
 - OIE Regional Centre, Gaborone
 - Regional OIE Collaborating Centre based at DVTD, UP
 - Two reference laboratories
 - AHEAD units (KAZA & GL)
 - SACIDS
 - ? The Pirbright Laboratory International partner
- Potentially a 'dream team', ideally suited to addressing the justifiable concerns of Botswana's Deputy Permanent Secretary for Agriculture