

IZSVE international cooperation projects supporting sustainable aquaculture

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*Research and International
Cooperation Office*

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Workshop for National Focal Points for Aquatic Animals in
Europe – 38 EU and non-EU countries, funded by WOAH

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (IZSVe)

IZSVe is a public institution operating under the Italian Ministry of Health, working in the fields of animal health and welfare, food safety, and environmental protection.

It provides scientific and technical support to regional, national, european, and international authorities.

As part of the Italian network of **10 Istituti Zooprofilattici Sperimentali (IZZSS)**, IZSVe is responsible for **Northern Italy**. Its headquarters are located near **Padua**, and it operates through a network of **10 local laboratories**.

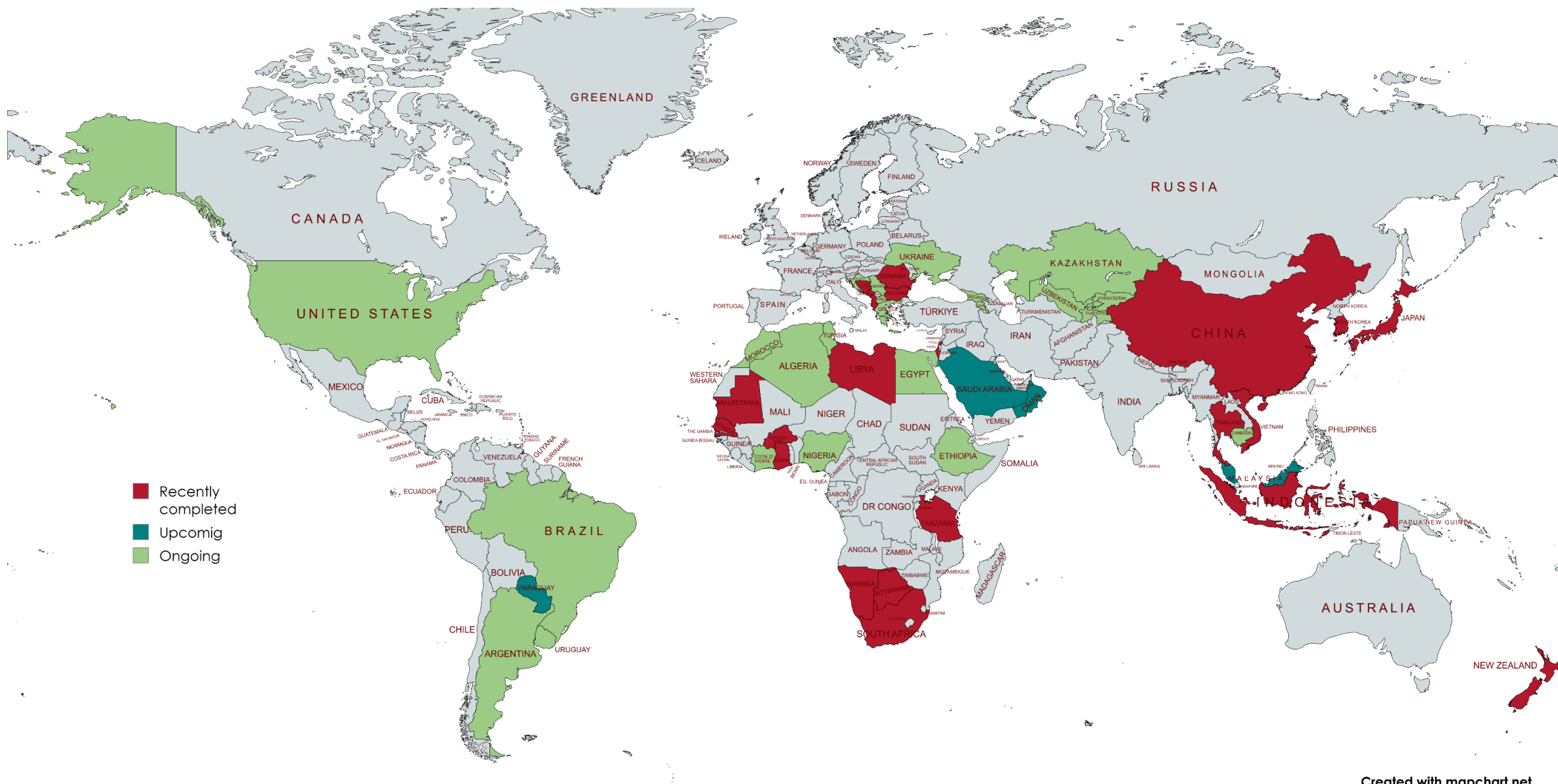
IZSVe employs approximately **600 staff members**, including veterinarians, biologists, physicians, laboratory technicians, and administrative personnel.



