



World Organisation
for Animal Health



SEACFMD EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK MEETING

COUNTRY REPORT:
Brunei

Presenter:
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13-15 April 2025,
Qingdao, People's Republic of China



Outline of the Presentation

- Surveillance, monitoring and preparedness activities to maintain FMD free status.
- Use of epidemiological tools to monitor disease absence/freedom from FMD.
- Benefit of having FMD free status.
- Constraints/Risks and possible solutions.
- Priorities and Future Plans



Surveillance Activities (Passive, Active and Results)

Following are the data of our active disease surveillance as of December 2023:

- ❖ A total of **603** blood samples and **673** observation of clinical signs;
- ❖ Over a total of **53 farms** visited.

Brunei Muara	Blood Sample Taken	Clinical Sign
Goat/Sheep	293	480
Large Ruminant	13	123
Deer	3	0
Total	309	603

Tutong	Blood Sample Taken	Clinical Sign
Goat/Sheep	92	0
Large Ruminant	0	42
Deer	0	0
Total	92	42

Belait	Blood Sample Taken	Clinical Sign
Goat/Sheep	112	0
Large Ruminant	0	0
Deer	0	0
Total	112	0

Temburong	Blood Sample Taken	Clinical Sign
Goat/Sheep	90	0
Large Ruminant	0	28
Deer	0	0
Total	90	28



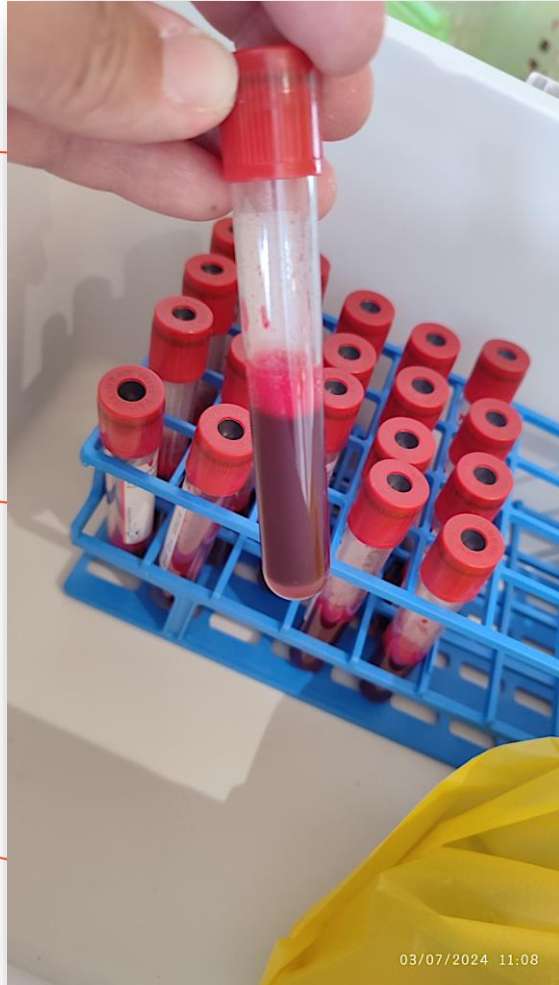
Surveillance Activities (Passive, Active and Results)

- In total, registered farms include as of **22 Farms** in Brunei, but with the total of **65 Farms** has undergone surveillance giving a coverage of **75%**.
- Following are the data of our active disease surveillance as of December 2024:
 - ❖ A total of **893** blood samples and **8,368** observation of clinical signs;
 - ❖ Over a total of **65 farms** visited.

