

Improving research collaboration and coordination on animal health: Africa and The Middle East Regional Network (AMERN)

David Shamaki, Director, NVRI Vom Nigeria and Chair of the AMERN

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STAR IDAZ

Global Strategy Alliances for the Coordination of Research on Major Infectious Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses (STAR-IDAZ)

Global network launched early 2011 with the goal of improving coordination of research activities on the major infectious diseases of animals (including zoonoses) so as to hasten the delivery of control methods



STAR IDAZ

**The Global network has over;
28 Partners (including Associates)**

Four Regional Networks;

Europe

Americas

Asia and Australasia, and

Africa and the Middle East

**Africa & Middle East Regional Network on Infectious
Diseases of Animals and Zoonoses Research was launched
at a meeting at the Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa**

4-5 November, 2014



Benefits of IRC Membership Collaboration

- **Animal disease problems tend to be global or regional challenges**
- **Improved efficiency and effectiveness of the IRC partners' research programmes**
- **Efficient deployment of national funds for both national and trans-national (joint) research, including research procurement in response to emergency situations.**



Benefits of IRC Membership Collaboration

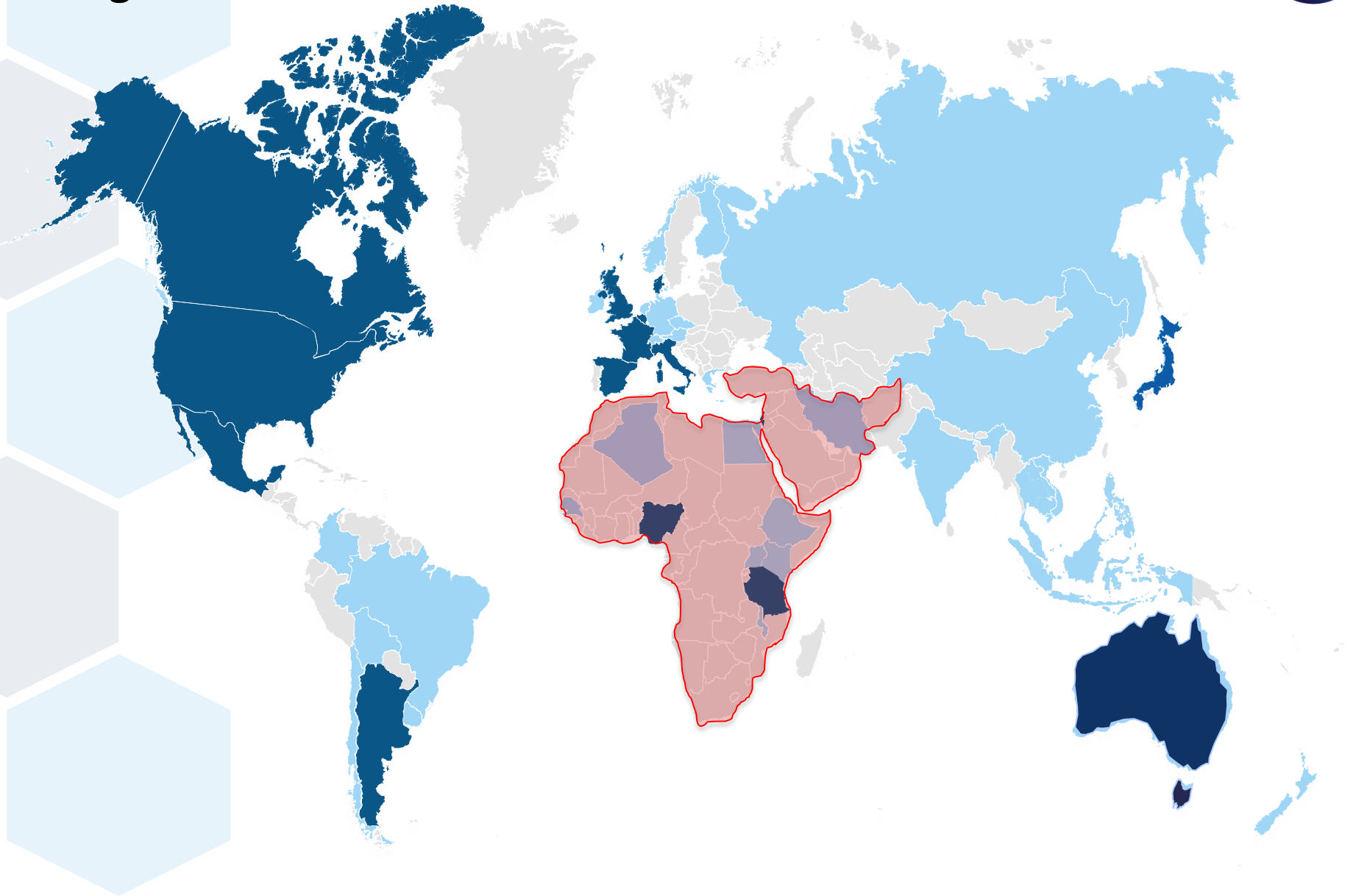
- **Improved availability of information on national research capacity, including expertise.**
- **tools needed for animal disease**
- **Improved animal health strategies, reducing production losses, improving food security and facilitating trade**