● International Reference Centres

1. European Union Reference Laboratory (EURL) for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease
2. FAO Reference Centre for Animal Influenza and Newcastle Disease
3. FAO Reference Centre for Beekeeping
4. FAO Reference Centre for Rabies
5. FAO Reference Centre for Zoonotic Coronaviruses
- 6. FAO Reference Centre for Reducing the Need for Antimicrobials on Farms for Sustainable Agrifood Systems Transformation – RENOFARM**
7. WOAHP Collaborating Centre for Diseases at the Animal/Human Interface
8. WOAHP Collaborating Centre for Epidemiology, Training and Control of Emerging Avian Diseases
9. WOAHP Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease
10. WOAHP Reference Laboratory for Mycoplasmosis
11. WOAHP Reference Laboratory for Salmonellosis
- 12. WOAHP Reference Laboratory for Viral Encephalopathy and Retinopathy of Marine Fish**

● Main international projects 2021-2026



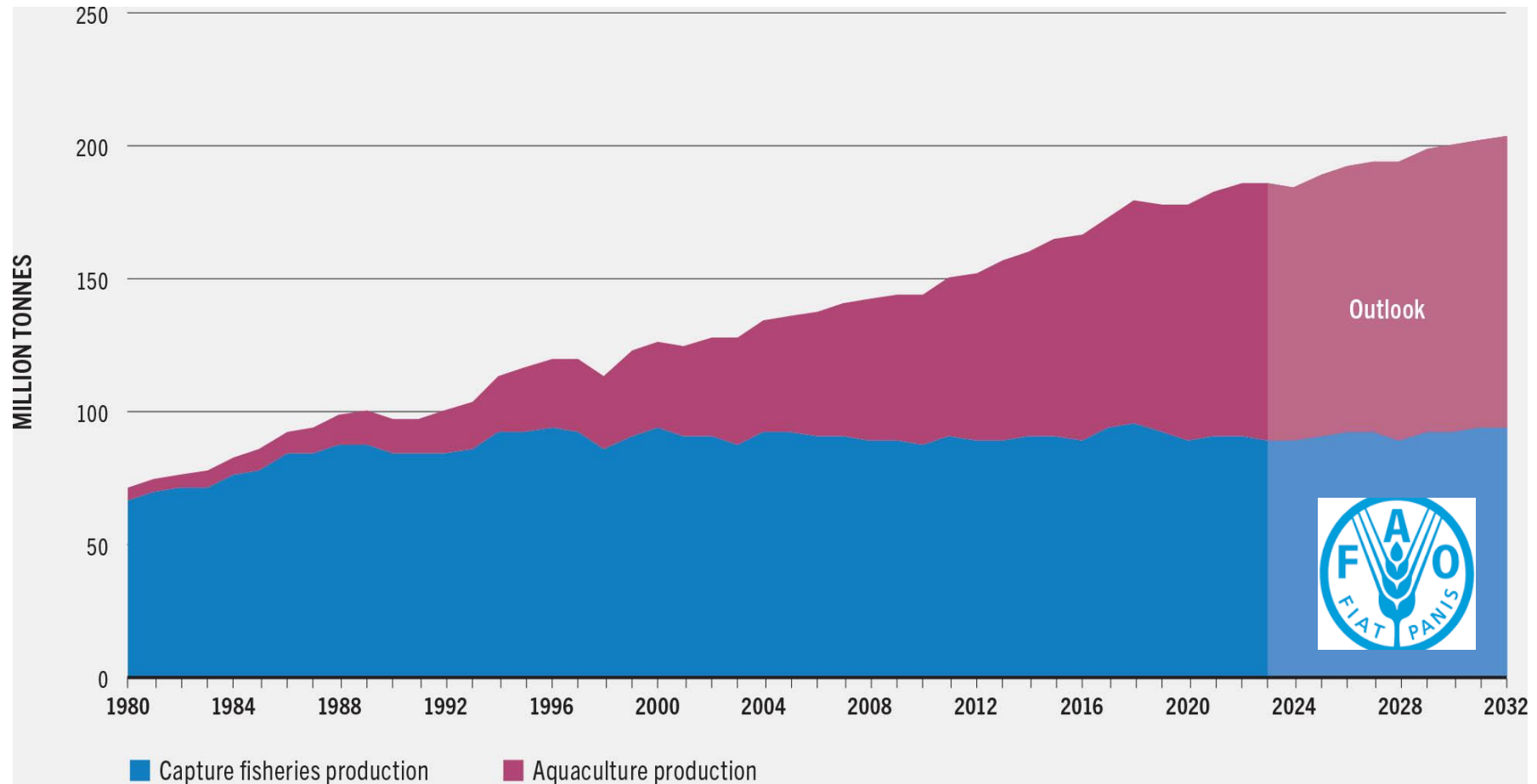
● Main international projects 2021-2026

1. Twinning WOAHA Italia-Tunisia, WOAHA
2. Project AquaeStrength supported by WOAHA (Cambogia, Israele, Tunisia, Marocco), Italy-WOAHA MoU
3. Active participation to the WOAHA AQMENET Network (Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen)
4. Project AquaVET: ERASMUS Plus, Knowledge Exchange in Aquatic Animal Medicine & Ecosystem Health(Egypt & Nigeria), EC
5. Two twinning projects – OMAN and KSA
6. Central-Aqua (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan), Italy- WOAHA MoU



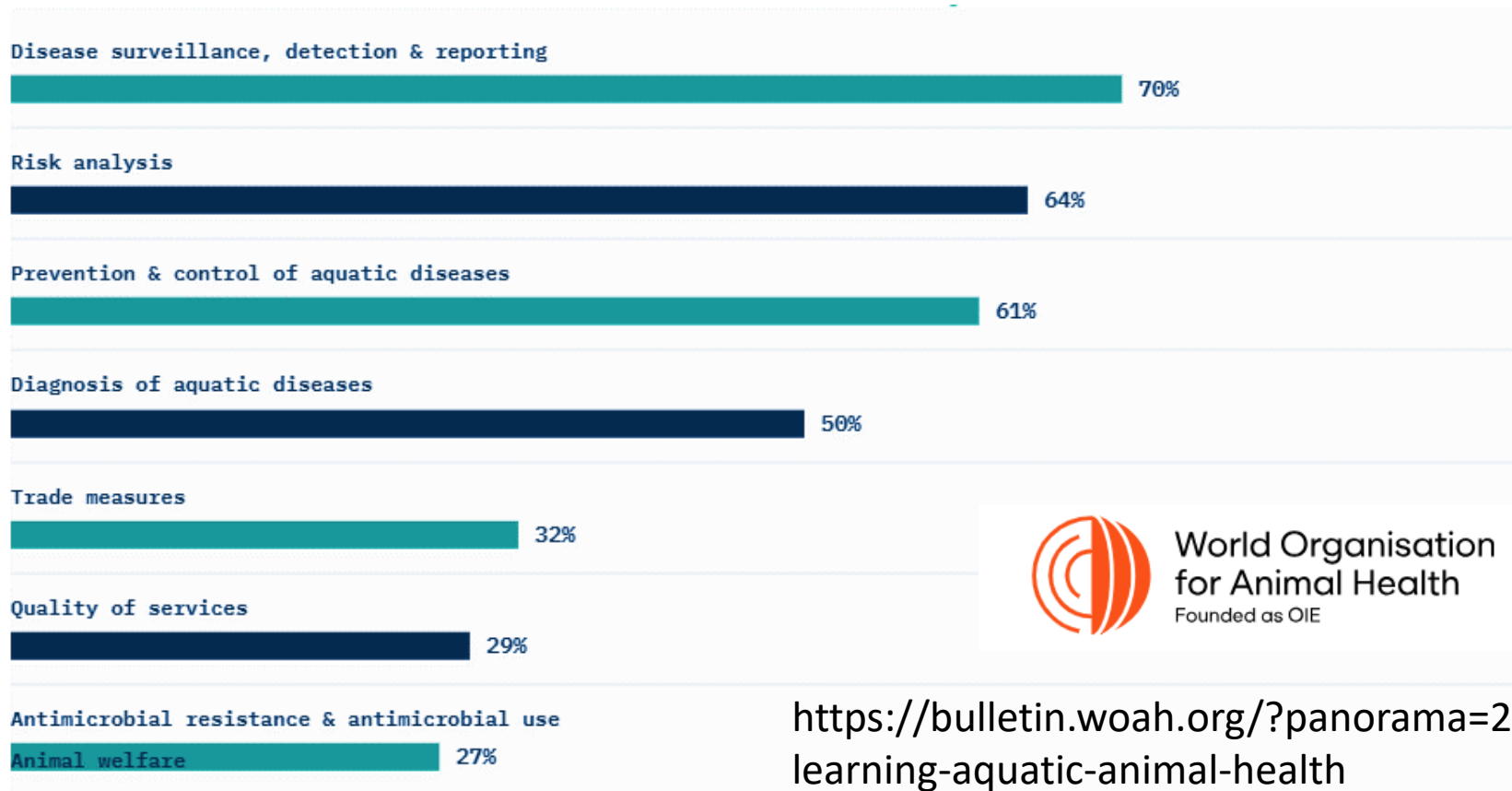
Technical Support in Response to International Requests

