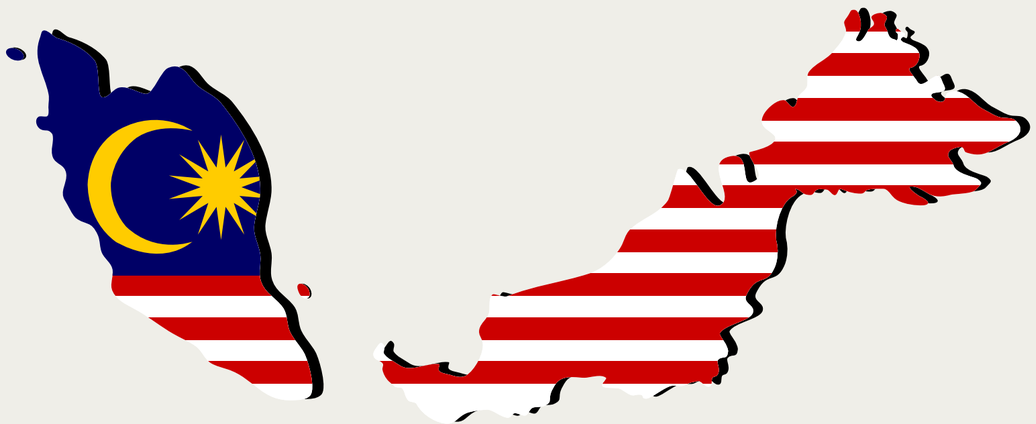
Utilising ARAHIS and WAHIS Integrated Reporting Modalities for Regional Epidemic Intelligence: Malaysia's Perspective

WOAH Epidemic Intelligence: Event-Based Surveillance for Animal Health in Asia-Pacific
on 29 October 2026

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The Regional Threat Landscape & The Need for Shared Intelligence

Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) and zoonoses (e.g., African Swine Fever, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza,Lumpy Skin Disease, FMD).

Pathogens disregard borders; national biosecurity is fundamentally interdependent on regional visibility.



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Application 1: Designing Risk-Based National Surveillance

SURVEILLANCE SHIFT

Shifting surveillance resources to high-hazard corridors identified via ARAHIS/WAHIS reports.

SPATIAL & POPULATION TARGETING

Intensified sampling along international land borders and coastlines. Targeted surveillance at major staging points, quarantine stations, and commercial holding facilities.

DIAGNOSTIC PREPAREDNESS

Aligning national laboratory testing capacity (primers, test kits) with circulating genetic lineages identified regionally.



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Application 2: Recommending & Adjusting National Emergency Preparedness and Disease Control Programs

1. **Qualitative & Semi-Quantitative Risk Scoring: Evaluating** entry likelihood, exposure pathways, and domestic impact within 24–48 hours of an alert.

1. T**riggering Pre-emptive Biosecurity Escalations:** Raising commercial farm biosecurity advisories prior to domestic detection.

1. **Vaccination Strategies:** Sourcing and deploying vaccine strains matched to regional circulating lineages identified via WAHIS/ARAHIS genetic sequence data and outbreak reports.



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Application 3: Science-Based Import Risk Analysis & Trade Predictability

Aligning with WOAH Principles:

- Respecting Zoning, Regionalisation, and Compartmentalisation:
- An outbreak reported in an exporting country does not automatically mean a whole-country ban.

- Measures are targeted to the infected zone/province, keeping unaffected export channels open where biosecurity integrity is proven.

Dynamic, Proportionate Adjustments:

