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## The new EU reference laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease: overview of activities conducted during the first three years

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## Introduction

The new EURL for FMD was appointed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019 as a consortium between the Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) in France and Sciensano in Belgium. The EURL activities are conducted at Anses by the Biology of Picornaviruses Team (BioPic) of the virology unit of the Animal Health Laboratory and at Sciensano by the service for Exotic viruses and particular diseases.

## Main activities of the EURL

### EURL website implementation



The EURL has set up a website to share information with its network

(<http://eurl-fmd.anses.fr>)

### Support to EU MS and NRLs

- Production of diagnostic reagents
- Provision of diagnostic reagents
- Provision of training
- Provision of diagnostic services

### Support to EU Commission

Provide scientific and technical assistance to the European Commission

### Conducting annual Inter-laboratory proficiency testing & scientific workshop



- The EURL organizes the ILPT annually for his network

- Participants: 26 EU member states, 5 candidate countries supported by the EURL and 7 neighboring countries supported by the EuFMD.
- ILPT for the detection and characterization of FMDV/SVDV and for the detection of FMDV/SVDV antibodies.



- First annual scientific workshop on October 2019 at Anses in France
- EURL WS edition 2020 & 2021 were held online
- More than 70 participants from 38 countries

### Improving FMD diagnosis



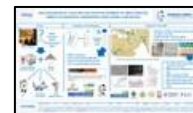
- Development of a rt-RT-PCR triplex method for pan-serotype FMDV detection

(See Cindy Bernelin-Cottet et al. presentation)



- Development of a rt-RT-PCR for the specific detection of the A/AFRICA/G-IV FMDV lineage

(See Souheyla Benfrid et al. poster)



- Development of a protocol for cost-effective shipment of FMDV suspected samples using LFD

(See Aurore Romey et al. poster)

### Collaborating with international organizations (OIE/FAO/EuFMD)

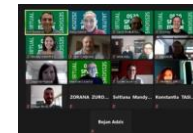


#### Complex Circulation of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Virus in Cattle in Nigeria

Research G. Ubaroro<sup>1</sup>, David J. Leakey<sup>2</sup>, Andy Hoggeman<sup>3</sup>, Yikraz S. Wang<sup>4</sup>, David O. Ehoibole<sup>5</sup>, David O. Laseun<sup>6</sup>, Anselm R. De Vrieschaver<sup>7</sup> and Kiri De Clercq<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>FAO Laboratory for Research in Animal Health, International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>2</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>3</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>4</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>5</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>6</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>7</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK; <sup>8</sup>International Reference Laboratory for Foot-and-mouth disease virus, Pirbright, UK

- Contributing to the global monitoring and control of FMD by characterization of circulating FMDV strains and providing diagnostic services



- Participating to improvement of laboratory diagnostic capacity through training



- Participating to workshops, meetings, working groups and Ad Hoc Groups