In 2022 aquaculture produced **94.4 million tonnes** of aquatic animals — for the first time, more than capture fisheries.



Technical Support in Response to International Requests

In 2022, the WOAH surveyed its 182 Members about training programmes for their Veterinary Services and Aquatic Animal Health Services. More than half of Members reported insufficient or no training for Veterinary & Aquatic Animal Health Services. The distribution below frames what international capacity-building must cover



https://bulletin.woah.org/?panorama=2-1-8-2023-2_e-learning-aquatic-animal-health

Technical Support in Response to International Requests

A structural shift in global food security. More production units, denser farms, more movement of live animals, more trade interactions. Health systems must keep pace — or productivity gains are erased by outbreaks, trade bans and livelihood shocks.

PRODUCTION MILESTONE

223.2 Mt

Total fisheries & aquaculture, 2022 — of which **130.9 Mt** aquaculture

185.4 Mt aquatic animals + 37.8 Mt algae. Aquaculture first-sale value **US\$ 313 bn.**

SOURCE • FAO SOFIA 2024

RISK PROFILE

↑ density

Production units · movements · farm-wild interfaces

Disease outbreaks erase productivity gains, trigger trade restrictions and hit livelihoods. Expansion requires **governance, surveillance, biosecurity and trained personnel.**

SOURCE • FAO SOFIA 2024

COMPETENCE GAP (WOAH 2022)

> 50 %

Members reporting insufficient or no training for Veterinary / AAHS services

Top training priorities: surveillance **70%**, risk analysis **64%**, prevention & control **61%**, diagnosis **50%**.

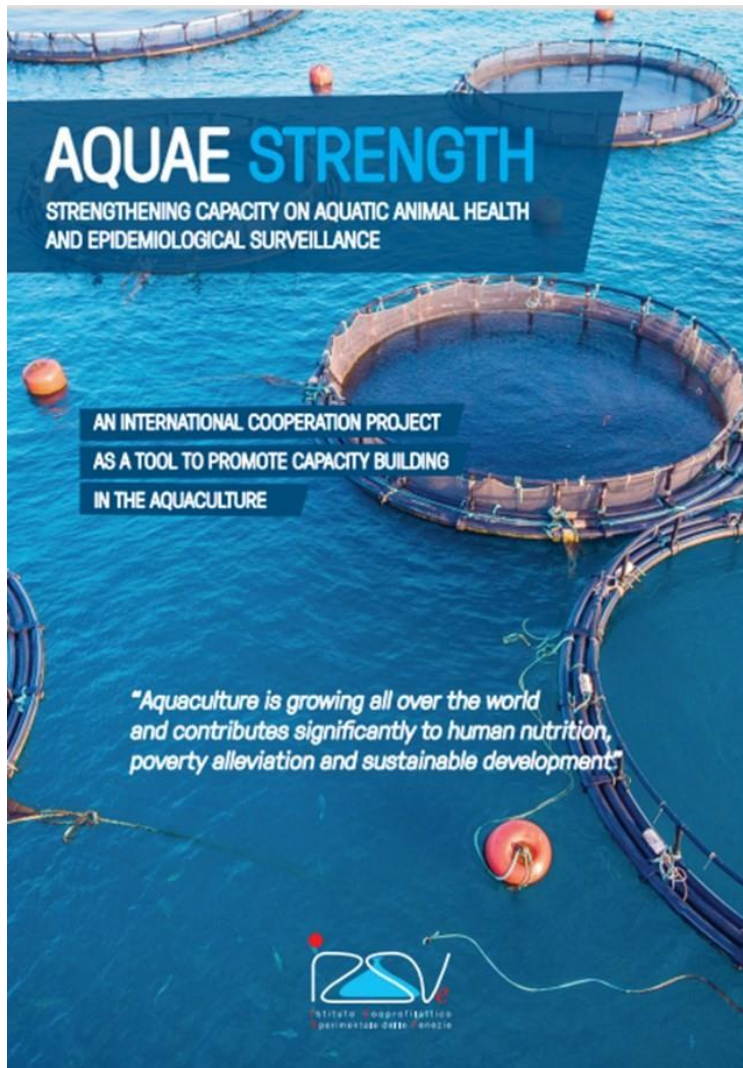
SOURCE • WOAH BULLETIN 2023

● Main international projects 2021-2026

- 1.
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- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
6. Central-Aqua (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan), Italy- WOAHA MoU