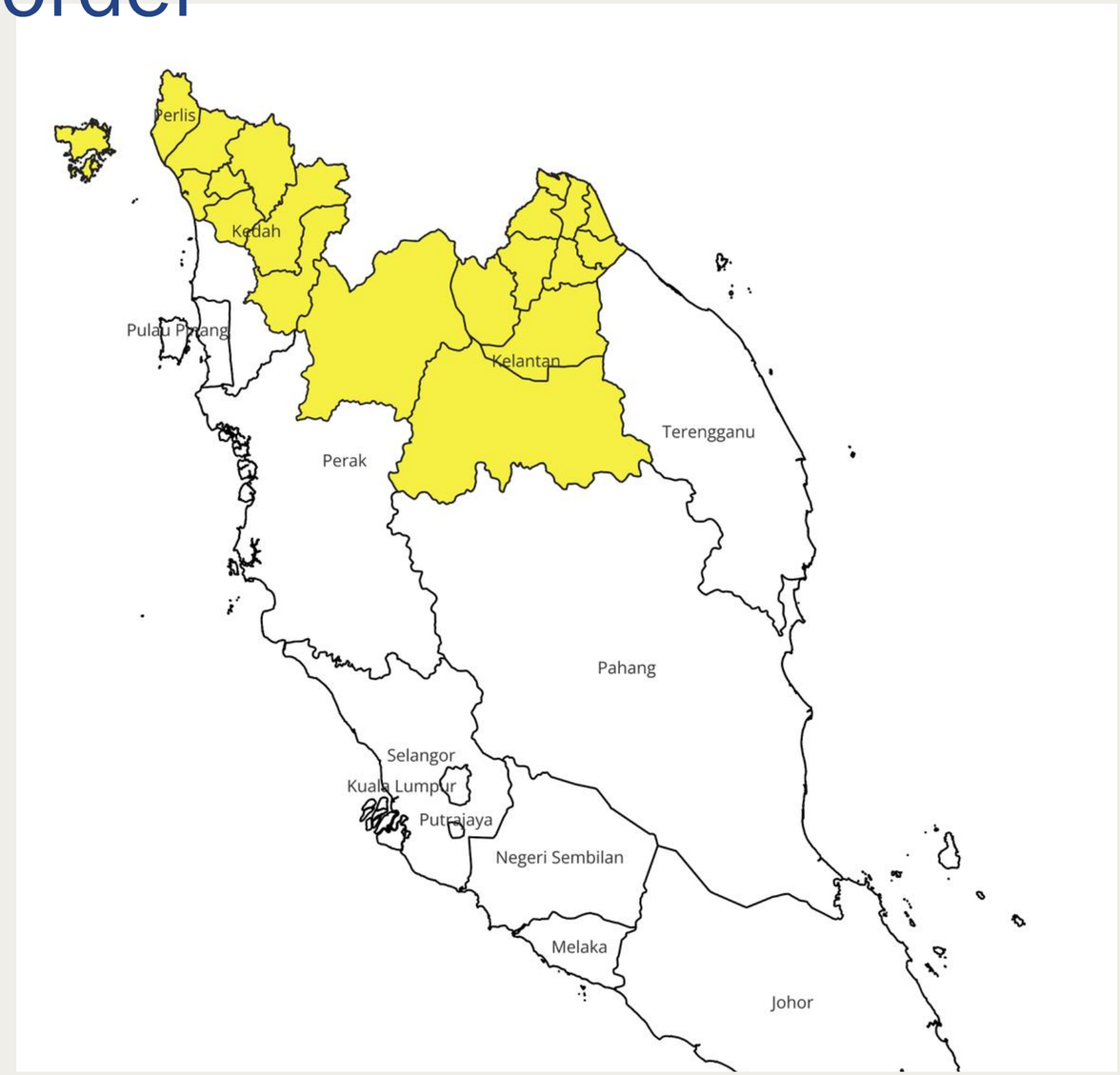
Graduated actions based on risk (e.g., enhanced pre-export quarantine or specific PCR testing requirements rather than trade suspensions).

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Case in Point: Managing Rabies Risks along the Peninsular Malaysia Northern Terrestrial Border

Context & Ecological Reality

- Peninsular Malaysia maintains an official Rabies Immune Buffer Belt spanning the northern border areas (Perlis,Kedah, northern Perak, and Kelantan).
- The primary vector pathway is contiguous terrestrial dog ecology and natural animal roaming along porous frontiers, rather than regulated commercial trade.



