

Dear STOSAR Colleagues,

The impact and gains of the EU-funded STOSAR Project continue to be realized by SADC Member States (MS). The capacities built under the AIMS, Animal Health and Plant Health components of the project have improved the control of transboundary pests and diseases, and compliance of MS to sanitary requirements, thereby creating opportunities for regional and international trade in animal and plant products.

Recent Event Highlights

- AIMS:** Population of the SADC AIMS platform with real national data underway
- Animal Health:** CIRAD developed and released an English version of a video on RNA extraction as a reference tool for the online training on laboratory techniques for SADC Member States on its PRISME platform
- Plant Health:** A validation workshop for the Tomato leafminer and banana Fusarium wilt Tropical Race 4 was held in Zimbabwe to strengthen the country’s phytosanitary measures with support from CABI

Upcoming Events

- AIMS:** A validation workshop for the national AIMS for Mauritius is scheduled to be held on 11 August
- Animal Health:** An animal health awareness campaign on FMD, PPR and HPAI has started in South Africa’s North West Province
- Plant Health:** A regional Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) training will be held from 1-5 August 2022 to further capacitate National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs).

Please do retweet/like our #STOSAR tweets.



Agricultural Information Management Systems



©Enrique Anton

REGIONAL NEWS

AIMS: SADC AIMS Data Population Underway

The data upload process by SADC Member States is currently underway. This will see the newly developed SADC AIMS platform populated with real agricultural data from the region. This data will provide strategic insights from the agricultural information provided to the platform. In addition to this, the STOSAR team is currently working on the AIMS public-facing website that will provide access to several important project documents and a direct link to the AIMS platform.

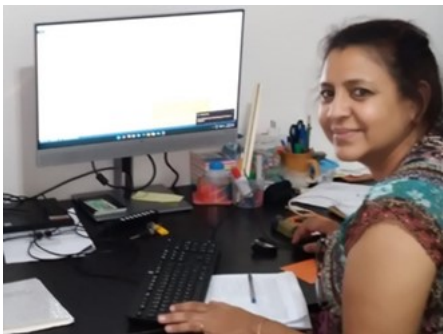


©FAO Angola

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

ANGOLA: National E-Strategy for Agriculture Statistics Developed

Angola has developed a national e-strategy for agricultural statistics following a national AIMS training facilitated by the STOSAR Project. Eighty-nine (89) technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries participated in the training for standardization and harmonization of data collection and analysis. This e-strategy is a step toward ensuring the compatibility and integration of Angola’s information system with that of the new SADC AIMS platform.



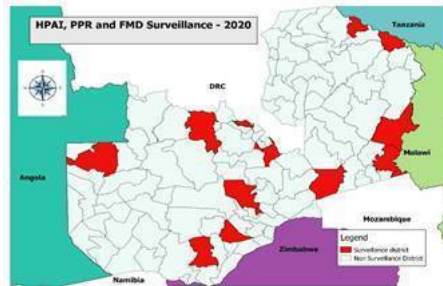
©FAO Mozambique

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

MOZAMBIQUE: Computers Enhancing Data Collection

The AIMS Focal points participated in the first AIMS user training that was conducted on the 11th and 12th of July. This training provided the national Focal point with the tools necessary to use the AIMS computers procured by the STOSAR project to access the platform, publish data on the AIMS database and generate real-time analytical reports and corresponding dashboards. The computers have significantly enhanced the collection of data and analysis.

Animal Health



©FAO Zambia

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

ZAMBIA: PPR, FMD and HPAI Surveillance Activities

The STOSAR Project facilitated a surveillance exercise for FMD, PPR and HPAI in eight selected districts in Zambia based on recent reports of disease outbreaks or the proximity to high-risk infection areas such as livestock markets and neighbouring countries. Increased capacity for better surveillance, early detection and response is critical to ensuring timely control and containment of transboundary animal diseases (TADs), limiting their impact on communities dependent on livestock.



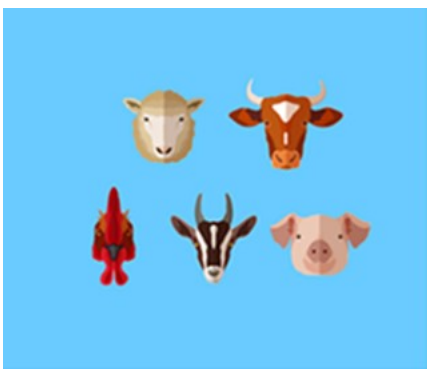
©Steven Lazaro

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

SOUTH AFRICA: Animal Health Awareness Campaign

The STOSAR Project in collaboration with South Africa's Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) is carrying out awareness-raising campaigns on FMD, PPR, and HPAI in the North-West Province. This initiative is to tackle the high-impact TADs detected in some parts of the country and which present a threat to the country's livestock sector and export markets.

<https://twitter.com/faosfsafrica/status/1551819972602642433>



©FAO STOSAR

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

MAURITIUS: Awareness Raising Video Clips Being Developed

FAO's STOSAR project in Mauritius has partnered with the Livestock and Veterinary Division under the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security for the production of sensitization video clips for PPR, FMD and HPAI. These clips will be made in English and French so as to reach out to all relevant stakeholders in the country to mitigate the spread of high-impact TADs, thanks to funding support from the European Union. The development of these animal health video clips follows the recent successful production of a plant health video clip produced in English and French on Biosecurity Awareness.

Plant Health



©FAO Namibia

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

NAMIBIA: PRA for Pomegranate Export to South Africa

The STOSAR Project supported Namibia's NPPO to carry out a PRA at two (2) registered facilities in the Kharas region which intend to produce and export pomegranate to South Africa. Due to the non-existence of import conditions for pomegranate in South Africa, the NPPO of Namibia is required to provide the importing country with a pest information package which will aid in facilitating market access of pomegranate to South Africa for Namibian producers. At the pomegranate production sites, physical inspections were carried out to observe field management practices such as sanitation, pruning and pest control.

<https://twitter.com/FAONamibia/status/1526859517446742022>



©MLAWFRD

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

ZIMBABWE: National Strategies Validated

Following a successful consultative workshop held in Zimbabwe (25-27 July) two national strategies for the management of Tomato leafminer and banana Fusarium wilt Tropical Race 4 were validated. In both cases, the SADC regional management strategies were domesticated to provide a national approach to the control of transboundary pests. Participants from the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Rural Development officials and representatives from the NPPO, Farmers Unions, Pesticides Institutes, Nursery Producers, Agritex, University of Zimbabwe, Midlands State University & Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology reviewed and validated the documents with technical support and guidance from the EU funded STOSAR Project working in partnership with CABI. <https://twitter.com/faosfsafrica/status/1551887498678194177>

COUNTRY OFFICE NEWS

BOTSWANA: NPPO Positions Citrus Project for Export Market



© L. Andrejevic

On 12 July, officers from Botswana's NPPO conducted the first audit of a project at Selibe Phikwe which plans to export citrus fruit to markets in the European Union. The NPPO is receiving financial and technical support to facilitate the implementation of phytosanitary measures required by the export market directly from the European Union and through the STOSAR Project. During the visit, discussions were held on revised EU regulations which require cold treatment of produce, and the implications of this new requirement on the citrus project. A meeting between NPPO staff, EU representatives, FAO STOSAR technical officers and staff from the Selibe Phikwe citrus project is scheduled to take place in the coming months.

For more information contact: STOSAR Regional Project Coordinator elma.zanamwe@fao.org