● Project AQUAE STRENGTH



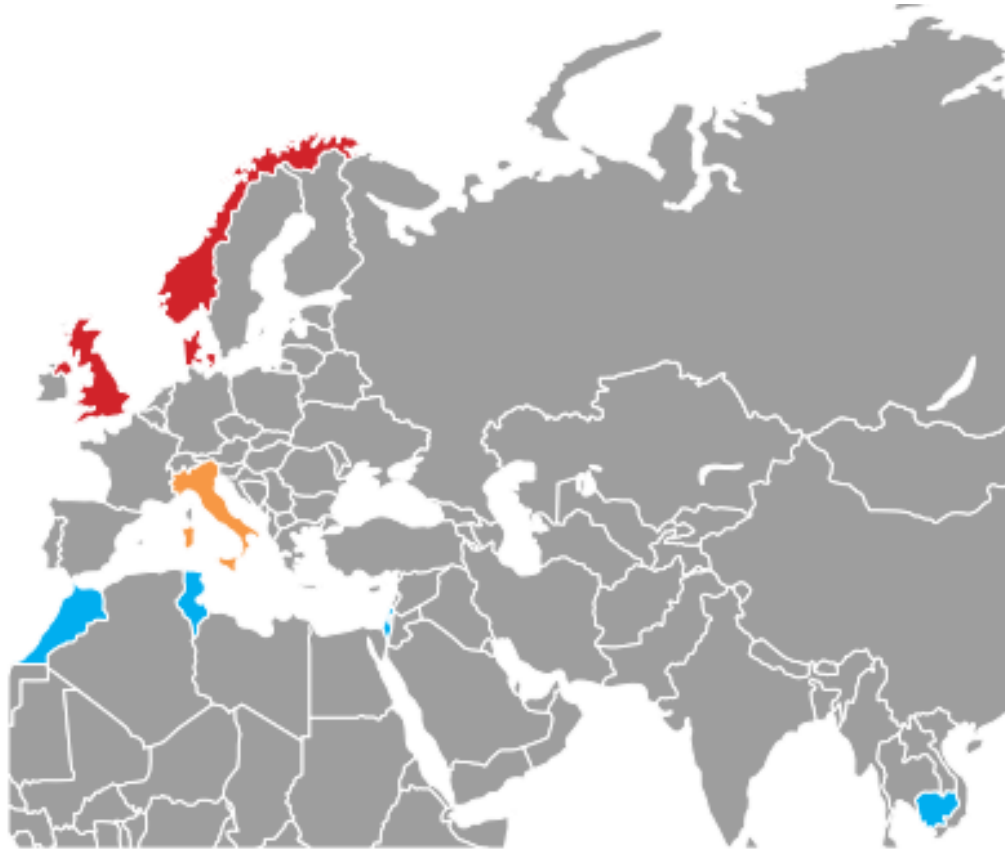
PROJECT DURATION

A total duration of 4.5 years



Funded by the Italian Ministry of Health with the support of WOAHP

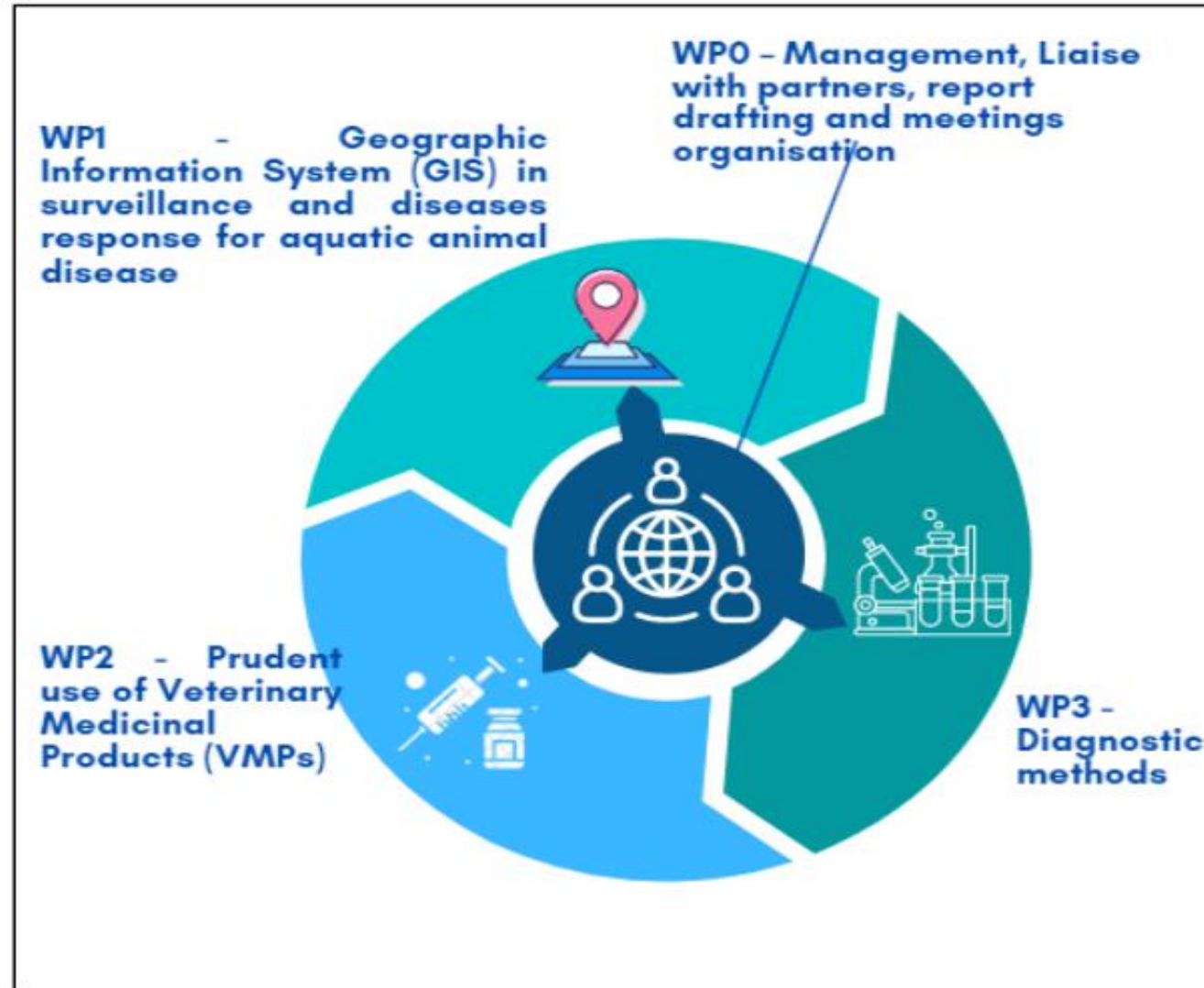
● Project AQUAE STRENGTH



14 Institutes, 8 Countries

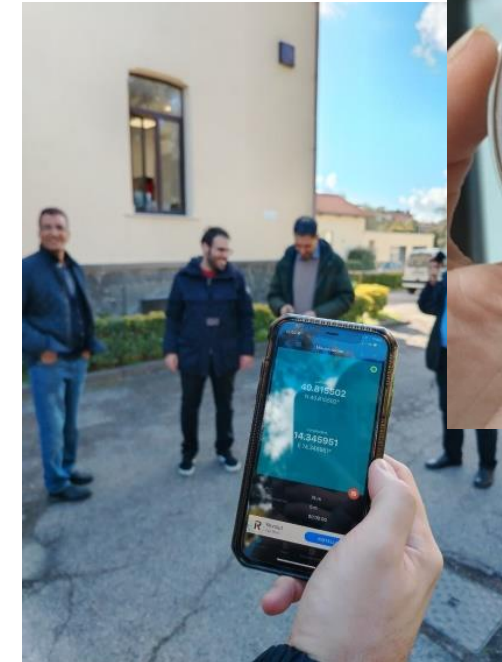
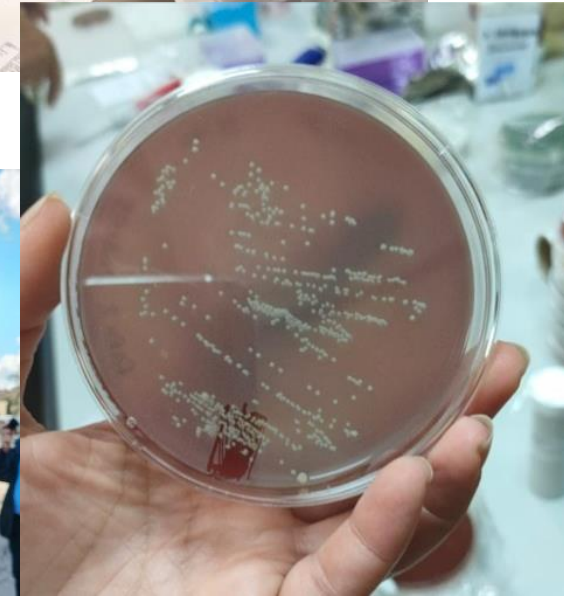
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (**IZSVe**)
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria e Valle d'Aosta (**IZSLPV**)
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Umbria e delle Marche (**IZSUM**)
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sardegna (**IZSSA**)
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e della Toscana (**IZSLT**)
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Abruzzo e Molise (**IZSAM**)
- ▶ Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Mezzogiorno (**IZSM**)