District	Farm Visits	No. of animals monitored	Species	No. of Blood sample taken
Brunei Muara	36	1527	Goat/Sheep	418
		92	Large Ruminant	3
		0	Deer	0
Tutong	12	555	Goat/Sheep	182
		4	Large Ruminant	0
		0	Deer	0
Belait	13	6122	Goat/Sheep	251
		10	Large Ruminant	0
		0	Deer	0
Temburong	4	48	Goat/Sheep	39
		10	Large Ruminant	0
		0	Deer	0
TOTAL	65	8368		893

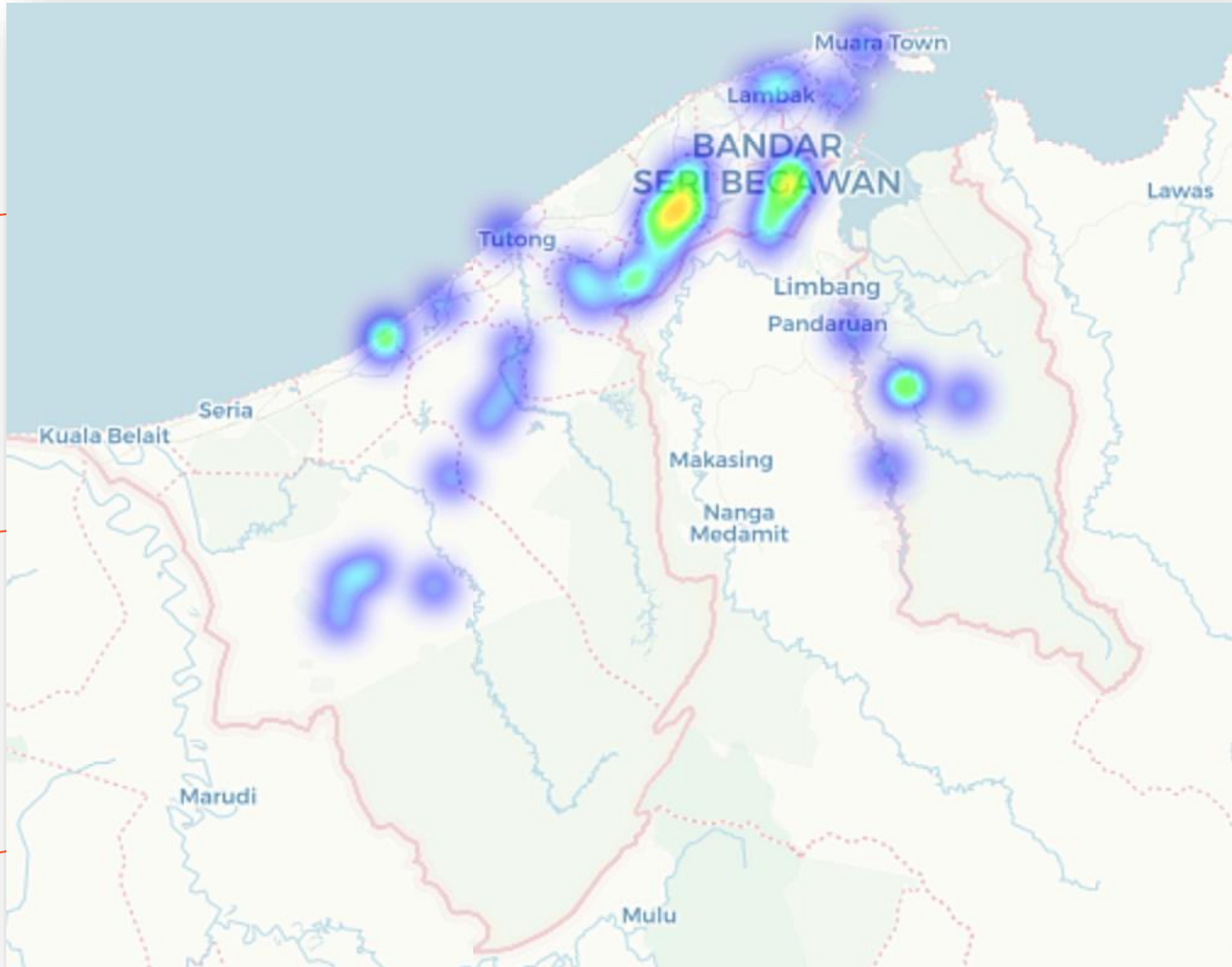


Surveillance Activities (Passive, Active and Results)





Epidemiological Tools



- The use of epidemiological tool as of now is mainly using **Epicollect**.
- Map shows the distribution of the farms including companion ruminants in Brunei.
- Data of each point includes the number of animals in the area as well as the number of samples that were taken in that same area as well.



