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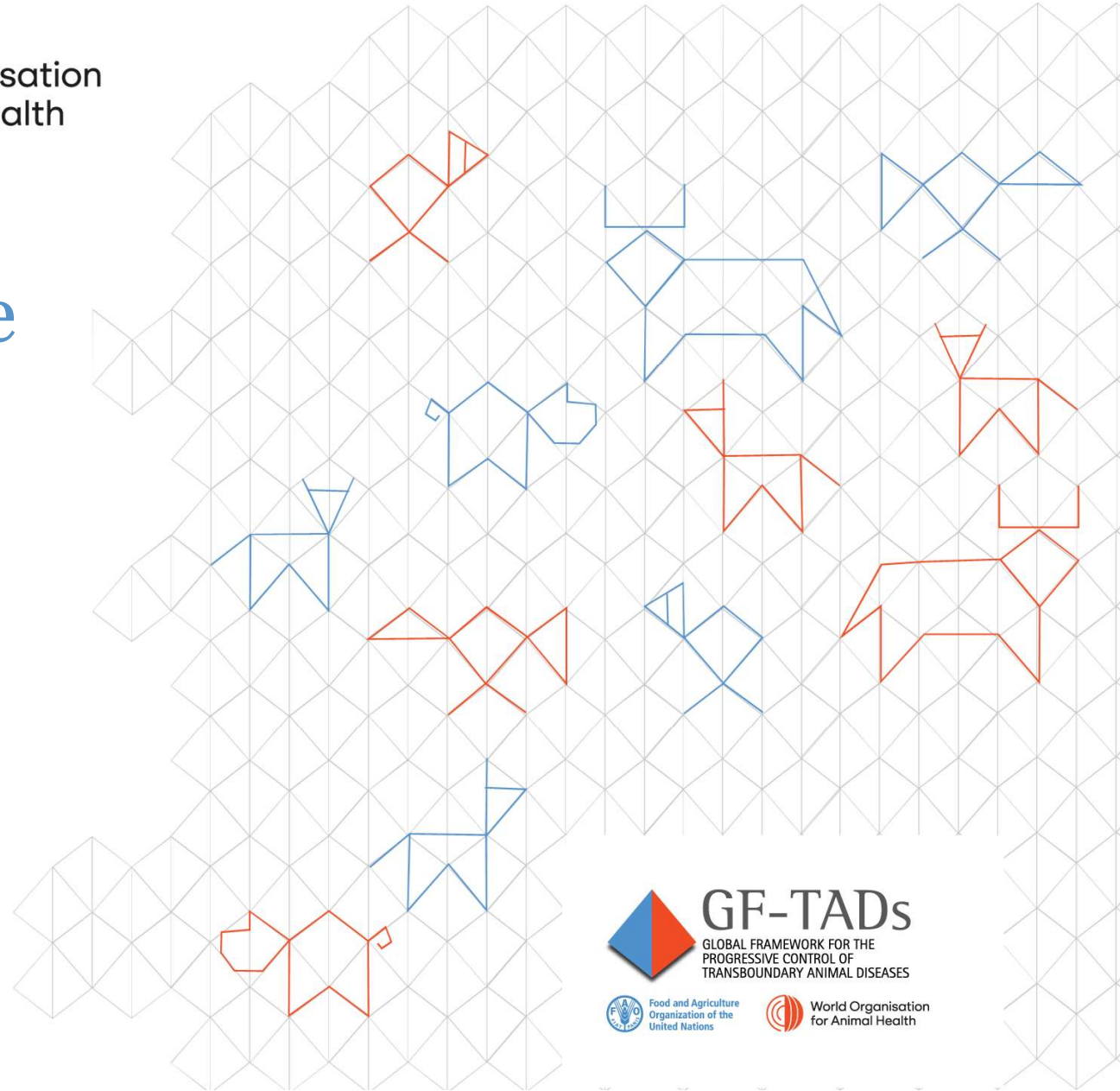