● Project AQUAE STRENGTH



● Main Activities

- Assessment of laboratory capacities and competencies
- Field visits and diagnostic training, both in Italy and in beneficiary countries
- Proficiency testing
- Continuous remote communication and technical support



● AQUAE STRENGTH in number



TRAINING

Building capacity through hands-on training and expert support



17

expert missions to beneficiary countries



17

hands-on training sessions hosted at National Veterinary Institutes (IZS)



44

training "slots"



KEY ACTIVITIES



- Assessment of laboratory capacities and competencies
- Field visits and diagnostic training both in Italy and in beneficiary countries
- Proficiency testing
- Continuous remote communication and technical support



DISSEMINATION

Sharing knowledge, evidence and results for greater impact



2

e-learning courses



6

webinars per Work Package (WP)
→ available on demand



5

papers in peer-reviewed journals



At least 20

presentations at conferences/events

● For more info on AQUAE STRENGHT

1. <http://gis.izsvenezie.it/cooperation/woah/aquae-strength/index.php>
2. <https://www.izsvenezie.it/aquae-strength-cooperazione-acquacoltura-mondiale/>
3. <https://www.izsvenezie.it/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/AQUAE-STRENGTH-project.pdf>



AQUAE STRENGHT VIDEO

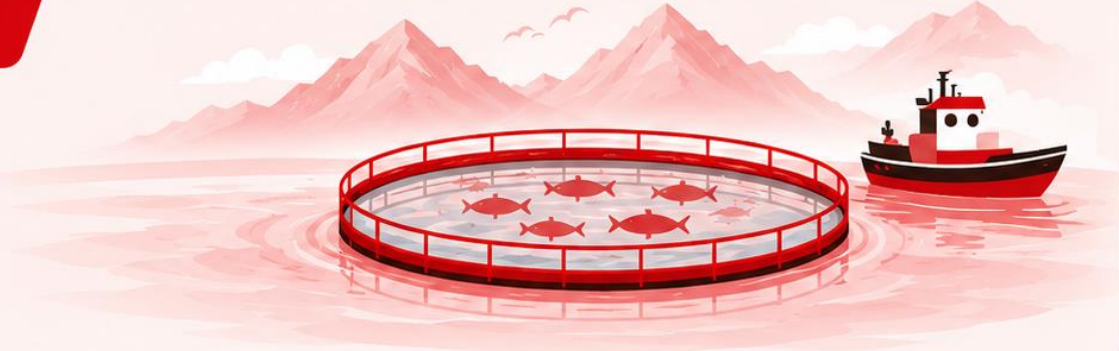
CENTRAL AQUA Project



● Theory of Change

⚠️ PROBLEM STATEMENT

Aquaculture in Central Asia faces multiple issues as disease outbreaks, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and limited technical capacity that threatening its development.



🏆 KEY FACTORS FOR SUCCESS



Intelligence Framework

- Establish disease surveillance systems
- Data collection and reporting.