Benefits of IRC Membership Collaboration



- **Fosters a more focused effort through the identification of critical research gaps**
- **Cooperation between research, industry, and regulators speeding up the innovation pipeline**
- **Improved availability of validated and relevant research data for animal health policy makers and the animal health and livestock industries.**
- **Improved consultation with other international policy-makers and animal and human health organisations (e.g. EFSA, ECDC, AU-IBAR, OIE, FAO, and WHO).**
- **Faster, more cost effective development and greater availability of the control**

Africa & The Middle East Regional Network

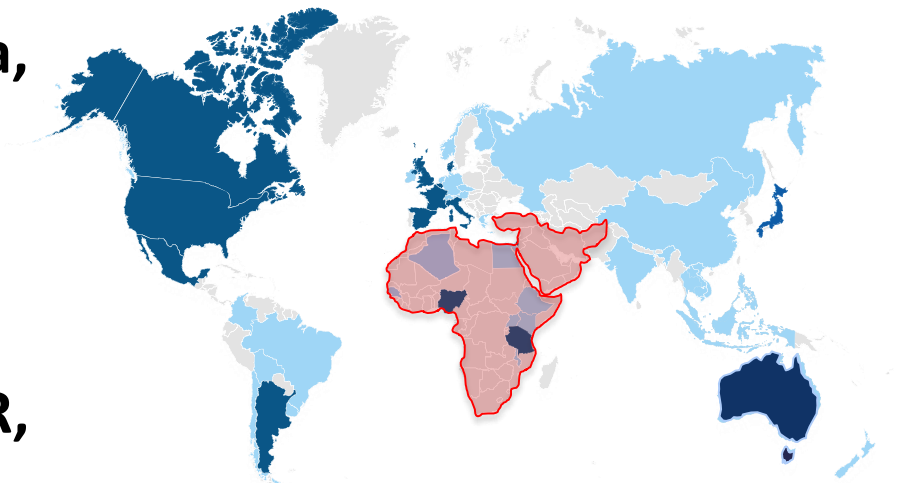




Africa & The Middle East Regional Network

- **Met three times since 2014 and hoping to meet again in Uganda later this year**

Involves partners from Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Senegal, Kenya, Israel, Iran, Ethiopia, Algeria and Egypt as well as the African Development Bank, ILRI, GALVmed, AU-IBAR, FAO and OIE





Africa & The Middle East

Regional Challenges

Disease challenges

- CBPP
- PPR
- NCD
- RVF
- Tick-Borne Diseases (babesiosis, cowdriosis, ECF, CCHF)
- Trypanosomiasis
- Anthrax
- Mycotoxins.

Structural challenges

- Accredited diagnostics
- Keeping up with new equipment and servicing/repair
- Quality lab chemicals and reagents not readily available locally (long delays in acquiring them)
- Updating skills and the exchange of staff

The IRC aims to support the Regional Network partners in their disease and wider research challenges

Nigerian Animal Health Research Network (NAHRN)

National Network



- **Led by David Shamaki from the Nigerian National Veterinary Research Institute, the NAHRN involves research institutes, deans of vet schools and local veterinary companies**
- **Came together to discuss the in-country issues and how they could work together more**
- **Working with the Zoetis-led ALPHA initiative, we are taking a closer look at the opportunities and challenges in Nigeria including veterinary products, services and laboratory networks, and training and education**
 - **Looking at logistics with regard to transporting samples and vaccines, electronic reporting and digital communication.**
 - **ALPHA plans to set up epidemiological surveys on NCD, IB, MD and IBD in Nigerian flocks and collaborate with NVRI on a number of one year projects as well as PCR testing on some diseases and other issues.**