World Organisation
for Animal Health

Strengthening passive surveillance & early warning for PPR

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GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



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The role of passive surveillance

Passive surveillance:

- Most likely route to detect introductions.
- It entails:

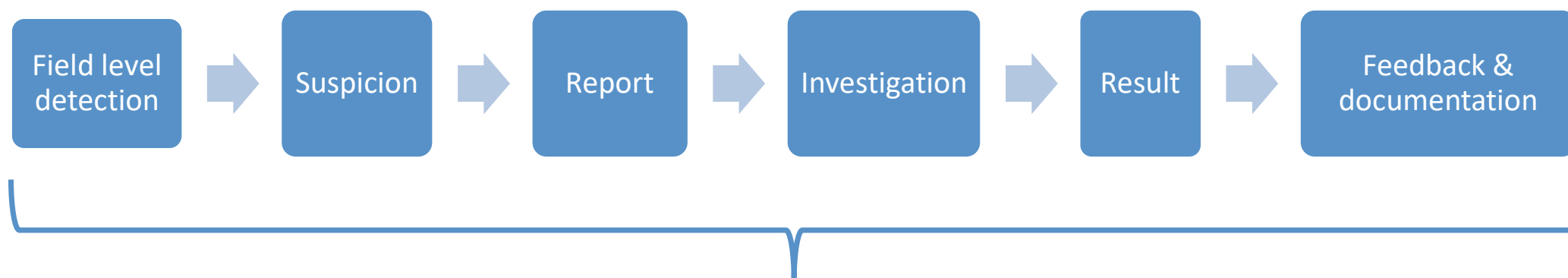


↑
Relies on
frontline
detection

Absence of reports ≠ absence of disease
No data ≠ No disease

The role of passive surveillance

Passive surveillance:



Each step in this chain needs to work!!!
“passive” surveillance still requires “active” management to ensure all steps above work effectively.



Evidence of Vigilance to Support Recognition of Freedom

Passive surveillance and recognition of freedom

- Freedom recognition requires **proof of an active system**, not only absence of positives.
 - **Investigations happen**: Investigations must be **documented** whenever suspicions arise.
 - **Vigilance is in place: Routine reporting** confirms vigilance even when no cases are observed.
- Credibility depends on showing that **every level of the system functions**: detection, reporting, investigation, feedback.

Zero-Reporting: Demonstrating Vigilance in the Absence of Cases

Zero-reporting:

- Regular reports from field staff even when **no suspected cases** occur.
- It provides **confirmation of observation**, not absence of action.
- Shows that **surveillance is functioning** and field **actors are alert**.
- Helps differentiating between **no information** and **no disease**.
- Key indicator of **system activity** in areas considered free.



Engaging those who observe animals every day

- Surveillance success depends on **trust and communication** among actors.
- Key stakeholders: **herders, vets, paraprofessionals, traders...**
- Engagement within each **epi-system** ensures rapid detection and reporting.
- Information must **flow both ways** — feedback builds motivation.
- Social inclusion and gender awareness, women often manage small ruminants.



Tracking Investigations as Evidence of System Activity

Evidence of system activity and recognition of freedom

- Each **suspected outbreak** should be **recorded and investigated**.
- Data collection tools should document:
 - Number of **suspicious raised**
 - Number of **investigations completed**
 - Results and follow up

These data provide (quantitative) **proof that the system responds**.

Early Warning: Rapid Communication and Local Networks

- Early warning depends on **fast, trusted communication** from field to national level.
- **Informal networks** (e.g. vet–farmer Telegram or WhatsApp groups) can support official channels.
- Information should flow **both ways** — alerts *to* and *from* the field.
- **Community leaders** can help spread messages in emergencies.
- Markets and transport routes are **strategic listening points**.