Technical Capacity

- Strengthen diagnostic laboratory capacity and biosecurity measures
- Guidelines for a responsible use of VMPs.
- Tailor-made programmes based on stakeholder needs



Collaboration & Policy Support

- Foster collaboration between Central Asian and Consortium partners.
- Align with WOH and EU standards



🎯 OBJECTIVES



Strengthen disease surveillance and epidemiological monitoring



Promote responsible use of veterinary medicinal products



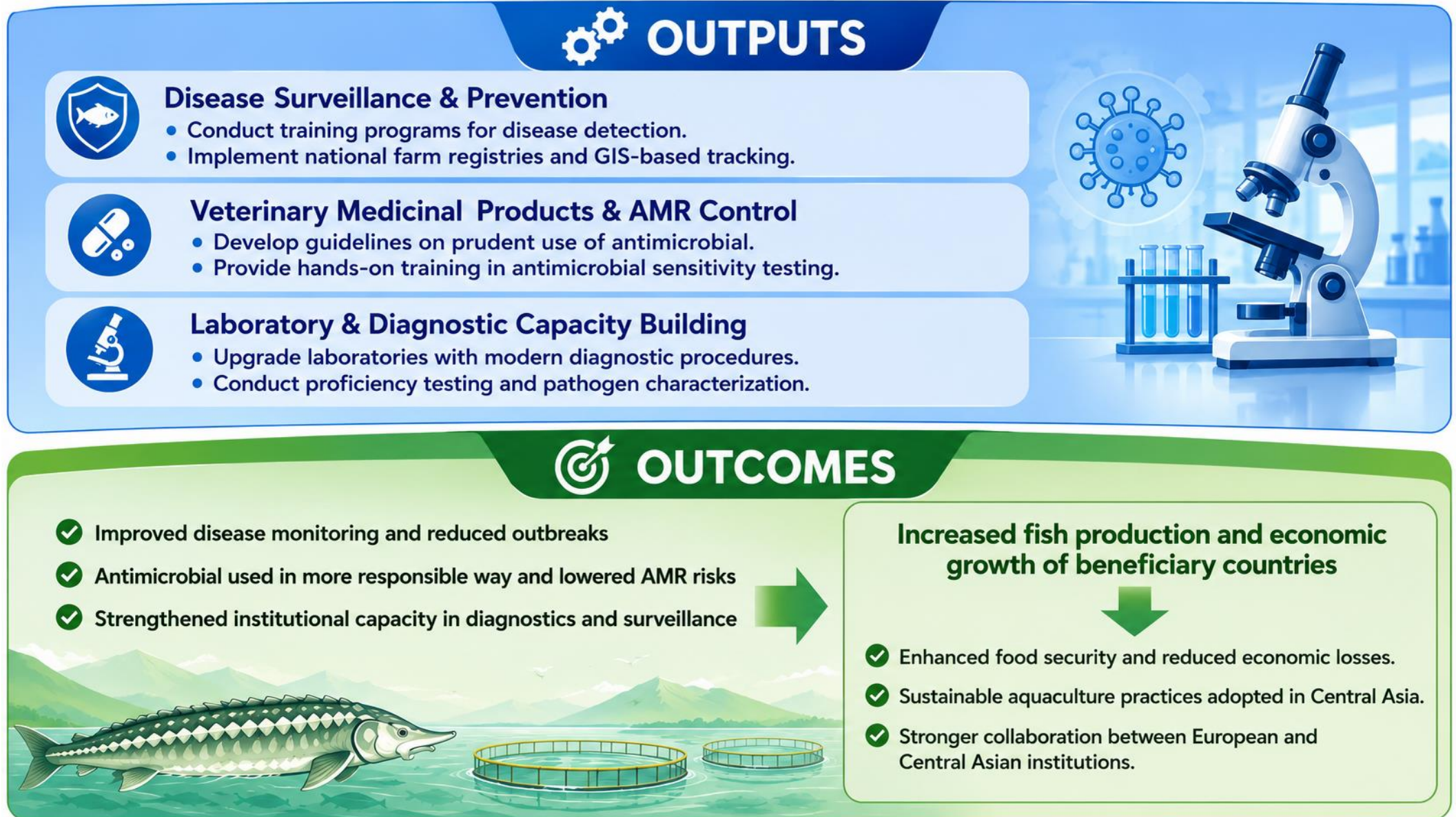
Enhance laboratory diagnostic capacities and biosecurity



Improve regional and international cooperation in aquaculture management



● Theory of Change



● **Cooming soon**

Twinning projects → KSA and Oman (self-founded)



● See you soon



One Health in agrifood systems is everyone's health, everyone's responsibility and everyone's action

GRAZIE • Thank you • Спасибо • Merci •
Gracias • Obrigada • Rahmat • شكرًا



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