Benefits of FMD Free Status?

1. Access to Lucrative Export Markets

- It enhances **trade credibility** and reduces or eliminates the need for costly processing methods like deboning or heat treatment.

2. Increased Animal Product Value

- Products from FMD-free countries are generally sold at a **premium price**, as they are perceived to be safer and of higher quality and there's a **reduction in trade restrictions**, tariffs, and non-tariff barriers.

3. Improved Livestock Productivity

- Free herds are healthier, more productive, and face fewer disruptions hence **lower mortality and morbidity**, improving **efficiency and profitability**.

4. Reduced Disease Control Costs

- No need for mass vaccinations, culling, or movement restrictions, which are costly and disruptive, Instead, resources can be directed toward **surveillance and biosecurity**.

5. Economic Stability and Rural Development

- The livestock sector is a major economic driver in many countries, with FMD-free status it can stimulate **investment in rural areas**, supporting smallholders and large producers alike.

6. Improved Public and Environmental Health

- Although FMD is not a public health threat, eradication often improves **overall animal health systems**.
- Better biosecurity can lead to **lower risk of zoonoses** and other animal diseases.



Constraints/Risks And Possible Solutions

1. Strict Surveillance and Reporting Obligations

- Countries must maintain **intensive animal health monitoring** and report any suspected cases immediately.
- There's a **high cost** associated with routine testing, inspections, and data management.
- Delays or failures in reporting can result in **immediate suspension** of FMD-free status by the WOA.

2. High Biosecurity Standards

- There must be rigorous controls on **animal movements**, border inspections, and quarantine facilities.
- Importing animals or animal products from FMD-affected countries is highly restricted or banned.
- Any biosecurity lapse (e.g., illegal importation or smuggling) can cause an outbreak.

3. Economic Costs

- Surveillance, border controls, and testing programs are **expensive and continuous**.
- In some countries, not vaccinating (required for "free without vaccination" status) can be **risky** if nearby countries are endemic.
- Farmers may face **compliance burdens** (e.g., movement permits, traceability systems).

4. Geographic Risk

- Countries bordering or trading with FMD-endemic regions face **higher exposure risk**.
- Wildlife or migratory animals can act as **uncontrollable disease vectors** in border zones.



Constraints/Risks And Possible Solutions

5. Disease Introduction Risk

- One outbreak can lead to **suspension of FMD-free status**, loss of trade access, and major economic impact.
- Outbreak management (e.g., culling, movement bans) is **disruptive and politically sensitive**.

6. Vaccination Dilemma

- To maintain "FMD-free without vaccination" status, countries must **not use vaccines**, even though they could prevent outbreaks.
- If vaccination is reintroduced during an emergency, the country's status typically downgrades to "**FMD-free with vaccination**", which some trade partners may not accept.

7. Recovery Time After Outbreak

- Reinstating FMD-free status can take **months to years** after an outbreak, depending on how it's handled.
- During that time, countries may face **trade bans, economic losses, and reputational damage**.



Priorities and Future Plans

1. To maintain FMD free status through both serological and clinical signs surveillances.
2. To ensure capacity building (training) for all veterinarians and para vets for disease surveillance and diagnostics.
3. Collaboration and info sharing of disease status (transboundary) with neighboring countries to ensure disease freedom within the region, remain free.
4. To collaborate with Wildlife Division and incorporate disease surveillance to susceptible wild animals as vectors.



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THANK YOU

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