Measuring the performance of passive surveillance

Indicator	Purpose	Interpretation / Use
% of administrative units submitting reports (including zero-reports)	Coverage	Shows how much of the field network is functioning and communicating. A drop signals loss of vigilance.
Median time from suspicion to investigation	Timeliness	Reflects responsiveness of the system ; short delays indicate efficient reporting and investigation chains.
% of suspicions investigated with laboratory results recorded	Completeness	Demonstrates follow-through from field to lab and documentation ; a key sign of credibility.

RECORD SYSTEMATICALLY, DOCUMENT IT!



Episystems as Platforms for Surveillance and Early Warning



Episystems are not just an analytical tool! They can be operational!

- **Episystems** group connected populations that share risk and information channels.
- Useful for **organising communication and response**, not only for analysis.
- **Cross-border episystems** require shared alerts between neighbouring countries.
- Coordination across districts or countries improves **timeliness and credibility**.



Key messages



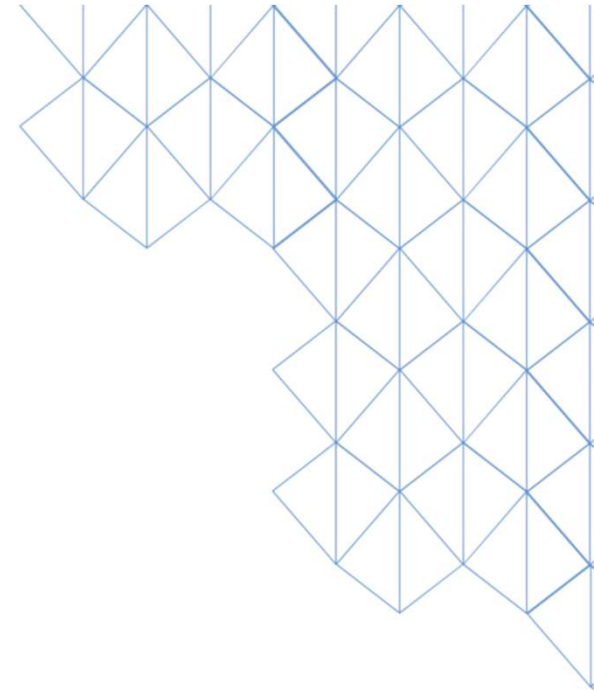
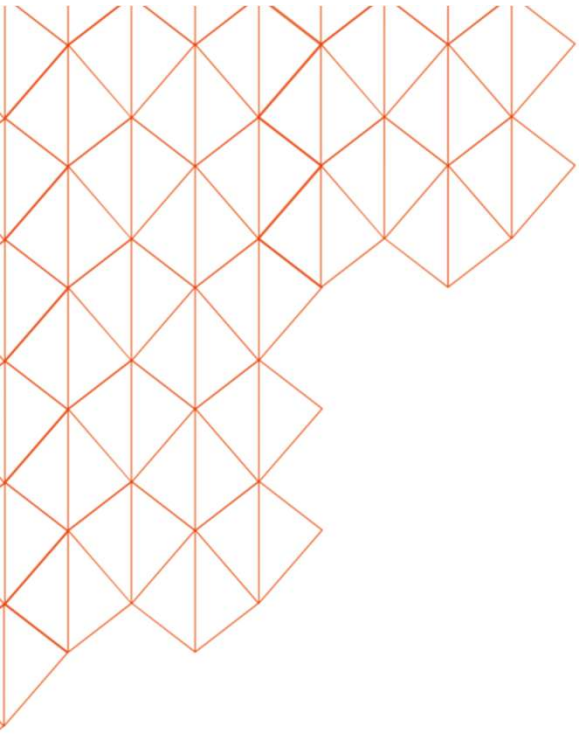
Passive surveillance is the **first line of detection**.

Zero-reporting demonstrates that vigilance is active even when no cases occur.

Engagement of those closest to animals keeps the system responsive.

Episystems provide practical units for coordination and early warning.

Rapid, trusted communication across local and cross-border networks sustains confidence in freedom.



Thankyou!