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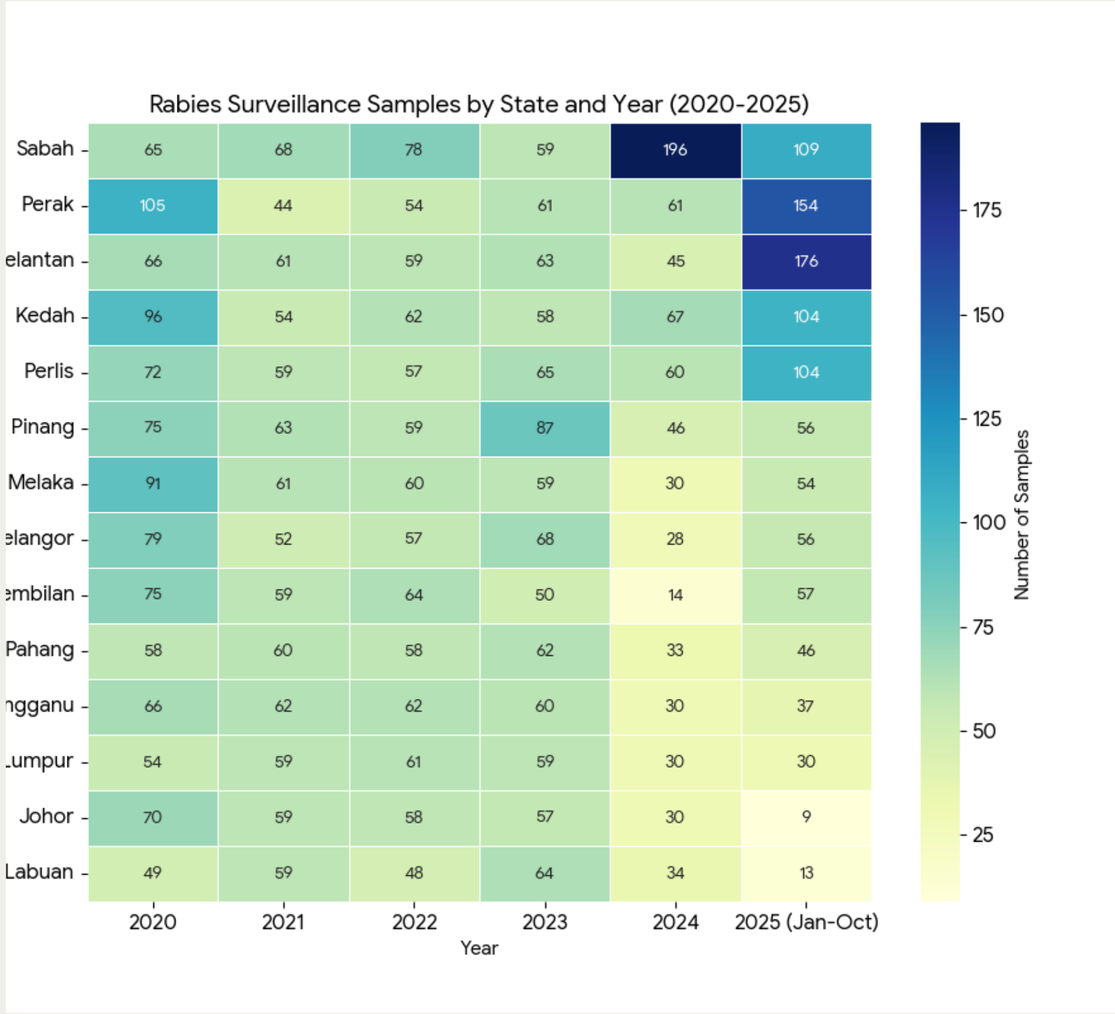
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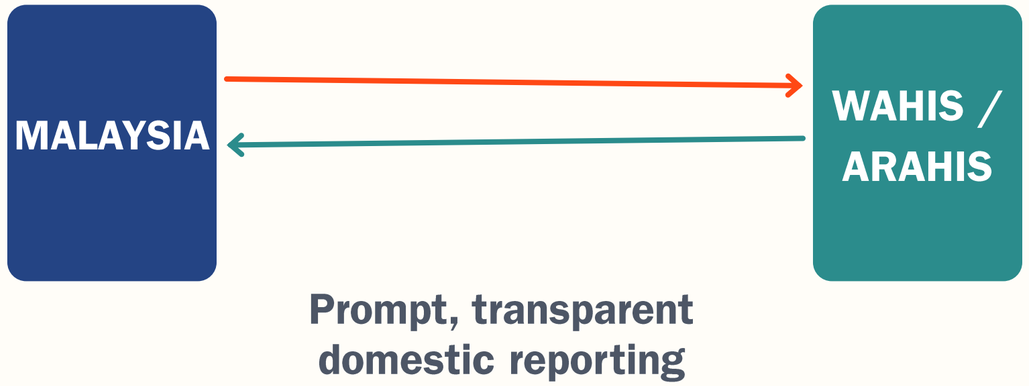




