Strengthening Preparedness, Prevention and Control Against HPAI and Other Priority Livestock Diseases in Africa
An Integrated Approach

Samuel Wakhusama (PhD)
Nairobi, Kenya
8 July 2008
Animal Health’s Contribution to Livelihood in Africa

- Animal Diseases create barriers to livestock productivity and agricultural development
  - Decrease access to markets and trade and institutionalize poverty
  - Threaten food security and livelihoods

- Sub-Saharan Africa: annual economic losses from animal diseases estimated to be >US$4B
  - Direct and indirect losses from mortality, slow growth, low fertility, decreased work output, etc.
OVERALL USAID AI STRATEGY

Objectives:

• Prevent and contain H5N1 outbreaks in animals and humans

• Prepare for a human influenza pandemic
Key Principles:

• Follow technical recommendations of WHO, FAO, OIE
• Support prevention and containment of animal and human outbreaks
• Use existing platforms (where available), including at regional and community level
• Work closely with other partners/donors
Focus Areas:

- Preparedness/planning
- Early detection, reporting and surveillance
- Response and containment
- Crosscutting activities: communications and information management
Priority Activities for Enhancing Animal Health Systems in Africa

- Effective and Efficient Disease Prevention and Control
- Information Management Systems
- Early Detection, Surveillance and Reporting of Priority Livestock Infectious Disease Threats
- Strengthen Private and Public Partnerships
Africa AI/Animal Health Program
Results Achieved 2007--2008

• Training/Workshops
  – Surveillance (Epidemiology and Laboratory)
  – Biosecurity
  – Outbreak Response and Investigation

• Table-top, Simulation Exercises to Test /Improve Operational Plans

• Provision of Materials for Safe and Effective Response with Training

• Risk Behavior Research with Communication Messages Developed and Tested

• Avian Influenza Partner Meetings in West, Eastern and Southern Africa
Africa AI/Animal Health Program
Results Achieved 2007--2008

- Development and Piloting of AfricaAI.Net Website
- Survey Assessment of Regional and National African Livestock Institutions
- African animal health information systems assessment completed with plan developed to provide comprehensive capability for field data collection and reporting:
  - Central data depository
  - Connectivity between regional district offices and headquarters
  - Field data collection using handheld devices
Planned /Ongoing Activities and Expected Results 2008-09

- Mapping and Risk Analysis for Targeted Surveillance and Interventions
- Strengthening private sector networks and participation
- Development, production and improved access to vaccines to prevent and control priority diseases
- Evaluation of options for implementation of feasible and sustainable sub-regional laboratory networks
- Strengthening information systems to maximize usefulness of surveillance and disease reporting
Regional Coordinating Mechanisms

- **African Union**
  - Department of Regional Environment and Agriculture
  - AU Inter-Africa Bureau for Animal Resources

- **Alive – (African Livestock)**

- **FAO/OIE/AU-IBAR** regional animal health centers in Bamako, Nairobi, Gabarone, and Tunis

- **COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, SADC, etc.**

- **Inter-Governmental Authority on Development**
A Shared Vision for Animal Agriculture Development in Africa

- Common Goals and Objectives to Exiting Initiatives e.g., CAADP (RELPA)
- Strengthening regional/sub-regional platforms linked to national capacity building
- Integrated disease approach
- Improving animal health systems will lead to:
  - Improved public health
  - Increased livestock production and poverty reduction
  - Increased access to markets
  - Improved herd management before, during and after crises such as disease outbreaks and drought
Priority Diseases to Address

• Poultry
  – *Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease, Gumboro’s Disease

• Domestic ruminants & Wildlife

• Pigs
  – African Swine Fever

  * Zoonotic Diseases
Examples of Measurable Impact from Infectious Diseases

- **RVF**: Over 100 human deaths, huge livestock losses with abortions, 150 $M loss in export trade
- **PPR**: Emerging disease in Kenya, Uganda, endemic in Somalia
  - Kenya, 8 districts, of 20 M, 7M livestock affected, mortality about 46%
  - Uganda, 10 districts, 2.2 M of 8.3 M sheep and goats affected, up to 17% mortality
  - Tanzania may serve as a buffer zone or increase risk of spread into Southern Africa
- **Avian Influenza** outbreak scare in 2005 resulted in estimated KES 2.3 billion (33M US$) loss in Kenya
Summary

• Animal Health is an Essential Component African Development Through Strengthening:
  – Capacity to Address Public Health Threats
  – Food Security and Improve Nutrition
  – Opportunities for economic growth and trade

• People in Africa are largely dependent on Livestock for daily nutrition and cash needs
THANK YOU!