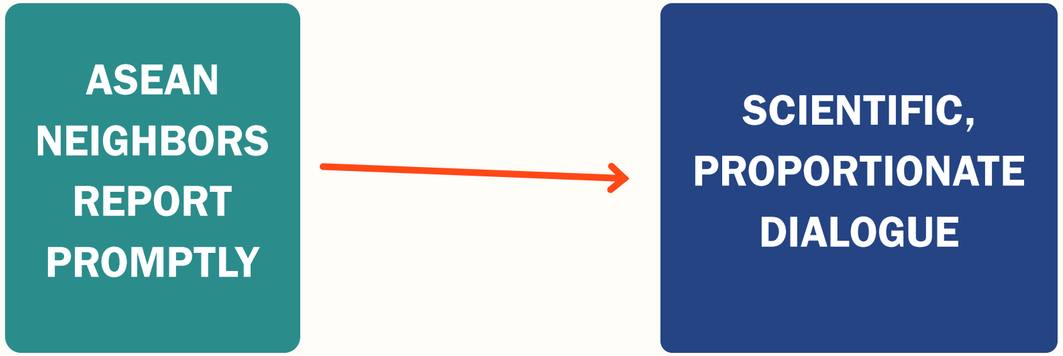


Malaysia as a Responsible Regional Partner

01 TWO-WAY TRANSPARENCY



02 ENCOURAGING REGIONAL OPENNESS

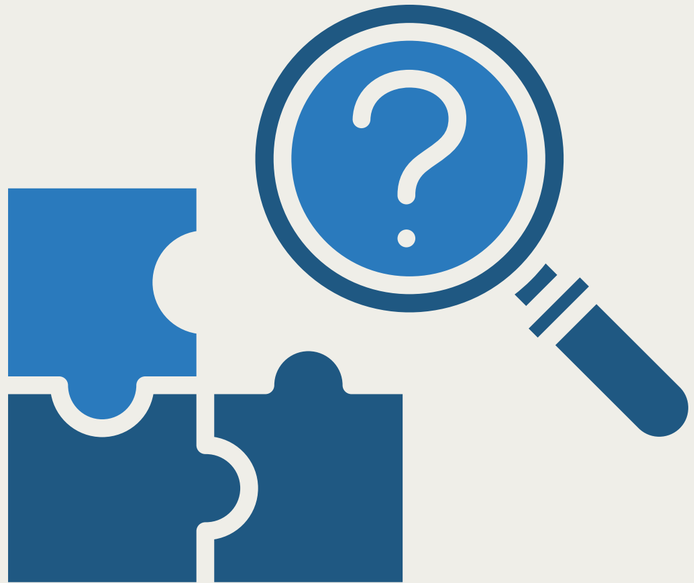


NOT punitive, sudden trade embargos

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Challenges & Operational Lessons Learned

- **Reporting Latencies & Data Granularity:** Managing intelligence gaps when official notifications lag behind informal field signals.
- **Inter-Agency Integration:** Translating veterinary intelligence into border enforcement actions with Customs,Immigration, and MAQIS.
- **Sustaining Institutional Capacity:** The need for specialized epidemiologists trained in spatial risk modeling and disease intelligence.



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Conclusion & Key Takeaways

1. ARAHIS & WAHIS are risk assessment tools, not blunt trade barriers.

2. Screening signals drive internal readiness; science-based risk analysis drives trade policy.

3. Risk-based surveillance safeguards Malaysia’s borders while upholding international trade commitments and regional solidarity.

4. Integrated ARAHIS & WAHIS reporting structures cuts administrative friction, ensuring veterinary resources stay focused on disease prevention and trade facilitation.

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Thank you!

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